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ATTACHMENT #1

Office of the County Manager
Leo E. Ochs, Jr.

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February 12, 2015

The Honorable John F. Sorey III
Mayor City of Naples
735 8TH Street South
Naples, FL 34102

Dear Mayor Sorey:

On February 10, 2015, under item 11B, the Board of County Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the Golden Gate Watershed Improvement Program (GGWIP) initiative.

As you know, the purpose of the Golden Gate Watershed Improvement Program (GGWIP) is to develop and implement projects and recommendations that have the highest potential for overarching impact to Collier County in accordance with the adopted Watershed Management Plans. The City of Naples has a shared interest with the County to protect our watersheds and recognizes that it is our most valuable resource.

On December 30, 2014, Commissioner Tim Nance met with you, along with Big Cypress Basin staff and County staff. The parties acknowledged that there is regional consensus supporting the development of a unified program that advances water quality, improves flood control, recharges aquifers, and supports ecosystem restoration. GGWIP will be used as the vehicle to advance projects and recommendations that are developed and tested for benefit by a regional Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), supported by the NGOs, and vetted to the citizens of Collier County. We understand that the City Manager has identified Greg Strakaluse as the City's representative on the TAC.

As part of the Board's approval, they directed me to request that the City of Naples also adopts a similar resolution in support of GGWIP. I have attached the item and the resolution for reference. We look forward to the City's endorsement and participation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leo E. Ochs, Jr.", written over the printed name and title.

Leo E. Ochs, Jr.
County Manager

CC: Nick Casalanguida, Administrator, Growth Management Division