



City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

324 E. PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 5004
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34688-5004
(727) 938-3711

**OFFICE OF
MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

June 6, 2017

Honorable Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the residents of the City of Tarpon Springs, I am respectfully asking for your consideration to restore funding for the Anclote River Dredge Project in the State Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Attached is a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners that will be approved at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Upon approval, we will send the signed and sealed resolution.

We were disappointed the funding was cut, as this project meets all your goals of a long-term capital project with significant regional economic and tourism impacts, as outlined in the resolution. Thank you for your consideration in restoring the funding.

Regards,

Chris Alahouzos
Mayor
City of Tarpon Springs



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**OFFICE OF
MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

June 6, 2017

Honorable State Senator Jack Latvala
412 Senate Office Building
404 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Latvala:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the residents of the City of Tarpon Springs, I am respectfully asking for your help to secure the restoration of funding for the Anclote River Dredge Project in the State Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Attached is a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners that will be approved at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Upon approval, we will send a signed and sealed resolution.

We were disappointed the funding was cut, as this project meets all the state goals of a long-term capital project with significant regional economic and tourism impacts, as you are aware from the information we provided in the initial funding request. Thank you for your help to restore the funding.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Alahouzos".

Chris Alahouzos
Mayor
City of Tarpon Springs



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OFFICE OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

June 6, 2017

Honorable Representative Chris Sprowls
412 House Office Building
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Representative Sprowls:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the residents of the City of Tarpon Springs, I am respectfully asking for your help as the House sponsor of our bill, to secure the restoration of funding for the Anclote River Dredge Project in the State Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Attached is a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners that will be approved at the City Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Upon approval, we will send a signed and sealed resolution.

We were disappointed the funding was cut, as this project meets all the state goals of a long-term capital project with significant regional economic and tourism impacts, as you are aware from the information we provided you in the initial funding request. Thank you for your help to restore the funding.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Alahouzos".

Chris Alahouzos
Mayor
City of Tarpon Springs

RESOLUTION 2017-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS IMPLORING THE GOVERNOR AND FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE ANCLOTE RIVER DREDGE PROJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

Whereas, the Anclote River is the source of a \$252 million marine commerce and tourism industry in the City of Tarpon Springs and Pinellas County; and

Whereas, more than 50 marine-related businesses and more than 100 tourism businesses are located on or near the Anclote River and depend on the river for their livelihood; and

Whereas, these industries provide nearly 2,500 primary employment jobs in the Tampa Bay region which represents 21% of the workforce in the City of Tarpon Springs; and

Whereas, Tarpon Springs accounts for 56% of the value of all commercial fish landed in Pinellas County; and

Whereas, the Anclote River Federal Channel requires maintenance dredging to maintain and advance its regional impact on commerce, tourism and shipping; its ability to serve in a regional public safety and disaster preparation and response capacity; and its ability to provide a "harbor of safe refuge" for vessels in danger; and

Whereas, the Anclote River was last dredged 17 years ago and in its current condition is impassable along several areas of the Channel, causing a loss in commercial fishing operations; and

Whereas, the US Coast Guard issues weekly warnings to boat captains called "Local Notices to Mariners" which inform them where navigation is unsafe due to shoaling, and two areas in the Anclote River Navigation Channel have been on every weekly notice since October 2014; and

Whereas, the City has established a Marine Commerce Committee comprised of concerned residents to advise on river conditions; and

Whereas, the City of Tarpon Springs, Pinellas County, Marine Commerce Committee, US Coast Guard, and Army Corps of Engineers are jointly working together and have toured the river to assess and confirm the need for a dredge; and

Whereas, Pinellas County has pledged \$300,000 to support the project; and

Whereas, the Tampa Bay Congressional Delegation supports the project and has jointly signed a letter attesting to the need for a dredge; and

Whereas, a spoil site must be secured prior to obtaining federal funding for the dredge, and the State Senate and House have approved \$920,973 to provide for a spoil site for the dredge;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Tarpon Springs, Florida that:

Section 1: The City of Tarpon Springs respectfully requests that the \$920,973 allocated for the Anclote River Dredge Project that was included in the State of Florida Fiscal Year 2018 budget and was vetoed by Governor Rick Scott be restored to the State of Florida Fiscal Year 2018 Budget.

Section 2: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Scott, Senator Latvala and Representative Sprowls.

Section 3: This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.