THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS SPONSORED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DISCON; MOTIONED FOR ADOPTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AND SECONDED FOR ADOPTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION NO. 25-10

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PARKS AND PARKWAYS COMMISSION ON TOPICS IDENTIFIED AS PRIORITY CONCERNS TO BE ADDRESSED THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE**

**WHEREAS,** the Parks and Parkways Commission serves as the Official Tree Board of the City of Mandeville and the Commission's authority and duties include such items as to study the urban forest including problems and opportunities involving the city tree population, and determine tree related needs of the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the Purpose and Intent of the Landscape Regulations is to preserve the existing natural vegetation and encourage the incorporation of plant materials, especially native plants, plant communities and ecosystems into landscape design, where possible: and

**WHEREAS,** the Parks and Parkways Commission is concerned about the continued loss of trees throughout the City which affects the urban forest canopy: and

**WHEREAS,** the Parks and Parkways Commission believes that additional regulation is needed to help reduce future damages to the urban canopy and landscape throughout the City of Mandeville; and

**WHEREAS,** Parks and Parkways wholeheartedly embrace the Vision Statement of the Comprehensive Plan (dated 2007): "Mandeville is a wooded coastal community that

exists in harmony with its abundant environmental resources ... "; and

**WHEREAS,** Our way of life is directly connected to and defined by a harmonious interaction with the natural setting of Mandeville. The foundation piece of that natural setting is our Urban

Forest: the canopy, understory, soils and terrain; and

**WHEREAS,** the Commission believes it is their mission to work with all units of Mandeville city government to preserve and enhance their relationship to the natural setting. They believe that the pursuit of this goal is an essential step toward resilience and sustainability. Additionally. they observe that the concerns and actions proposed below could make a contribution to further additions to the City's CRS rating with direct financial benefit to all citizens; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Parks and Parkways Commission of the City of Mandeville propose four key areas as critical initiatives for closer examination of the regulatory targets, language and enforcement mechanisms within and related to CLURO across all zoning classifications:

1. Strengthen Natural Landscape Protections by:
   1. Increasing the percentage of native trees protected in all zoning classes.
   2. Establish, increase, and enforce punitive fines for non-compliance.
   3. Mandate greater native tree preservation by expanding the definition of "native tree" beyond Live Oak (quercus virginiana).
   4. Strengthen, uphold and enforce No Cut and Green Belt buffering allowing only natives for remediation planting.
   5. Incentivize recovery of natural landscapes through the replacement of 'lawns' with 'native vegetative cover'.
2. Complete a review of native landscapes, soils and terrain with all necessary amendments defined and incorporated.
   1. Key issues would include the strict enforcement of existing 'fill laws' until effective revisions to regulations and enforcement have been identified and added.
   2. Create changes to CLURO that recognize the importance of our native soils to our canopy AND to water management/flood control.
   3. Create easily accessible educational tools to inform residents and developers about the value of our native soils to the total ecosystem.
3. Create a section in CLURO deliberately and unambiguously defining Green Infrastructure requirements relating to development in any zoning district.
   1. Review Storm Water and Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices as adopted by other communities in the region and consider how to adapt and adopt for Mandeville.
   2. Educate and incentivize Green Infrastructure as an instrument and a target ofremediation. This could include anything from rain barrels; to bioswales; to permeable pavers; to green roofs depending on remediation requirements.
   3. Mandate that all new construction includes Green Infrastructure to the fullest extent in order to support resilience in the face of storm water threats endangering the Health, Safety and Welfare of our residents.
4. Initiate a program of Land Acquisition with a goal of removal of lands from commerce for Rewilding to support:
   1. Water Management
   2. Protection of Fragile Ecosystems
   3. Community Enhancement

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council for the City of Mandeville hereby approves and supports this initiative recommended by the Parks and Parkways Commission.

With the above resolution having been properly introduced and duly seconded, the vote was as follows:

AYES: NAYS: ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

and the resolution was declared adopted this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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Alicia Watts Scott Discon,

Council Clerk Council Chairman