

RESOLUTION NO. 06-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE RESTORATION OF THE FLAMINGO LODGE AND OTHERWISE PRESERVING BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Village of Palmetto Bay remains concerned with maintaining the quality of life for residents in our community; and

WHEREAS, Florida is a tourist-based economy dependent in large part on travel by tourists to enjoy the beauty of the Florida Everglades, which offers the opportunity to view hundreds of threatened or unique species of mammals, reptiles, birds, fish, and native plants, whether by road, walking, or biking on either roadways, walking paths, and boardwalks, and by use of motor vehicle, motor or sailboat, canoeing or kayaking; and

WHEREAS, Flamingo Lodge, located within the Everglades National Park is the only "in-park" lodging, a historic fixture for even local Floridians as the 'base camp' and starting point for enjoyment of this National Park; and

WHEREAS, Flamingo Lodge & Marina in Everglades National Park is now closed due to damage sustained from Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. The loss of this Flamingo Lodge will either deter the use and enjoyment of Everglades National Park, or alternatively, cause excessive use of motor vehicles throughout the park in the creation of daily commuting from end of the park to the nearest hotel facilities; and

WHEREAS, future generations of both Floridians and tourists will lose out on a unique opportunity to view the Everglades ecosystem without the ability to stay on-site if the Flamingo Lodge is not rebuilt;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

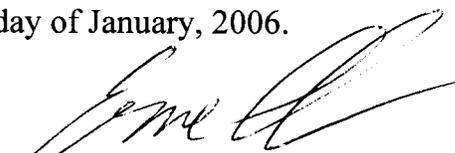
Section 1. The Village of Palmetto Bay, Florida, supports the rebuilding of the Flamingo Lodge as a historic and important treasure to the preservation and enjoyment of the Everglades National Park system.

Section 2. The Village of Palmetto Bay, Florida, requests that our Florida Senators, Bill Nelson and Mel Martinez, our Florida Congressional Delegation, and Governor Jeb Bush, join in requesting the U.S. Department of the Interior to commit to timely and fully restoring the Flamingo Lodge amenities.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of January, 2006.

Attest: 
Meighan Pier
Village Clerk


Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Eve Boutsis,
Village Attorney

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Council Member Ed Feller	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Paul Neidhart	<u>YES</u>
Council Member John Breder	<u>YES</u>
Vice-Mayor Linda Robinson	<u>YES</u>
Mayor Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.	<u>YES</u>

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