

Honorary Membership Nomination Narrative

Nominee: **Nathaniel “Nat” Reed**
11844 SE Dixie Highway
Suite C
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
Office: 772-546-2666
Home: 772-546-5323
npreed@earthlink.net



Nominator: **Florida Chapter ASLA**

Nathaniel Pryor Reed is nominated for Honorary Membership in ASLA by the Florida Chapter. For the last 50 years, Mr. Reed has devoted his time, considerable energy and personal resources to the protection and betterment of Florida’s natural environment, and has played a major role in federal environmental protection efforts as well. His lifelong passions have included the protection of the greater Everglades ecosystem, improving air and water quality, promoting more sustainable patterns of development, and protecting endangered species.

Throughout his career, Mr. Reed has insisted that public policy decisions must rest on the foundation of strong science and informed dialog. An environmental advisor to seven Florida governors from both political parties, Reed also served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. Because of his leadership, passion and decades of dedicated activism, Mr. Reed has left an indelible imprint on the local, state, and national environments.

Mr. Reed was born in New York City, July 23, 1933 and spent much of his childhood wintering in Hobe Sound, Florida. He graduated with his B.A. from Trinity College in 1955, going on to serve as an officer in the U.S. Air Force military intelligence system in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East until 1959. He returned to his beloved Hobe Sound in 1960, where he served as Vice President and then President of the Hobe Sound Company until 1971. Thanks to his parents’ vision, hundreds of acres of Jupiter Island wilderness were preserved as this community was developed. Mr. Reed was actively involved in securing the range of land donations and sales that created the Nature Conservancy’s Blowing Rocks Preserve and the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, both on Jupiter Island.

In 1967, Republican Gov. Claude R. Kirk, Jr., appointed Mr. Reed as the state’s first Governor’s Environmental Counsel (and the nation’s first environmental advisor to a governor), a position he would hold until 1971. For his considerable work, he accepted compensation in the amount of \$1 per year. According to Michael Grunwald, *Washington Post* reporter and author of *The Swamp*, “Kirk rarely started out on the green side of an issue, but thanks to Reed and the new politics of the environment, he usually ended up there.”

In 1968, construction began on the massive Florida Jetport sited adjacent to Everglades National Park. The plans were for the largest airport in the world—encompassing 39 square miles of marshland, with a takeoff or landing every 30 seconds. The proposal also included a high speed rail link to Miami and foresaw the development of a new community of 150,000 residents. State permits and federal funds were soon secured for the project, and construction commenced.

Mr. Reed worked to persuade federal officials to permanently halt the project. Even though the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Aviation Administration supported the project, Mr. Reed convinced Department of Interior officials of the environmental damage the project would cause. In his New Year’s Day message, President Nixon’s declared 1970 the year of the environment. Later that month, Gov. Kirk and Mr. Reed met with President Nixon and other top administration officials, where

the President announced he was withdrawing funding for the project and signed the Florida Jetport Pact. The remote jetport site is now used to train airline pilots on takeoffs and landings.

In 1969, Gov. Kirk named Mr. Reed Chair of the new Department of Air and Water Pollution Control, which evolved into today's Department of Environmental Protection. During his two year tenure, Mr. Reed chaired extensive hearings across the state to set water quality standards and create air quality regions in the state. Mr. Reed soon began ordering industrial and municipal polluters to treat their waste, urging communities to raise taxes to fund the sewage treatment projects. He drafted the state's water quality standards, outlawing discharges that would change the flora or fauna of a receiving body of water.

In 1971, Mr. Reed accepted President Richard Nixon's invitation to serve at the national level. Mr. Reed became Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and National Parks, a position he would continue to serve under President Gerald Ford until 1977. In that capacity, Reed played an instrumental role in banning the use of DDT, before it created a "silent spring."

Mr. Reed was involved in drafting and passage of one of the nation's most broad-reaching environmental laws, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, serving as the administration's main witness before multiple congressional committees. He also played a leading role in the protection of Bald and Golden eagles, and laid the foundation for the Alaska Land Act which ultimately would preserve over 100 million acres of national parks, wildlife refuges, and additions to the national forests.

Upon returning to Florida in 1978, Democrat Governor Bob Graham appointed Mr. Reed to serve on the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board, a highly controversial move as the board at that time was dominated by sugar and development interests. Gov. Graham would later note, "Nat Reed was the acknowledged leader of a new wave of Floridians who fundamentally transformed the environmental culture, values and public policies of the state from 1967 to the mid 1970s." Mr. Reed was subsequently reappointed by Republican Governor Bob Martinez and Democrat Governor Lawton Chiles. He served for a total of 14 years.

In 1986, Mr. Reed helped found 1000 Friends of Florida. This statewide, bipartisan, nonprofit growth management "watchdog" was established to oversee implementation of Florida's fledgling growth management act. Mr. Reed traveled the state, giving numerous presentations on the importance of Florida's growth management process and the need for a "watchdog." He raised major funding to launch the fledgling organization and continues to play a significant role in raising funds for 1000 Friends to this day. When Florida's growth management act came under serious attack in 1988, Mr. Reed testified before the House, calling the act "Florida's last great hope to plan a future."

Nathaniel Reed was a founding member of the Everglades Foundation, an influential not-for-profit organization created in 1993 and "dedicated to advancing an understanding of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem and its irreplaceable environmental and economic value." He currently serves as its Vice Chair.

It is difficult to summarize Mr. Reed's myriad accomplishments in just two pages. Over the last half century he has been instrumental in some of the most significant and far-reaching legislation to protect the environment and quality of life in Florida and, indeed, the nation. Thanks to his visionary leadership, millions of acres of pristine Florida lands have been forever protected, an emerald necklace of greenways crosses our state, damaging and ill-conceived boondoggles have been halted, and water quality has improved. To this day, Mr. Reed continues his lifelong crusade to protect the iconic Everglades ecosystem, promote regionalism, and encourage the sane and sensible management of growth in this state.

February 28, 2010

Ms. Dana K. Worthington, Trustee
Florida Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects
5123 Kernwood Court, Suite 100
Palm Harbor, FL 34685

Dear Trustee Worthington:

It is my pleasure to write in support of the nomination of Nathaniel P. Reed of Hobe Sound as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

His extensive background in conservation and community issues in Florida, internationally, and nationally make him a well deserved recipient of this recognition. He is a former member and Vice Chairman of the National Audubon and The Nature Conservancy Boards, the Natural Resources Defense Council, National Geographic Society and the Atlantic Salmon Federation. He presently serves on the boards of the Hope Rural School, Hobe Sound Community Chest and the Everglades Foundation. In addition, he is a founding board member and Chairman Emeritus of the nonprofit growth management advocacy organization, 1000 Friends of Florida.

Mr. Reed served as Chairman of the Florida Department of Air and Water Pollution Control from 1968-71 and as Assistant Secretary of the Interior from 1971-77. Governor Martinez chose him as chairman of the Commission on the Future of Florida's Environment which recommended Preservation 2000, the most ambitious land acquisition effort in our nation's history. Two million preserved acres later, the program has wide public support. He served on numerous state and private commissions: most recently as co-chairman of the Urban Land Institute's recent study of how Florida counties should improve cooperative and coordination of the Florida Greenways Commission. He is a past member of the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District, with whose service spanned 14 years. In April 1994, Reed received the Alexander Calder Distinguished Achievement Award.

As you can see from his extensive background, Nathaniel Reed makes an excellent candidate for recognition by the ASLA as an Honorary Member. Please let me know if you need any additional information in support of this most worthy nomination.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Charles G. Pattison'.

Charles G. Pattison, FAICP
President



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

March 4, 2011

Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington DC, 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of Nathaniel Reed for Honorary ASLA Membership

Dear ASLA Leaders:

Florida, the Sunshine State, the Land of Flowers, is fortunate to have many great conservationists with a historic record of sacrifice and service. Only three, however, have earned the high honor of being elected to Honorary Membership in the Society; Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Bob Graham, and Roy Rood. Their remarkable deeds have made a difference to the state and nation's environment and economy, and to the great profession of landscape architecture.

Another great conservationist, Mr. Nathaniel (Nat) Reed, has worked side by side with each Honorary Member from Florida. Now, Florida Chapter members want to recognize Mr. Reed with Honorary ASLA Membership.

Mr. Reed's reputation and record of accomplishment parallels the mission of the Society. For his entire life, Mr. Reed has been *leading, educating, and participating in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our cultural and natural environments*. Like Florida's other Honorary Members, Nat Reed has made a difference.

Mr. Nathaniel Reed's nomination for Honorary ASLA Membership has my strongest and sincerest endorsement. Few Floridians have done as much to conserve and protect the state and nation's natural resources and scenic beauty. Please give this nomination for Honorary ASLA Membership your full consideration.

With genuine admiration and respect,

Jeff Caster, FASLA
State Transportation Landscape Architect