

## RESOLUTION NO. 24-72

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES AS FIRST RESPONDERS AS FEDERALLY MANDATED; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS RESPONDER SYMBOL AS ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, in 2003, President George W. Bush issued Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) and Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), officially recognizing public works as first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Works agencies play an essential role in disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, during emergency situations such as severe weather events, natural disasters, and infrastructure failures, Public Works employees are among the first to respond, providing essential services such as debris removal, utility repair, and ensuring accessibility to vital areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Works employees undergo training programs specific to first responder roles such as emergency management, basic medical response and incident command systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Cutler Bay (“Town”) Public Works Department is the lead agency for emergency events in the Town and spearheads the coordination of emergency planning, response and recovery activities; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 7, 2018, the American Public Works Association (“APWA”) announced its adoption of a national “Public Works First Responder” symbol to be used throughout North America to identify public works personnel and acknowledge their federally mandated role as first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council would like to designate the Town’s Public Works Department employees as first responders, as federally mandated, and authorizes the Town Public Works Department to use the Public Works First Responder symbol, as adopted by the APWA, to ensure the symbol is displayed wherever appropriate and raise awareness about the crucial role Public Works plays in emergency management efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the Town.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Recitals.** The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2. Designation.** The Town Council hereby designates the Town's Public Works Department employees as First Responders, as federally mandated.

**Section 3. Authorization.** The Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Public Works Department to use the Public Works First Responder Symbol, as adopted by the APWA.

**Section 4. Implementation.** The Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager to take any and all actions necessary to implement the purposes of this resolution.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 16<sup>th</sup> day October 2024.



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TIM MEERBOTT  
Mayor

Attested and Rendered October 17, 2024:



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MAURICIO MELINU, CMC  
Town Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE  
SOLE USE OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY:



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WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN  
COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.  
Town Attorney

Moved By: Vice Mayor Callahan  
Seconded By: Councilmember Lord

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Tim Meerbott	YES
Vice Mayor Michael P. Callahan	YES
Councilmember Robert "BJ" Duncan	YES
Councilmember Suzy Lord	YES
Councilmember Richard M. Ramirez	YES