RESOLUTION # R13-084

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO COMMIT AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO COMMIT TO CONSERVE ROADSIDE WILDFLOWERS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Upon motion of Commissioner ___________ Higginbotham ___________, seconded by Commissioner ___________ Beckner ___________, the following Resolution was adopted on the _______ day of ________, 2013, by a vote of _______ to _______, Commissioner(s) voting "No".

WHEREAS, the natural beauty of native wildflowers in Hillsborough County can be enjoyed by everyone; can attract guests, and benefit commerce, environmental health, and public well-being; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of native wildflowers is an occasion for all County and community leaders to unite for the benefit of everyone; and

WHEREAS, many naturally beautiful species of native wildflowers, including Coreopsis, the state wildflower, as depicted upon the State Wildflower license tag, are already prominently displayed along Hillsborough County's state and county roadways; and

WHEREAS, increasing the visibility of native wildflowers in Hillsborough County is consistent with the vision of the Comprehensive Plan, and goals of many individuals, businesses, and community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS, the presence of native wildflowers is essential to the fitness of native pollinator species necessary for productive and profitable farms and forests; and
WHEREAS, in the spring of 1513, Juan Ponce de Leon named this beautiful place La Florida, Land of Flowers, because of the wealth of native wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2013, native wildflowers will be a prominent icon of Florida's and Hillsborough County's quincentennial celebration of Spain in Florida; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and attainable to experience the beauty of many more native wildflowers by reducing the frequency and extent of roadside mowing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida, do hereby commit and encourage others to commit to the conservation of roadside native wildflowers on state and county roadways, and do hereby instruct County staff to partner with the Florida Department of Transportation and adjoining property owners to plan and implement roadside management practices that will increase the visibility and enjoyment of Florida native wildflowers.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: ____________________________
    Chairman

ATTEST: PAT FRANK,
CLERK

By: ____________________________
    Deputy Clerk

Date: ________________
STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, Pat Frank, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board at its regular meeting of May 15, 2013, as the same appears of record in Minute Book 444 of the Public Records of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 17th day of May, 2013.

PAT FRANK
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: Beverly Anne Miller
Deputy Clerk

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

COUNTY ATTORNEY

By: Mary Helen Farris,
Managing Attorney
The Florida Learning Garden, a project of Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful, can be an ideal opportunity to endorse, support and display examples of the vision of the Florida Wildflower Foundation.

The Florida Learning Garden is an interactive ecological experience that includes examples of environmentally sustainable practices that embrace Florida Friendly landscaping Principals and Waste Reduction Concepts.

The Ten Florida Learning Garden Principles

1. Right Plant, Right Place
2. Water Efficiently
3. Fertilize Appropriately
4. Mulch
5. Attract Wildlife
6. Manage Yard Pests Responsibly
7. Recycle
8. Reduce Storm Water Runoff
9. Protect the Waterfront
10. Waste Reduction

Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful supports the Florida Wildflower Foundation vision and core values that are included in the strategic plan. We understand the significant role that wildflowers play in the community, environment and culture - present and past - within Florida.

Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful would like to endorse and partner with the Florida Wildflower Foundation. Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful and The Florida Learning Garden project can support the following initiatives.

KTBB can:

- Participate in development of wildflower curriculum
- Include FWF instruction as part of the 4th grade AG experience at the FLG
- Provide a learning facility to share the FWF curriculum
• Assist with wild flower awareness by creating a wild flower garden at the Florida Learning Garden. Displays at the garden will identify the significance and value and variety of Florida Wildflowers

• Outside the Florida Learning Garden, KTBB can assist with the planting of the seeds along roadways throughout Hillsborough County

A partnership can benefit both organizations. Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful works with numerous city and county agencies-public and private to coordinate our environmental efforts. KTBB can leverage those relationships to further endorse the mission of the FWF.

“Plant Seeds not Litter” has been a long standing tag line for Keep America Beautiful and as an affiliate we could assist by promoting the sale of wildflower seeds to support both initiatives.
Commissioner’s Request for Agenda Item

Agenda Item No. F-2

Requested Meeting Date May 15, 2013

☐ Consent Section ◐ Regular Section

Commissioner Name: Higginbotham

Date Submitted: May 06, 2013

☐ Action by the BOCC
☐ Identification of issue and referral to staff
☐ Referral to staff for review and scheduling at a subsequent BOCC meeting
☐ Provide staff recommendation at time of discussion
☐ Time Certain requested AM 02:15 PM

Request for Waiver of
Rules due to: (check one)
☐ Health, Safety, or Welfare Emergency
☐ Schedule an off-the-agenda item
☐ Deadline requires action prior to next scheduled BOCC meeting

Commissioner’s Recommended Board Motion:
April Showers Bring May Flowers: Approve a resolution, based on the attached model, to encourage the conservation of native wildflowers on state and county roads. Direct Hillsborough County staff to apply for grants from the Florida Wildflower Foundation and work with other interested groups to accomplish the goals of the program.

Staff Requested for Agenda Item:
☐ County Administrator
☐ County Attorney’s Office
☐ Constitutional Officer
☐ Other: Hillsborough County Public Works, Communications

Material requested to be provided by staff:

Background:

The Florida Wildflower Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to enrich lives with Florida's native wildflowers. With donations made with the sale of each State Wildflower license plate, the Foundation funds research, education and planting projects statewide. Since 2000, more than $2.4 million in tag donations have supported projects that build awareness and knowledge of native
wildflowers and plants and their roles in Florida's ecosystems.*

The Foundation does provide grants, including the: La Florida, "Land of Flowers," Community Grants; and County Learn-to-Plant Grants.

Invited representatives: The Florida Wildflower Foundation, Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Services, Florida Native Plant Society.

*Source: Florida Wildflower Foundation website: http://flawildflowers.org/about.php

Links:
La Florida "Land of Flowers" Community Grants:
http://flawildflowers.org/resources/pdfs/2013/LaFloridaRFP2013.pdf

County Learn to Plant Grant: County Learn-to-Plant Grants
http://flawildflowers.org/grants.php

List Attachments:
Model resolution; Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful endorsement letter