APPROVED BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BCC Mtg. Date: February 26, 2019

## RESOLUTION

of the

## **ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

regarding

## AFFIRMING SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL COMMITMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PRISTINE NATURAL LANDS KNOWN AS THE HARROD PROPERTY.

**Resolution No. 2019**-<u>M-</u>O7

WHEREAS, the protection of natural riverine corridors is important for the preservation of floodplain storage, water quality and wildlife habitat in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of such natural areas will benefit the natural resources of the State of Florida and improve the quality of life of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Orange County, Florida (the "County") has identified certain property located within the County's Econlockhatchee River Protection Area, lying just south of the Seminole County boundary and traversed by the Little Econlockhatchee River comprised of three contiguous parcels totaling 30.27 acres, known as the Harrod Property (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property contains 18 acres of forested uplands and 13 acres of riverine forested wetlands and represents pristine natural lands and has historical significance as it contains the historic remnants of the Old Iron Bridge Road pilings; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located within the Urban Service Area and the current zoning allows development on the Property; and

WHEREAS, if protected from development, the Property could offer passive recreational opportunities such as hiking on interpretive trails and bird and wildlife viewing; and

WHEREAS, acquisition for a passive public park would further preserve both natural and historic resources while providing a benefit to the residents of Orange County and the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, a potential State award is a critical component of developing a funding plan for acquisition and preservation of this unique property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

**Section 1.** The Board hereby affirms its support for acquisition of the Property and commitment of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) as part of a local funding commitment to match a potential State award for the acquisition of the Property and the development of a public park for passive recreational use.

**Section 2.** *Effective Date.* This Resolution shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ FEB 2 6 2019 \_\_\_\_\_, 2019. XTY7 ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Board of County Commissioners By: Demings **Orange County Mayor** 

ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Comptroller As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: <u>Jermifer Jan Klimek</u> G. Deputy Clerk