

RESOLUTION NO. 90-25

WHEREAS, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, has continued to pursue the proposed Southeast Solid Waste Disposal landfill site (sometimes referred to as the SR-210 site) that borders on the County of St. Johns and recently received approval of the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Regulation for the issuance of all necessary permits to construct a landfill on this site; and

WHEREAS, we have expressed to the local elected officials of Jacksonville, Florida, our concern for this area and the proposed landfill project of Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS, this project is not compatible with the Comprehensive Plan of St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, the landfill site is approximately one (1) mile from a major Junior-Senior High School of St. Johns County which currently accommodates approximately 1,500 students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed site is situated within the headwater wetlands, (Durbin Swamp), feeding the last pristine tributary of the St. Johns River in Northeast Florida--Durbin Creek; and

WHEREAS, the wetlands on site are high quality and extensive and the proposed site overlies a recharge area to the Florida aquifer, our ultimate drinking water source; and

WHEREAS, the surficial aquifer is highly vulnerable to contamination and meets Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for Class I status; and

WHEREAS, 40-50% of this site and the large portion of surrounding land area is within the 100-year flood hazard zones; and

WHEREAS, the Durbin Creek wetlands systems and its contiguous and surrounding uplands serve as refuge and/or habitat for rare Florida animals including endangered, threatened species, and species of special concern of wildlife, such as ---- gopher tortoise, Florida black bear, Southern Bald Eagle, wood stork, Sherman fox squirrel, Florida panther and the West Indian manatee which uses the creek system; and

WHEREAS, the estaurine creek system provides highly productive fish nursery habitat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jacksonville, conducted an extensive alternative site analysis evaluating eleven (11) locations other than Durbin Swamp as potential landfill sites, which resulted in a prioritized ranking of more suitable landfill sites, which did not include the Durbin Swamp site; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Durbin Swamp site does not comply with 26 of the City of Jacksonville's 27 previously applied site evaluation criteria; and

WHEREAS, these concerns have not been answered to the satisfaction of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bob Martinez has time and time again expressed his concern about protecting the fragile environment and ecosystems of the State of Florida.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests and invites Governor Bob Martinez to personally visit the site of Duval County's proposed southeast landfill and experience first hand the fragile nature of this site with regards to its valuable wildlife habitat, extensive wetlands and pristine quality of Durbin Creek.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners will make the necessary local arrangements for the Governor's site visit.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 31st day of January, 1990.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Craig A. Maguire
Its Chairman

ATTEST: CARL "BUD" MARKEL, CLERK

By: Carl "Bud" Markel
Clerk