

RESOLUTION 2009-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING AND STRONGER LEGISLATION DIRECTED TOWARD SOLUTIONS FOR THE ENORMOUS PROBLEM OF BEACH EROSION WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems for the State of Florida has compiled data in a study as recently as June 2008 on the nature of critically eroded beaches in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the recent study has indicated that five counties along the southern Atlantic Coast of Florida have a total of 96.8 miles of critically eroded beaches; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County has 31.1 miles of this critically eroded shoreline area within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature at Sec. 161.088, *F.S.* has already determined that “[B]ecause beach erosion is a serious menace to the economy and general welfare of the people of this state and has advanced to emergency proportions, it is hereby declared to be a necessary governmental responsibility to properly manage and protect Florida beaches fronting on the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and the Straits of Florida from erosion and that the Legislature make provisions for beach restoration and nourishment projects...”; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature at Sec.380.21(3)(a), *F.S.* “...finds that the coastal zone is rich in a variety of natural, commercial, recreational, ecological, industrial and aesthetic resources of immediate and potential value to the present and future well being of the residents of this state which will be irretrievably lost or damaged if not properly managed [which] requires a highly coordinated effort among the state, regional, and local officials and agencies”; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature only allocated approximately 15 million dollars in the last budget year related to beach projects for the entire state of Florida which amount does not seem in keeping with the seriousness of the impacts to the State’s economy caused by the problem of beach and shoreline erosion; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ocean Ridge desires that proportionate funding and emphasis on the issue by the Florida Legislature be adopted to address the enormous problems caused in the State of Florida directly related to this beach and shoreline erosion affecting the entire State’s economic and general welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA THAT:

SECTION 1: The Town of Ocean Ridge hereby requests the assistance of Governor Crist and the Florida Legislature in addressing the problem of beach and shoreline erosion with appropriate funding and emphasis in legislation that will be proportionally related to the enormous negative effects that such beach and shoreline erosion have on the entire State's economic and general welfare. Furthermore, the Town of Ocean Ridge encourages the State to fund research and infrastructure installation that will lead to and provide for a permanent solution to the on-going threat of beach erosion.

SECTION 2: The Town of Ocean Ridge requests that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Crist and both houses of the Florida Legislature.

SECTION 3: This Resolution was proposed and became effective immediately upon its adoption by the Town of Ocean Ridge at its regular meeting of August 3, 2009.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of August, 2009

TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE

(SEAL)

Kenneth Kaleel, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen Hancsak, Town Clerk