

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-3287

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE SURFSIDE COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD; ADOPTING THE BOARD'S CHARTER AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Surfside (the "Town") values and prides itself on its community spirit; and

WHEREAS, the Town strives to be a community where residents from different racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious, cultural, economic, and generational groups live together in joy and harmony; and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes that political polarization, both locally and nationwide, can undermine the spirit of community in the Town and can, if unchecked, promote strife and division among residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town is committed to ending the spread of hate, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or any other protected characteristic as defined by law; and

WHEREAS, the Town has expressed and reaffirmed this important commitment in previous resolutions, such as Resolution No. 2021-2797 ("Cultivating an Inclusive Community") and Resolution No. 2022-2857 ("Condemn Anti-Semitism"); and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to establish the Surfside Community Relations Board (the "Board") as a continuing committee that will foster a spirit of community in the Town, as further detailed in the Board's Charter attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Board can advise the Town Manager, the Town Commission, and its Boards and Committees on how to promote a spirit of community and on how to respond to events that might create division and strife in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board shall serve in a fact-finding and informational capacity that reports to the Town Manager and Town Commission liaison; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission finds that the establishment of the Board is in the best interest and welfare of the Town and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

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

Section 2. Establishment of Board. The Town Commission hereby establishes the Board as a continuing committee of the Town Manager that will serve in a fact-finding and informational capacity to the Town in accordance with the Board Charter attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

Section 3. Board Charter; Organization. The Town Commission hereby approves and adopts the Board's Charter attached hereto as Exhibit "A." The Charter may be amended by the Town Commission, from time to time, as deemed prudent or necessary.

Section 4. Implementation. The Town Manager is hereby directed and authorized to take any and all actions deemed necessary to implement the Board and the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of May, 2024.

Motion By: Commissioner Vildostegui
Second By: Vice Mayor Paul

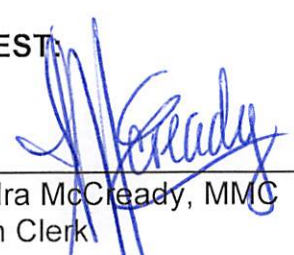
FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Commissioner Ruben Coto | <u>Yes</u> |
| Commissioner Nelly Velasquez | <u>Yes</u> |
| Commissioner Gerardo Vildostegui | <u>Yes</u> |
| Vice Mayor Tina Paul | <u>Yes</u> |
| Mayor Charles W. Burkett | <u>Yes</u> |

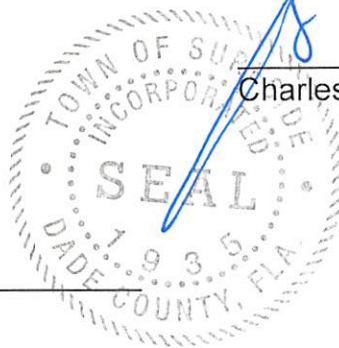


Charles W, Burkett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra McCready, MMC
Town Clerk



**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE
AND BENEFIT OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:**



Mark Blumstein
Interim Town Attorney

Exhibit "A"

SURFSIDE COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD

The Town of Surfside ("Town") Community Relations Board ("Board") Charter establishes the purposes and tasks of the Board as a fact-finding committee of the Town Manager, and the organizational structure of the Board.

- A. Purpose.** The purpose of the Board is to assist the Town in promoting a sense of community among residents; in addressing the causes of division and strife within the community; and in eliminating hate, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or any other protected characteristic as defined by law.
- B. Membership and Qualifications.** The Board shall consist of nine (9) members who are registered electors and reside in the Town of Surfside. In selecting members for the Board, the Commission and the Board shall aim to appoint a group that, collectively, represents the full diversity of the Surfside community and that is broadly representative of the various social, racial, religious, linguistic, cultural, economic, and generational groups that make up the population of the Town.
- C. Appointments.** Each Town Commissioner shall appoint one member to the Board. The five (5) members thus appointed shall convene within three weeks of their appointment to select four (4) additional members. The Board shall serve until the March 2026 Town election.
- D. Organization.** The Board shall be a fact-finding and informational committee of the Town Manager. The Board shall meet monthly, and its meetings shall be open to the public. The Board shall comply with the Florida Government in the Sunshine Law, with all applicable provisions of law governing public hearings and public notice, and with all applicable codes of ethics and conflict-of-interest laws. Any member who fails to attend three (3) regularly scheduled meetings in a twelve-month period may be removed from the Board, and the Town Commission shall be given notice of such vacancy.
- E. Tasks.** The tasks of the Community Relations Board shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. To study and to discuss the state of community relations in the Town.
 2. To develop programs and activities dedicated to the improvement of community relations.

3. To attempt to act as a conciliator in controversies involving community relations.
4. To recommend to the Town Manager and to the Town Commission such resolutions or ordinances as will aid in carrying out the Board's purpose.
5. To advise the Resort Tax Board and the Parks and Recreation Committee on how their programs and activities might better serve to improve community relations.
6. To enlist the support of civic and religious leaders in accomplishing the Board's objectives.

F. **Budget.** The Town Commission authorizes a budget of \$10,000 for the Board in the current fiscal year, with appropriations for future fiscal years to be determined by the Town Commission during its budgetary process.