RESOLUTION NO. 3451

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BAY COUNTY FLORIDA; ENCOURAGING THE CONSERVATION OF ROADSIDE NATIVE WILDFLOWERS ON STATE AND COUNTY ROADWAYS; DIRECTING STAFF TO EXPLORE VARIOUS PARTNERSHIPS TO ADDRESS ROADSIDE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT WILL INCREASE THE VISIBILITY AND ENJOYMENT OF FLORIDA NATIVE WILDFLOWERS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the natural beauty of native wildflowers in Bay County can be enjoyed by everyone; can attract guests, and benefit commerce, environmental health, public well-being; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of native wildflowers is an occasion for all Bay County and community leaders to unite for the benefit of everyone; and

WHEREAS, many natural beautiful species of native wildflowers, including Coreopsis, the state wildflower, as depicted upon the State Wildflower license tag, are already prominently displayed along Bay County and Florida State roadways: and

WHEREAS, increasing the visibility of native wildflowers in Bay County is consistent with the vision of the Comprehensive Plan and goals of many individuals, businesses, and community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS, the presence of native wildflowers is essential to the fitness of native pollinator species necessary for productive and profitable farms and forests; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1513 Juan Ponce de Leon named this beautiful place La Florida, Land of Flowers, because of the wealth of native wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and attainable to experience the beauty of many more native wildflowers by reducing the frequency and extent of roadside mowing.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved as follows:

Section 1. <u>Authority</u>. The Board of County Commissioners of Bay County, Florida, do hereby commit and encourage others to commit to the conservation of roadside native wildflowers on state and county roadways, and directs County staff to explore various partnerships with the Florida Department of Transportation and adjoining property owners to address roadside management practices that will increase the visibility and enjoyment of Florida native wildflowers.

Section 2. Effective date. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

, 2017.	ioners of Bay County, Florida thisday of
COUNT COUNT	William T. Dozier, Chairman
Attest:	Approved for form:
Bill Kinsaut, Clerk (Seal)	Office of the County Attorney