

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-09**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR REINITIATE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION PROCESS FOR THE STATEWIDE STORMWATER TREATMENT RULE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida's Waters continue to experience severe and prolonged harmful algae blooms associated with red tide and blue-green algae; and

**WHEREAS**, these harmful algae blooms have had and continue to have an adverse impact on both the State of Florida's economy and natural ecology; and

**WHEREAS**, these harmful algae blooms are fueled by nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients which have been increasing in Florida's waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant source for these nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients is stormwater runoff from suburban and urban landscapes; and

**WHEREAS**, stormwater best management practices (i.e., stormwater ponds) are required to intercept this stormwater runoff and reduce these pollutants prior to their discharge to waters of the State of Florida (i.e., bays, estuaries, rivers, etc.); and

**WHEREAS**, it has been assumed that such stormwater best management practices reduce pollutant loads, including nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients, by 80% based upon the State of Florida's presumptive criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida through the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts, collected water quality data which led to a recognition that this presumptive criteria was inadequate to assure that state water quality standards were being mitigated with respect to nitrogen and phosphorus nutrient pollutant loads; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to this recognition, the State of Florida embarked on a multi-year process that engaged Florida's academic research institutions, stormwater experts, and water quality stakeholders, culminating in 2010 with an updated Statewide Stormwater Treatment Rule and a design manual to specifically address nitrogen and phosphorus nutrient runoff; and

**WHEREAS**, this Statewide Stormwater Treatment Rule was scheduled for public hearings and adoption in 2011 but was abandoned by the incoming governor of the State of Florida.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA**, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The above Whereas clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

**SECTION 2.** The City of Venice, Florida requests that the governor of the State of Florida immediately direct the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, in association with all the State Water Management Districts, to reinstate the public hearing and adoption process for the Statewide Stormwater Treatment Rule.

**SECTION 3.** A copy of this resolution will be provided to Governor DeSantis, Senator Gruters, Representative Buchanan, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Southwest Florida Water Management District.

**SECTION 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval and adoption as required by law.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VENICE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2019.**

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John W. Holic, Mayor

ATTEST

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Lori Stelzer, MMC, City Clerk

I, Lori Stelzer, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Venice, Florida, a municipal corporation in Sarasota County, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and complete, true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Venice, Florida, at a meeting thereof duly convened and held on the 12th day of February 2019, a quorum being present.

WITNESS my hand and official seal of said City this 12th day of February 2019.

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Lori Stelzer, MMC, City Clerk

(S E A L)

Approved as to form:

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Kelly Fernandez, City Attorney