

RESOLUTION 25-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND FLORIDA IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUED OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF EVERGLADES CITY AIRPARK, MARCO ISLAND EXECUTIVE AND IMMOKALEE REGIONAL AIRPORTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Everglades City Airpark as well as Marco Island Executive Airport and the Immokalee Regional Airport have served as vital transportation and logistical assets to the cities and surrounding region, playing a key role not only in economic development and connectivity, but especially in times of crisis and natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, the airports provide a critical lifeline for emergency response efforts during wildfires, floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters by enabling rapid aerial firefighting, medical evacuations, search and rescue operations, and the delivery and staging of essential life support supplies; and

WHEREAS, the recent devastating fires in the Los Angeles, California area have shown that the early deployment of aerial firefighting aircraft, helicopters, and coordinated ground support based at local airports can make the decisive difference between containment and catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, during emergencies, time is measured not in hours but in lives—local airports allow for the immediate evacuation of injured persons, transport of medical professionals, and delivery of specialized equipment when roads may be impassable, or power and communications are down; and

WHEREAS, the airport's infrastructure, including runways, fuel storage, hangars, and facilities, provides a pre-existing and strategic base of operations for federal, state, and local emergency response agencies, including FEMA, the National Guard, firefighting agencies, and medical transport services; and

WHEREAS, the preservation and modernization of the airports ensures that Everglades City, Marco Island Executive and Immokalee Airports remain resilient and prepared, standing ready not only for disaster but for daily needs, supporting agriculture, business aviation, flight training, law enforcement, and general aviation alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1: The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein.

Section 2. City Council does hereby express its strong support for the indispensable role of the Everglades City, Marco Island Executive and Immokalee Airports in public safety, disaster preparedness, and emergency response;

Section 3. City Council does hereby urge the Collier County Board of Commissioners to continue investment in the airport's infrastructures, operational readiness, and strategic development to safeguard the lives and welfare of the citizens of Collier County and the surrounding region, now and in the future.

Section 4. City Council does hereby authorize the appropriate City Officials to do all things necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution, including, but not limited to forwarding a copy of this Resolution to the Collier County Board of Commissioners to demonstrate the City's commitment to this critical infrastructure.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA, this 7th day of July 2025.

ATTEST:

CITY OF MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA

Joan Taylor, City Clerk

By: _____
Erik Brechnitz, Chairman

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney