

RESOLUTION NO. 09-___

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO FULLY FUND BISCAYNE BAY COASTAL WETLANDS PROJECTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Greater Everglades Ecosystem is a globally imperiled habitat and the primary source of drinking water for the Town of Cutler Bay, Florida, (the “Town”); and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP) is the largest ecosystem restoration effort in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the CERP is intended to restore fresh water sheet flows to Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, two projects on the list of 68 identified in CERP, the C-111 spreader canal and the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands rehydration projects, are the only elements of the restoration plan that rehydrate wetlands and restore the estuaries within Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, full funding for all phases of both of these projects are critical to the restoration of Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, these two projects are also critical to Cutler Bay’s efforts to adapt to the projected impact of sea level rise that will cause additional saltwater intrusion in areas that are already experiencing significant saltwater migration several miles inland; and

WHEREAS, restoration of freshwater sheet flow feeding into southern Biscayne Bay will help hold back saltwater intrusion and improve the Town’s resilience to potential climate impacts; and

WHEREAS, these projects are also both “shovel-ready” and “green,” making them consistent with early goals for federal economic stimulus funding,

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 findings are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Actions urged. The Town Urges the U.S. Congress, the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Legislature to fully fund Biscayne

Bay Coastal Wetlands projects, in particular the two projects critical to Biscayne Bay and Biscayne National Park: (i) both phases of the C-111 spreader canal and (ii) the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetland rehydration project. The Town further urges the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature to prioritize funding for Everglades restoration projects in any economic stimulus package passed.

Section 3. **Direction.** The Town Council directs the Town Clerk to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the South Florida Water Management District, the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Florida, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representative, and the Chair and Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation. The Town Council further directs the Town's state lobbyist to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2009 Federal and State Legislative Packages.

Section 4. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2009.

PAUL S. VROOMAN, Mayor

Attest:

ERIKA GONZALEZ-SANTAMARIA, CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE
SOLE USE OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY:

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

Moved by:
Seconded by:

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Paul S. Vrooman _____

Vice Mayor Edward P. MacDougall _____

Councilmember Peggy R. Bell _____

Councilmember Timothy J. Meerbott _____

Councilmember Ernest N. Sochin _____