

**A Resolution Approving the Submittal of an Application to State PRT
For Beach Restoration Funds**

WHEREAS, the City of Isle of Palms attracts millions of vacationers annually with research showing that the beaches are the primary and most favored activity with many of these vacationers enjoying the City's 7 miles of beach and 56 public beach access areas; AND

WHEREAS, the beaches drive tourism and tourism is a \$19.1 billion industry in South Carolina and supports one in every 10 jobs in the Palmetto State; AND

WHEREAS, tourism, Isle of Palms only industry, is threatened by the loss of dry sand beach due to beach erosion from hurricanes and storms that have caused significant property and infrastructure damage; AND

WHEREAS, erosion has reduced the width of the dry sand beach which is necessary for the endangered loggerhead sea turtle nesting and the success of other aquatic organisms; AND

WHEREAS, the City of Isle of Palms recognizes the economic, recreational, and environmental and shore protection value that a large-scale beach renourishment project will provide to the State of South Carolina; AND

WHEREAS, the City has proceeded with planning a large-scale beach renourishment project to protect its ecology, community and livelihood; AND

WHEREAS, the City successfully accomplished a similar project in 2008 for which the beach still benefits and where the project involved State, County, City and private stakeholder funds garnering recognition for innovation by National and State organizations; AND

WHEREAS, the City's approximately \$15 million large-scale beach renourishment project involves the dredging and placement of up to 1 million cubic yards of sand to restore a substantial protective beach to all areas along the eastern end of the island and thereby protecting the City's beach; AND

WHEREAS, the City proposes a similar multi-funded project involving State (\$6.9M), City (\$2.9M) and private stakeholders (\$5.2M), thereby each paying a share of the total expense; AND

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) has funding available for beach renourishment through the 2016-2017 South Carolina Appropriations Act; AND

WHEREAS, the City of Isle of Palms understands that SCPRT has put in place a formal process for preparing, reviewing and administering such grants and the City is prepared to dedicate staff and other resources as needed to fully participate in the process; AND

WHEREAS, the City respectfully requests approximately 50% of the total eligible costs estimated at \$13,864,000 from the beach renourishment funding assistance grant within the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, to provide for much needed funding for the City's large-scale beach renourishment project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS AS FOLLOWS:

The City Administrator is authorized to apply for the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Beach Renourishment Funding Assistance Grant and shall serve as the City's designated agent to implement the grant should it be approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, SOUTH CAROLINA ON THE 23RD DAY OF AUGUST, 2016.


Richard Cronin, Mayor

