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2
3 **Before the Jacksonville Waterways Commission**

4
5 Resolution 2006-01

6 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO RESTORE
7 THE LOWER ST JOHNS RIVER.
8

9 WHEREAS, the Jacksonville Waterways Commission exists "to
10 study and make recommendations to the Council with respect to the
11 improvement, development and protection of the St. Johns River; to
12 formulate an overall plan for dealing with any problems that exist
13 concerning the St. Johns River; [and] to devise methods of
14 developing future uses of the St. Johns River" (§95.105(a)-(c),
15 Ord. Code); and,

16 WHEREAS, the Commission has been informed about the U.S.
17 Environmental Protection Agency adopting total maximum daily
18 pollutant loads for the Lower St. Johns River, and the Florida
19 Department of Environmental Protection adopting a site specific
20 alternative criteria for the same area. These regulatory actions
21 were based on the best available scientific evidence; and,

22 WHEREAS, the Commission has also been informed about the
23 objections to site specific alternative criteria raised by the St.
24 Johns Riverkeeper, a private, not-for-profit membership
25 organization dedicated to restoration of the St. Johns River; and,

1 WHEREAS, the Commission is aware of the many initiatives
2 undertaken by private industry and government at all levels to
3 reduce or eliminate pollutant loading to the St. Johns River; and,

4 WHEREAS, the Commission is also aware that The River Accord:
5 A Partnership for the St. Johns was recently formed. The River
6 Accord is a 10 year, \$700 million program to begin restoring the
7 health of the Lower St. Johns River Basin; now, therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Jacksonville Waterways Commission:

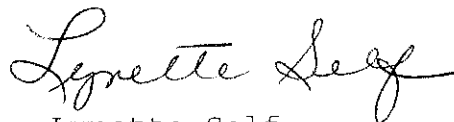
9 **Section 1.** Having received reports and having taken
10 comments from City and state agencies as well as the public, the
11 Commission supports improving the health of the St. Johns River
12 through multiple initiatives. Those initiatives include improved
13 mandatory standards for septic tanks; adopting an ordinance
14 regulating the kind and use of fertilizers in Duval County; better
15 funding for storm water treatment; implementing the Reclaimed Water
16 ordinance (Chapter 752, Jacksonville Ordinance Code), continued
17 expansion of the reclaimed water system in Duval County and the use
18 of reclaimed water; and introducing and implementing amendments to
19 the Zoning Code to control non-point source pollutant discharges to
20 the river.

21 **Section 2.** The Commission believes that numeric water
22 quality standards and site specific alternative criteria should be
23 set at the highest levels that are scientifically supportable and
24 consistent with law.

1 **Section 3.** As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and
2 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection implement water
3 quality based standards in the Lower St. Johns River and allocate
4 pollutant loads to the regulated community, appropriate state,
5 federal and local agencies and qualified private entities should
6 monitor the quality of the water. Based upon the monitoring data,
7 the environmental permitting agencies should adjust the regulatory
8 controls, or revise applicable rules, as warranted to improve the
9 health of the river. The Commission believes in striving for the
10 highest water quality standards for the river's health. It
11 therefore supports a higher dissolved oxygen standard for the river
12 and the most stringent nutrient reduction target or total maximum
13 daily load in the Lower St. Johns River to address its nutrient
14 problems.

15 **Section 4.** The Commission requests that the River Accord's
16 annual reports to designated recipient-members of the partnership
17 (The Mayor of Jacksonville, the City Council, and the governing
18 boards of JEA, the St. Johns River Water Management District, and
19 the Jacksonville Water and Sewer Expansion Authority) be submitted
20 to the Commission for review and comment.

21 **Done and ordered** at the September 7, 2006 meeting of the
22 Jacksonville Waterways Commission.

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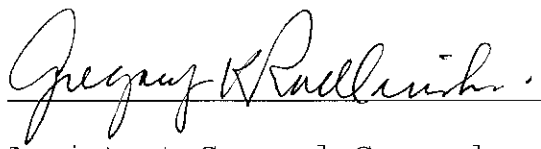
24 Lynette Self

25 Chairman & Council Member

26 District 2

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Form Approved:



Assistant General Counsel