#### **PROPOSED**

#### RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, GRANTING RENEWAL OF A NONEXCLUSIVE, UNRESTRICTED PORT EVERGLADES STEAMSHIP AGENT FRANCHISE TO FAROVI SHIPPING CORPORATION FOR A NEW FIVE-YEAR TERM; PROVIDING FOR FRANCHISE TERMS AND CONDITIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 32, Part II, of the Broward County Administrative Code ("Administrative Code") sets forth criteria for the granting of franchises to businesses to conduct certain operations at Port Everglades, including, but not limited to, steamship agent services;

WHEREAS, Section 32.15 of the Administrative Code authorizes Broward County (the "County") to grant different types of franchises: exclusive or nonexclusive; and restricted or unrestricted;

WHEREAS, Section 32.22 of the Administrative Code provides that franchises shall be granted by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") by Resolution after public hearing;

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2020, by Resolution No. 2020-706, the Board granted Farovi Shipping Corporation ("Farovi"), a renewal of a nonexclusive Port Everglades steamship agent franchise, with a five-year term commencing on January 3, 2021, and ending on January 2, 2026 ("Prior Franchise");

22 WHEREAS, Farovi recently submitted an application for renewal of its Prior 23 Franchise so that it may continue providing steamship agent services at Port Everglades; 24 WHEREAS, the Board reviewed Farovi's application pursuant to the requirements 25 of Chapter 32 of the Administrative Code, and is relying on the representations made by 26 Farovi in that application; 27 WHEREAS, on December 9, 2025, a public hearing was held to consider Farovi's 28 application; and 29 WHEREAS, based on the representations of Farovi, and information presented by 30 Broward County staff and the public, the Board does hereby determine and establish that 31 Farovi has met each of the factors set forth in applicable provisions of Chapter 32 of the 32 Administrative Code for the granting of a renewal of Farovi's Prior Franchise so that it 33 may continue providing steamship agent services at Port Everglades, NOW, 34 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF 35 36 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA: 37 Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are hereby ratified by 38 the Board. 39 Section 2. Renewal of Prior Franchise. 40 Farovi is hereby granted renewal of its Prior Franchise so that it may continue to

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terms and conditions of this Resolution.

provide steamship agent services at Port Everglades (the "Franchise"), subject to the

43 Section 3. <u>Term</u>.

The Franchise shall be for a period of five (5) years, commencing January 3, 2026, and ending January 2, 2031, unless sooner terminated in accordance with Section 32.29 of the Administrative Code.

# Section 4. Franchise Conditions.

By its execution of the franchise renewal application, Farovi agreed to be bound by and comply with all terms and conditions set forth in Sections 32.23 and 32.24 of the Administrative Code.

## Section 5. Law, Jurisdiction, Venue, and Waiver of Jury Trial.

The Franchise shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Florida. Except as provided herein, the exclusive venue for any lawsuit arising from, related to, or in connection with the Franchise shall be in the state courts of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit in and for Broward County, Florida. For matters that fall within the exclusive subject matter jurisdiction of the federal courts or those to which jurisdiction is confirmed by law upon the Federal Maritime Commission ("FMC"), the exclusive venue for any such lawsuit shall be in the United States District Court, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, or the FMC, as applicable. Farovi irrevocably subjects itself to the jurisdiction of said courts. EACH PARTY HEREBY EXPRESSLY WAIVES ANY RIGHTS IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY CIVIL LITIGATION RELATED TO THE FRANCHISE.

# Section 6. <u>Independent Auditor</u>.

If requested by the Broward County Auditor, Farovi shall appoint, at its sole cost, an independent auditor approved by the Broward County Auditor to (a) review Farovi's

ongoing compliance with the terms and conditions of the Franchise; and (b) issue a compliance report to Broward County within thirty (30) calendar days after the appointment of the independent auditor.

## Section 7. Audit Rights and Retention of Records.

County shall have the right to audit the books, records, and accounts of Farovi and all subcontractors that are related to this Franchise. Farovi and all subcontractors shall keep such books, records, and accounts as may be necessary to record complete and correct entries related to this Franchise and performance under this Franchise. All such books, records, and accounts shall be kept in written form or in a form capable of conversion into written form within a reasonable time; upon request by County, Farovi and all subcontractors shall make same available to County in written form at no cost to County and allow County to make copies. Farovi shall provide County with reasonable access to Farovi's facilities, and County shall be allowed to interview all employees to discuss matters pertinent to the performance of this Franchise.

Farovi and all subcontractors shall preserve and make available, at reasonable times within Broward County, Florida, for examination and audit, all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other documents pertinent to this Franchise for at least three (3) years after expiration or termination of this Franchise or until resolution of any audit findings, whichever is longer. This section shall survive any dispute or litigation between County and Farovi, and Farovi expressly acknowledges and agrees to be bound by this article throughout the course of any dispute or litigation with County. Any audit or inspection pursuant to this section may be performed by any County representative (including any outside representative engaged by County). Farovi hereby

grants County the right to conduct such audit or review at Farovi's place of business, if deemed appropriate by County, with seventy-two (72) hours' advance notice. Farovi shall make all such records and documents available electronically, in common file formats, and/or via remote access, if and to the extent requested by County.

Farovi shall pay to County any underpaid amount identified as a result of an audit, regardless of the amount of the underpayment. If an audit in accordance with this section reveals underpayments to County of any nature by Farovi in excess of five percent (5%) of the applicable contract billings reviewed by County, in addition to making adjustments for the underpayments, Farovi shall pay the reasonable cost of County's audit. Any adjustments or payments due as a result of such audit shall be made within thirty (30) days after presentation of County's findings to Farovi.

Farovi shall ensure that the requirements of this section are included in all agreements with all subcontractors.

#### Section 8. Notices.

In order for a notice to a party to be effective under the Franchise, notice must be sent via U.S. first-class mail, hand delivery, or commercial overnight delivery, each with a contemporaneous copy via email, to the addresses stated below and shall be effective upon mailing or hand delivery (provided the contemporaneous e-mail is also sent). A party may change its notice address by giving notice of such change in accordance with this section. Until any change is made, notices to Farovi shall be delivered to the person identified in the franchise application as having authority to bind Farovi, and notices to Broward County shall be delivered to the following:

111 Broward County, Port Everglades Department 112 ATTN: Chief Executive/Port Director 113 1850 Eller Drive 114 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316 115 E-mail: jmmorris@broward.org 116 Section 9. Issuance of Certificate. 117 In accordance with Section 32.27 of the Administrative Code, the Port Everglades 118 Department, Business Development Division, will issue a franchise certificate to Farovi setting forth the terms and conditions of the Franchise. 119 120 Section 10. Severability. 121 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid 122 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this 123 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such 124 125 determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual, 126 group, entity, property, or circumstance. 127 Section 11. Effective Date. 128 This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this day of , 2025. **PROPOSED** 

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency: Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: <u>/s/ Carlos Rodriguez-Cabarrocas</u> 10/01/2025 Carlos Rodriguez-Cabarrocas (date) Senior Assistant County Attorney

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