

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC. STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PALM BEACH ISLAND BEACH MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (“BMA”) PILOT PROGRAM PROPOSED TO BE ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN PALM BEACH COUNTY, VARIOUS COASTAL COMMUNITIES, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (“FDEP”) AND THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (“FWC”) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR A REGIONAL MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR THE PALM BEACH COUNTY COASTAL ECOSYSTEM; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County has 47 miles of beaches enjoyed by residents and tourists; and Palm Beach County’s tourism industry annually contributes approximately \$5 billion to the local economy, employs around 45,000 individuals and contributes at least \$249 million in annual tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, FDEP initiated a Beach Management Agreement (BMA) pilot program designed to initiate regional approach to permitting beach nourishment and inlet management which had as its primary goal the establishment of mutually agreeable methods among its participants such as the FDEP, local municipalities, FWC and other stakeholders addressing coastal erosion control, natural community protection, and monitoring protocols in pursuit of a regional management approach for the Palm Beach County’s coastline; and

WHEREAS, the BMA process is intended to coordinate the regulatory responsibilities of FDEP with other state and federal agencies into a streamlined and efficient permitting program and to improve techniques for managing sand resources and beach erosion within an approximately 15.7 mile shoreline coastal cell within the coastal ecosystem for Palm Beach Island; and

WHEREAS, this pilot project (cell) of approximately 5,560 acres stretches across several public and private boundary lines ranging from the Lake Worth Inlet to the South Lake Worth/Boynton Inlet lying within Palm Beach County, also numbered and identified in the BMA as Reach 1 at the northern boundary and ending at Reach 11 as the southern cell boundary; and

WHEREAS, currently, beach erosion control and inlet management activities are regulated on a project by project basis through the FDEP Joint Coastal Permitting Program; and

WHEREAS, FDEP hopes that by taking a regional approach to restoration, it may improve the effectiveness of its programs and the health of our beaches by focusing on areas where restoration will have the greatest environmental benefit and the best change for long-term success through the implementation of more cost effective and efficient permitting processes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., THAT:

SECTION 1: The Board of Directors of the League strongly endorses the concept of regional management of Palm Beach Island’s coastal ecosystem through a proposed Palm Beach Island Beach Management Agreement (“BMA”) pilot program between various coastal communities, Palm Beach County, Florida DEP and Florida FWC and encourages the stated goals and objectives of the Agreement which are to coordinate and facilitate flexible permitting for beach management while at the same time achieving net ecosystem benefits within the area subject to the Agreement; and further supports the BMA pilot project as an important tool to help protect Palm Beach County’s 47 miles of beaches, its residents and businesses in order to help preserve the positive economic impact of such shoreline that is enjoyed by the both Palm Beach County and the State of Florida.

SECTION 2: The Board hereby requests that this resolution be sent directly to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, the Florida DEP, the Florida FWC and all municipalities in Palm Beach County.

SECTION 3: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon execution by the League President as authorized by the Board of Directors of the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. at their July 24, 2013 meeting.

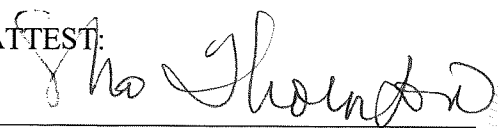
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of July, 2013.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF
CITIES, INC.



Scott Maxwell, President

ATTEST:



Mo Thornton, Secretary/Treasure

(SEAL)