

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-089

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF NEW START STUDIES FOR FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS; URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE SUFFICIENT FUNDING IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA FLOOD PROJECT FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY PLAN STUDY; URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO SELECT THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA FLOOD PROJECT FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY PLAN STUDY AS A NEW START STUDY IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 WORK PLAN OF THE ARMY CIVIL WORKS PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS AND THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Commissioner Beam Furr and
Cosponsored by Commissioner Mark D. Bogen, Commissioner Nan H. Rich,
Commissioner Tim Ryan, and Commissioner Barbara Sharief)

WHEREAS, in 1948, the United States Congress authorized the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project ("C&SF Project") to provide flood control, manage water supply, prevent saltwater intrusion, and protect fish and wildlife resources;

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") has administered the C&SF Project with the help of, among other agencies, the South Florida Water Management District ("SFWMD");

WHEREAS, the C&SF Project has resulted in the construction of over 1,000 miles of canals and levees, as well as dozens of water control structures and pump stations, throughout Central and Southern Florida;

1 WHEREAS, over the course of decades, the C&SF Project has substantially
2 altered Florida's natural and built environment to allow for development and agriculture
3 and to improve Florida residents' quality of life;

4 WHEREAS, a restudy of the C&SF Project was conducted in the 1990s to address
5 the project's adverse environmental impacts considering the significant development that
6 had taken place in Central and Southern Florida since the C&SF Project was authorized
7 in 1948;

8 WHEREAS, that restudy led to the creation of the Comprehensive Everglades
9 Restoration Plan ("CERP"), which the United States Congress approved in the year 2000;

10 WHEREAS, despite the successes of CERP and the ongoing efforts to implement
11 CERP, sea level rise, development, population growth, and saltwater intrusion, among
12 other factors, have continued to change the environmental conditions under which the
13 C&SF Project operates;

14 WHEREAS, governmental entities and stakeholders have therefore advocated for
15 further study of the C&SF Project, a concept which has been termed a "resiliency study,"
16 an "update study," or a "restudy";

17 WHEREAS, a C&SF Project resiliency study could identify improvements that
18 need to be made to the C&SF Project and could prioritize the improvements that best
19 meet future C&SF Project objectives, such as flood control, protection of drinking water
20 from saltwater intrusion, and defense against sea level rise;

21 WHEREAS, a C&SF Project resiliency study could also be conducted in a manner
22 that is complementary to CERP and incorporates nature-based and natural-infrastructure
23 options;

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1 WHEREAS, conducting the C&SF Project resiliency study in this manner could
2 help ensure synergy and alignment with the USACE's ongoing effort to restore the
3 Everglades via CERP, which is a critical component of Broward County's environment,
4 economy, and quality of life;

5 WHEREAS, the USACE has initiated efforts to qualify for federal funding to
6 conduct a C&SF Project resiliency study, which the USACE is referring to as the C&SF
7 Project Flood Risk Management Infrastructure Resiliency Plan Study ("C&SF Flood
8 Resiliency Study");

9 WHEREAS, in March 2020, the SFWMD agreed to participate as the local sponsor
10 of the C&SF Flood Resiliency Study with the USACE;

11 WHEREAS, in May 2020, the Mayors of Broward, Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, and
12 Monroe Counties urged United States Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott, as well as
13 the members of the United States House of Representatives who represent districts within
14 the SFWMD boundaries, to support the C&SF Flood Resiliency Study and to ensure that
15 the study would receive federal funding;

16 WHEREAS, in October 2020, the Executive Director of the SFWMD urged United
17 States Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott to support the C&SF Flood Resiliency Study;

18 WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year ("FY") 2021 the United States Congress allowed for
19 the Corps of Engineers to begin eight (8) new studies in the Investigations Account for
20 the USACE Army Civil Works program, including three (3) flood and storm damage
21 reduction studies; two (2) navigation studies; two (2) environmental restoration studies;
22 and one (1) multi-purpose watershed study to address coastal resiliency; and
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1 WHEREAS, the USACE delivers an annual Work Plan for the Army Civil Works
2 program to the United States Congress that designates eligible new start studies, NOW,
3 THEREFORE,

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5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
6 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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8 Section 1. Broward County urges the United States Congress to allow the
9 United States Army Corps of Engineers to begin an adequate number of new start studies
10 in the Investigations Account for flood and storm damage reduction in the Fiscal Year
11 (FY) 2022 budget.

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13 Section 2. Broward County urges the United States Congress to provide
14 sufficient funding for the USACE in the FY 2022 budget to conduct the C&SF Flood
15 Resiliency Study.

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17 Section 3. Broward County urges the USACE to select the C&SF Flood
18 Resiliency Study as a new study and provide it with appropriate funding in the FY 2022
19 Work Plan for the Army Civil Works program.

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21 Section 4. The County Administrator shall transmit a certified copy of this
22 resolution to the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Members of the
23 Broward County State Legislative Delegation, and the Executive Director of the South
24 Florida Water Management District.

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2 Section 5. The County's federal lobbyists and Intergovernmental Affairs/Boards
3 Section shall advocate for the actions in Sections 1, 2, and 3.
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5 Section 6. Severability.

6 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any Court to be invalid, the invalid
7 portion shall be stricken, and such striking shall not affect the validity of the remainder of
8 the Resolution. If any Court determines that this Resolution, or any portion hereof, cannot
9 be legally applied to any individuals, groups, entities, properties, or circumstances, such
10 determination shall not affect the applicability hereof to any other individual group, entity,
11 property, or circumstance.
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13 Section 7. Effective Date.

14 This resolution is effective upon adoption.
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16 ADOPTED this 23rd day of February, 2021. (Item 73)
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