

RESOLUTION #2009-14

WHEREAS, the City of DeFuniak Springs has an obligation to provide for the housing needs of its current and anticipated populations and assisting lower income families is dependent upon sufficient housing assistance from federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS, the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act of 1992 deliberately used the documentary stamp tax as its revenue source because of its nexus with the development of affordable housing and because the source of funding needed to be a growth vehicle to keep pace with escalating land and housing costs; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Legislature provided full funding from the Housing Trust Funds every year from Fiscal Year 1992-1993 through Fiscal Year 2002-2003 and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is experiencing a housing crisis due to massive increases in the cost of land, construction, and the ultimate cost of housing to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act has worked as planned, providing needed revenues into the State and Local Housing Trust Funds at this time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature enacted a cap on the Housing Trust Funds of \$243 million per year, beginning in Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Legislature, at this time of crisis, have not provided full funding from the Housing Trust Funds for the last three fiscal years, under funding housing appropriations by over \$600 million from Fiscal Year 2003-2004 through Fiscal Year 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, \$939.5 million is available in the Housing Trust Funds for appropriation for housing during Fiscal Year 2006-2007, while the Governor has proposed appropriating only \$545 million, leaving at least \$390.5 million unspent; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that during Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the documentary stamp tax will generate over \$500 million for the State and Local Housing Trust Funds; and

WHEREAS, Florida's affordable housing needs are estimated at well beyond \$500 million during Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

WHEREAS, absent repeal of the legislative cap placed on the State and Local Housing Trust Funds during the 2005 Legislative Session, new documentary stamp tax revenues for housing pursuant to The Sadowski Act of 1992 will be limited to \$243 million per year beginning Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

WHEREAS, DeFuniak Springs would receive \$ million with full funding as compared to only \$ million at the level proposed by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; and

THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of DeFuniak Springs that C. Harold Carpenter, Mayor be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement as follows:

Section 1. That the foregoing clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. That the City of DeFuniak Springs supports repeal of the cap on the Housing Trust Funds, and urges the Governor and Legislature to adopt statutory changes during the 2006 Legislative Session to repeal the cap.

Section 3. That the City of DeFuniak Springs supports full funding of \$939.5 million for housing in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget, and urges the Governor and Legislature to adopt a budget with that level of funding.

Section 4. That the appropriate City Officials are authorized to do all things necessary and expedient to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 5. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption hereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of DeFuniak Springs, this 23 Day of November 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

  
C. Harold Carpenter, Mayor

  
Elizabeth S. Campbell-Work, City Clerk