



**BEFORE THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 111-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, ADOPTING AND ENDORSING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NEWLY FORMED 'LOXALUCIE HEADWATERS INITIATIVE' CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORING NATURAL HYDROLOGY OF LANDS ADJOINING THE LOXAHATCHEE AND ST. LUCIE RIVERS WHILE CONSERVING THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF LAND FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED PLANTS AND WILDLIFE THEREUPON; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative (the Initiative) was recently established by a coalition of area residents and grass-roots organizations dedicated to the conservation of lands between the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers for the purpose of restoration and preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Initiative has as its foremost goal, the institution of a protected ecological corridor that will connect the sources of the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers while restoring natural hydrology and preserving a land mass of nearly 70,000 acres for the protection of endangered plants and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Initiative is sponsored by The Guardians of Martin County, The Conservation Fund, and the Treasured Lands Foundation who are actively fundraising projects; and

WHEREAS, the Initiative's first proposed project is the acquisition and hydrologic restoration of a 138-acre parcel of land which has been on sale for years and would help address regional flooding in Hobe Sound while controlling water flow into the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers thereby improving water quality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Stuart has, for decades, committed substantial financial and in-kind investments to the conservation, restoration, and preservation of local lands and waterways; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission is pleased to join other governmental and non-governmental organizations in support of this grassroots initiative.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1: The foregoing precatory language is adopted as if set forth below.

SECTION 2: The City of Stuart, Florida and City Commission hereby adopt this resolution and endorse a letter of support for the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative as contemplated herein.

SECTION 3: Instructing the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution and signed Letter of Support to the Steering Committee of the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

Resolution No. 111-2021
Adopting a Letter of Support for the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative

Commissioner MCDONALD offered the foregoing resolution and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner MATHESON and upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

EULA R. CLARKE, MAYOR
MERRITT MATHESON, VICE MAYOR
BECKY BRUNER, COMMISSIONER
TROY MCDONALD, COMMISSIONER
MIKE MEIER, COMMISSIONER

YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Y			
Y			
Y			
Y			
Y			

ADOPTED this 25th day of October, 2021.

ATTEST:




MARY R. KINDEL
CITY CLERK



EULA R. CLARKE
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND CORRECTNESS:



MICHAEL J. MORTELL, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY





City of Stuart
Mayor

City of Stuart

121 SW FLAGLER AVENUE • STUART FLORIDA 34994

Phone: 772.288.5312
Fax: 772.288.5316

November 2, 2021

Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative
P.O. Box 787
Hobe Sound, FL 33475

Re: Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Conservation Initiative

To Members of the Steering Committee and Whom it May Concern,

The City Commission of the City of Stuart is pleased to present this letter and enclosed resolution of support for the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Conservation Initiative. The Initiative's lofty goal of establishing a protected ecological corridor and connecting the sources of the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers by the conservation and preservation of nearly 70,000 acres of land is a worthy endeavor. The benefits of the Initiative will complement the goals and desires of Stuart and adjacent communities who have pursued invariably the restoration of the St. Lucie Estuary and its tributaries.

For nearly two decades, the City of Stuart has made a serious commitment to protect the St. Lucie River and surrounding environment in the form of conservation, restoration, and preservation projects that improve water quality while mitigating future harm. In so doing, the City has invested considerable financial resources while lobbying for policy change at state and federal levels of government. However, the grass-roots efforts reflected by the work of the Initiative and with the aid and support of The Guardians of Martin County, The Conservation Fund, and the Treasured Lands Foundation serves as both an example and a potential catalyst for the systemic change we have long-sought.

The hydrologic and ecological restoration of acquired lands proposed by the Initiative will ensure that future generations of coastal residents and visitors alike will share in the benefits of a cleaner, safer, and more prosperous community and environment. For these reasons and many more, the City of Stuart is pleased to endorse the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative in all of its many tireless efforts and endeavors to come.

Sincerely,

Eula R. Clarke
Mayor

Enclosure