



VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE

Office of the Village Manager

Village Council

Robert L. Vernon, *Mayor*
Jorge E. Mendia, *Vice Mayor*
Michael Davey
Enrique Garcia
Steve Liedman
Thomas Thornton
Patricia Weinman

Village Manager

Genaro "Chip" Iglesias

DT: September 1, 2007

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FR: Genaro Iglesias, Village Manager

RE: **SOUTH FLORIDA PARKS COALITION**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Village Council approve this resolution supporting the South Florida Parks Coalition. The Village's participation in this process is a voluntary gesture to work with Miami-Dade County and the Coalition without a commitment of any nature.

BACKGROUND

The South Florida Parks Coalition is created to foster a model park system for the South Florida community. The Coalition will meet, collaborate, coordinate and share knowledge and professional expertise regarding park, recreation and conservation open spaces.

A model park system is a seamless and sustainable system of great parks, great public spaces, great natural and cultural places, great greenways and water-trails and great streets that are integrated into the fabric of our community.

The Coalitions work is rooted in the fundamental values of recreation opportunity and environmental stewardship. The Coalition is dedicated to building a model park system that will provide a greener, healthier, and more livable South Florida community.

The Coalitions believes that a model park system must be planned and created to maximize its impact on the neighborhood, city, county and region as a whole. It must be responsive to community needs. It must work with other public and private agencies; and it must enhance the health, safety, happiness and well-being of all who live and visit South Florida, now and in the future.

The Coalition believes that a model park system is integral to social, environmental and economic sustainability; it must become a vital part of everyday human experiences; it must be connected spiritually and physically; and it must provide accessibility for people of all means and abilities. The model park system must raise the quality of life for the region and inspire generations of people to care for and contribute to their communities.

The Village of Key Biscayne will work with the South Florida Parks Coalition to insure that the Village and its residents are represented in this process.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE SUPPORTING AND
ENDORING THE SOUTH FLORIDA PARKS COALITION
CHARTER AND THE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH IT STANDS.**

WHEREAS, parks, open spaces and preserves are vital to the lives of all residents of Miami Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Key Biscayne is committed to the fundamental and abiding values of recreation opportunity and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, The South Florida Parks Coalition is dedicated to building a model park system that will promote a greener, healthier, and more livable South Florida community; and

WHEREAS, The South Florida Park Coalition is created to foster a seamless, connected, and sustainable parks system for the South Florida community, and

WHEREAS, The Coalition will meet, collaborate, and share knowledge and professional expertise regarding park, recreation and conservation open spaces; and

WHEREAS, we know that there is strength in unity and collaboration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Village Council of the Village of Key Biscayne, endorses the Charter of the South Florida Parks Coalition, attached and included by reference, and fully supports the principles on which it stands.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ___ day of _____r, 2007.

MAYOR ROBERT L. VERNON

ATTEST:

CONCHITA H. ALVAREZ, CMC, VILLAGE CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

VILLAGE ATTORNEY

A COALITION OF CITY, COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL PARKS IN MIAMI- DADE COUNTY

CHARTER

Preamble:

The South Florida Parks Coalition is created to foster a seamless, connected, and sustainable parks system for the South Florida community. The Coalition will meet, collaborate, and share knowledge and professional expertise regarding park, recreation and conservation open spaces.

Our work is rooted in the fundamental values of recreation opportunity and environmental stewardship. It is dedicated to building a model park system that will promote a greener, healthier, and more livable South Florida community.

We believe that a model park system consists of parks and public spaces, recreation facilities, greenways, blue-ways, great streets and conservation lands.

We believe that a sustainable, model Park System must be planned and created with an eye to its impact on the neighborhood, city, county and region as a whole. It must be effective, efficient, fair and balanced. It must work with other public and private agencies; and it must enhance the health, safety, happiness and well-being of all residents and visitors to South Florida, now and in the future.

We believe that a model park system is integral to social, environmental and economic sustainability; it must become a vital part of everyday human experience; it must be connected spiritually and physically; and it must provide accessibility for people of all means and abilities. The model Park System must raise the quality of life for the region and inspire generations of people to care for and contribute to their communities.

Based on these beliefs, we assert that the Model Park System shall:

- Ensure an accessible, diverse and balanced system of passive and active recreation opportunities that promote safety, security and healthy lifestyles.
- Ensure the preservation, protection and enhancement of ecological resources to sustain and preserve biodiversity and the environmental health of the region.
- Ensure the preservation, protection and enhancement of cultural resources to sustain landscapes and their historical and heritage features.
- Ensure that park, recreation and conservation open spaces guide the shape of urban form.
- Ensure that there is no net loss of park, recreation or conservation lands and mandate replacement of land of equal value, context and significance.
- Ensure community stewardship of park, recreation, and conservation open spaces by fostering educational and recreational programming, civic art, volunteerism and support of philanthropic and grassroots organizations.
- Ensure the continual enhancement of economic development and quality of life in the region by partnering and collaborating with the business community.
- Ensure the equitable distribution of park, recreation and conservation open spaces for all communities in the region.
- Ensure and support responsible growth to conserve environmental and cultural resources, promote economic investment, and support neighborhood stability, while reclaiming marginal and abandoned areas.

- Ensure the support and development of an interconnected framework of transportation alternatives such as transit, pedestrian, bicycle and waterway systems that link parks, recreation and conservation open spaces to each other and to communities.
- Ensure high standards of design excellence, innovation and beauty to support economic, social and environmental sustainability of the region.