RESOLUTION NO. 15-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION BY THE FRIENDS OF BIRCH STATE PARK, INC TO THE FLORIDA RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) are providing funds for projects that provide, renovate or maintain recreational trails, trailhead and trailside facilities, through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); and

WHEREAS, the DEP will receive Recreational Trails Program funds from USDOT and will be disbursing it to local governments, state or federal government agencies, recognized state and federal Indian tribal governments, and organizations approved by the State based on applications(s) submitted; and

WHEREAS, Friends of Birch State Park, Inc. was founded in 1999, and is a Citizens Support Organization recognized by the Florida State Park System, and a 501[C] (3) non-profit corporation whose function is to organize community support for fundraising efforts toward the preservation, conservation and enhancement of Hugh Taylor Birch State Park; and

WHEREAS, the grant proposal will help fund the Trestles Trail project which will follow the path of the defunct Birch State Park Scenic Railroad, and will rehabilitate the trail as well as the two remaining train trestles, converting this to a multi-use trail for walkers, hikers, bikers and nature enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will help implement the City of Fort Lauderdale's Connecting the Blocks Program by increasing connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists along the A1A Greenway Corridor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida does hereby support the Friends of Birch State Park, Inc. to apply for a Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Recreational Trails Program Grant in the amount of \$250,000 to complete the Trestle Trail Project.

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<u>SECTION 2.</u> That the City Commission hereby supports the application for funding to complete the Trestles Trail project.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> That is any clause, section or other part of this Resolution shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.

<u>SECTION 4.</u> That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

<u>SECTION 5.</u> That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon final passage.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of March, 2015.

Mayor

JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER

ATTEST:

JONDA K. JOSEPH

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