

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: June 20, 2008

SUBJECT: Establishment of the Broward County Water Resources Task Force

Background:

On May 12, 2008, a joint workshop was held with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board, the Broward County Commission, and the Mayors of the municipalities in Broward County. The focus of the workshop was Broward County regional water supply and resource concerns, and the importance of protecting the future water supply in a collaborative and collegial forum. As a result of this workshop, the attendees determined that a task force comprised of elected and appointed officials was needed to help guide and protect the future of Broward County's water supply and resources in a united, multi-jurisdictional effort. 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 Broward's water future and endorses the establishment of a Broward 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, Broward 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 Broward'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 and travel time. These items are 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 the Government and Public Affairs resource area. It is an initiative of Broward 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?

Broward County is made up of many municipalities, as well as the county. By uniting on a proactive basis, this task force is expected to help work through and solve many of the water related issues in Broward County, now and for the future.