

RESOLUTION NO. 08-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE STATE OF FLORIDA'S PURCHASE OF NEARLY 300 SQUARE MILES OF LANDS FOR EVERGLADES RESTORATION; URGING THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TO CONTINUE PURCHASING ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LAND WITHIN THE TOWN; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE STATE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2008, the State of Florida announced its intentions to purchase nearly 300 square miles of land for Everglades restoration; and

WHEREAS, this purchase of land is considered to be one of the largest land conservation purchases in the history of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cutler Bay (the "Town") recognizes this outstanding accomplishment as well as the importance of Everglades restoration and enthusiastically supports the State of Florida in its purchase of this land; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the South Florida Water Management District (the "District") will use tax dollars to pay off bonds that would help finance the purchase of this land, which may cause the delay of other conservation purchases of land by the District; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the District have been great partners in working together to preserve environmentally sensitive lands within the Town adjacent to Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, the Town urges the District to continue to maintain the priority of purchasing such environmentally sensitive lands within the Town in order to help further preserve and protect Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Support of the State of Florida's Land Purchase. The Town Council hereby provides its enthusiastic support of the State of Florida and the District in its purchase of nearly 300 square miles of land for Everglades restoration.

Section 3. Urging the District to Continue Purchasing Land within the Town. The Town Council hereby urges the District to continue to maintain the priority of purchasing environmentally sensitive lands within the Town in order to help further preserve and protect Biscayne National Park.

Section 4. Transmittal to the State. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit this Resolution to the Governor's Office and the South Florida Water Management District.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 16th day of July, 2008.



PAUL S. VROOMAN, Mayor

Attest:

ERIKA GONZALEZ-SANTAMARIA, CMC
Town Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE
TOWN OF CUTLER BAY ONLY:


WEISS, SEROTA, HELFMAN, PASTORIZA,
COLE & BONISKE, P.L.
Town Attorney

Moved By: Councilmember Sochin
Seconded By: Vice Mayor MacDougall

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Paul S. Vrooman	<u>YES</u>
Vice Mayor Edward P. MacDougall	<u>YES</u>
Councilmember Peggy R. Bell	<u>YES</u>
Councilmember Timothy J. Meerbott	<u>YES</u>
Councilmember Ernest N. Sochin	<u>YES</u>