

## **RESOLUTION NO. 19-**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION THAT PROVIDES FULL FEDERAL FUNDING TO COMPLETE THE COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, as a result of activities to manage and drain water as early as the 1880s and more significantly through the construction and operation of the Central & Southern Florida (C&SF) project to make south Florida more inhabitable and facilitate agricultural production, the natural flow of water to, and through, the Everglades has been severely altered; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of roads, canals and levees created barriers that now interrupt the natural flow of water, necessitating regular release of excessive volumes of freshwater from Lake Okeechobee to the St. Lucie River and Estuary that have degraded the ecology of the St. Lucie River and Estuary and nearshore reef; and

**WHEREAS**, upon congressional authorization for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in 2000 the U.S. State Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Florida entered into a programmatic 50/50 cost share partnership to restore, protect and preserve water resources in central and southern Florida, including the Everglades; and

**WHEREAS**, CERP is the largest environmental restoration program in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS) provides the sequencing strategy for planning, design and construction of federal projects based on ecosystem needs and benefits, and is a part of the CERP Programmatic Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, these projects will provide significant lasting human health and environmental benefits, but will also enhance water supplies and maintain flood control for the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of CERP depend on the timely completion of all project components, and significant water quality improvements needed to prevent future human health and ecological hazards will not be realized until all projects are completed; and

**WHEREAS**, completion of all CERP projects depends upon Federal and State commitment of \$200 million annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States encouraged Congress to provide \$200 million to CERP in the federal budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States House of Representatives approved H.R. 2740 appropriation which included \$200 million for CERP; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**Section 1.** The Board supports the agreed upon federal funding of \$200 million annually for CERP.

**Section 2.** The Board further requests that the United States Senate approve a fiscal year 2020 appropriation bill that includes \$200 million for CERP.

**Section 3.** The County Administrator is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the members of the County's Senate delegation.

**Section 4.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Martin County, Florida at a meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2019.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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CAROLYN TIMMANN, CLERK OF THE  
CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

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EDWARD V. CIAMPI, CHAIRMAN

**APPROVED AS TO FORM & LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

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SARAH W. WOODS, COUNTY ATTORNEY