

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 033**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ("SFWMD") INCORPORATE INTO THE DESIGN PLANS FOR AN IMPOUNDMENT AREA TWO BRIDGE CROSSINGS OVER THE C-11 CANAL; URGING SFWMD TO ADVOCATE FOR AND DEFEND THIS DESIGN FEATURE TO THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SO IT MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL DESIGN PLAN; EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the South Florida Water Management District ("SFWMD") is implementing the C-11 West Basin Pollution Reduction Action Plan to help reduce the amount of phosphorus entering the Everglades from the C-11 West Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of this endeavor, SFWMD is planning to construct a stormwater treatment impoundment project north of the C-11 canal to reduce elevated levels of total phosphorous generated within the C-11 West Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the impoundment project includes a large pump structure that will adversely impact east-west continuity of the existing and widely used C-11 Trail, a mixed use recreational trail located within the C-11 Right of Way and established through a cooperative agreement between the Town and SFWMD in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the C-11 Trail provides a unique, safe and environmentally sustainable greenway trail enjoyed by joggers, bicyclists, equestrians and nature enthusiasts that is consistent with Recreation and Open Space Element ("ROS") Goal 1 and ROS Objective 1.4 as enumerated in the Town's Comprehensive Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the C-11 Trail provides an essential and uninterrupted link to Broward County Greenway System, the Town of Davie's recreational trail, and the City of Weston's trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of the two proposed bridges relieves the Town's safety concerns by providing safer access to the trail by moving trail users away from the south bank of the C-11 canal which is within 20 feet of a heavily traveled multi-lane roadway where conditions have necessitated the recent construction of guardrails as a result of recent traffic fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan ROS Policy 1.4-a. which seeks partnerships to maintain and enhance water bodies and open space, the Town supports this project and SFWMD's efforts to incorporate the construction of these two bridges in impoundment project's final design as it will enhance the user's experience and help the local economy by creating a prized destination for equestrian and nature enthusiasts from across the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council believes that supporting the construction of these two bridges in its recommended strategic locations is necessary to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and all County Greenway System users.

**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 hereby reaffirms its commitment to the restoration of the Everglades and further recognizes the importance of improving the quality of water discharged to the Everglades from the C-11 West Basin; and

**Section 3.** The Town urges SFWMD to develop and defend the development and maintenance of two Americans with Disabilities Act compliant bridges for multipurpose recreational access into the final design plan for the impoundment project that will be presented to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") for approval; and

**Section 4.** The Town strongly urges that two bridges be constructed in as close proximity as possible to the new pump structure in order to maintain as much of the east-west continuity on the north side trail as possible for the benefit of trail users with a focus on minimizing trail usage on the Canal's south side for safety reasons; and

**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 12th day of May, 2016, on a motion by Vice Mayor McKay, and seconded by Council Member Jablonski.

[SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE]

Nelson  
McKay  
Breitkreuz  
Fisikelli  
Jablonski

*[Handwritten signature]*

Ayes  
Nays  
Absent  
Abstaining

*[Handwritten marks]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Jeff Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

*[Handwritten signature]*

Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

*[Handwritten signature]*

Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

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