



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE

RESOLUTION 8 -2006M

WATER CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP FRAMEWORK PLAN

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes, including Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, the St. Lawrence River, and the connecting channels form the largest surface fresh water system on earth;

WHEREAS, the waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin are a shared public treasure;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin includes significant portions of eight states, including Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and two Canadian provinces, Ontario and Quebec;

WHEREAS, over 40 million people inhabit the basin, representing one-tenth of the US population and one-quarter of the Canadian population;

WHEREAS, only one percent of the water in the Great Lakes is renewed each year;

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the region, its people, and future generations depend heavily on the integrity of the resource;

WHEREAS, Great Lakes waters sustain us, as well as the natural world, and support our needs for recreation, fishing, transportation and power;

WHEREAS, we understand that sustaining accessible and adequate water supplies is essential to the people and economies of the cities within the Basin;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative recognizes that water efficiency is important for the long term sustainability of our municipalities;

WHEREAS, cities must act to ensure the protection and conservation of the waters and water dependent natural resources of the Basin for future generations;



WHEREAS, effective water conservation and water stewardship involves a municipal commitment to best management practices and effective public outreach tools;

WHEREAS, a conservation strategy outlining what constitutes responsible water planning, use and management would reinforce the municipal commitment to conservation;

WHEREAS, a Framework for municipal water conservation and stewardship could embody this strategy, detailing these best management practices and tools;

WHEREAS, by voluntarily signing on to the Framework, municipalities would indicate their intent to enhance the stewardship of the water resource within their jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, the Framework would allow signers the flexibility necessary to meet commitments in a way that reflects their community needs and circumstances and addresses differences in water sources, quality, quantity and usage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will create a Water Efficiency Framework that will commit the cities to specific water use reduction goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Framework will allow Cities to voluntarily sign on to indicate their commitment to actions outlined in the Framework.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Framework will be presented to the Board of Directors and, if approved, it will be implemented prior to December 31, 2006.

Signed this 23rd day of June, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

David Miller, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative