

RESOLUTION 06-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, ENCOURAGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO MEET THE SHORT AND LONG TERM SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER NEEDS OF THE COUNTY BY ADOPTING ALL NECESSARY STRATEGIES TO COMPLY WITH THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S (SFWMD) CONSUMPIVE USE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND THE DEP'S CONSENT ORDER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the policy of the State of Florida, as stated in section 373.016, Florida Statues, is to encourage the use of alternative water sources, including reuse of nonpotable reclaimed water to meet current and future water resources needs of the State; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 444, in part to provide state funding for alternative water supply projects, which includes wastewater reuse; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 444 also requires that local government comprehensive plans identify water supplies sufficient to meet the water needs identified in the SFWMD's regional water supply plans and that water supply be identified and available before Certificates of Occupancies can be issued; and

WHEREAS, the SFWMD has required WASD to submit an alternative water supply plan, including wastewater reuse to the mitigate the use of the Biscayne Aquifer water to meet all future water demands, as part of their requirements for WASD's application for a twenty-year water use permit; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan adopted in 1999 establishes minimum flows and levels for the Everglades system and Miami Dade's pumpage during the dry season causes the Everglades to become too dry and significantly intercepts the amount of fresh water flows to Biscayne bay; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is the largest single user of freshwater in the state of Florida—350 million gallons per day; and

WHEREAS, Freshwater is needed to sustain and restore the Everglades; and

WHEREAS, During the annual dry season, when rainfall levels can't keep the

Biscayne Aquifer full, the county's water supply is dependent upon delivery of over 200 million gallons per day from the Everglades regional system through the canals and natural seepage; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade's wellfields are sandwiched between the Everglades and Biscayne Bay—putting Miami-Dade's drinking water supplies in direct competition with these internationally significant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Every day approximately 300 million gallons of wastewater is generated in Miami Dade County of which only five percent is recycled and the remainder is disposed of in the ocean or thousands of feet below ground; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has been subject to various enforcement actions because of problems with its wastewater plants and their discharges and is now required by a DEP consent order to implement wastewater re-use; and

WHEREAS, DEP intends to enforce the deadlines in the current Consent Order; and

WHEREAS, the SFWMD presently determined that Miami-Dade's permit application for increased pumpage is incomplete and needs a considerable amount of work to meet the SFWMD's criteria for permit issuance; and

WHEREAS, the SFWMD is considering issuing a short-term permit allocation to meet the demands of the service area through 2007 and is requiring that the proposed allocations and that the shorter term permit application due in less than thirty days, specifically address a work plan and strategy to ensure completion of the 20 year permit application; and

WHEREAS, finding alternative water supplies, including reclaimed water, to meet the long term water needs of the County and to offset dependence on regional system recharge requires immediate action by the County Commission,

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 reaffirms its commitment to water conservation and urges all residents to adhere to mandatory watering restrictions.

Section 2. The Village of Palmetto Bay urges the Board of County Commissioners to work cooperatively with the regulatory agencies including DEP and the SFWMD to develop an alternative water supply plan with projects, costs, and timelines to be implemented over a twenty year period.

Section 3. The Village of Palmetto Bay supports the SFWMD's role in protecting the Everglades for present and future generations;

Section 4. The Village of Palmetto Bay urges the WASD to implement an immediate water conservation plan to ensure issuance of a short term water use permit as a condition of the longer term permit;

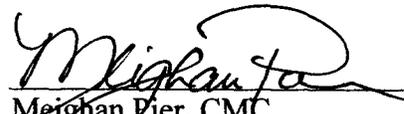
Section 5. The Village of Palmetto Bay urges the Board of County Commissioners to direct the County Manager to advise County residents of the full facts concerning the more than \$260 million reported as "siphoned off" by *The Miami Herald* on Sunday, February 19, 2006, from the water utility for the County's general fund, as these are significant monies that can go to immediate capital water improvements;

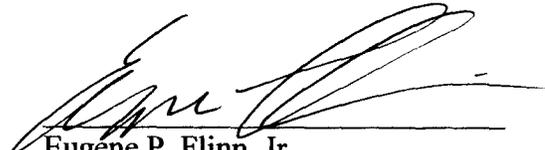
Section 6. There are residents of the Village of Palmetto Bay and Pinecrest who depend upon wells for potable water, sources that are at risk due insufficient water or salt water intrusion increases. The Village of Palmetto Bay urges the Board of County Commissioners to direct that WASD provide the necessary infrastructure for those pockets of residents on wells, so that every resident and area business will have access to county water supplies and are no longer dependent upon the untreated water of the Biscayne Aquifer for potable water;

Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6 day of March, 2006.

Attest:


Meighan Pier, CMC
Village Clerk


Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Eve Boutsis
Village Attorney

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

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