# ADD ON

**Agenda Item #:** SA1

**PALM BEACH COUNTY**
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

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**Meeting Date:** September 23, 2008

[ ] Consent
[ ] Ordinance
[X] Regular
[ ] Public Hearing

**Department:**

**Submitted By:** Legislative Affairs

**Submitted For:** Administration

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## I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt:** A resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, declaring its support for the efforts of the State of Florida to acquire land south of Lake Okeechobee for the protection and restoration of America's Everglades and Florida's coastal estuaries, and supporting a south Florida inland port that does not impact upon the restoration of the Everglades.

**Summary:** At the request of Commissioner Karen T. Marcus, the Board directed staff to draft this resolution. Countywide (DW)

**Background and Justification:**

**Attachment:**
1. Resolution

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**Recommended by:** _____ 9/22/08
Department Director — Date

**Approved by:** _____ 9/22/08
Assistant County Administrator — Date

## II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

**A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

| Fiscal Years | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | SEE COMMENT BELOW | | |
| Capital Expenditures | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| Operating Costs | | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| External Revenues | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| Program Income (County) | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| In-Kind Match (County) | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| NET FISCAL IMPACT | | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| # ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative) | | | | | |

**Is Item Included in Current Budget?** Yes ___ No ___
**Budget Account No.:** Fund ___ Department ___ Unit ___
Object ___ Program NA

**B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

**C. Departmental Fiscal Review:** _____

## III. REVIEW COMMENTS

**A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:**
Any fiscal impact that may be related to this item is indeterminable at this time.

OFMB 9.18.08 9/18/08 9-18-08 9/18/08

Contract Development and Control 9/19/08 9/18/08

**B. Legal Sufficiency:**

Assistant County Attorney 9/22/08

**C. Other Department Review:**

Department Director

REVISED 10/95
ADM FORM 01

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2008-**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO ACQUIRE LAND SOUTH OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE FOR THE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF AMERICA'S EVERGLADES AND FLORIDA'S COASTAL ESTUARIES, AND SUPPORTING A SOUTH FLORIDA INLAND PORT THAT DOES NOT IMPACT UPON THE RESTORATION OF THE EVERGLADES**

**WHEREAS,** America's Everglades and the South Florida ecosystem is a unique expanse of habitats, whose environmental health is critical to the economy and quality of life of South Florida; and

**WHEREAS,** on June 24, 2008, Governor Charlie Crist unveiled a strategy to bring about the largest environmental land acquisition in Florida's history to help restore America's Everglades; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governor announced that the South Florida Water Management District will negotiate an agreement with United States Sugar Corporation to purchase nearly 300 square miles of land spanning four counties in South Florida; and

**WHEREAS,** the land obtained in the U.S. Sugar purchase would provide the "missing link" needed to better protect the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers and estuaries, and revive, restore and preserve one of America's greatest natural treasures – the Everglades; and

**WHEREAS,** through successful negotiations and strategic land swaps, vast tracts would be used to reestablish a part of the historic connection between Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades through a managed system of storage and treatment; and

**WHEREAS,** benefits from the land acquisition include huge increases in the availability of water storage, significantly reducing the potential for harmful discharges from Lake Okeechobee to Florida's coastal rivers and estuaries; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay located in Palm Beach County are rural agriculture areas, recognized as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern; and

**WHEREAS,** the State will help to coordinate an economic transition plan with United States Sugar Corporation, local governments, area businesses, state agencies and the

South Florida Water Management District; and

**WHEREAS,** a South Florida Inland Port that would not impact upon the restoration of the Everglades could potentially offset the economic loss in the Glades communities resulting from the U.S. Sugar acquisition; and

**WHEREAS,** saving the Everglades and protecting Florida's coastal estuaries is an environmental priority for Palm Beach County and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that:

1. The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners supports the landmark efforts of the State and the South Florida Water Management District to negotiate the acquisition of significant lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area for the purposes of restoring and protecting the northern and southern Everglades and Florida's coastal estuaries.

2. As the South Florida Water Management District pursues the purchase of United States Sugar Corporation's assets that all of the affected parties and governments are part of the process and kept informed as to the issues surrounding this purchase and the subsequent economic development strategies.

3. A South Florida Inland Port strategically located to not impact upon the restoration efforts of the Everglades would help to provide a viable economic transition strategy for the Glades communities.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner , and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Addie L. Greene, Chairperson -
Commissioner John F. Koons, Vice Chair -
Commissioner Karen T. Marcus -
Commissioner Robert J. Kanjian -
Commissioner Mary McCarty -
Commissioner Burt Aaronson -
Commissioner Jess R. Santamaria -

The Chairperson thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2008.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By:_____
County Attorney