

The City of Aventura



19200 West Country Club Drive Aventura, FL

City Commission Workshop Meeting

October 17, 2013
9:00 A.M.

Executive Conference Room

AGENDA

1. ***Aventura Hospital Update***
2. ***FIU Collaboration for Lifelong Learning Programs for Aventura Residents (City Manager)****
3. ***Recommended Appointments to Arts in Public Places Advisory Board (City Manager)****
4. ***Request for Resolution Supporting the Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment (Commissioner H. Weinberg)****
5. ***Government Center Parking Lot Resurfacing (City Manager)****
6. ***Adjournment***

*** Back-up Information Exists**

This meeting is open to the public. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 305-466-8901, not later than two days prior to such proceeding.

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager 

DATE: October 4, 2013

SUBJECT: **Proposal to Partner with FIU to Provide Lifelong Learning Programs to Aventura Residents**

BACKGROUND

Florida International University (FIU), through its Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), provides many programs for adults 50 and over who wish to enrich their lives. The non-credit Osher programs exist at many campuses nationwide and focus on enrichment courses in literature, art and music, current events, languages and personal growth. FIU currently provides classes in the City to our residents at a local hotel.

Recently, FIU approached the City about the possibility of expanding the program and collaborating with the City. This concept is a perfect fit to the programming currently provided at the Community Recreation Center and would expand lifelong learning opportunities to our community. We have been meeting with staff at FIU to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would develop the partnership for providing OLLI program at City facilities.

The major points of the MOU are as follows:

1. The programs will commence in January 2014 at the Aventura Community Recreation Center.
2. The City will handle the class registration and has the right to approve the assigned faculty.
3. The course fees to be charged to students will be determined by the City after consultation with the OLLI Director.
4. The courses / curriculum selection will be agreed to by the City and OLLI based on input from the community.
5. The City will retain an administrative fee to cover our costs and memberships for the Community Recreation Center.

6. The City will pay FIU a flat fee per course regardless of the number of students enrolled in each class to cover the administrative course fees (i.e., namely the faculty fees).
7. The City and OLLI will cross market the courses on our websites and printed collateral.
8. OLLI will employ the faculty to deliver the programs and provide textbooks.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the benefits of providing additional opportunities for all residents to participate in Lifelong Learning Programs, it is recommended that the City Commission authorize the City Administration to pursue the MOU with FIU.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

EMS/act

CCO1819-13

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager 

DATE: October 1, 2013

SUBJECT: **Recommended Appointments to the Arts in Public Places
Advisory Board**

BACKGROUND

Ordinance No. 2012-16 which created the Arts in Public Places Advisory Board states the following:

- The Board shall consist of five members, including the Mayor and City Manager and three residents who shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the City Commission.
- Individuals wishing to be a member of the Board shall make application to the City Manager on the forms provided by the City. The City Manager shall interview all applicants and make recommendation to the Mayor. The Mayor shall appoint to the Board members from the list of applicants recommended by the City Manager, subject to the approval of the City Commission.
- In recommending members of the Board, the following guidelines shall be considered:
 - a. The resident membership of the Board should consist of persons who have demonstrated a strong commitment to arts, including painting, photography, sculpture and other art forms.
 - b. Reasonable efforts should be made for the membership of the Board to be representative of a range of comprehensive adult age groups.
- The mission of the Board is to assist the City in identifying, selecting and obtaining works of art for display in City owned and / or operated parks, buildings and facilities, in order to further enhance the diverse array of cultural and education opportunities which are available within the City. The Board shall develop proposed protocols and guidelines for achieving that mission, subject to approval by the City Commission. Further, the final decision on the acceptance, placement and display of specific works of art at City owned and / or operated

parks, buildings and facilities shall be subject to the approval of the City Commission.

PROCESS

The City received seventeen (17) applications from many highly qualified individuals. This made the selection process a difficult one. The applicant pool was narrowed down to seven (7) and they were interviewed with the Mayor present.

After a careful review of the applicants and in accordance with the goals of the Ordinance establishing the Board, the Mayor is recommending the City Commission appoint the following individuals to the Board:

Benjamin Sens
Sandi Jo Gordon
Marina Weckslar

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

EMS/act

CCO1818-13

10 AM



CITY OF AVENTURA APPLICATION FOR ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES ADVISORY BOARD

Potential Aventura resident board members must be registered voters who have resided in the City of Aventura for six (6) months immediately prior to an appointment to the Board. Applicants must have a strong commitment to the arts, including painting, photography, sculpture and other art forms.

Name of Applicant: Benjamin J. Sens

Address: 2775 NE 187th St. Apt 716 Aventura, FL 33180 (Please Print)

Home Phone: (954) 648-9883 Email Address: bjsens@gmail.com

Business Name: Benjamin J. Sens, P.A. Occupation: Real Estate Consultant

Business Address: 3696 N. Federal Hwy. Suite 101 Ft. Lauderdale 33308

Business Phone: (954) 648-9883 Fax: (800) 465-0676

Qualifications: please see attached

(Briefly describe the specific expertise and/or abilities you can contribute as a member of this Board.)

Please attach a resume along with your application.

I understand that in accordance with the State of Florida Government in the Sunshine Law, this information may be made public. I understand that all board appointments are for voluntary, uncompensated services and I will be subject to the requirements of the State of Florida Financial Disclosure Requirements.

Ben Sens
Signature of Applicant

06/05/13
Date

Fax, Mail or E-Mail completed application & resume to:
Office of the City Manager
Government Center
19200 West Country Club Drive, Aventura, FL 33180
(305) 466-8910 (305) 466-8919 fax
sorokae@cityofaventura.com

The Ordinance Establishing the Arts in Public Places Advisory Board is available for review on the City's web site at www.cityofaventura.com

Benjamin J. Sens

2775 N.E. 187th Street Apt. 716 ♦ Aventura, FL ♦ (954)648-9883 ♦ bjsens@gmail.com

Qualifications

Experienced in identifying and evaluating disciplines of urban design, environmental art, sculptures of the built urban environment, and cultural opportunities. Served on the Fort Lauderdale Campus Advisory Board for FAU's College of Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs. Assisted in the development of the Second Avenue Arts Studio expo gallery raising awareness for the use for art in public spaces and developing educational programs. Assisted with the City of Tampa's Mayors Beautification project focusing on the selection of public artwork alternatives within the City's parks and community facilities.

Professional Experience

BENJAMIN J. SENS P.A. – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Real Estate Consultant, October 2012 – present

CALVIN, GIORDANO AND ASSOCIATES – Weston, FL
Permit Coordinator, October 2009 – April 2012

Education

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Master of Urban Design and Regional Planning, 2009
College of Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA – Tampa, FL
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 2006
Major Studies: Urban Studies and Educational Community Initiatives

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY – Tallahassee, FL
College of Law - Undergraduate Coursework Certificate, 2005

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY – Washington, DC
Capital Civics Initiatives Scholar, 2002
Certificate in Public Leadership, Values and Initiatives

References

MR. HAROLD ROSEN
Rosen, Switkes & Entin P.L.
(305) 534-4757

MR. DAVID GELLER
Geller Law Group
(954) 865-9239

MAYOR SHIRLEY GIBSON
City of Miami Gardens
(305) 652-9524

11:00 AM

MARINA WECKSLER

Address: 3640 Yacht Club Dr., # 1404. Aventura, FL 33180, USA
Email: marinaweckslera@gmail.com **Telephone:** 786 348 4136

Education

- 2008 Central University of Venezuela
Master's Degree in Museum Studies Caracas, Venezuela
With honors
- 1987 Central University of Venezuela
Degree in Architecture Caracas, Venezuela

Continuing Education

- 2000 – 2002 **Arts Management Programs**
Lectures by faculty members of different cultural institutions from abroad
Caracas; Venezuela
- 1991 University of Barcelona
Doctorate Program in Fine Arts (Unfinished) Barcelona, Spain

Professional Experience

- Since 2011 International Art Ventures Miami, USA
Director
Created to fulfill the highest needs of public, corporate and private art collections, art museums and cultural institutions, art galleries and artists, IAV provides specialized services such as consultancy, art collections management, production and logistics of exhibitions and publications, among others.
- Since 2009 Wecksler Publishing Caracas, Miami
Publisher and Director
The main goal of the company is to publish art books, starting with two collections: one of monographic editions about Contemporary Artists, their life and work, and another of thematic editions about updated and/or controversial subjects related with Contemporary Art.
- 2007 – 2008 Arte al Día International Caracas, New York
Executive Editor
Select, edit, coordinate and plan medium and long term all contents of the magazine.

2007	<p>Art Nexus Executive Editor of ArtNexus.com Design and business plan for a news section on the web page ArtNexus.com, not implemented.</p>	Bogota, Colombia
2003 - 2006	<p>Arte al Día International Director in Venezuela Representative in Venezuela of this prestigious international magazine of contemporary Latin American Art, responsible for the Venezuelan editorial material in the magazine and in charge of direction of the newspaper Arte al Día News Venezuela since its first edition</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1998 - 2002	<p>Gonzalo Benaim Pinto Cultural Center Founder and Executive Director Three schools were developed: Visual Arts, Music and Theater, besides an intensive annual programming of cultural activities such as recitals, exhibitions and theater plays</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1999 - 2002	<p>Morris E. Curiel Sephardic Museum of Caracas Member of the Board of Directors</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1998 - 1999	<p>Artist Book 'The Journey...' A traveling exhibition Curator and General Coordinator 18 outstanding Latin-American contemporary visual artists, and 18 renowned Latin-American writers and poets took part. It was exhibited in major museums in Latin American countries</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1997 - 1999	<p>Morris E. Curiel Sephardic Museum of Caracas Member of the Organizing Commission</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1996	<p>Kaj Forsblom Gallery Executive Director Management and coordination of the exhibition program of the gallery</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1994 - 1996	<p>MW Art International, Inc. President The company dealt primarily with monumental sculptures projects contests and proposals for public and private spaces</p>	Miami, USA
Since 1992	<p>Private and Public Collections Independent Curator and Art Consultant Specialist in Venezuelan and Latin-American Contemporary Art</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1992 - 1994	<p>Art Show: 'Un Marco por la Tierra' General Manager A traveling exhibition of art proposals on the ecological subject, in which 72 Latin-American contemporary artists took part</p>	Caracas, Venezuela
1991 - 1994	<p>Artespacio C.A. President Private and Corporate Art Consultation and dealership</p>	Caracas, Venezuela

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------|
| 1989 – 1990 | Arquin, S.R.L. Interior Design Architects
Architect
Art integrated to architecture. In charge of artist selection and integration of their work in buildings, houses and other projects | Caracas, Venezuela |
| 1988 – 1989 | 'Centro de Arte Contemporáneo de Caracas'
Art Associate
Multiple responsibilities including artist selection and graphic editions coordination | Caracas, Venezuela |
| 1987 – 1988 | Michel Benko Oficina de Arquitectura
Architect
Architectural Design | Caracas, Venezuela |

Publications

- | | | |
|------|---|--|
| 2011 | Gerardo Goldwasser. Blanco móvil (Gerardo Goldwasser. White target). Centro Cultural DODECÁ. Uruguay, Montevideo. September 2011
El País Arte (digital newspaper) from Museo Virtual de Artes, MUVA | |
| 2007 | Eugenio Espinoza expone en Miami. La Consagración de la Primavera y Tres Perspectivas. Artistas Ganadores del Programa de Comisiones CIFO 2007 (Eugenio Espinoza latest exhibitions in Miami. The Rite of Spring and Three Perspectives). Published in El Papel Literario of <i>El Nacional</i> on March 17, 2007, Venezuela, Pág. 6-7 | |
| 2006 | Pasión y razón de un espíritu constructivo (Passion and Reason of a Constructive Spirit). Arte al Día International magazine, Issue 115, August - September 2006, Pág 52-57 | |

Other Artistic Interests & Training

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------------|
| 1992 – 1993 | Sculpture. 'Art Institute Federico Brandt' | Caracas, Venezuela |
| 1975 – 1980 | Piano, Guitar. 'Juan Manuel Olivares Conservatory' | Caracas, Venezuela |

Volunteer Activities

'FUNDANA': Fundación de Amigos del Niño que amerita protección (Organization that take care of abandoned and abused children)

Computer Skills

MS Word - MS Excel - MS Power Point - Internet

Other

Languages: English, Spanish and French
Dual nationality: Venezuelan and French

10:45



**CITY OF AVENTURA
APPLICATION FOR
ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES ADVISORY BOARD**

Potential Aventura resident board members must be registered voters who have resided in the City of Aventura for six (6) months immediately prior to an appointment to the Board. Applicants must have a strong commitment to the arts, including painting, photography, sculpture and other art forms.

Name of Applicant: SANDI-JO GORDON
(Please Print)

Address: 2600 ISLAND BLVD, APT 402, AVENTURA, 33140

Home Phone: 305-931-2518 Email Address: sandijo@bellsouth.net

Business Name: _____ Occupation: DESIGNER & ARTS ADVOCATE

Business Address: _____

^{CELL} Business Phone: 305-469-2245 Fax: 305-931-2519

Qualifications: LIFE-LONG ARTS SUPPORTER & ARTIST & COLLECTOR
(Briefly describe the specific expertise and/or abilities you can contribute as a member of this Board.)

VICE-CHAIR MIAMI-DADE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES TRUST

SEE EXTENSIVE RESUME ATTACHED

Please attach a resume along with your application.

I understand that in accordance with the State of Florida Government in the Sunshine Law, this information may be made public. I understand that all board appointments are for voluntary, uncompensated services and I will be subject to the requirements of the State of Florida Financial Disclosure Requirements.

Sandi-Jo Gordon
Signature of Applicant

6/25/2013
Date

Fax, Mail or E-Mail completed application & resume to:
Office of the City Manager
Government Center
19200 West Country Club Drive, Aventura, FL 33180
(305) 466-8910 (305) 466-8919 fax
aorokae@cityofaventura.com

The Ordinance Establishing the Arts in Public Places Advisory Board is available for review on the City's web site at www.cityofaventura.com

Sandi-Jo Gordon
2600 Island Blvd, #402
Aventura, FL 33160
305-469-2245

RESUME

Education

Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, BFA, June 1966

Fine Arts

Miami-Dade Art in Public Places, Trustee 1995-present, Vice Chair 2003-present

College of Architecture + the Arts, FIU, Member Advisory Board, 2011-2013

Co-founded not-for-profit Friends of Public Art, 1996

Conducted workshops and lectures on art, printmaking, papermaking, and various crafts, 1968-present

Conducted public art tours in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and New York City, 1968-present

MACHI (Miami Art Center Helpers), Board Member, 1976-1986

Miami International Print Biennial, Coral Gables, Director, 1979-1982

Metropolitan Museum and Art Center, Coral Gables, Honorary Curator of Prints, 1982-1986

Solo traveling exhibition of educational Holocaust paintings through non-profit Tikvah Project, 1993-1998

Gordon Craig Gallery, Miami, owner, 1967-1977

Current supporting memberships: Frost Art Museum, FIU, Miami; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; Miami Art Museum; Jaffe Center for Book Arts, FAU, Boca Raton; CIA (Citizens Interested in Arts); Barnes Foundation, Phila; Nat'l Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

Collector

Specializing in Latin American works on paper, original graphics, artists' books, video art

Professional

Gorson Design Group, Vice President 1983-2003, President 2003-present

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Florida International University, Consultant Instructor, 2007-2009

Conducted workshops, lectures and panels on interior design basics and recycling, 2006-present

American Society of Interior Designers, Professional Member, 1987-present

National Council for Interior Design Qualification, Certified October 1986

AWC Journal, Seoul, Korea, Art Director, 1973-1974

Personal

Born -- January 10, 1944, Philadelphia

Married -- Mark W. Gordon, MD; two daughters

Resident of Miami-Dade County, 1967-1969, 1975-present

Resident of Aventura, 2009-present

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: August 2, 2012

SUBJECT: **Ordinance Establishing Arts in Public Places Advisory Board**

1st Reading September 4, 2012 City Commission Meeting Agenda Item 7-C
2nd Reading October 2, 2012 City Commission Meeting Agenda Item 8-C

Attached hereto, please find the subject Ordinance which contains the amendments discussed at the July Workshop Meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

EMS/act

Attachment

CCO1781-12

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-__

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AVENTURA, FLORIDA
CREATING DIVISION 6 "ART IN PUBLIC PLACES ADVISORY
BOARD" OF ARTICLE III "ADVISORY BOARDS" OF CHAPTER 2
"ADMINISTRATION" OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF
AVENTURA, FLORIDA ; ESTABLISHING ADVISORY BOARD AND
PROVIDING FOR ITS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; PROVIDING
FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE;
PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to create an advisory board to assist the City in facilitating the placement of works of art at City owned and/ or operated parks, buildings and facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AVENTURA, FLORIDA , AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. City Code Amended . That Division 6 "Art in Public Places Advisory Board" of Article 3 "Advisory Boards" of Chapter 2 "Administration" of the City Code, is hereby created , to read, as follows:

DIVISION 6. - ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES ADVISORY BOARD

Sec. 2-201. - Creation, composition and qualifications.

- A. There is hereby created and established the City of Aventura Art in Public Places Advisory Board (the "Board") consisting of five (5) members, including the Mayor, City Manager, who shall both serve by virtue of their office, and three (3) residents of the City who shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the City Commission. The resident members of the Board shall be appointed in accordance with procedures established herein and shall hold office at the pleasure of the City Commission. Members of the Board shall serve on the Board without compensation and shall not be reimbursed for travel, mileage, or per diem expenses as to Board service. The resident members shall serve for a two-year term and may be reappointed in accordance with the process outlined herein.
- B. In the event of the resignation or removal of any member of the Board, the Mayor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy on such Board for the unexpired portion of the term of the member vacating such office, subject to approval of the City Commission in accordance with procedures established herein.
- C. In the event that a member of the Board shall be absent and unexcused from a duly-called meeting of the Board for three consecutive meetings, then, in that event, such member shall automatically be removed as a member of the Board by the City Manager. An excused absence shall be requested in writing via email, fax or letter prior to the Board meeting.

D. The City Manager or his designee shall provide or designate necessary staff support for the Board.

Sec. 2-202. – Process of Appointment of Board Members.

A. Individuals wishing to be a member of the Board shall make application to the City Manager on the forms provided by the City. The City Manager shall interview all applicants and make recommendation to the Mayor. The Mayor shall appoint to the Board members from the list of applicants recommended by the City Manager, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

B. In recommending members of the Board, the following guidelines shall be considered:

- (i) The resident membership of the Board should consist of persons who have demonstrated a strong commitment to arts, including painting, photography, sculpture and other art forms.
- (ii) Reasonable efforts should be made for the membership of the Board to be representative of a range of comprehensive adult age groups.

Sec. 2-203. - Advisory capacity.

The powers and duties of the Board shall be solely of an advisory nature to the City Manager and Mayor and City Commission. The City Manager, by virtue of his office as City Manager, shall be responsible for communicating to the City Commission the actions of the Board.

Sec. 2-204. - Rules of procedure; quorum.

A. The Board shall adopt rules of procedure not inconsistent with the ordinances of the City and the laws of the State of Florida and shall utilize Robert's Rules of Order recently revised 1990 Edition for the rules of procedure for the conduct of meetings of the Board. The Board may create additional rules for the conduct of its internal proceedings.

B. The Mayor shall serve as the Chairperson and the City Manager shall serve as the Vice-Chairperson.

C. Three (3) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Board. Official action shall be taken by the Board only upon the concurring vote of a majority of the members present at an official meeting of the Board, except that at least three (3) affirmative votes shall be required for official action.

Sec. 2-205. - Mission; jurisdiction and duties.

A. The mission of the Board is to assist the City in identifying, selecting and obtaining works of art for display in City owned and/ or operated parks, buildings and facilities, in order to further enhance the diverse array of cultural and educational opportunities which are available within the City. The Board shall develop proposed protocols and guidelines for achieving that mission, subject to approval by the City Commission. Further, the final decision on the acceptance, placement and display of specific works of art at City owned and/ or operated parks, buildings and facilities shall be subject to the approval of the City Commission.

B. Action of the Board shall be in the form of a written recommendation of advice to the City Manager and Mayor, who shall confer as to the presentation of the recommendation of the Board to the City Commission.

C. The Board shall meet as needed as determined by the City Manager.

Sec. 2-206. - Standards of conduct for members.

All members of the Board shall be subject to the Standards of Conduct for Public Officers and Employees, as set by Federal, State, County, City or other applicable law pursuant to City Charter Section 7.03 and must file the appropriate financial disclosure forms.

Section 2. Severability. That the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance, but they shall remain in effect it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Section 3. Inclusion in the Code. That it is the intention of the City Commission and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of the City of Aventura, that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intentions, and that the word Ordinance shall be changed to Section or other appropriate word.

Section 4. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption on second reading.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Commissioner Diamond, who moved its adoption on first reading. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Weinberg, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Zev Auerbach	yes
Commissioner Bob Diamond	yes
Commissioner Billy Joel	yes
Commissioner Michael Stern	yes
Commissioner Luz Urbàez Weinberg	yes
Vice Mayor Teri Holzberg	absent
Mayor Susan Gottlieb	yes

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Commissioner _____ who moved its adoption on second reading. This motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Zev Auerbach	___
Commissioner Bob Diamond	___
Commissioner Billy Joel	___
Commissioner Michael Stern	___
Commissioner Luz Urbàez Weinberg	___
Vice Mayor Teri Holzberg	___
Mayor Susan Gottlieb	___

PASSED AND ADOPTED on first reading this 4th day of September, 2012.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on second reading this 2nd day of October, 2012.

Susan Gottlieb, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa M. Soroka, MMC
City Clerk

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency:

City Attorney

CITY OF AVENTURA

OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager
FROM: Commissioner Howard Weinberg
DATE: October 8, 2013
SUBJECT: **Resolution of Support for Florida Water & Land Conservation Amendment**

Please place on the October Workshop Meeting a request for a resolution supporting the Florida Water & Land Conservation Amendment proposed to be on the statewide ballot in November 2014. I have enclosed documentation as backup material.
Thank you.

HW/tms

attachments

RESOLUTION NO. 13 – _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA ("TOWN"); ENDORSING AND ENCOURAGING SUPPORT OF THE FLORIDA WATER AND LAND CONSERVATION AMENDMENT, WHICH WOULD DEDICATE FUNDS TO ACQUIRE AND RESTORE FLORIDA CONSERVATION AND RECREATION LANDS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, protection of the quality and quantity of Florida's drinking water sources is a primary responsibility of our state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is known for beautiful rivers, lakes, streams, spring sheds, wetlands, forests, wildlife habitat and beaches and shores, and these natural assets are central to our quality of life and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation in Florida represents a \$38 billion annual industry, employing 329,000 people, and over 6.4 million people annually hunt, fish, or view wildlife in our state; and

WHEREAS, restoration of the Florida Everglades is the most comprehensive ecological restoration in the world's history, and impacts the drinking water of a large portion of Florida's residents; and

WHEREAS, our state has a longstanding commitment to protection of outdoor recreation lands, including recreational trails, parks, and urban open space; rural landscapes; working farms and ranches; historic and geologic sites; and

WHEREAS, for 19 years, with bi-partisan support of every governor and legislature that served from 1990 through 2008, Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever were funded annually at \$300 million per year; and

WHEREAS, Florida Forever has not received significant, sustained, or predictable funding since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Article II Section 7 of the Florida Constitution states, "It shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty," and yet since 2009 funding for land conservation, management, and restoration, including Florida Forever has been cut drastically; and

WHEREAS, Florida Cities and Counties have benefited from state land conservation, management, and restoration programs, including Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever; and

WHEREAS, Florida Cities and Counties have benefited directly by receiving grants from state land conservation, management, and restoration programs, including the Florida Communities Trust, Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grants (FRDAP), the Florida Historic Preservation grants, and the Florida Greenways and Trails program; and

WHEREAS, acquisition, management, restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands requires a sustainable, dedicated source of state funding; and

WHEREAS, the documentary stamp tax has been the historic source of state funding for conservation and recreation in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Land Conservation amendment will dedicate less than 1 percent of the budget of the State of Florida to protecting Florida's water and land, without increasing taxes; and

WHEREAS, 82 of 100 Florida city and county land conservation ballot measures have been approved since 1988 by voters throughout the state, including almost every major urban county, many by overwhelming margins in excess of 70 percent, and an average of 63 percent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals Adopted. That each of the above stated recitals are hereby adopted, confirmed, and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Support by the Town of Surfside Town Commission. The Town Commission hereby endorses the Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment and encourages support of this Amendment by the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, and other organizations that seek to enhance the quality of life throughout the state of Florida.

Section 3. Authorization and Approval. The Town Commission authorizes and approves the Town Manager and/or his designee to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

Section 4. Direction to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, and any other local government agency that may request the same.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of October 2013.

Motion by Commissioner _____, second by Commissioner _____.

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION

Commissioner Joseph Graubart _____
Commissioner Michelle Kligman _____
Commissioner Marta Olchyk _____
Vice Mayor Michael Karukin _____
Mayor Daniel Dietch _____

Daniel Dietch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sandra Novoa, CMC
Town Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**



Linda Miller, Town Attorney



FLORIDA'S WATER AND LAND LEGACY

316 WILLIAMS STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303
WWW.FLORIDAWATERLANDLEGACY.ORG
(352) 665-5939 OR (850) 629-4656

CONSERVING FLORIDA'S WATER AND LAND LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Florida Water and Land Conservation amendment will create the largest dedicated funding source for land and water conservation, restoration and management in the country. The amendment will provide more than \$10 billion for water and land conservation without any tax increase.

Florida's Water and Land Legacy is the campaign working to pass the Water and Land Conservation amendment in 2014. The campaign is well on the way to qualifying for the November 2014 ballot. Signature gathering is ahead of schedule.

This is your invitation to join hundreds of thousands of voters, thousands of volunteers, and hundreds of organizations and contributors in a remarkable campaign to pass a legacy of clean water and protected natural areas on to future generations.

Florida's Environment at a Tipping Point

Florida is blessed with an array of stunning and important natural resources: 1200 miles of coastline, and stunning white sand beaches; Apalachicola Bay's and Florida Keys' world famous fish and seafood; central Florida's lakes, springs and rivers; the Everglades; Indian River Lagoon, among the most biologically diverse estuaries in the United States; and the 320-mile St. Johns River are only a few examples of Florida's unparalleled natural resources. These natural assets are the foundation of our state's economy and culture. Sadly, at present, Florida's natural resources, its springs, lakes, rivers, wetlands, and aquifers are in dire need of help.

Florida's waters stand at a tipping point. Springs throughout Florida are in serious decline. Florida springs, important sources for our water supply, have stopped flowing and may never return. Algae blooms have devastated ecosystems. This summer toxic algae in the Indian River Lagoon in Southeast Florida resulted in the deaths of scores of dolphins, over a hundred manatees, and more than 300 pelicans.

Land conservation and management is critical. Florida is the fourth most populous state in the country. 1,000 people move to Florida each day, placing intense pressure on the state's land and water resources. As the state's economy recovers from recession, growth and development pressures are again mounting and threaten our remaining natural areas.

For almost twenty years, regardless of the party in power, Florida Governors and Legislatures provided funding for land and water conservation. Beginning in 2009, and continuing with the election of a hostile Legislature and Governor, funding for land conservation has declined by 96 percent. Other environmental and conservation projects, including Everglades Restoration, have

experienced similar reduction. New legislative districts redrawn in 2012 favor the re-election of this legislature and the continuation of this dangerous policy for the foreseeable future.

With your help, we can move forward to ask the voters to establish protection of Florida's water and land as a constant commitment and not something that shifts with the political winds.

The Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment

In 2011, leaders from Florida's top conservation and environmental organizations met to discuss this critical funding problem and agreed that the only way restore funding for water protection and land conservation was to amend the state constitution via the initiative petition process.

The state's foremost constitutional lawyers helped draft a constitutional amendment. No briefs opposing the amendment were filed with the Florida Supreme Court. Approval of the amendment by the Supreme Court is imminent.

The Water and Land Conservation amendment dedicates funding for conservation, management and restoration of Florida's water and land resources for (20) twenty years. The amendment sets aside one-third of the existing documentary stamp tax (paid when real estate is sold) to restore the Everglades, protect drinking water sources, and revive the state's historic commitment to protecting natural lands and wildlife habitat through the Florida Forever program. The amendment does not call for any new taxes.

This will be the most important vote on land conservation and the environment in Florida in our lifetimes.

Why We Can Win in November 2014

Florida voters support water and land conservation. Since 1994, Florida voters have approved five amendments to the state constitution relating to conservation and the environment. The average Yes vote percent for these successful conservation amendments was 68 percent.

Eighty-two Florida city and county land conservation measures have been approved since 1988. Voters in almost every major urban county in Florida have approved dedicated funding for land conservation and parks, many by overwhelming margins in excess of 70 percent, and an average of 63 percent.

Polling, both during the feasibility assessment stage of the campaign and as recently as late summer, shows strong voter support for the amendment, in excess of the 60 percent threshold required for passage. Water quality protection is a top issue for Florida voters. Senior voters, who will be a high turnout group for the 2014 general election, support the amendment.

The amendment has already received endorsements from nearly every major newspaper in the state, including *Miami Herald, Orlando Sentinel, Tampa Tribune, Sarasota Herald-Tribune and Florida Trend.*

Our campaign has recruited almost 4,000 volunteers throughout the state and secured the endorsement over 330 local and statewide organizations. We are building a solid, grass roots political network for conservation and the environment. This network will serve as a field organization during the campaign phase.

Please join our campaign to give Florida voters the opportunity to help guarantee that our children and grandchildren can enjoy Florida's natural treasures and outdoor recreational opportunities the same way we do.

Qualifying for the November 2014 ballot

The campaign formally began in July 2012. Since then, it has raised almost \$2 million. We have a robust and active volunteer signature gathering effort. We recently re-hired our paid signature-gathering firm to help collect the remaining petitions necessary to qualify for the ballot. The campaign's signature gathering is ahead of schedule.

The campaign must submit 683,149 petition signatures validated by the County Supervisors of Elections to the Florida Secretary of State by February 1, 2014 to qualify. To make the February 1 deadline, all petitions must be submitted to the Supervisors of Elections by Nov 30, 2013. The campaign is on schedule to collect the petition signatures necessary by November 30.

The total cost to collect, validate, and submit the remaining signatures necessary to place the Water and Land Conservation amendment on the ballot is \$1.6 million. FWLL must raise an additional \$1.1 million within the next three months to finish funding the petition signature-gathering phase.

Once on the ballot, the campaign to educate Florida voters about the benefits of the Water and Land Conservation amendment is estimated to cost between \$4 and \$7 million dollars. Fundraising for the ballot measure campaign will begin on or before February 1, 2014.

We are currently actively fund raising towards for the qualifying phase. Your investment in Florida's Water and Land Legacy is a sound investment in Florida -- from an environmental, economic, and political perspective.

This is your opportunity to invest in perhaps the most important conservation effort in Florida of our time.



TBO THE TAMPA
TRIBUNE

August 18, 2013

**Editorial: Up to voters to protect
Florida's Treasures**

For more than 20 years, the Florida Legislature viewed funding the state's model environmental lands protection program as every bit as important as providing sufficient money for public education, roads and other programs that Floridians rely upon daily.

There were no second thoughts. It had become part of Florida's heritage, thanks to Govs. Bob Martinez, Lawton Chiles and Jeb Bush, who knew Florida's natural beauty and treasures were the reason new residents and businesses flocked to the state. And they knew it would be self-defeating not to preserve sensitive land that protected drinking water supplies and enabled residents and visitors to enjoy the outdoors.

But then the Great Recession hit, younger lawmakers who didn't properly value Florida's environment took office after others were term-limited, and Gov. Rick Scott, a relative newcomer to the state, was elected.

Environmental protection was put on the chopping block. Growth management laws were gutted. Funding for the state's model land preservation program — Florida Forever, previously known as Preservation 2000 — was cut more than 95 percent.

The downward spiral slowed last legislative session, when the Legislature authorized \$75 million for Florida Forever at Scott's request. That was somewhat deceiving, because \$50 million of that must come from the sale of state lands, but the governor does appear to be more concerned with protecting the state's natural riches.

Yet who knows what will happen next session? There are no longer guarantees that Florida's environment will be adequately safeguarded, and that should concern all residents, as well as business leaders, who know Florida's natural beauty underpins its appeal.

This is why voters need to enthusiastically back Florida's Water and Land Legacy Campaign — a drive to place a proposed amendment to Florida's constitution on the November 2014 ballot. If adopted, the amendment would, for the first time, guarantee a state source of funding for land preservation and other environmental programs in Florida.

The effort is spearheaded by some of the most distinguished environmental groups in Florida — including the Trust for Public Land, Audubon Florida, the Nature Conservancy, Florida Wildlife Federation and 1000 Friends of Florida.

This is not some land grab or an attempt to dilute private property rights. Indeed, it protects landowners' rights, allowing the state to buy lands outright that should be protected.



The Water and Land Conservation Amendment would require no new taxes. Rather, it would mandate 33 percent of net revenues from the documentary tax paid on real estate transactions be used for conservation land purchases, trails, beaches, protecting drinking water sources, encouraging fish and wildlife programs, and paying debt service on bonds, among other efforts.

And just as important, the Legislature would be barred from diverting the funds for other purposes, as it has done with specific trust funds.

The amendment is expected to generate about \$10 billion over its 20-year life. It would sunset in 2035.

But first things first: The Florida Supreme Court has to approve the ballot language — which shouldn't be a problem, in our view. The review is scheduled for Sept. 19.

Obtaining the number of required registered voters' signatures is the bigger hurdle, and that's where citizens can help. The campaign (florida.waterlandlegacy.org) needs 683,149 verified signatures to make the ballot — as of last week, the count stood at 119,305.

The statutory deadline is Feb. 1, 2014, in order to make the general election ballot that November, but the campaign isn't taking chances, shooting for Nov. 30 to be safe.

“This will be the most important vote on land conservation and the environment in our lifetime,” says Will Abberger, the campaign's chairman and the director of conservation finance for the Trust for Public Land.

“We need Floridians to sign the petition and send it in and contribute so we can get on the ballot.”

The Legislature in recent years hasn't shown the appreciation for Florida's environment that past Legislatures — Republican and Democrat — did. Voters have the chance to take matters into their own hands.

Signing the petition to gain a spot on the ballot — and pushing the proposed amendment to victory with at least 60 percent of the vote in November 2014 — would indeed leave a legacy for our children, grandchildren and future generations.

<http://tbo.com/list/news-opinion-editorials/up-to-voters-to-protect-floridax2019s-treasurers-20130818/>



TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT
Tallahassee.com

March 4, 2013

**Preserving wetlands is preserving
our future by Tabitha Frazier**

“This is why, last week, the Leon Soil and Water Conservation District became the first board of publicly elected officials to endorse the statewide Florida Water and Land Legacy campaign.”

“We are proud to join former Florida Gov. Bob Graham and former DEP secretary, under Jeb Bush, Colleen Castille in an effort to put what is called the Florida Water and Conservation Amendment on the November 2014 ballot.”

“An important aspect of this amendment is that it would not be a new or higher tax. This constitutional amendment would use money that is already collected by the state for this purpose. This amendment ensures that funds are used solely for preservation and land management purposes and cannot be used for any other purpose by the Legislature.”

<http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20130304/OPINION05/303040005/>

TCPALM
FLORIDA'S TREASURE COAST AND PALM BEACHES

February 24, 2013

**Looking to the future with today's
money**

“Perhaps this might be a constitutional amendment we can actually live with. Florida voters, as you'll recall, savaged the last 11 constitutional amendments tacked onto November's ballot. Only three were not rejected. And all that extra paperwork clogged voting machines and left St. Lucie County elections office personnel bamboozled.

“Never again, on the amendments, I've heard many of you say, and it's hard to disagree. Yet a new proposal to amend the constitution in 2015 may have a lot more merit. Enter a Tallahassee-based nonprofit group called Florida's Water & Land Legacy. They are gathering signatures to put a constitutional amendment on the 2014 ballot that would use money from real estate transaction document stamp tax funds, as was done between 1994 and 2008. The amendment also specifies these funds would be protected from 'borrowing' by lawmakers in times of trouble.”

“It's just the right thing to do — for us, our children and grandchildren.”

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2013/feb/24/anthony-westbury-looking-to-the-future-with/>

TCPALM
FLORIDA'S TREASURE COAST AND PALM BEACHES

February 21, 2013

**Land-preservation push is worth a shot
in amendment weary Florida**

“If you're a Floridian who voted in the November election, it's understandable if you never want to see another constitutional amendment again. We voters have a raging amendment hangover after state lawmakers crammed 11 constitutional revisions on the 2012 ballot. Only three of them passed, and the rest left a bad taste in our mouths.

“Warning: This is the part where I'm going to tell you about a worthwhile amendment that's headed our way. Feel free to apply a cool washcloth to your forehead. But there's a big difference between this amendment and those on last year's ballot — this one is led by citizens. The Florida Water and Land Conservation amendment — which supporters are working to get on the 2014 ballot — would ensure a steady source of money for preserving land and water across the state for the next two decades.”

“The state constitution's purpose is to protect people's fundamental rights and lay out the structure for government. Do Floridians have a fundamental right to clean water? If your answer to that question is yes, then it follows that you should support this initiative — even if the thought of another constitutional amendment gives you a headache.”

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2013/feb/21/eve-samples-land-preservation-push-is-worth-a-in/>



TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT
Tallahassee.com

February 10, 2013

Our opinion: Preserving a treasure

“Despite efforts to expand Florida’s business base, the state has long relied on three pillars of economic activity: tourism, agriculture and services related to growth.”

“In a way, all three rely on natural resources and clean water as part of the state’s quality of life. In fact, Florida’s Constitution recognizes the importance of preserving these gifts, saying: ‘It shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty. Adequate provision shall be made by law ... for the conservation and protection of natural resources.’ A key part of that effort has been the Florida Forever program and its predecessor, Preservation 2000. Today, however, the program is in danger of being not-so-forever, and so a coalition of conservation groups is trying to rally support for a constitutional amendment that would mandate a funding source.”

“It will require a creative and aggressive campaign using social media and reaching out to everyone who has enjoyed hiking, kayaking or simply admiring the clear waters of a Florida spring. With the support of citizens, the amendment can preserve Florida’s future.”

www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201302100200/OPINION01/302100030

Orlando Sentinel

January 1, 2013

Florida Forever keeps flesh on Florida’s precious bones

“We need Florida Forever, for all the sustainability reasons that apply directly to humans, but also for what Edmund Burke termed those “unbought graces” that cannot be expressed in dollar terms or even fully into words: scrub jays, tortoises, butterflies, pumas; our prairies, cypress bays and longleaf pine-palmetto haunts.”

“Without reliable funds, any land program is slapdash, often clouded by cronyism and special interests. Happily, a coalition of conservationists conceived the Water and Land Legacy Amendment, which would put Florida Forever’s survival in our constitution for the next 20 years.”

“The only way ‘real Florida’ can endure is to put fail-safe funding for Florida Forever in the constitution. It would not raise taxes. It would be funded through documentary stamp collections. We deserve this chance to vote up or down on our biological treasury — while the menagerie still walks among us.”

http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/opinion/os-ed--rebecca-eagan-florida-forever-20121231_0.630032.story



January 2013

Stand up for Florida Water & Land Legacy

now “We’re all familiar with one spot or another in Florida that used to be untouched, and is now nearly untouchable. Our untouched natural areas make Florida the place we love, and we must leave a legacy for future generations that will continue to support strong tourism businesses and nature-based recreational activities like fishing, swimming, hunting, hiking, biking, boating and bird watching.

“Florida’s Water and Land Legacy...campaign is a citizen-led petition drive to let Florida voters decide in 2014 whether to adequately fund protection of our water and natural resources.

“Across the country, voters are standing up for green spaces. Last November, three-quarters of Alabama voters agreed to extend their state’s “Forever Wild” program to protect wildlife habitat and water resources. Voters in 21 states had the opportunity to approve no fewer than 57 state and local land conservation initiatives. Of those initiatives, 81% were approved.”

“Florida can and should do the same.”

http://www.baysoundings.com/downloads/pdf/BaySounding_Winter2013.pdf



FLORIDA'S Water & Land Legacy

IN THE PRESS



November 23, 2012

An amendment that is good for Florida

“Floridians were merciless in rejecting all but three of the 11 mostly ideologically driven state constitutional amendments the Florida Legislature placed on this year's general election ballot. Even as they were doing so, however, volunteers were out at polling places collecting signatures for a petition drive to get yet another proposed constitutional amendment on the 2014 election ballot.”

“The Florida's Water and Land Legacy Campaign is aimed at requiring the state to spend more money investing in environmentally sensitive lands and important water recharge areas.

“Actually, chances for passage are pretty good, especially when you take a look at what happened around much of the rest of the nation during this month's election.”

“In the past when Florida voters have been asked to support such initiatives, like Florida Forever, they, too, have embraced protecting our environmental and sensitive lands.”

<http://www.ocala.com/article/20121123/OPINION01/121129884/1008/OPINION?p=1&tc=pg>



October 4, 2012

Graham backs new environmental land-buying amendment

“Former governor and U.S. Sen. Bob Graham led a group of conservation advocates in announcing today that a citizens' petition drive is underway to dedicate a portion of state funding annually for the acquisition and management of critical environmental land.”

“Dubbed the ‘Florida Water and Land Legacy’ constitutional amendment, the provision—if approved by voters in the 2014 election—would require that one-third of the state’s existing real estate transaction tax be dedicated for the next 20 years to environmental land projects. The move would provide more than \$5 billion over its first decade for the conservation initiatives.”

“We are now at a turning point,” said Graham, who as governor from 1979 to 1987 backed a number of conservation initiatives, including efforts to save the Florida Everglades. “The question is do we discontinue our efforts at preserving land or continue this long tradition?”

<http://politics.heraldtribune.com/2012/10/04/graham-backs-new-environmental-land-buying-amendment/>

Florida Trend

The Issues, People and Ideas that Define Florida Business

October 2012

What makes Florida...Florida

“...a coalition of environmental groups, typically tough to get on the same page, has combined forces to propose a ‘Florida Water and Land Legacy’ constitutional amendment that would earmark a third of all doc stamp revenue to go into an existing environmental-related trust fund.”

“It may be wise to build some kind of base funding level for land acquisition into the state constitution. Voters can be the best judge of that. From a practical standpoint, the amendment would essentially just lock in more or less the status quo in terms of how much the state is spending on land acquisition.”

“It should go without saying that conservation lands aren’t just pretty places where no one can build a housing development. They’re vital to water resources, to the state’s tourism industry, to preserving agriculture as a piece of the state’s economy, to fish and wildlife, and to the environmental ethic that transcends the state’s regional differences.”

“Vital, ultimately, to Florida’s identity as a place unlike any other in the U.S.”



FLORIDA'S Water & Land Legacy

IN THE PRESS



August 9, 2012

Protecting the best of Florida

“Florida environmental groups have launched a campaign to pass a constitutional amendment that would establish a dedicated funding source for land and water conservation.”

“The benefits of this worthy idea would extend far beyond woods, beaches and springs.”

“Florida's continued growth and economic prosperity depend on its wonderful quality of life, which is based largely on its natural assets.”

“Water shortages, polluted rivers and paved-over beaches won't create jobs or attract businesses.”

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/opinion/2012/aug/09/naopino1-protecting-the-best-of-florida-ar-458077/>



August 9, 2012

Green Florida

“This week a coalition of environmental groups launched a state constitutional initiative to raise \$10 billion over the next two decades for the preservation of unspoiled lands and the protection of water resources.”

“The Florida Water and Land Legacy Campaign would accomplish this, not by raising taxes, but by earmarking one-third of the revenues from the state's existing excise tax on documents to be spent for land and water preservation.”

“That would put the funding off limits to lawmakers, who routinely raid state "trust" funds in order to finance tax cuts and balance the budget.”

“We believe Floridians are possessed of a fierce environmental ethic even if their politicians are not. The Florida Water and Land Legacy Campaign is an opportunity to bypass the politicians and secure Florida's green future.”

<http://www.gainesville.com/article/20120809/OPINION01/120809613>



The Palm Beach Post

August 9, 2012

Proposed Florida constitutional amendment would guarantee money for environment

“In an effort to take the politics out protecting public land, environmental groups have launched a petition drive for a constitutional amendment to bar lawmakers from tinkering with funding for conservation programs.”

“The proposed amendment would chisel into stone funding formulas for land purchases and conservation efforts, similar to those already found in Florida statutes. As an amendment to the constitution, lawmakers could not alter the funding requirements because changes to Florida's constitution must be approved by voters. By contrast, statutes are created, amended or repealed by the legislature.”

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/proposed-amendment-would-guarantee-money-for-envir/nQFGX/>



The Miami Herald 

August 7, 2012

A way to protect Florida's treasures

“Tough economic times and a penchant in Tallahassee for ‘easy solutions’ to close budget gaps have left the state’s environmental treasures and wildlife programs in the dumps. What these recreation and conservation lands need is a stable, dedicated source of funding.”

“Enter the Florida Water and Land Legacy Campaign, a coalition that includes the Trust for Public Land, Audubon Florida, the Florida Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy, 1000 Friends of Florida, Defenders of Wildlife and other groups that want to preserve Florida’s natural beauty — and its clean water — for generations to come.”

“It would protect the land and water that Florida needs for its economy to grow. And Florida has a long, nonpartisan tradition in environmental protection... It’s past time to protect Florida from the political winds.”

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2012/08/07/v-print/2938402/a-way-to-protect-floridas-treasures.html#storylink=cpy>



FLORIDA'S Water & Land Legacy

316 Williams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 629-4656

302 Organizations Endorsing the Water and Land Conservation Amendment as of August 8, 2013

Founding Organizations

Trust for Public Land
Audubon Florida
Florida Wildlife Federation
Sierra Club
Florida Conservation Alliance
Alachua Conservation Trust
1000 Friends of Florida
Defenders of Wildlife
Conservation Trust for Florida
The Conservation Fund
The Nature Conservancy
Florida Conservation Coalition

Endorsing Organizations

Rails to Trails Conservancy	Bay County Audubon Society
Alachua Audubon Society	Bay County Conservancy
Allen Broussard Conservancy	Big Bend Coastal Conservancy
Alliance of Florida Land Trusts	Big Cypress Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Alligator Amblers Chapter of Florida Trail Association	Blackwater River Foundation, Inc.
American Planning Association Florida	Blackwater River Trail, Inc.
Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy	Breckenridge Golf and Tennis Club
Ancient Islands Group of Sierra Club	Broward Group of Sierra Club
Animal Rights Foundation of Florida	Broward Lotus Sangha
Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch & Shorebird Monitor	Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association - Riverwatch
Apalachee Audubon Society	Calusa Group of Sierra Club
Apalachee Chapter of Florida Trail Association	Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife
Apalachee Land Conservancy	Carrabelle Cares and Waterfront Partnership
Apalachicola Riverkeeper	Center for Biological Diversity
Appraisal Institute Region X	Central Florida Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Archbold Biological Station	Central Florida Group of Sierra Club
Around the Bend Nature Tours	Choctawhatchee Audubon Society
Audubon Society of Martin County	Choctawhatchee Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Audubon Society of Southwest Florida	Citizens for an Engaged Electorate
Audubon Society of the Everglades	
Barrier Island Parks Society	

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Citrus Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Citrus County Audubon Society
Citrus County Chapter of North American
Butterfly Association
Citrus County Council
Citrus County Democratic Executive
Committee
City of Cedar Key
Clean Water Action
Clearwater Audubon Society
Coastal Plains Institute and Land Conservancy
Coccoloba Chapter of Florida Native Plant
Society
Cocoplum Chapter of Florida Native Plant
Society
Collany Properties
Collier County Audubon Society
Committee of the Islands on Sanibel
Conradina Chapter of Florida Native Plant
Society
Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast
Coontie Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Copperleaf Golf Club
Coral Gables Democratic Club
Cuplet Fern Chapter of Florida Native Plant
Society
Democratic Club of Greater Ft. Lauderdale
Democratic Environmental Caucus of Florida
Democratic Women's Club of Bay County
Democratic Women's Club of Florida
Democratic Women's Club of Hardee County
Democratic Women's Club of Highlands
County
Democratic Women's Club of Indian River
County
Democratic Women's Club of Manatee County
Duval Audubon Society
Eagle Audubon Society
Earth Charter US
Earth Ethics
Earthjustice Florida
East Coast Greenway Alliance
Emerald Coastkeeper
Endangered Species Coalition
Environmental Confederation of Southwest
Florida
Environmental Conservation Organization

Environmental Education Council of Broward
County, Florida
Escambia County Democratic Women's Club
Estero Council of Community Leaders
Everglades Coalition
Everglades Foundation
Feldman Media
First Florida Frontiers
Fisheating Creek Chapter of Florida Trail
Association
Flagler Audubon Society
Florida Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Florida Clean Water Network
Florida Coalition for Preservation
Florida Consumer Action Network
Florida Cracker Chapter of Florida Trail
Association
Florida Defenders of the Environment
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs
Florida Keys Chapter of the Izaak Walton
League of America
Florida Keys Citizens Coalition
Florida Native Plant Society
Florida Ornithological Society
Florida Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Florida Paddling Trails Association
Florida Panther Society
Florida Public Employees for Environmental
Responsibility
Florida Recreation and Park Association
Florida Society for Ethical Ecotourism
Florida State University Environmental Services
Programs
Florida Trail Association
Florida Trust for Historic Preservation
Florida's Nature Coast Conservancy
Four Rivers Audubon Society
Francis M. Weston Audubon
Friends of Arthur R Marshall Loxahatchee
National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve
Friends of Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenway
Friends of Perdido Bay
Friends of Pinellas Master Naturalists
Friends of St. Joseph Bay Preserves
Friends of St. Joseph Peninsula State Park

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Friends of St. Sebastian River
Friends of the Florida Panther Refuge
Friends of the Wacissa
Friends of the Wekiva River
Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park
Goethe Trail
Golden Gate Civic Association
Greater Charlotte Harbor Group of Sierra Club
Green Horizon Land Trust
Green Party of Florida
Gulf Coast Conservancy
Hairstreak Chapter of North American Butterfly Association
Halifax Heritage Byway
Halifax River Audubon Society
Halifax-St. Johns Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Happy Hoofers Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Heartland Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Heartland Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Hendry-Glades Audubon Society
Hernando Audubon Society
Hernando Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Highlands County Audubon Society
Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute
IDEAS for US (Intellectual Decisions on Environmental Awareness Solutions)
Indian River Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Indian River Land Trust
Indian Riverkeeper
Ixia Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society
Lake Beautyberry Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Lake County Democratic Club
Lake Region Audubon Society
Lakelas Mint Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
LCK/AIA, Inc.
League of Conservation Voters
League of Women Voters of Florida
League of Women Voters of the Space Coast
Lemon Bay Conservancy
Leon Soil and Water Conservation District

Lighthouse Bay at the Brooks
Longleaf Alliance
Longleaf Pine Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Loxahatchee Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Loxahatchee Group of Sierra Club
Lyonia Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Magnolia Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Manatee County Audubon Society
Mangrove Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Marion Big Scrub Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Marion County Audubon Society
Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
Martin County Conservation Alliance
Miami Blue Chapter of North American Butterfly Association
Millstone Institute of Preservation
Mrs. Mango & Company Inc.
Naples Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Nassau County Group of Sierra Club
National Wildlife Federation
Nature Coast Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Nehrling Gardens
New Smyrna Beach Garden Club
North American Native Fishes Association
North Broward Democratic Club
North Florida Land Trust
North Florida Trail Blazers Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Northeast Florida Group of Sierra Club
Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society
Orange Audubon Society
Orange County Democratic Executive Committee
Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail
Paddle Florida
Palm Beach Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Panhandle Chapter of Florida Trail Association
Pawpaw Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
Paynes Prairie Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society

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Peace River Audubon Society
 Pelican Island Audubon Society
 People for Protecting Peace River
 People for Trees
 Pine Lily Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Pine Ridge Sanctuary/Pine Ridge Orchids
 Pinellas Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Progress Florida
 Protect our Watersheds
 Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida
 Putnam County Environmental Council
 Putnam Land Conservancy
 Rainbow River Conservation
 Redlands Citizens Association
 Reef Relief
 Ridge Audubon Society
 River of Grass Greenway
 Rookery Pointe Homeowners Association
 Sanibel - Captiva Audubon Society
 Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation
 Santa Fe Audubon Society
 Santa Rosa Democratic Women's Club
 Sarasota Audubon Society
 Sarracenia Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Save Our Suwannee
 Save the Homosassa River Alliance
 Save the Manatee Club
 Science Eye
 Sea Oats Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Sea Rocket Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Seminole Audubon Society
 Serenoa Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Shadow Wood Community Association
 Shady Historic and Scenic Trails Association
 Silver River Keeper Foundation
 Silver Springs Alliance
 Snook Foundation
 South Florida Audubon Society
 South Florida Wildlands Association
 Southeast Chapter of American Rivers
 Southeast Volusia Audubon Society
 Southern Trailriders Association
 Southwest Florida Chapter of Democratic Environmental Caucus of Florida
 Southwest Florida Watershed Council
 Space Coast Audubon
 Space Coast Progressive Alliance
 Sparkleberry Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Spring Run Golf Club
 St. Andrew Bay Resource Management Association
 St. Johns Audubon Society
 St. Johns River Alliance
 St. Johns Riverkeeper
 St. Lucie Audubon Society
 St. Petersburg Audubon Society
 St. Petersburg Democratic Club
 Students Advocating Sustainability at Stetson
 Sumter Spiderwort Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Suncoast Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Suncoast Chapter of Florida Trail Association
 Suncoast Group of Sierra Club
 Sunshine State Interfaith Power and Light
 Surfrider Foundation
 Suwannee Bicycle Association
 Suwannee Chapter of Florida Trail Association
 Suwannee St. Johns Group of Sierra Club
 Sweetbay Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy
 Tallahassee Citizens Climate Lobby
 Tampa Audubon Society
 Tampa Bay Conservancy
 Tampa Bay Group of Sierra Club
 Tampa Bay Watch
 Tarflower Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 The Villagers
 Tillandsia Dade Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society
 Timucuan Trail Parks Foundation
 Tomorrow Matters!
 Treasured Lands Foundation
 Tropical Audubon Society
 Tropical Trekkers Chapter of Florida Trail Association

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Turtle Coast Group of Sierra Club
UCF College Democrats Environmental Caucus
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of
Florida
Urban Environment League of Greater Miami
Urban Paradise Guild
UWF Student Environmental Action Society
Venice Area Audubon Society
Wakulla Springs Alliance
Walton County Democratic Women's Club
Wellington Preservation Coalition

West Pasco Audubon Society
West Volusia Audubon Society
Western Gate Chapter of Florida Trail
Association
Wildlands Conservation
Wildwood Preservation Society
Women for Wise Growth
Women's History Coalition

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Pd. pol. adv. paid for and sponsored by Florida's Water and Land Legacy, Inc., 1700 N. Monroe St., Ste. 11-286, Tallahassee, FL 32303

Resolution of the City/County of _____

Whereas the ballot title and summary of the Water and Land Conservation Amendment” read as follows:

TITLE:

Water and Land Conservation - Dedicates funds to acquire and restore Florida conservation and recreation lands

SUMMARY:

Funds the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to acquire, restore, improve, and manage conservation lands including wetlands and forests; fish and wildlife habitat; lands protecting water resources and drinking water sources, including the Everglades, and the water quality of rivers, lakes, and streams; beaches and shores; outdoor recreational lands; working farms and ranches; and historic or geologic sites, by dedicating 33 percent of net revenues from the existing excise tax on documents for 20 years.

And whereas protection of the quality and quantity of Florida’s drinking water sources is a primary responsibility of our state; and

Whereas the State of Florida is known for beautiful rivers, lakes, streams, spring sheds, wetlands, forests, wildlife habitat and beaches and shores, and these natural assets are central to our quality of life and economic vitality; and

Whereas outdoor recreation in Florida represents a \$38 billion annual industry, employing 329,000 people, and over 6.4 million people annually hunt, fish, or view wildlife in our state; and

Whereas restoration of the Florida Everglades is the most comprehensive ecological restoration in the world’s history, and impacts the drinking water of a large portion of Florida’s residents; and

Whereas our state has a longstanding commitment to protection of outdoor recreation lands, including recreational trails, parks, and urban open space; rural landscapes; working farms and ranches; historic and geologic sites; and

Whereas for 19 years, with bi-partisan support of every governor and legislature that served from 1990 through 2008, Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever were funded annually at \$300 million per year; and

Whereas Florida Forever has not received significant, sustained, or predictable funding since 2009; and

Whereas Article II Section 7 of the Florida Constitution states, "It shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty," and yet since 2009 funding for land conservation, management, and restoration, including Florida Forever has been cut drastically; and

Whereas Florida Cities and Counties have benefited from state land conservation, management, and restoration programs, including Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever; and

Whereas Florida Cities and Counties have benefited directly by receiving grants from state land conservation, management, and restoration programs, including the Florida Communities Trust, Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grants (FRDAP), the Florida Historic Preservation grants, and the Florida Greenways and Trails program; and

Whereas acquisition, management, restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands requires a sustainable, dedicated source of state funding; and

Whereas the documentary stamp tax has been the historic source of state funding for conservation and recreation in Florida; and

Whereas the Water and Land Conservation amendment will dedicate less than 1 percent of the budget of the State of Florida to protecting Florida's water and land, without increasing taxes; and

Whereas 82 of 100 Florida city and county land conservation ballot measures have been approved since 1988 by voters throughout the state, including almost every major urban county, many by overwhelming margins in excess of 70 percent, and an average of 63 percent; and

Now therefore, be it resolved by the _____ Commission of the City/County of _____ that we endorse the Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment and encourage support of this amendment by the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, and other organizations that seek to enhance the quality of life throughout the State of Florida.

Signed,

Title

Date

Signature

CITY OF AVENTURA

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager 

DATE: October 8, 2013

SUBJECT: **Government Center Parking Lot Resurfacing**

The new Government Center parking garage is scheduled for completion on October 16, 2013. The project included resurfacing portions of the parking lot and access lanes adjacent to the garage. The remaining portions of the driveway and on-grade parking have not been resurfaced in 12 years. Please see the areas designated in red on the attached diagram.

It is recommended that the City Commission authorize the resurfacing of the remaining portions of the driveway and on-grade parking areas at this time at a cost not to exceed \$47,000. If approved, a Budget Amendment appropriating funds from the General Fund Capital Reserve will be placed on a future City Commission Meeting Agenda.

EMS/act

Attachment

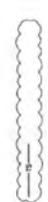
CCO1821-13

LEGEND

- 1. EXIST. FIRE HYDRANT
- 2. EXIST. WATER UTILITY
- 3. EXIST. SANITARY SEWER MANHOLE
- 4. EXIST. SANITARY SEWER CLEAN OUT
- 5. EXIST. STORM DRAINAGE CATCH BASIN
- 6. EXIST. HOVENDING WELL
- 7. 12" DUCTILE IRON PIPE WITH 4" RIBS
- 8. GAS LIO
- 9. CABLE TV / FIBER OPTIC
- 10. TRAFFIC CONTROL WALL
- 11. EXIST. CONCRETE

- 1. PROP. CONCRETE
- 2. PROP. ASPHALT
- 3. PROP. STORM DRAINAGE CATCH BASIN
- 4. PROP. STORM DRAINAGE MANHOLE

- NOTES**
1. SEE NOTES TO WELLS SHEET 14. CURVES FROM WATER ELEVATIONS AND SPOTS FROM TO DETERMINE LOCATION OF PROPOSED DRAINAGE.
 2. EXISTING DRAINAGE DISCHARGE WELLS ARE TO BE TESTED FOR WELL CAPACITY. TOTAL CAPACITY OF EXISTING WELLS SHALL BE EQUAL TO CAPACITY OF PROPOSED WELLS. IF THIS CAPACITY IS NOT MET, WELLS ARE TO BE REDESIGNED TO MEET THIS CAPACITY.



WILLIAM LEHMAN CAUSEWAY (STATE ROAD NO. 856)
(N.E. 182nd STREET)
(270' RIGHT-OF-WAY)

TRACT #
FIFTH ADDITION BISCAYNE
YATCH AND COUNTRY CLUB
PLAN BOOK NO. PAGE 20
MAN-BOGE COUNTY RECORDS



TRACT 0
MARINA DEL REY REVISED
PLAN BOOK NO. PAGE 20
MAN-BOGE COUNTY RECORDS

