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January 25, 2008

Dear Mayor:

JAN 28 2008

*TO: CLON
2013 only
Commissioner
Want to
put on
an agenda?
KL*

My priority as President of the Florida League of Cities is to assist Florida's cities in becoming "Green Local Governments." It would be my desire that all 412 cities in Florida embrace this effort.

Accordingly, the Florida League of Cities' Board of Directors approved the attached resolution and requests your city's consideration of this resolution. An electronic version is available for download at www.flcities.com.

The Florida League of Cities recognizes the importance of environmental stewardship and understands that successful environmental stewardship practices will enhance local and national energy security, protect natural resources for future generations and result in long term cost savings.

The Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc., is a non-profit corporation whose primary mission is to develop and maintain Green Designation Standards for Florida and to promote cost-effective, sustainable environmental improvements. The Coalition has developed the "Green Local Government Standard," which focuses on improving municipal environmental performance through measurable criteria in order to promote alternative energies and a cleaner environment. In short, the Coalition is a one-stop source of guidance, "how-to" steps and information. It can assist municipalities in developing a comprehensive program for improving environmental stewardship and energy efficiency that is tailored to the individual municipality and which includes measurable criteria for evaluating progress. Please visit the Coalition's website at www.floridagreenbuilding.org.

We encourage you to adopt the attached resolution, support the "Green Local Government Standard" and pursue steps toward becoming a Florida Green Local Government. If you choose to proceed, please forward a copy of your resolution to us so that we can measure our success in this endeavor.

Please direct questions and completed resolutions to Rikkia C. Rellford at the Florida League of Cities, rellford@flcities.com or (850) 701-3653.

President **Frank C. Ortis**, Mayor, Pembroke Pines

First Vice President **Carmin Priore**, Councilman, Wellington • Second Vice President **John Marks**, Mayor, Tallahassee

Executive Director **Michael Sittig** • General Counsel **Harry Morrison, Jr.**

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Thanking you in advance for your consideration of and action regarding this request, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. C. Ortis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank C. Ortis, President
Mayor, City of Pembroke Pines

Attachment
-- Sample Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-

A RESOLUTION OF THE {city, town, village} OF _____ TO PURSUE MEASURES TO BECOME A "GREEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT" THROUGH IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE, USING CRITERIA AND STANDARDS DEVELOPED BY THE FLORIDA GREEN BUILDING COALITION, AND ENCOURAGING THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO SUPPORT THE GREEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM:

Whereas, the {city, town, village} of _____ recognizes the importance of environmental stewardship in a variety of media, including energy, water, air, land and waste; and

Whereas, successful environmental stewardship practices will enhance local and national energy security, protect natural resources for future generations, and result in long term cost savings; and

Whereas, the Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc., is a Florida non-profit corporation with open membership whose primary mission is to develop and maintain Green Designation Standards for Florida and to promote cost-effective, sustainable improvements in the built environment; and

Whereas, the Florida Green Building Coalition not only presents opportunities for a municipality to "be green", but also provides examples and resources covering how to do it; and

Whereas, the Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc., has developed the "Green Local Government Standard," which designates Green Cities and Green Counties for outstanding environmental stewardship; and

Whereas, the Green Local Government Standard focuses on improving municipal environmental performance through measurable criteria for municipalities to pursue in order to promote alternative energies and a cleaner environment; and

Whereas, because the Green Local Government Standard was developed with the participation of cities and counties, it recognizes the diversity of Florida's municipalities and their need for flexibility and autonomy; and

Whereas, municipalities who incorporate sufficient criteria such that they meet or exceed designated thresholds are "certified" or "registered" as a Green Local Government; and

Whereas, a Green Local Government is defined as a city or county that incorporates multiple environmental, ecological and sustainability features throughout the functions they perform that improve the environmental performance considerably over a city or a county that just minimally meets state and local regulations; and

Whereas, the Green Local Government Standard is a useful reference even for those municipalities who do not choose to become “certified” or “registered”, but who are trying to achieve a particular environmental goal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE {city, town, village} OF _____:

Section 1. That the {city, town, village} of _____ endorses the Florida Green Building Coalition’s “Green Local Government Standard” as a voluntary means for municipalities to take positive steps toward improving and advancing environmental quality and energy security;

Section 3. That the {city, town, village} of _____ will pursue steps toward becoming a Florida Green Local Government using the Green Local Government Standard developed by the Florida Green Building Coalition;

Section 4. That the {city, town, village} of _____ encourages the Florida Legislature and Governor Crist to support the Green Local Government program of the Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc., as a means for Florida municipalities to use their home rule powers to improve their environmental stewardship through participation in a program that is voluntary, fiscally defensible, and tailored to the specific environmental goals of each municipality and its citizens.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the {city, town, village} of _____, this _____ Day of _____
20__.