

WHEREAS, current water use can be reduced by limiting irrigation to one day a week year-round; and

WHEREAS, future water needs can be greatly reduced by prohibiting permanent landscape irrigation for new construction in the North Florida Regional Water Supply Planning Area where Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) are not being met; and

WHEREAS, landscape irrigation wells must be prohibited within the NFWSP area when potable or reclaimed water is available so utilities can fully implement tiered water pricing and water budgets to decrease existing and future discretionary water use; and

WHEREAS, the LSFIR MFL indicates that groundwater has been over-allocated by current consumptive use permits,

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

Alachua County requests that the Water Management Districts' implement the following to restore flow to the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs (LSFIR):

- 1) restore provisions included in the July 2024 version of the LSFIR MFL Regulatory Strategy which prohibited new landscape irrigation wells when potable water is available and required existing users to offset a proportionate share of their impact,
- 2) exercise the WMD's authority to curtail current permits as outlined in permit conditions,
- 3) water conservation plans shall be updated to include meaningful, measurable, and enforceable water conservation strategies that exceed current efforts,
- 4) implement once a week year-round irrigation restrictions or conduct a rule change to allow local governments to do such,
- 5) re-evaluate the definitions of beneficial use and public interest in reviewing permit allocations,
- 6) since the LSFIR MFL remains unmet, a reservation for the Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers should be considered, and
- 7) evaluate alternatives to the Water First North Florida Project along with filtration and siting strategies for beneficial re-use of reclaimed water from Jacksonville.