

RESOLUTION 2015-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OLD RIVER-WINFREE COALITION SUPPORTING A COASTAL BARRIER SYSTEM TO PROTECT THE HOUSTON/GALVESTON REGION FROM STORM SURGE AND SUB-TROPICAL RAIN EVENTS; AND REQUESTING FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS TO PROVIDE FOR COMPREHENSIVE STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE MOST EFFECTIVE COASTAL BARRIER SYSTEM TO SAFEGUARD THE REGIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR DELIVERY OF SUCH RESOLUTION TO THOSE STATE LEGISLATORS WHO REPRESENT THE HOUSTON/GALVESTON REGION.

**WHEREAS**, the Houston/Galveston region is home to the largest most important concentration of petroleum refining and petrochemical processing plants in the United States, and the Port of Houston is the second-busiest port in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the region is hit by a major hurricane about every 15 years, and the Perryman Report estimates that a “Katrina-like” storm would cause aggregate losses to the Texas economy of \$73 billion in gross product, \$61.3 billion in income and 863,000 jobs while causing an enormous amount of damage to the economy of the United States, and

**WHEREAS**, storm surge entering Galveston Bay as a result of a hurricane or other significant storm event tends to increase in height as it moves further up into the Bay and the Houston Ship Channel, endangering human live, destroying property, and damaging sensitive ecosystems, and

**WHEREAS**, a coastal barrier system, using manmade sand dunes (revetments covered with sand and natural grasses) along the length of the coast connecting to the existing Galveston Seawall as well as large moveable flood gates, is essential to protect the industries, citizens, and communities in the Houston/Galveston region and to preserve the region’s coastal ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS**, such a coastal barrier system currently under serious study is based on a proven concept directly modeled from other technologies successfully installed around the world—including in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, St. Petersburg, Russia, along the Thames River in London, England, and in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

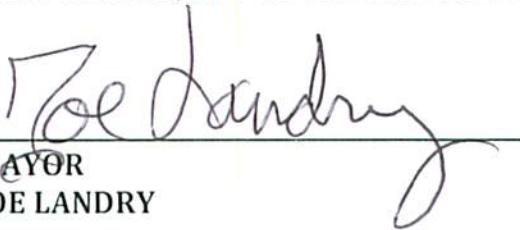
**WHEREAS**, such a coastal barrier system is technically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly and socially equitable, and justifies funding from the State of Texas to conduct comprehensive studies to determine the most effective coastal barrier

system currently under study modeled from proven technologies used in the Netherlands and elsewhere;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

The City of Old River-Winfree fully endorses and supports state funding for studies to advance the continued development of a coastal barrier system which would provide comprehensive protection to the people, industries, business, schools, government facilities, residences and associated infrastructure within the Houston/Galveston region.

**DULY PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2015**

  
MAYOR  
JOE LANDRY

**ATTEST TO:**

  
CITY SECRETARY