CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH
ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SEA LEVEL RISE AND
COASTAL RESILIENCY ARE MATTERS OF URGENT
CONCERN THAT REQUIRE PROACTIVE MEASURES FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING IN ATLANTIC BEACH AND
BEYOND; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SUBMITTED BY: Kevin Hogencamp, Deputy City Manager, at the request of Mayor
Ellen Glasser

TODAY'S DATE: Jan. 17, 2019

MEETING DATE: Jan. 28, 2019

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Resolution No. 19-02

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:
RESOLUTION NO. 19-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SEA LEVEL RISE AND COASTAL RESILIENCY ARE MATTERS OF URGENT CONCERN THAT REQUIRE PROACTIVE MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING IN ATLANTIC BEACH AND BEYOND; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the sea level along the coast of Florida has risen about 6 inches in 30 years, with scientific projections forecasting another 8 inches of sea level rise in the next 20 years, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and

WHEREAS, NOAA reports that Florida’s sea level rise of 3 inches since 2000 has increased flooding in the state by 300 percent; and

WHEREAS, NOAA also reports that nearby Naval Station Mayport has experienced sea level rise at one-third inch per year, a pace that’s accelerated since the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, rising sea levels amplify the threat and magnitude of storm surge in coastal areas, meaning the impact and power of hurricanes will only increase, endangering even more coastal property and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, sea level rise and flooding cause damage to coastal homes, disrupt transportation networks with longer commutes, adversely impact small businesses and other commercial interests, impose additional costs on our cities through infrastructure and drainage system upgrades, and erode our beaches; and

WHEREAS, coordination, support, and funding are necessary to address the challenges of sea level rise and flooding; and

WHEREAS, in its January 2019 priority-setting session, the Atlantic Beach City Commission identified coastal resiliency as being among its top priorities moving forward; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of a Florida Resilient Coastlines Program grant, the City of Atlantic Beach is proactively addressing sea level rise and climate adaptation by developing a coastal vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is undertaking a critical shore protection project that greatly enhances the Duval County coast’s ability to sustain flooding due to storm surge; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Commission of the City of Atlantic Beach as follows:

Section 1. Acknowledges the significance of sea level rise and flooding, and affirms the need for research, coordination, support and funding to build the City’s resiliency and to develop mitigation strategies to address sea level rise.
Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Atlantic Beach, this 28th day of January, 2019.

Ellen Glasser, Mayor

Attest:

Donna L. Bartle, City Clerk

Approved as to form and correctness:

Brenna M. Durden, City Attorney