

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC. STRONGLY OBJECTING TO RECENT ACTION TAKEN BY THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO WITHDRAW PALM BEACH COUNTY FROM THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AND TO REQUEST MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL INSTEAD; AND STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE COUNTY'S CONTIUNED MEMBERSHIP IN THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners ("BOCC") recently took action by means of a 4-3 vote on October 7, 2014 authorizing its staff to research all necessary steps to withdraw Palm Beach County (the "County") from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council ("TCRPC") and to request membership in the South Florida Regional Planning Council ("SFRPC") in spite of opposition expressed at the meeting by municipal representatives and others; and

WHEREAS, the County has been a member of the TCRPC for more than thirty-five (35) years, since 1976; and

WHEREAS, during that lengthy tenure, the staff at the TCRPC has become acutely aware of the issues and concerns of the County as well as of the thirty-eight (38) Municipalities located therein as they relate to the growth management, transportation demands, water concerns and general land use planning; and

WHEREAS, there is little, if any, evidence that the SFRPC has the same depth of understanding of the issues that the County and its municipalities are facing; and

WHEREAS, the strategic policies found in the TCRPC Regional Policy Plan differ greatly from those found in the SFRPC Regional Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, the County and the municipalities have incorporated many of the TCRPC policies into their comprehensive plans which guide their growth patterns; and which would require revision if the change to the SFRPC is achieved; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities located in Palm Beach County are involved in long term planning activities with the TCRPC which would be rendered meaningless if this change were to occur; and

WHEREAS, the minimal reasons supporting change found in the back-up documentation for the agenda item and the discussions at the October 7, 2014 meeting centered around saving money in the form of reduced membership fees to be paid to the SFRPC as opposed to the TCRPC; and the diverse interests of the counties comprising the TCRPC; and

WHEREAS, since County ad valorem tax dollars are used to pay for the membership in the TCRPC and are derived from all those persons and entities owning property in the County, each property owner is paying for this membership and deserves a voice in this abrupt move taken by the County with very little, if any, sound reasoning as to why such a move would benefit all local governments located in the County; and

WHEREAS, long term relationships forged through more than thirty-five (35) years of working with the TCRPC and the in-depth understanding the TCRPC staff has of the County's and the thirty-eight (38) municipalities' land use issues should not be discarded without substantial and powerful reasons, which have not been clearly articulated by the members of the BOCC, to date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., THAT:


SECTION 1: the Board of Directors of the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. strongly objects to recent action taken by the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners to withdraw Palm Beach County from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and to request membership in the South Florida Regional Planning Council; and strongly supports the County's continued membership in the TCRPC; providing for distribution; providing an effective date; and for other purposes.

SECTION 2: The Board hereby requests that this resolution be sent directly to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and all municipalities in Palm Beach County.

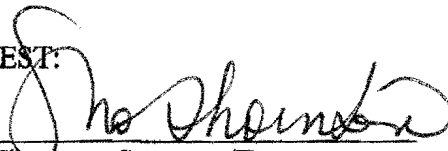
SECTION 3: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon execution by the League President as authorized by the Board of Directors of the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. at their October 22, 2014 meeting.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of October, 2014.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF
CITIES, INC.


Steve B. Wilson, President

ATTEST:


Mo Thornton, Secretary/Treasurer

(SEAL)