RESOLUTION NO. 98-162

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE ACQUISITION OF THE SOUTHEAST INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY PARK AND THE ST. JOHNS RIVER PARK THROUGH THE FLORIDA COMMUNITY TRUST, COMMITTING UNWAVERING SUPPORT AND NECESSARY RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN, ENHANCE, AND PRESERVE THESE PROPERTIES.

WHEREAS, St. Johns County has submitted two applications to the Florida Community Trust for the acquisition of properties located in the southeast and northwest parts of St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, the southeast site known as the Southeast Intracoastal Waterway Park is a pristine environmentally sensitive tract of land bordered by the Intracoastal Waterway, Atlantic Ocean and Fort Matanzas National Park; and

WHEREAS, the northwest site known as the St. Johns River Park is a fifty-three (53) acre tract located on a bluff overlooking the St. Johns River recently awarded federal recognition as an American Heritage River and said northwest site also contains highly valued natural foliage and animal habitat native to this area; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of these properties will benefit future generations greatly by allowing these unique and environmentally priceless areas to remain in their natural undisturbed state so that they may be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of these properties will represent the first acquisitions by St. Johns County through the Florida Community Trust.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns county that:

1. The Board reaffirms its total commitment and unwavering support for the acquisition of these properties.

2. The Board will assist in the development of a management plan to preserve, restore and maintain the natural attributes of these properties while providing educational opportunities and public access for fishing, nature viewing and other passive recreational activities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this <u>25</u> day of <u>Ougust</u>, 1998.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

TEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

Deputy Clerk