

RESOLUTION NUMBER 21-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING THE BURSERACEAE (TORCHWOOD FAMILY), BURSERIA SIMARUBA, GUMBO LIMBO AS THE OFFICIAL TOWN TREE OF FORT MYERS BEACH

WHEREAS, Article X of the Town Charter of the Town of Fort Myers Beach (“Town”) empowers the Town to adopt, amend, or repeal such ordinances and resolutions as may be required for the proper governing of the Town; and

WHEREAS, Section 14-380 of the Town’s Land Development Code lists BURSERACEAE (TORCHWOOD FAMILY), Bursera Simaruba, Gumbo Limbo as one of the Town’s protected trees that cannot be removed without a permit; and is widely considered one of Florida’s best native trees; and

WHEREAS, the Gumbo Limbo Tree has an unusual shape, no two are alike, and the bark is red and peels off like a sunburned tourist, thus inspiring Floridians to give it the common name of “The Tourist Tree” in keeping with Florida and the Town’s number one industry; and

WHEREAS, the Gumbo Limbo Tree has a high tolerance to withstand the natural elements on the Island including drought, wind, salt, full sun, and sandy soil, and propagates through cuttings even as large as a branch; and

WHEREAS, the Gumbo Limbo Tree grows to an average of 40 to 50 feet tall and 20 to 40 feet wide and does not require much care or fertilizer, which contributes favorably to the health of the Island’s water; and

WHEREAS, the Gumbo Limbo Tree has been widely informally reported since the Town’s incorporation as the “official Town tree”, including in the “Shades of Fort Myers Beach” publication of 2008 that was produced in partnership with the Estero Island Garden Club to foster a spirit of participation among beach residents in creating a canopy of appropriate native trees and palms on our barrier island; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH THAT:

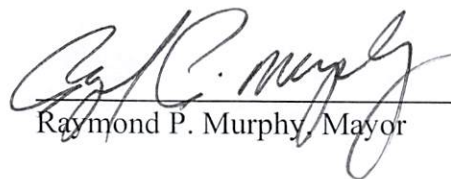
- 1) The above recitals are true and correct and are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein and are hereby adopted as the legislative and administrative findings of the Town Council.
- 2) This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Town Council upon a motion by Vice Mayor Hosafros and seconded by Council Member Allers, and upon being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

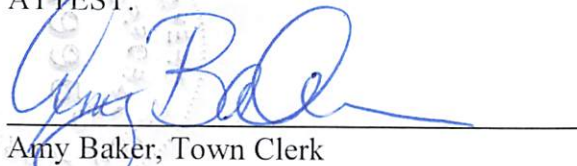
Raymond P. Murphy, Mayor	aye
Rexann Hosafros, Vice Mayor	aye
Dan Allers, Council Member	aye
Bill Veach, Council Member	aye
Jim Atterholt, Council Member	aye

ADOPTED this 19th day of April, 2021 by the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida.


TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH


Raymond P. Murphy, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amy Baker, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE
AND RELIANCE OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH EXCLUSIVELY:


John R. Herin, Jr., Town Attorney

This Resolution was filed in the Office of the Town Clerk on this 19 day of April 2021.