

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA; REQUESTING MONROE COUNTY'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO REQUEST A \$500,000 APPROPRIATION FROM CONGRESS IN ORDER TO LEVERAGE LOCAL AND STATE INVESTMENTS IN WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the nearshore waters of the Florida Keys are degraded due to stormwater and wastewater pollution; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this degradation, the United States Congress ("Congress") passed the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Act (the "Act") in December of 2000, setting aside \$100,000,000 in funds for assistance to the Florida Keys in stormwater and wastewater pollution; and

WHEREAS, Senator Bob Graham, Congressman Peter Deutsch and Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen supported the Act; and

WHEREAS, Congress designated the United States Army Corps of Engineers (the "ACOE") as the federal agency to administer projects funded by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires a non-federal matching contribution of 35% towards the cost of projects; and

WHEREAS, at the request of State Representative Ken Sorensen and with the leadership of Governor Jeb Bush, the Florida Legislature has appropriated \$12 million to be administered by the South Florida Water Management District (the "SFWMD") be used as non-federal match during the 2002 state fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the amount local governments spend on non-federal matching funds cannot be counted as a match until a Project Agreement (“PCA”) is signed by the ACOE as the federal sponsor and the SFWMD as the non-federal sponsor; and

WHEREAS, a PCA and a concurrent agreement with local governments is expected to be ready for signature early next year; and

WHEREAS, under ACOE rules, a PCA cannot be signed until an additional construction appropriation is received from Congress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:


Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Request for Appropriations. Monroe County’s congressional delegation is requested to work towards obtaining a congressional appropriation for the year 2003 in the amount of \$500,000 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Section 3. Request for Strategic Guidance. Monroe County’s congressional delegation is further requested to advise local government leaders on the best strategies for obtaining part or all of the remainder of the authorized funds in the year 2004 and subsequent years.

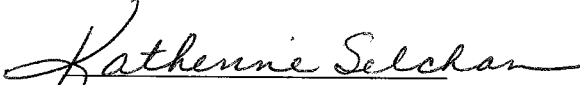
Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marathon, Florida this 15th day of October, 2002.



JOHN BARTUS, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KATHERNIE SELCHAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



CITY ATTORNEY

SCANNED

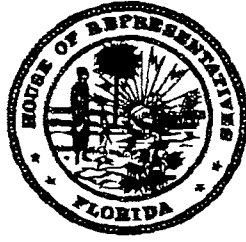
10/23/02 #6668 KSV

Reply to:

90311 Overseas Highway, Suite A
Post Office Box 699
Tavernier, FL 33070
(305) 853-1947

525 Angela Street
Key West City Hall
Key West, FL 33040
(305) 293-1658

317 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
(850) 488-9985
e-mail: sorensen.ken@leg.state.fl.us



Committees:

Local Gov't. & Veterans Affairs (Chair)
General Government Appropriations
Natural Resources & Enviro. Protection
Council for Smarter Government
Select Committee on Security

Committee
Chair
John Whitehead

Florida House of Representatives

Ken Sorensen, Ph.D.
State Representative, District 120

Date: September 19, 2002
To: Elected Official
From: Representative Ken Sorensen
Re: Wastewater/Stormwater Projects

The question of federal funding is illusive at best. If in fact federal funding is routed through the Corps of Engineers, I believe it would become an impediment to accomplishing our wastewater goals in the Florida Keys.

My suggestion is that money be routed through the state of Florida and placed in a trust fund from where it would be sent directly to our community to be used for pipes and shovels in the ground—not to re-invent the wheel and not to re-study.

I would appreciate it if your municipality would place this on the agenda at the first possible opportunity as the federal budget session is drawing quickly to a close. I have contacted Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and her staff is well aware of this. I believe a united front will go a long way toward helping her in her efforts to initiate this unfulfilled promise.

Finally, I do not believe they will fund the \$100 million at one time. If it is possible, they may fund it in increments—if at all. I believe this is a good move to help all of us.

**CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION 2003**

PENDING