

RESOLUTION NO. 78-2021 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BLUEWAY TRAIL INCLUDING THE CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF A BOAT LIFT, FISHING PIER, AND MULTI-MODAL PORTAGE FACILITY AT THE C-51 CANAL S155 CONTROL STRUCTURE AND SPILLWAY PARK; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO CITY STAFF; AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) created ***The Intracoastal Waterway Plan for Palm Beach County: Charting a Course for the Future*** (2009 Charrette) for the Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) published in January 2009; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Charrette participants identified six core public themes including increasing public access to the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), protecting natural resources, expanding all forms of water-based transportation, and promoting sustainable economics; and

WHEREAS, the MPO requested the 2009 Charrette be updated by TCRPC and their report was published in January 2015, which documented that a connection to the ICW at the S155 Control Structure on the C-51 Canal would have significant economic and recreational benefit; and

WHEREAS, the C-51 Canal is connected to a 26-mile chain of freshwater lakes (Pine Lake, Lake Clarke, Lake Osborne, Lake Eden and Lake Ida) and navigable canals within our regional area (Chain of Lakes); and

WHEREAS, the City supports improvements to the C51 Canal that would enhance the recreational uses of the ICW, C-51 Canal, and the Chain of Lakes and provides for new economic opportunities and job creation; and

WHEREAS, a connection between the ICW and the C-51 Canal at the S155 Control Structure would likely provide for economic development, job creation, and recreational enhancement (the connection has been referred to as the "Boat Lift" and is estimated to provide significant economic benefit to the regional area); and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection designated this part of the C-51 Canal as part of a blueway trail within the State Trail System with the title, "Palm Beach County Blueway Trail"; and

WHEREAS, the Boat Lift is incorporated into and part of the Palm Beach County Blueway Trail providing for environmental enhancement to the waterways, safe and

effective portage opportunities for non-motorized recreational watercraft, and small motorized boats to access the ICW; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes a significant environmental resource in the canals and lakes that must be protected and improved; and

WHEREAS, the City also recognizes the need for citizen input on all development efforts including a connection between the ICW and the C-51 Canal at the S155 Control Structure; and

WHEREAS, in recognizing these facts, the City desires to join our regional area neighboring municipalities in their joint efforts to further study, review, and create a regional focus on the economic opportunities of the Palm Beach County Blueway Trail and its component parts with the conceptual development of the Boat Lift, fishing pier and multi-modal portage facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1: The City Commission generally agrees that:

A. Recreational opportunities, economic development, and environmental enhancements which occur within the regional area are beneficial to the City and, therefore, are supported by the City; and,

B. Regular communications should be maintained between the regional area municipalities to ensure cooperation and support for one another in any and all efforts to advance the Palm Beach County Blueway Trail and the conceptual development of the Boat Lift and related facilities.

SECTION 2: The City Commission:

A. Agrees that this resolution may be used to market the Palm Beach County Blueway Trail and conceptual Boat Lift initiative, and to solicit funds from other sources for the conceptual development of the Boat Lift (including the fishing pier, multi-modal portage facilities and improvements to Spillway Park); and,

B. Directs staff to study, review, and cooperate with the regional area municipalities and other local and state agencies in the preparation of alternatives for the conceptual development of the Boat Lift (including the fishing pier, multi-modal portage facilities and improvements to Spillway Park), and to present those conceptual alternatives to the City Commission at the first meeting in February 2022.

SECTION 3: This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

The passage of this resolution was moved by Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Betty Resch
Vice Mayor Herman Robinson
Commissioner Sarah Malega
Commissioner Christopher McVoy
Commissioner Kimberly Stokes

The Mayor thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

LAKE WORTH BEACH CITY COMMISSION

By: _____
Betty Reach, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Ann Coyne, City Clerk