

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-27
CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FL**

**A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE PINELLAS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS CONSIDER THE DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COUNTYWIDE RESIDENTIAL
FERTILIZER USE GUIDELINES**

WHEREAS, the City of St. Pete Beach finds that red tide, green bloom, and related environmental phenomena present a significant hazard to the city's recreational opportunities, local economy, and the environment, and therefore seeks proactive measures to decrease the probability and magnitude of such future events; and

WHEREAS, red tide is known to be caused by elevated levels of nutrients, particularly phosphorus and nitrogen, that are deposited in waterbodies from the improper and excessive use of fertilizers. Commonly, these nutrients are conveyed to waterbodies by surface water runoff that is collected and distributed through municipal and county stormwater systems. Certain quantities may also leach into the groundwater supply; and

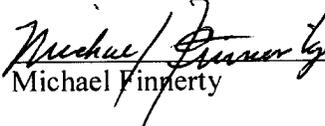
WHEREAS, increased regulatory pressure from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to reduce nutrients has led to the adoption of local ordinances regulating the use of residential fertilizers as one potential tool for controlling nutrient pollution; and

WHEREAS, the waterbodies relevant to the County are largely interconnected; considerable spillovers of nutrient pollution occur regularly. Thereby, substantive risk mitigation of this hazard can only be effected through a joint effort between municipalities and the County; and

WHEREAS, a single set of countywide residential fertilizer use guidelines would enhance the chances of success by eliminating the prospect of significant confusion that could result from conflicting and numerous guidelines handed down by individual municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of St. Pete Beach, Florida, the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, for all of the aforementioned reasons, lead a joint effort to reduce the probability and magnitude of future red tide, green bloom, and related environmental events by developing and adopting an ordinance that establishes a set of residential fertilizer use guidelines. Such action would serve to protect and further the safety and welfare of the residents and visitors of the City of St. Pete Beach, its coastal neighbors, and the county at-large.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the City Commission of St. Pete Beach, Pinellas County, Florida on this 28th day of October 2008



Michael Finnerty

ATTEST:



City Clerk