

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: December 2, 2008

SUBJECT: Establishment of the Palm Beach County Water Resources Task Force

Background

On June 30, 2008, South Florida Water Management District approved a resolution to support the formation of a Broward County Water Task Force that is comprised of elected and appointed officials to help guide and protect the future of Broward County's water supply and resources in a united, multi-jurisdictional effort. From that effort, Palm Beach County has initiated forming a similar Water Resources Task Force. The Palm Beach County Commission passed a Resolution in support of the Water Resources Task Force on October 7, 2008. To that end, this SFWMD resolution is a companion to the resolution developed for adoption by the participating local governments and agencies. It recognizes the need for a shared vision for Palm Beach County's water future and endorses the establishment of a Palm Beach County Water Resources Task Force. It provides for the appointment of a SFWMD Governing Board member and alternate to the Task Force and an appointment of a technical/professional staff member to work with an advisory group to the task force called a "Technical/Professional Staff Workgroup."

How this helps meet the District's 10-year Strategic Plan:

This task force will help meet the goals of the Water Supply program in several ways. It will further coordination and cooperation between the SFWMD, Palm Beach County and local municipalities to ensure water supply development projects are identified consistent with SFWMD regional water supply planning efforts to meet the future water needs of all Palm Beach County's users and plan for reclaimed water projects in conjunction with the elimination of ocean outfalls.

Funding Source: The expected funding requirements will be primarily staff time, both professional and administrative, and travel time. These items will be paid with ad valorem funds.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:

This item will impact the Water Supply Department and Government and Public Affairs resources area. It is an initiative of Palm Beach County elected officials and the SFWMD Governing Board.

What concerns could this Board item raise?

This is an unplanned initiative that is not reflected in the District's current work plan. Some staff resources will need to be redirected from other assignments to provide technical support to the Task Force's Technical/Professional Staff Workgroup.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? Palm Beach County is made up of many municipalities, as well as the county. This task force is expected to help work through and solve many of the water related issues in Palm Beach County, now and for the future.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at extension 6597.

CM/mgc