



RESOLUTION TCSF #20-03

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA AND TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS REPRESENTING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF MONROE, MIAMI-DADE, BROWARD, PALM BEACH, MARTIN, ST. LUCIE, AND INDIAN RIVER COUNTIES, FLORIDA; SUPPORTING COLLABORATION WITH STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS, STATE AGENCIES, AND OTHER PARTNERS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT ISSUES IN FLORIDA AND PRIORITIZE THE REDUCTION AND EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF THE LAND APPLICATION OF HUMAN WASTEWATER BIOSOLIDS; URGING THE GOVERNOR AND FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROJECTS PROGRAM FOR FUNDING NEW STATE OF THE ART WASTEWATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE RECOVERY, PROVIDE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF HUMAN WASTEWATER BIOSOLIDS, AND REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils' seven county geographical area is comprised of Broward, Indian River, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties and 122 municipalities, which contain over 6.8 million residents or nearly one-third of the State's population, responsible for generating over one-third of the State's gross domestic product; and

WHEREAS, the Councils are multi-purpose regional governmental entities with policy responsibility in the areas of affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, energy, regional health, natural resources, urban planning, and regional transportation; and

WHEREAS, it is time to work together as a region and state to increase awareness of current and future biosolids management issues, examine potential water quality impacts from our current practices, and explore new wastewater treatment technologies to improve biosolids resource recovery and management options; and

WHEREAS, the Councils wish to collaborate with the Florida Regional Councils Association, Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, Florida Small County Coalition, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and other partners to accomplish these objectives and rethink 21st Century human wastewater management practices for Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH FLORIDA AND TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS ENCOURAGE:

1. The State of Florida and its local governments to prioritize the reduction and eventual elimination of the land application of human wastewater biosolids; and
2. The State of Florida to establish a Pilot Projects Program for funding local utilities to implement new state of the art wastewater treatment technologies to improve recovery, provide more efficient use of human wastewater biosolids resources, and reduce environmental impacts.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED by the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils this 16th day of October, 2020.

Commissioner Steve Geller
Broward County
Acting Chair, South Florida RPC

Michael Houston
Chair, Treasure Coast RPC