

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD
2 COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING CURRENT AND POTENTIAL PARTNERS, INCLUDING
3 BROWARD COUNTY AGENCIES, LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, AND WATER
4 SUPPLIERS, TO PURSUE PARTICIPATION IN AND INCREASE THEIR FINANCIAL
5 SUPPORT FOR THE NATURESCAPE IRRIGATION SERVICE AND THE
6 RESIDENTIAL IRRIGATION REBATE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD 2025 THROUGH
7 2030; DIRECTING THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE DISTRIBUTED AS SET
8 FORTH HEREIN; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

9 (Sponsored by Senator Steve Geller)
10

11 WHEREAS, clean, high-quality water resources are vital to the sustainability and
12 resilience of the environment, economy, and quality of life in Broward County;

13 WHEREAS, the Biscayne aquifer is the primary source of drinking water for
14 Broward County and most of southeast Florida;

15 WHEREAS, to ensure water is available to achieve the goals of the
16 Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project, the South Florida Water Management
17 District ("SFWMD") limited increases in withdrawals from Everglades waterbodies, which
18 include portions of the Biscayne aquifer;

19 WHEREAS, SFWMD's consumptive use permitting criteria require permittees to
20 develop alternative water supplies to meet increasing water needs;

21 WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that up to
22 fifty percent (50%) of water used outdoors is wasted due to inefficient watering methods
23 and systems;

24 WHEREAS, to address this inefficiency, SFWMD's consumptive use permitting
25 criteria require public water supply and landscape irrigation permittees to develop and
26 implement water conservation plans that, in part, reduce outdoor water use;

27 WHEREAS, Broward County first collaborated with municipal and water utility
28 partners in 2005 to launch the NatureScape Irrigation Service, a water audit program
29 designed to provide partner municipalities with detailed site evaluations of municipal and
30 commercial sites and recommendations for producing water savings and water quality
31 improvements through modifications in landscape and irrigation system design,
32 maintenance, and operation;

33 WHEREAS, the NatureScape Irrigation Service also directly supports a number of
34 water quality objectives, including compliance with regional and state regulatory programs
35 such as total maximum daily loads, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
36 permitting criteria, and the federal and state Numeric Nutrient Criteria;

37 WHEREAS, Broward County expanded the NatureScape Irrigation Service to
38 include the Residential Irrigation Rebate Program, which provides irrigation system
39 efficiency inspections and water conservation education to residents of partner
40 municipalities and offers rebates to offset initial costs incurred in upgrading specified
41 water-efficient irrigation system components;

WHEREAS, since their inception, the NatureScape Irrigation Service and Residential Irrigation Rebate Program have helped partner municipalities achieve more than one billion gallons in annual water savings;

WHEREAS, increasingly, Broward municipalities and water utilities recognize that water conservation and sustained investments in water conservation are fundamental to their long-term water supply plans; and

WHEREAS, current and potential partners are requested to pursue participation in and enhanced financial support for delivery of the regional NatureScape Irrigation Service and Residential Irrigation Rebate Program, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida, encourages current and potential partners in the NatureScape Irrigation Service and Residential Irrigation Rebate Program, including Broward County agencies, local municipalities, and water suppliers, to pursue participation in and enhance their financial support for delivery of the NatureScape Irrigation Service and Residential Irrigation Rebate Program to residents for the period 2025 through 2030.

Section 2. Copies of this Resolution shall be distributed to the Broward League of Cities, the Broward County City Managers' Association, and water utility directors within Broward County.

Section 3. Severability.

If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this

Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 1st day of April, 2025. (#27)

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: Jennifer D. Brown 11/07/2024
Jennifer D. Brown (date)
Senior Assistant County Attorney

By: Maite Azcoitia 11/07/2024
Maite Azcoitia (date)
Deputy County Attorney

JDB/gmb
BOCC Urge Participant in NIS RIRP Resolution
11/07/2024
#44000