

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 - 091

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE SUBMITTAL OF FIVE (5) PROPOSED CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FOR FIVE (5) SITES INCLUDED IN THE BROWARD COUNTY LAND ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM, SPECIFICALLY MASTER SITE NUMBERS OS-54, ROLLING OAKS PARK, OS-104, SW MEADOWS PARK, OS-106, COUNTRY ESTATES "FISHING HOLE" PARK, OS-107, FRONTIER TRAILS PARK, AND OS-115 CALUSA CORNERS PARK, TO THE BROWARD COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION'S PHASE 7 BOND PROGRAM, REQUESTING REIMBURSEMENT FROM BROWARD COUNTY FOR THE TOWN'S COSTS TO DEVELOP THESE WETLANDS, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 1999 a majority of the voters of Broward County approved a \$400 million Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program to both acquire and to preserve the remaining conservation lands, green spaces, and open spaces within Broward County; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Southwest Ranches has received funds from the Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program in order to purchase over one hundred and fifty (150) acres of land for rural public open space, conservation, and recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 2000-1230 which earmarked \$14 million within the Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program for the ecological restoration of these lands with native wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the eligibility criteria set by the County for these funds includes those, "land(s) whose ecological components and functions can be maintained through practical management aimed at the restoration, stabilization, and enhancement of the existing natural resources for use by the public;" and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Southwest Ranches is currently in the process of obtaining environmental permits from all necessary regulatory agencies in order to restore over fifty (50) acres of lands, acquired through the County's Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program, to its native wetlands environment; and

WHEREAS, these proposed wetlands will directly improve the quality of water entering into the underlying Biscayne Aquifer, Broward County's sole source of potable water; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council would respectfully request that the Broward County Board of County Commissioners either assist the Town with funding for restoration costs of the proposed wetlands, or authorize its staff to review the Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program's list of potential wetland mitigation areas eligible for funding to include those lands acquired by the Town through the Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program, attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Town also respectfully requests reimbursement from the County's Land Acquisition and Preservation Bond Program, in an amount not to exceed \$2 million dollars per project, for those sites, attached hereto as Exhibit "A", that have been or will be ecologically restored with municipal and/or County non-bond funds.

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

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

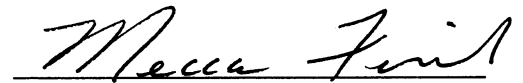
Section 2: The Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches does hereby ratify and support the submission of five (5) proposed Conservation Easements for the Town's five park (5) sites to be either included in Broward County's Land Acquisition and Preservation Program, pending Phase 7 projects, for reimbursement of an amount not to exceed \$2 million dollars per project for the cost of restoration of the park's proposed wetlands, or that the Broward County Board of County Commissioners set aside undesignated funds from its Bond Program to restore the wetlands in the Town's 5 parks that were partially purchased with Broward County Bond Funds for the following sites listed in Broward County's Land Acquisition and Preservation Program: Master Site Numbers OS-54, Rolling Oaks Park, OS-104, SW Meadows Park, OS-106, Country Estates "Fishing Hole" Park, OS-107, Frontier Trails Park and OS-115 Calusa Corners Park.

Section 3: The Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches does hereby authorize its Town Administrator to submit any and all documentation necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

Section 4: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

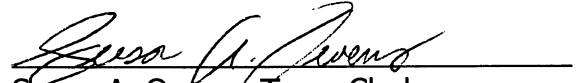
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 7th day of September 2006, on a motion by Council Member Aster Knight and seconded by Vice mayor Don Maines.

Fink	<u>Y</u>	Ayes	<u>5</u>
Maines	<u>Y</u>	Nays	<u>0</u>
Blanton	<u>Y</u>	Absent	<u>0</u>
Knight	<u>Y</u>	Abstaining	<u>0</u>
Nelson	<u>Y</u>		



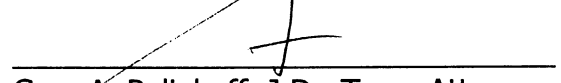
Mecca Fink, Mayor

Attest:



Susan A. Owens, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:



Gary A. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney
FTL_DB: 1004163_1