

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION NO. 98-6

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF FORT MYERS BEACH urging the 1998 Florida Legislature to pass HB 3427 and SB 882 which provides a dedicated funding source for statewide beach management; and providing for an effective date.

WHEREAS, Beaches are Florida's number one tourist attraction, in 1996 generating \$18.9 billion for the State's economy, 442,000 jobs, and more than \$500 million in State sales and use taxes; and

WHEREAS, Florida's beaches protect over \$150 billion in upland coastal property against hurricane and storm waves, and healthy beaches can reduce damages to coastal development by as much as 50%; and,

WHEREAS, The Florida Department of Environmental Protection estimates that more than 300 miles of Florida's beaches are experiencing a state of critical erosion; and,

WHEREAS, when legislation authorizing the State's beach management program was enacted in 1986, the Legislature declared an intent to "appropriate at least \$35 million annually" to implement this program; and

WHEREAS, appropriations over the past decade have fallen far short of the amount needed to repair the State's eroding beaches; and

WHEREAS, Legislation, designated HB 3427 and SB 882, has been introduced in the 1998 Legislature, which provides for a stable, designated funding source for Florida's Beach Management Program; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA:

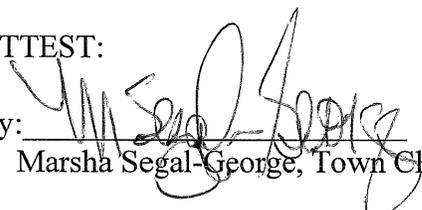
1. The Council supports legislative efforts to provide a stable, long-term, dedicated funding strategy to protect, restore, and enhance Florida's beaches, and urges the Legislature to pass into law HB 3427 and SB 882 as introduced.
2. The Council authorizes and directs the Town Manager to furnish copies of this Resolution to our State Legislative Delegation, the President of the Florida Senate, and the Speaker of Florida House of Representatives.
3. Effective Date.
This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Town Council upon a motion and second and, upon being put to a vote, the result was a follows:

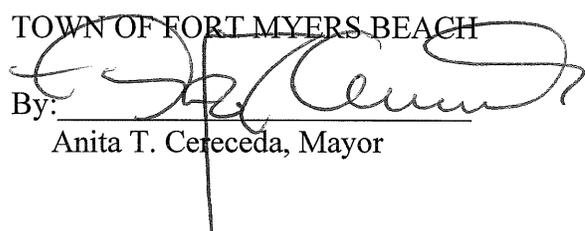
Anita T. Cereceda	<u>aye</u>
Ted FitzSimons	<u>aye</u>
John Mulholland	<u>aye</u>
Garr Reynolds	<u>aye</u>
Ray Murphy	<u>aye</u>

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of March, 1998

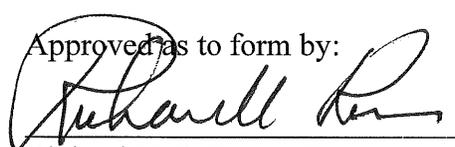
ATTEST:

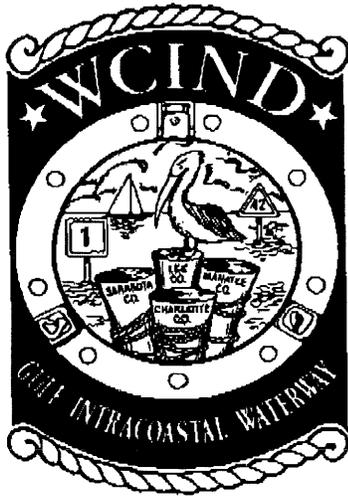
By: 
Marsha Segal-George, Town Clerk

TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH

By: 
Anita T. Cereceda, Mayor

Approved as to form by:


Richard V. S. Roosa, Town Attorney



**WEST COAST
INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT**

A Special Tax District of the State of Florida

PO Box 1845
Venice, FL 34284

Telephone : (941) 485-9402

Fax : (941) 485-8394

E-Mail : wcind@gate.net

WWW : <http://www.gate.net/~wcind/>

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: 3-2-98

TO: MSG

FROM: CL

RE: ATTACHED

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 9 PAGES, INCLUDING THIS SHEET.
PLEASE CALL (941) 485-9402 IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE ALL ENCLOSED PAGES.

MESSAGE:

AS WE TALKED ABOUT RESOLUTIONS, I
REMEMBERED THIS STUFF. IF YOUR COUNCIL
HAS NOT DONE THIS YET, IT IS PROBABLY
A GOOD THING TO DO. THE LEGISLATURE IS
CURRENTLY TALKING ABOUT THIS.



FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

A League of Cities and Counties on Beach and Coastal Issues

2952 Wellington Circle
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 906-9227
(850) 906-9228 FAX

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Broward County

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Sanibel Island

Robert Dean
University of Florida

February 16, 1998

FEB 19 3

To: Local Beach Management Directors

From: Stan Tait, President

Re: Resolutions Supporting Dedicated Beach Funding

Enclosed is a copy of a mailing to all coastal city managers and county administrators.

Please follow up to make sure this resolution is passed in your community.

I think we have a good chance to get dedicated funding for beaches this year if we all work together.

Call me if you have any questions.



FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

A League of Cities and Counties on Beach and Coastal Issues

February 12, 1998

2952 Wellington Circle
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 906-9227
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To: Coastal City Managers/County Administrators

From: Stan Tait, President

Re: Dedicated Beach Funding Bill (HB3427 & SB882)

I am pleased to report that bills have been introduced in the House and Senate to provide a state dedicated funding source of \$30 million annually for beach management projects. Source of the funding is the unallocated portion of the documentary stamp tax that now goes to general revenue.

Enactment of this legislation is of vital concern to all of Florida's coastal cities and counties. It would benefit you in two ways:

- * State matching money would be available for your local beach project when you need it, avoiding long delays we have seen in the past.
- * It would lower cost of projects by allowing DEP to schedule beach repairs in an orderly five-year work program, like DOT builds roads.

TO WIN SUPPORT IN THE LEGISLATURE FOR THIS BILL, I URGE YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO ENACT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL AND TO CONVEY THIS RESOLUTION TO YOUR LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION.

To more fully inform you about dedicated funding for beaches, I am enclosing the following:

1. A short summary and copy of the bill.
2. "Florida's Beaches In Crisis," a brief overview on the need for this bill.
3. A sample resolution for your consideration.

Coastal City Managers/County Administrators
February 12, 1998
Page Two

Obviously, to be most effective, this resolution should be adopted prior to March 3, the opening day of the 1998 Legislature and transmitted to every member of your legislative delegation. You may also want to send a copy to the following legislators:

✓ Senator Toni Jennings
President of the Senate
409 Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

→ Rep. Daniel Webster
Speaker of the House
420 Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Senator Donald Sullivan, Chair
Senate Ways and Means Committee
336 Senate Office Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Rep. Ken Pruitt, Chair
House General Government Comm.
221 Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Senator Jack Latvala, Chair
Senate Natural Resources Committee
302 Senate Office Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Rep. Charles Sembler, Chair
House Environ. Protection Comm.
220 House Office Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Also, please send a copy to:

✓ Stan Tait, President
FSBPA
2952 Wellington Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32308

HB 3427 and SB 882

Dedicated Funding for Beach Management

What the Bill Does:

1. Phases in over three years an allocation of \$30 million annually to fully fund the state share of Florida's Beach Management Plan.
2. The funding would come from an unallocated portion of the documentary stamp tax on real estate transactions that currently goes to general revenue. Thus, no new taxes are required.
3. The money would be transferred to DEP's Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund.
4. The bill provides that allocations to the trust fund be phases in as follows:
 - \$10 million in FY 1998-99
 - \$20 million in FY 1999-2000
 - \$30 million in FY 2000-01 and each fiscal year thereafter

(Note: This phase-in approach does not preclude the Legislature from appropriating from other sources money for the beach management program in FY 1998-99 and FY 2000-01.)

5. The bill also includes important language of a legislative "finding" that "erosion of the beaches of this state is detrimental to tourism, that state's major industry, further exposes the state's highly developed coastline to severe storm damage, and threatens beach-related jobs, which if not stopped, could significantly reduce state sales tax revenues..."

SAMPLE RESOLUTION - PAGE 2

Section 1. The Board supports legislative efforts to provide a stable, long-term, dedicated funding strategy to protect, restore, and enhance Florida's beaches, and urges the Legislature to pass into law HB 3427 and SB 882 as introduced.

Section 2. The Board authorizes and directs the _____ to furnish copies of this Resolution to _____'s State Legislative Delegation, the President of the Florida Senate, and the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 1998

**KSPPA
MEMBER
GOVERNMENTS
COUNTIES**

- FRANKLIN
- MONROE
- INDIAN RIVER
- METRODADE
- PALM BEACH
- SARASOTA
- ST. LUCIE
- PINELLAS
- BROWARD
- BREVARD
- LEE
- MANATEE
- MARTIN

CITIES/TOWNS

- CAPTIVA ISLAND
- GULF STREAM
- JUPITER ISLAND
- MANALAPAN
- SATELLITE BEACH
- HOLMES BEACH
- ST. PETERSBURG BEACH
- LONGBOAT KEY
- PALM BEACH
- HILLSBORO BEACH
- LAUDERDALE BY THE SEA
- SANIBEL
- INDIAN SHORES
- TREASURE ISLAND
- SOUTH PALM BEACH
- N. REDINGTON BEACH
- REDINGTON SHORES
- INDIAN ROCKS
- OCEAN RIDGE
- BRADENTON BEACH
- ST. AUGUSTINE
- ANNA MARIA
- HIGHLAND BEACH
- VENICE
- NAPLES
- REDINGTON BEACH
- CAPE CANAVERAL
- NEW SMYRNA BEACH
- VERO BEACH
- FERNANDINA BEACH
- JUNO BEACH
- MADEIRA BEACH
- KEY BISCAYNE
- DELRAY BEACH
- RIVIERA BEACH
- FORT PIERCE
- JUPITER
- KEY WEST
- BOCA RATON
- SARASOTA
- CLEARWATER
- MIAMI BEACH
- ATLANTIC BEACH
- FT. MYERS BEACH
- PANAMA CITY BEACH

SANTA ROSA ISLAND
AUTHORITY

GREATER BOCA RATON
TAX DISTRICT

JUPITER INLET DISTRICT
HILLSBORO INLET
DISTRICT

FL. INLAND
NAVIGATION DISTRICT

CANAVERAL PORT
AUTHORITY

Florida's Beaches In Crisis

THE PROBLEM...

- The Department of Environmental Protection estimates that over 300 miles of Florida's 787 miles of sandy beach are in a state of critical erosion. One-third of the remaining miles are experiencing erosion to a lesser degree.
- Only 105 miles of Florida's beachfront are part of a restoration/nourishment or other type of beach erosion control project.
- Florida's beaches are virtually starving to death because of human intervention and natural forces. Hurricane Opal alone caused the loss of over 10 million cubic yards of sand along the Panhandle shoreline. Navigation interests --- specifically inlets and ports, --- have interrupted the natural flow of sand along Florida's coasts, starving downdrift beaches.
- Inlets may account for up to 80% of the erosion on Florida's East Coast. A 1985 University of Florida study calculated a cumulative loss of approximately 110 million cubic yards of sand from Florida's beach system as a result of inlet navigation structures and channel dredging. That is enough sand to create a 50-foot wide beach along Florida's entire 400-mile East Coast.
- To reverse the effects of erosion requires a natural remedy --- the massive infusion of sand. To maintain our beaches thereafter will require ongoing inlet sand by-passing and less frequent renourishment.
- As part of the 1986 Beach Management Act, the Legislature expressed it's intent to appropriate at least \$35 million annually to manage Florida's beaches. The DEP feels that this is still the amount needed to address the problem. The average state appropriation since passage of the Beach Management Act over a decade ago has been less than \$10 million, making it impossible to reverse the critical condition of Florida's beaches.

.... AND SOLUTION

- Beach nourishment and inlet by-passing can solve 90% of the critical erosion problems in Florida. A surgical use of structures & innovative erosion control methods can address the rest. We have the technology and the know how to restore and preserve Florida's beaches. We need an aggressive management strategy and adequate funding to make it happen.
- The only solution is a long-term state commitment, in partnership with local government, to save Florida's beaches. To insure a coordinated and effective statewide beach management program will require a **DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE** which produces, at a minimum, \$30 million annually.

- Every state dollar spent preserving Florida's beaches is equally matched by local government (the 1996 Legislature increased the local cost-share from 25% to 50%). For the vast majority of beach restoration projects, the federal government currently pays between 50-60% of the total project cost, thus providing a \$2 match for every state dollar spent. However, with the current budget climate in Washington, it is no longer reasonable to assume that the federal government will indefinitely continue to pay over half of the cost of beach nourishment in Florida. Without increased and consistent state funding, the health of our beaches will only further deteriorate.

FLORIDA'S BEACHES MUST SURVIVE

- Beaches remain Florida's number 1 tourist attraction. According to Florida's tourism agency, some 43 million tourists visited Florida in 1996. Over 1/2 of these tourists spent at least part of their vacation at the beach.
- The estimated economic impact (spending & ripple effect) of beach-oriented tourists in 1996 was \$18.9 billion; creating over 442,000 beach-related jobs.
- Florida's beaches produced state sales tax revenues in excess of \$500 million in 1996.
- There is no better example of the economic benefits of beach nourishment than the restoration of Miami Beach. Beach attendance before restoration was 8 million (1978) but increased to 21 million by 1983, after nourishment. The capitalized cost of the beach project just over its current life is about \$3 million a year (federal/state/local dollars). Just in terms of foreign revenue of \$2 billion a year, every dollar invested to nourish Miami Beach returns \$700 annually in foreign exchange (1995, Houston).
- A recently completed year long economic survey of beach-oriented tourists in Broward County found that 61% of these tourists said they would not return if there were no beaches, while another 12% said they would not come as often.
- (The Miami Herald, 10/14/1997) More Sand in Our Shoes
"Our shores are a national resource and an economic engine that need renewal. Their health warrants national concern."
- Another major benefit of an effective beach preservation program is storm protection. The presence of a 100-foot wide strip of beach may reduce storm damage to coastal properties by more than 50%.
- Florida's beaches and dunes are the first line of protection from storms and hurricanes. In Florida, they protect over \$150 billion in upland coastal buildings. If we allow our beaches to erode, the state and federal governments will have ever-increasing post-storm recovery costs. The Corps of Engineers estimated that structural damage from Hurricane Opal at Panama City Beach would have been reduced by up to 70% if the pending beach restoration project had been in place.

THE BOTTOM LINE

We can no longer assume Florida's beaches will always be there, without a comprehensive, adequately-funded, statewide beach management strategy.

The answer is a dedicated funding source which produces not less than \$30 million annually, to save Florida's beaches.