RESOLUTION NO. <u>2224-19</u>

- A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY OWNED AND USED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLIC PARKLAND.
- **WHEREAS**, the United States Postal Service (USPS) currently owns the property located at 300 N. New York Avenue in Winter Park (the Property) and has been using said property since 1963 for both retail and distribution functions of the post office, and,
- **WHEREAS**, the Property is located within the heart of downtown Winter Park and is directly adjacent to the City's Central Park and upscale shopping district, and
- **WHEREAS,** the City Commission of Winter Park has recognized that the distribution center located on the Property is not compatible with Central Park, the upscale nature of the surrounding uses, or the desire to promote economic development downtown, and
- **WHEREAS**, alternative nearby local sites are readily available for the construction of a replacement Post Office and
- **WHEREAS**, as the city and surrounding region increases in intensity and density of land uses the need for added green space has grown substantially, and
- **WHEREAS**, parks are a priority of Winter Park and the city guarantees the citizens' a minimum of 10 acres of parkland per 1000 residents; and
- WHEREAS, there is a desire to have the Property become park land for the purpose of expanding Central Park for future generations of Winter Park residents and visitors.
- **WHEREAS**, the City of Winter Park desires to purchase the current Winter Park Post Office land from the Federal government to guarantee it will not be sold for commercial purposes and commits to utilize the property as parkland.
- **NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved by the City Commission of the City of Winter Park, Florida that:
- **Section 1.** The City Commission of the City of Winter Park hereby declares its intention that the Property located at 300 N. New York Avenue be converted to public parkland.
- **Section 2.** The City Commission humbly requests the USPS to work with the City of Winter Park to ensure that the Property becomes park through the sale of this property to the City of Winter Park
- **Section 3.** The City Commission respectfully asks Winter Park Congressional Representatives to assist the City in acquiring the Property in order to stimulate economic development along the New York Avenue corridor and to provide an

expansion of the much-needed green space in this urban environment.

Section 4. The City Commission commits to deed restrict the Property as park land in perpetuity for the recreational use and enjoyment of current and future residents and visitors.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Winter Park, Florida, held at City Hall, Winter Park, Florida on the <u>28th</u> day of <u>October</u> 2019.

| | Steve Leary | |
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| · | | Steve Leary, Mayor |
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| Attest: | | |
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| Rene S. Cranis, City Clerk | | |
| Rene S. Cranis, City Clerk | | |