

PROCLAMATION

HONORING PHILLIP J. MATSON ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE INDIAN RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Whereas, Phillip J. Matson retires from the Indian River County Department of Community Development as of April 12, 2023; and

Whereas, Phil began his career with Indian River County on August 20, 2001 as Assistant Staff Director of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), was promoted to MPO Staff Director on July 30, 2004, and was promoted to Community Development Director on January 31, 2020; and

Whereas, shortly after becoming Community Development Director, Phil successfully guided the Community Development Department through the COVID-19 Pandemic while maintaining the Department's planning, permitting, and inspection activities and instituting new procedures such as electronic permitting and managing the distribution of emergency CARES Act funds which provided \$2,139,587 to 300 Indian River County businesses and \$2,342,697 in mortgage and rental assistance to 500 families; and

Whereas, the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) increased from \$81 million in 2002 to \$400 million in 2022, and during those years, the TIP has included the widening of SR 60, US 1, I-95, CR 510, CR 512, 66th Av., and Oslo Road along with the construction of the new Oslo Road interchange; and

Whereas, Phil's multimodal transportation planning efforts were instrumental in the construction of the Trans-Florida Central Railroad Trail, including an attractive trail bridge over I-95, and ridership on the GoLine growing from 177,425 passengers in 2001 to 1,204,772 passengers in 2022; and

Whereas, the MPO was recognized as the Outstanding Small/Mid-Sized MPO in 2015 by the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, headquartered in Washington, DC; and

Whereas, many consider Phil's presentations at board and committee meetings to be the most informative and entertaining Powerpoints presented in the history of Indian River County, showcasing skills which will be useful in his future career as a stand-up comedian; and

Whereas, Phil has served this County and the Public with utmost integrity, competence, and success, and has gained the respect and admiration of all of his colleagues, co-workers, community leaders, organizations, and agencies within the County and throughout the state; and

Whereas, Phil's legacy is one of bettering the community, and his efforts will benefit the County and its residents and visitors for years to come.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, that the Board applauds Phil Matson's efforts on behalf of the County, and the Board wishes to express their appreciation for the dedicated service he has given to Indian River County for the last twenty-one years; and

Be It Further Proclaimed that the Board of County Commissioners and staff extend heartfelt wishes for success in his future endeavors!

Adopted this 4th day of April, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Joseph H. Earman, Chairman