

RESOLUTION NO. 2002- 18

**A RESOLUTION OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUPPORTING AND DECLARING THE FLORIDA-DESIGNATED
WILLIAM BARTRAM SCENIC HIGHWAY AS AN HISTORICAL HIGHWAY
BY PROTECTING ITS NATURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES**

WHEREAS, William Bartram is known as the first native born American Naturalist to achieve international acclaim; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of William Bartram's travels took him along the St. Johns River where he made many excursions into the wilderness along the banks recording the area's trees, flora, fauna, native inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the 1980 Legislature passed an Act, Chapter 80-427, House Bill 987, designating a portion of State Road 13 and County Road 13 in St. Johns County, from the Julington Creek Bridge to State Road 207, as the William Bartram Scenic Highway, and directing the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that the Francisco Phillipe Fatio's Plantation was established around 1771 in the area of Switzerland Point which causes this area to be rich in archaeological and historical heritage; and

WHEREAS, the historical oaks of Switzerland where citizen's voiced their concern to Governor Martinez to save the trees was significant of people coming together as a community; and

WHEREAS, the remaining designated highway is a representation of historic Florida and promotes a heightened awareness of our State's exceptional resources and provides windows into Florida's heritage of beauty; and

WHEREAS, protection of the William Bartram Scenic Highway is needed for present and future generations to enjoy and experience; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes the 1980 Legislation to protect the William Bartram Scenic Highway and has adopted Land Development Code requirements to protect the Scenic Highway; and

WHEREAS, Section 6.06.02.G of the Land Development Code provides for undisturbed scenic buffers along designated Scenic Highways, Section 6.08.12.V of the Land Development Code provides that no antenna tower shall be located within 600 feet of a designated Scenic Highway, and Part 7.07.00 of the Land Development Code provides specific signage requirements along Scenic Highways; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners endeavors to further assure recognition of the William Bartram Scenic Highway's outstanding scenic, historical and archaeological significance through designation of the state-maintained portion by the Florida Department of Transportation as the "William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway;" and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that such designation will lead to the development of a comprehensive Management Plan to identify other appropriate opportunities and methods of protection, such as increased protection and enhancement of trees and plants and other scenic and historic resources located along the Corridor and at the Corridor's entryways, in which to create a positive and favorable impression upon pedestrians and motorists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners reaffirms State Road 13 and County Road 13 from the Julington Creek Bridge to State Road 207 as the William Bartram Scenic Highway, and further designates this corridor as the "William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway;" and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the County Administrator to continue enforcing existing Land Development Codes and to expedite as quickly as reasonably possible the completion of the Eligibility Application and subsequent Management Plan for the state-maintained portion of the William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, THIS 5th DAY OF February 2002.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**


BY:



Marc A. Jacalone, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

BY:



Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 02-05-02