

RESOLUTION 2004 - 101

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, REAFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO THE RESTORATION OF THE EVERGLADES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPROVING WATER QUALITY; SUPPORTING THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BROWARD EVERGLADES WORKING GROUP; SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF THE EVERGLADES FOREVER ACT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Everglades is recognized as a vital part of Florida's natural heritage and as one of the world's most significant, yet imperiled, ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of Broward County is Everglades and the restoration of the Everglades will positively impact the economy, the environment, and the water supply of Broward County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Southwest Ranches is located within a drainage basin that is part of a water quality initiative to restore the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, improving water quality is the key to restoring the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, phosphorus pollution discharged into the Everglades is one of the primary causes of Everglades degradation; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, the Florida Legislature passed the Everglades Forever Act which set into action a plan for meeting the proposed water quality standard of 10 parts per billion phosphorus for waters discharged into the Everglades by the year 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Everglades Forever Act of 2003 expanded the 1994 Everglades Forever Act to include those basins in Broward County that discharge into the Everglades including the C-11 West Basin, the North New River Basin, and the North Springs Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District adopted modifications to the Long-Term Plan with specific consideration of Broward County municipalities, the water management districts, and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Long-Term Plan recommends the creation of a broad-based Working Group in Broward County, with members representing the

municipalities, water management authorities, industry, and special interest groups, Broward County and the South Florida Water Management District; and

WHEREAS, participation in the Working Group provides a significant leadership opportunity for local governments to further the efforts to restore the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, the Broward Everglades Working Group provides the opportunity for collaborative efforts to develop a Comprehensive Basin-Wide Pollution Prevention Plan that may include voluntary best management practices, public outreach and training, and other efforts beneficial to the local community; and

WHEREAS, the success of Everglades restoration, the largest ecosystem initiative in the world, and the ability to improve water quality to meet State law by 2006 can only be realized through the coordination and participation of local leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Southwest Ranches has a history of supporting efforts to restore the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Southwest Ranches supports the involvement and participation of local governments to restore the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Southwest Ranches supports the opportunity to participate in the Broward Everglades Working Group to help achieve the goal of meeting state water quality standards by 2006.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida

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

Section 2: The Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, hereby reaffirms its commitment to the restoration of the Everglades and it recognizes the importance of improving the quality of water discharged to the Everglades.

Section 3: The Town Council hereby supports the opportunity to participate in the Broward Everglades Working Group and to assist the Working Group in setting and achieving its objectives.

Section 4: The Town Council hereby supports the goals of the Everglades Forever Act and the Town Council will remain cognizant of how the Town's actions may effect the Everglades.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 28th day of July 2004, on a motion by Council Member Don Maines and seconded by Council Member Forest Blanton.

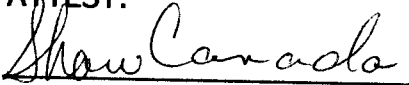
Fink	<u>Y</u>
Knight	<u>N</u>
Blanton	<u>Y</u>
Maines	<u>Y</u>
Nelson	<u>Y</u>

Ayes	<u>4</u>
Nays	<u>1</u>
Absent or Abstaining	<u>0</u>



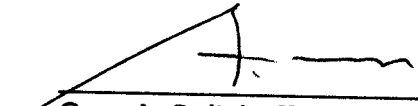
Mecca Fink, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shari Canada, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:



Gary A. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney