

**IRL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2019-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE IRL COUNCIL, A SPECIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND INDIAN RIVER LAGOON NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM SUPPORTING REDUCTION OF NUTRIENTS AND OTHER POLLUTANTS THAT ENTER FLORIDA SURFACE AND GROUND WATERS FROM THE HUMAN WASTEWATER STREAM**

**WHEREAS**, the IRL COUNCIL, an Independent Special District of the State of Florida, serves as the host agency for the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP); and

**WHEREAS**, the IRLNEP is a non-regulatory program, authorized by the U.S. Congress within Section 320 of the Clean Water Act, to convene a Management Conference with the following purposes:

- a) Assess trends in water quality, natural resources, and uses of the estuary; Collect, characterize, and assess data on toxics, nutrients, and natural resources to identify the causes of environmental problems;
- b) Develop the relationship between the in-place loads and point and nonpoint loadings of pollutants to the estuarine zone and the potential uses of the zone, water quality, and natural resources;
- c) Develop a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) that recommends priority corrective actions and compliance schedules addressing point and nonpoint sources of pollution to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the estuary, including restoration and maintenance of water quality, a balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish and wildlife, and recreational activities in the estuary, and assure that the designated uses of the estuary are protected;
- d) Develop plans for the coordinated implementation of the CCMP by local, state and federal partners participating in the Management Conference;
- e) Monitor the effectiveness of actions taken pursuant to the CCMP; and
- f) Review all Federal financial assistance and development projects to determine whether such assistance program or projects are consistent with and further the purposes and objectives of the CCMP; and

**WHEREAS**, the final draft of the IRLNEP CCMP- "*Looking Ahead to 2030*" was submitted to the U.S. EPA for certification in December 2018. Adoption by the IRL Council is anticipated in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the revised IRLNEP CCMP addresses direct and indirect contributions of nutrient and other pollutants to surface and ground waters from all wastewater sources including wastewater treatment plants, onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (septic systems), biosolids and reclaimed water; and

**WHEREAS**, the IRLNEP CCMP Wastewater-1 Action Recommendation calls for compliance with the intent of the Indian River Lagoon Act (Chapter 90-262, Laws of Florida) that prohibited direct discharge of nutrients and pollutants from the human waste stream; and

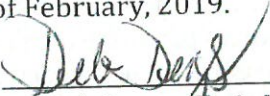
**WHEREAS**, Florida's projected human population growth and future economic vitality require local, regional and state partners to examine potential water quality impacts from current practices, and explore new wastewater treatment technologies to improve biosolids and reclaimed water resource recovery and management options from Florida's wastewater systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the IRL COUNCIL and IRLNEP wish to collaborate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Department of Health and other state and local partners to accomplish these objectives and rethink 21<sup>st</sup> Century human wastewater management practices for Florida.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE IRL COUNCIL and IRLNEP WILL WORK WITH OUR STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERS TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:**

- 1. Focus on sustainable nutrient management strategies (including consideration of water quality goals to guide biosolid application and reclaimed water use) with the ultimate goal to reduce and eliminate negative impacts to the quality of surface and ground waters.**
- 2. Support state funding of an innovative pilot projects cost-share program for local communities and utilities to evaluate and implement new state-of-the-art wastewater treatment technologies that improve nutrient and pollutant recovery and deliver more efficient, effective and sustainable beneficial uses of human wastewater biosolids and reclaimed water resources.**

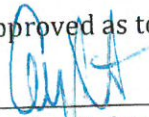
DONE at New Smyrna Beach, Florida, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

By:   
Deb Denys, Chair IRL Council

ATTEST:

  
Stacey Hetherington, Secretary IRL Council

Approved as to legal form and sufficiency:

  
Carolyn S. Ansay  
IRL Council, Legal Counsel