

RESOLUTION 2002-205

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ST JOHNS RIVER BLUEWAY FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL.

WHEREAS, the environmental quality, history and culture of St. Johns County are closely linked to the St. Johns River and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of lands in the St. Johns River Blueway Florida Forever proposal will protect and improve the ecological integrity of the River while providing additional access to existing conservation lands in the area; and

WHEREAS, the 1980 Legislature passed an Act, Chapter 80-427, House Bill 987, designating a portion of State Road 13 (from Julington Creek to State Road 207) along the St. Johns River as William Bartram Scenic Highway; and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns River is an American Heritage River, designated as such to help preserve and enhance water quality, ecological and cultural resources along the River through the cooperative actions of numerous partners; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the area has also been recognized by the St. Johns River Water Management District's Lower St. Johns River Basin Program as a priority area in the 1987 Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Act; and

WHEREAS, local and state governments have made substantial investments in protecting the upstream areas of the St. Johns River system through acquisition and management of land for conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, there exists an opportunity to preserve and protect these resources for the benefit and enjoyment of citizens, now and for future generations, while development increases at a rapid rate in the area.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, hereby supports approval by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) of the St. Johns River Blueway Florida Forever proposal for evaluation, and subsequent addition to the Florida Forever Acquisition Priority List as a Category A project.

1st **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this day of October, 2002.

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

By: James E. Bryant
James E. Bryant, Chairman

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk of Court

By: Patricia DeGrande
Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 10-3-02

Effective Date: 10-1-02