

R E S O L U T I O N  
N U M B E R 2025-

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A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE  
LEE COUNTY PARKING ORDINANCE WHICH RESTRICTS PUBLIC  
ACCESS TO BEACHES IN BOCA GRANDE, AND URGING  
RECONSIDERATION TO PROTECT EQUITABLE PUBLIC BEACH  
ACCESS FOR ALL.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2025, the Lee County Commission approved Ordinance No. 25-16 creating a permit-based parking system with different categories reserved for residents, employees, hotel guests, and house guests, while imposing a three-hour limit for all other visitors and expanding no-parking zones, especially along Gulf Boulevard, Gasparilla Road, and residential areas; and

WHEREAS, Boca Grande's beaches have long been a regional destination enjoyed by residents of Charlotte County, surrounding communities, and visitors from across the state and nation; and

WHEREAS, with no eligibility for residential permits, Charlotte County residents who live off Gasparilla Island, particularly in mainland communities like Placida or Rotonda West, are treated the same as general visitors; and

WHEREAS, these new restrictions limit reasonable access to public beaches, potentially harming tourism, local commerce, and the inclusive character of Boca Grande; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance may also impact eligibility for state and federal beach renourishment and management funding, which often considers availability of public beach access; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners recognizes the vital importance of maintaining public access to Florida's coastline for recreational, environmental, and economic purposes; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte County residents and business owners have expressed significant concern over the potential long-term impacts of these restrictions; and

WHEREAS, with fewer legal parking options, visitors may crowd into Stump Pass, Englewood Beach, or Port Charlotte Beach Park leading to overcapacity conditions at these facilities, straining parking infrastructure, and increasing demand for law enforcement/code enforcement to manage overflow and illegal parking at these facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

1. The Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners respectfully urges the Lee County Commission to reconsider and amend its Boca Grande parking ordinance to restore reasonable public parking access to beaches, preserve tourism and economic vitality, and maintain equitable access to Florida's coastal resources.

2. The Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners encourages Lee County to engage in a transparent and collaborative process with stakeholders—including neighboring counties, local businesses, residents, and visitors—to identify balanced solutions that protect public trust and access.

3. The County Administrator is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Lee County Board of County Commissioners, the Governor of Florida, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Charlotte and Lee local State House and Senate representatives.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph M. Tiseo, Chairman

ATTEST:  
Roger D. Eaton, Clerk of the Circuit  
Court and Ex-officio Clerk of the  
Board of County Commissioners

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Janette S. Knowlton, County Attorney  
LR 25-0916