R19-101

RESOLUTION

R19-101
RESOLUTION NO. R19-101

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING FEDERAL DESIGNATION OF THE LITTLE MANATEE RIVER IN HILLSBOROUGH AND MANATEE COUNTIES AS A COMPONENT OR POTENTIAL COMPONENT OF THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM.

Upon motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the following Resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 to 0 Commissioner(s) Voting “No”.

WHEREAS, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. §1271 et seq., established a Wild and Scenic Rivers System for the protection of certain selected free-flowing rivers and their immediate environments for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Little Manatee River flows freely in a natural condition for approximately fifty miles through southern Hillsborough County and northern Manatee County before discharging into Tampa Bay as a major tributary of the Bay; and

WHEREAS, the Little Manatee River contains some of the most pristine river frontage remaining in Hillsborough and Manatee Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Little Manatee River contains outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, wildlife and habitat, cultural, and water quality and quantity values, and safeguarding the special character of the Little Manatee River is a matter of significant public interest; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and regional and local governments in Florida have to date recognized the values of the Little Manatee River and the need to protect those values through designation of portions of the Little Manatee River as an Outstanding Florida Water, through inclusion of portions in the Cockroach Bay Aquatic Preserve and the Little Manatee River State Park, and through acquisition of land in the Little Manatee River corridor, among other measures; and

WHEREAS, designation of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System will promote public as well as federal, state and local government participation in developing a Comprehensive Management Plan, to identify and protect scenic, recreational, wildlife and habitat, cultural, and water quality and quantity values and other benefits, while also recognizing the potential for appropriate use and development; and
WHEREAS, the Little Manatee River will benefit from the development of a Comprehensive Management Plan and other measures undertaken in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to help ensure perpetual protection of this unique natural resource.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA AT A PUBLIC MEETING HELD THIS 7th DAY OF AUGUST, 2019.

1. That the Board of County Commissioners supports the designation of the Little Manatee River, including appropriate tributaries other than the South Fork, as a component or a potential component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

2. That the Board of County Commissioners requests that Congress designate the Little Manatee River as a component or potential component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and authorize development of a Comprehensive River Management Plan, in cooperation with appropriate federal, state and local officials, to protect the Little Manatee River in its free flowing condition and its outstandingly remarkable values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Board further requests that any designation preclude the use of federal eminent domain powers.

3. That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

STATE OF FLORIDA )
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH )

I, PAT FRANK, Clerk of Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida in its regular session of August 7, 2019 as the same appears of record in Minute Book 519 of the Public Records of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 13th day of August, 2019.

PAT FRANK
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

By: [Signature]
Senior Assistant County Attorney