

RESOLUTION
NO. 2023-012

A RESOLUTION
TO BE ENTITLED:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA; IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM DESIGNATION FOR THE PENSACOLA AND PERDIDO BAYS ESTUARY PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2017, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Gulf of Mexico Division and Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council announced the award of a \$2 million RESTORE Act Component 2 grant to establish the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program (PPBEP); and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program was formed through Interlocal Agreement on February 19, 2019 by Baldwin County, City of Gulf Breeze, City of Milton, City of Pensacola, City of Orange Beach, Escambia County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, and the Town of Century; and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program's mission is to restore and protect the Pensacola and Perdido Bay watersheds through restoration, education, and unbiased monitoring of the health of our estuaries; and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program was established to develop and implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) to restore and protect the Pensacola Bay System and Perdido Bay System, and their associated watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program has adopted and enacted the CCMP; and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program is pursuing designation as an estuary of national significance as a National Estuary Program under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, enrollment into the National Estuary Program requires the nomination of the Governor to the US EPA Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Estuary Program and its nine founding members support the executive request from the Governor of Florida and Governor of Alabama to the US EPA Administrator to enroll the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program into the National Estuary Program and designate Pensacola and Perdido Bays as estuaries of national significance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The recitals above are true, accurate and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. The Council supports the Governor of Florida in making an executive request to the US EPA Administrator that Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program be enrolled into the National Estuary Program and designate Pensacola and Perdido Bays as estuaries of national significance.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

Adopted: _____

Approved: _____
President of City Council

Attest:

City Clerk