

Original Resolution (drafted by Sandy Walters)

The EPA Water Quality Steering Committee for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary urges the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to focus funding on providing water quality treatment for all roadway improvement projects in the Florida Keys including those that do not increase impervious surface. Sanctuary water quality is a primary focus of federal management and protection in the Florida Keys and therefore it must be a priority for roadway runoff to receive treatment—particularly to reduce nutrient input—to meet this federal priority. This also addresses the Florida Keys Reasonable Assurance Plan to meet State and federal water quality standards.

Edits proposed by Technical Advisory Council

The ~~EPA~~ Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) Steering Committee for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary urges the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to ~~focus funding on providing water quality~~stormwater treatment for ~~all~~ roadway improvement projects in the Florida Keys including those that do not increase impervious surface. A 1999 EPA report identified stormwater, particularly runoff from roadways, as the second leading contributor of nitrogen and phosphorous into the nearshore waters behind wastewater, which has since been a major focus of infrastructure improvements. Sanctuary water quality is a primary focus of federal and State management and protection in the Florida Keys, with stormwater treatment being identified as a top priority in 2020 by the WQPP Steering Committee. ~~and therefore it must be a priority~~ for treatment of roadway runoff must be a priority to receive treatment—particularly to reduce nutrient input—to meet this federal priority to reduce contaminant loading into the nearshore waters. This also addresses the Florida Keys Reasonable Assurance ~~Plan Document~~ to meet ~~State and federal~~ and State water quality standards and protect the world-class marine environment that the Florida economy depends upon.

New resolution with proposed edits:

The Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) Steering Committee for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary urges the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to fund stormwater treatment for roadway improvement projects in the Florida Keys including those that do not increase impervious surface. A 1999 EPA report identified stormwater, particularly runoff from roadways, as the second leading contributor of nitrogen and phosphorous into the nearshore waters behind wastewater, which has since been a major focus of infrastructure improvements. Sanctuary water quality is a primary focus of federal and State management and protection in the Florida Keys, with stormwater treatment being identified as a top priority in 2020 by the WQPP Steering Committee. Therefore treatment of roadway runoff must be a priority to reduce contaminant loading into the nearshore waters. This also addresses the Florida Keys Reasonable Assurance Document to meet federal and State water quality standards and protect the world-class marine environment that the Florida economy depends upon.