

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH IN SUPPORT OF THE
TOWN'S BEACH AND SHORELINE PROJECT REQUEST OF TOURIST
DEVELOPMENT TAX FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE NEWTON
PROPERTY AND THE CREATION OF A BEACH PARK
RESOLUTION NUMBER 02-15

WHEREAS, the Town of Fort Myers Beach recognizes the importance of preserving the Jim and Ellie Newton Estate as a historically and culturally significant property; and

WHEREAS, it is the Town's desire to create a unique beach front park through the preservation of the existing structures for public beach facilities and the restoration of the site's environmental elements including native vegetation and dune system; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable facility will provide a link along the Great Calusa Blueway and Lee Island Coast Paddling Trails with existing recreational and environmental attractions including Little Estero Island, Lynn Hall Memorial Park and Bowditch Point Park, and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the Newton property will bring public beach facilities to an ideal mid-island location; and

WHEREAS, the Town has a contract with the Newton Estate to purchase the property for its use as a natural resource and cultural park with beach access to be enjoyed by all of the residents and visitors to Fort Myers Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fort Myers Beach has applied for a Beach and Shoreline grant from the Tourist Development Council in the amount of \$500,000 to help in the acquisition of the property; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Attorney General's office has issued a legal opinion that Tourist Development Tax funds may be used for beachfront property acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Town believes that the creation and preservation of public beach facilities meets the State of Florida guidelines for Beach and Shoreline project funding and that Newton Beach Park will contribute to the many reasons Lee County is an attractive place to live and visit;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Myers Beach Town Council is in full support of the request for funding to purchase the Newton property and calls upon the members of the Tourist Development Council to recognize the importance of creating new beach parks, with facilities open to the public, by endorsing the request for funding and, furthermore, the Town Council requests that the

Board of County Commissioners provide their support on behalf of the citizens and visitors of Lee County and approve the grant request in the full amount.

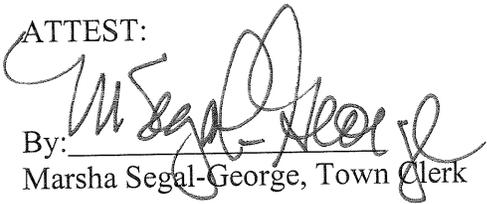
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Fort Myers Beach Town Council upon being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

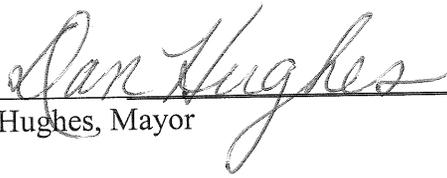
Howard Rynearson	<u>aye</u>
Daniel Hughes	<u>aye</u>
Bill Thomas	<u>aye</u>
W. H. "Bill" Van Duzer	<u>aye</u>
Terry Cain	<u>aye</u>

APPLICATION DULY GRANTED/DENIED this 1st day of April, 2002.

ATTEST:

TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH

By: 
Marsha Segal-George, Town Clerk

By: 
Dan Hughes, Mayor

Approved as to form by:


Richard V.S. Roosa, Town Attorney