

RESOLUTION NO. 2007- 160

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA REGARDING SITUATION OF THE EROSION OF THE BEACHES OF NORTHERN ST. JOHNS COUNTY.

WHEREAS, over the past several years, particularly 2004-2005, many counties throughout the State of Florida have experienced hurricanes and hurricane like conditions and,

WHEREAS, a number of beaches areas of St. Johns County ("the County") have been particularly adversely affected by such hurricane and hurricane like conditions and,

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners, in May 2007, realized that an emergency condition existed on the northern beaches of the County and,

WHEREAS, the conditions along the entire beach may be degenerating towards a critical condition from marker R-94 through marker R-109 and,

WHEREAS, the future property values, tax base and economy of the County are affected by the health and welfare of the County's beaches and,

WHEREAS, certain beaches, particularly those designated by marker R-70 through R-122, are in need of immediate study as to their present and predictable future conditions and,

WHEREAS, a group of citizens of the County have organized to form a not-for-profit corporation known as the South Ponte Vedra-Vilano Beach Restoration Association, Inc. ("the Association") and,

WHEREAS, these citizens represent that they have sought and received the expert advice of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems as to the necessity of moving forward with a shore stabilization project and,

WHEREAS, based upon the representations made by a principal of this not-for-profit corporation, the Board of Commissioners believes that there may be funds available through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems to fund the necessary coastal engineering work as a prerequisite to a possible beach restoration project and,

WHEREAS, in order to access federal, state and local monies that are available, or that may become available, it is advantageous that a Shore Stabilization Feasibility Study be accomplished in a timely fashion and,

WHEREAS, the Association estimates that the total cost of completing a Shore Stabilization Feasibility Study will be \$280,000 and,

WHEREAS, the Association represents that the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems has identified \$140,000 that may be available to aid in funding the completion of the Shore Stabilization Feasibility Study, provided the funds are equally matched and,

WHEREAS, a principal of the Association has represented that the Association has actively been raising funds and may be able to fund the \$140,000 necessary to match the State of Florida monies and,

WHEREAS, the Association, through a principal has represented to the County that the local funding pertaining to the Shore Stabilization Feasibility Study will originate from the affected ocean front property owners, through the Association, and the costs of a beach restoration project would be paid for by the affected ocean front property owners and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners supports the concept of private property owners seeking to take responsibility for the protection of their property and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners believes this project has an element of public purpose, in part, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County because of the public access to the beach and,

WHEREAS, the County has implemented a Habitat Conservation Plan pertaining to St. Johns County beaches, and any effort or initiative made pertaining to said beaches must not be inconsistent with said Habitat Conservation Plan and,

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED, that, in order to facilitate completion of the Shore Stabilization Feasibility Study, and based upon the verification of representations of the Association, the Board of County Commissioners for St. Johns County will request, if available, \$140,000 from the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, to be equally matched by \$140,000 in funds fully provided by the Association and,

IT IS THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners, through its professional staff, will be available to reasonably coordinate with the South Ponte Vedra-Vilano Beach Restoration Association, Inc., in the Association's effort to seek these monies as well as additional monies in the future to promote beach protection, particularly the beaches identified from marker R-20 through marker R-122, or as otherwise may be reasonably determined.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this 5 day of June, 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

By: Pam Halterum
Deputy Clerk

By: Ben Rich
Ben Rich, Chairman

Effective Date: 6/5/07

Rendition Date: 6/5/07

