

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-25

**A RESOLUTION OF CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA;
SUPPORTING VOLUSIA FOREVER, A CONSERVATION
PROGRAM, IN VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING
FOR TRANSMISSION, IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City of Deltona, Florida (the "City") is a municipality located within the County of Volusia, Florida (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, Volusia Forever is a landmark, voter-approved conservation program in Volusia County, Florida, dedicated to the acquisition, improvement, and stewardship of environmentally sensitive, water resource protection, and outdoor recreation lands; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 2000 and renewal by voters in 2020, Volusia Forever has preserved nearly 61,600 acres of critical lands, supporting biodiversity, protecting water resources, and providing public access to nature for recreation and education; and

WHEREAS, Volusia Forever is funded by a modest 0.2 mills property tax, reflecting the community's commitment to financing conservation efforts, with a transparent process guided by the Volusia Forever Advisory Committee and final approval by the County Council; and

WHEREAS, the program's achievements include leveraging \$79.1 million in county funds to attract a total investment of \$121.2 million, and supporting both large-scale preserves and a small-lot acquisition initiative focused on sensitive lands in antiquated subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, Volusia Forever's transparent dashboard, public nomination process, and clear application procedures ensure accountability, community involvement, and efficient stewardship of natural resources in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of natural resources, wildlife habitats, and water quality is essential for the health, well-being, and economic vitality of the residents and visitors of Volusia County; and

WHEREAS, Volusia Forever has successfully protected thousands of acres of important lands, providing recreational opportunities, supporting ecotourism, and safeguarding the county's unique ecosystems for future generations; and

WHEREAS, continued support and funding for Volusia Forever will ensure the ongoing protection and stewardship of critical natural areas, enhance community resilience to climate challenges, and contribute to the region's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Deltona, Florida, hereby expresses its continued support for the Volusia Forever program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Recitals Adopted. That each of the above recitals are hereby adopted, confirmed, and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Volusia Forever. That the City Commission hereby expresses its wholehearted support of Volusia Forever, as a valuable conservation program to ensure the ongoing protection and stewardship of critical natural areas, enhance community resilience to climate challenges, and contribute to the region's quality of life in Volusia County Florida.

Section 3. Transmission Authorized. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit this Resolution and any other necessary supporting documents to the Volusia County Council and other local governments in Volusia County, Florida.

Section 4. Implementation. That the City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to take any action which is necessary to implement this Resolution.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA, THIS 3rd DAY OF March, 2026.

BY: 
Santiago Avila, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Joyce Raftery, CMC, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form and legality
for use and reliance of the City of
Deltona, Florida.

Zackery Good

TG Law, PLLC, City Attorney

Name	Yes	No
Avila-Vazquez	<i>Absent</i>	
Colwell	<i>✓</i>	
Heriot	<i>✓</i>	
Howington	<i>✓</i>	
Nabicht	<i>✓</i>	
Santiago	<i>✓</i>	
Avila	<i>✓</i>	