

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20030132

1. REQUESTED MOTION:

ACTION REQUESTED: Adopt a resolution requesting the Florida Legislature maintain \$30 million in state funding for beach management.

WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY: The Governor's proposed '03 -'04 budget recommends a cut in beach management funding.

WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES: Requests the Florida Legislature maintain the current \$30 million dollar level of beach management funding.

**2. DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:
COMMISSION DISTRICT #**

C8A

3. MEETING DATE:

02-11-2003

4. AGENDA:

- CONSENT
- ADMINISTRATIVE
- APPEALS
- PUBLIC
- WALK ON
- TIME REQUIRED:

**5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:
(Specify)**

- STATUTE
- ORDINANCE
- ADMIN.
- CODE
- OTHER

6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:

- A. COMMISSIONER _____
- B. DEPARTMENT _____
- C. DIVISION Natural Resources

BY: Roland Ottolini, Director

7. BACKGROUND:

The Governor's recommended Budget for FY 03-04, released 1/21/03, provides \$20 million, rather than the \$30 million current law requires for statewide beach management. Additionally, the Governor's proposal funds the entire staffing and operations for the program, leaving just \$15 million for beach erosion control projects. There would no longer be an adequate and consistent state funding commitment to Florida's beaches, or a statewide, priority based, long-range management strategy.

The wording in the attached resolution is being supported by the Florida Shores and Beaches Preservation Association.

8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:

A Department Director	B Purchasing or Contracts	C Human Resources	D Other	E County Attorney	F Budget Services				G County Manager
<i>1/31/03</i> R. Ottolini	N/A	N/A		<i>[Signature]</i> 1/31/03	OA <i>[Signature]</i> 1/31/03	OM <i>[Signature]</i> 1/30/03	Risk <i>[Signature]</i> 1/30/03	GC <i>[Signature]</i> 1/30/03	<i>[Signature]</i>

10. COMMISSION ACTION:

- APPROVED
- DENIED
- DEFERRED
- OTHER

Rec. by CoAtty
Date: 1/31/03
Time: 8:00 am
Forwarded To:
[Signature]
1/31/03 8:15 am

RECEIVED BY
COUNTY ADMIN.
1-31 9:45
COUNTY ADMIN.
FORWARDED TO:
1-31 9:45

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA TO REQUEST THAT THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE MAINTAIN \$30 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING ANNUALLY FOR BEACH MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, Florida's number one tourist attraction is its beaches, and

WHEREAS, beach-related tourism has a \$41.6 billion impact on the state's economy, and

WHEREAS, beaches contribute over \$1 billion in tourist-related sales tax revenues annually, and

WHEREAS, 442,000 jobs are created by beach-related tourism, with an \$8 billion payroll resulting from additional spending related to Florida's beaches, and

WHEREAS, over half of Florida's 825 miles of sandy beaches are experiencing erosion, with 333 miles designated by the Department of Environmental Protection as critically-eroded, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, pursuant to Chapter 161, F.S., has declared beach erosion to be a serious threat to the economic and general welfare of the state and its residents; and has further declared it to be a necessary responsibility to preserve Florida's beaches and make provision for beach nourishment projects, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, in 1998, pursuant to s. 161.091, and s. 201.15 (11), provided that designated funding of \$30 million annually shall be deposited in the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, and that documentary stamp tax revenues shall be the source of that funding, and

WHEREAS, this \$30 million allocation has enabled Florida to develop a consistent, adequately-funded, priority-driven, long range management program to address critical erosion, and

WHEREAS, this program represents a cost-effective intergovernmental partnership which leverages a dollar for dollar local government match, and up to 65% of the total project cost from federal sources.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA HEREBY: Strongly urges the Florida Legislature to fully fund the Department of Environmental Protection's beach erosion control project priority list for FY03-04 for \$30 million as provided for in Chapters 161 and 201, Florida Statutes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT LEE COUNTY, respectively requests that the Florida Legislature oppose any legislative efforts to amend existing law which allocates \$30 million annually in certain documentary stamp tax revenues to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund for purposes of beach preservation and repair.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and, being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

ROBERT JANES	_____
DOUGLAS ST. CERNY	_____
RAY JUDAH	_____
ANDREW COY	_____
JOHN E. ALBION	_____

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Chairman