All Aboard Florida Project
Update to Council

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MARCH 2014
Southeast Florida: Existing & Proposed Passenger Rail Projects

**LEGEND**

- **CSX (existing Amtrak route)**
- **CSX/FEC (proposed new Amtrak route)**
- **CSX (existing Tri-Rail route)**
- **CSX/FEC (proposed new commuter rail ~ "Tri-Rail Coastal Link" route)**
- **FECI (proposed "All Aboard Florida" route)**
All Aboard Florida (AAF) Proposal
Applicant: Florida East Coast Industries (FECI)

Project Proposal: Operation of high-speed express intercity passenger rail service on Florida East Coast (FEC) Rail Corridor & SR 528

Station Locations: Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Orlando (235-mile route)

Service Frequency: 16 hourly trains in each direction (6 AM – 9 PM)


Permit Activity: Pending Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
### AAF Project History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>TIMEFRAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FECI: Announces “All Aboard Florida” Project</td>
<td>March 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>FECI/AAF: Submittal of “RRIF” Loan Application* to FRA</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>FECI/AAF: Submittal of EIS Documentation (Southern “Initial” Segment)</td>
<td>October 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>FECI/AAF: Receives EIS Approval (Southern Segment)</td>
<td>January 2013</td>
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<td>(West Palm Beach/Miami - track improvements &amp; sidings; station platforms; grade crossings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRA: Conducts EIS “Scoping Meetings” (Northern Segment)</td>
<td>May 2013</td>
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<td>(West Palm Beach/Orlando - track improvements; Miami/Orlando – bridges, stations, grade crossings)</td>
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RRIF = Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program under FRA
# Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Approval Process by FRA

<table>
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<tr>
<td>FRA Publication of “Draft EIS” &amp; Public Workshops</td>
<td>Late Spring 2014 (estimated)</td>
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<td>FRA Public Comment Period</td>
<td>45 days</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Can be extended by FRA at its discretion</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>FRA Publication of “Final EIS”</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRA Public Comment Period</td>
<td>30 days</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Can be extended by FRA at its discretion</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>FRA Issuance of “Record of Decision”</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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Council’s Involvement in Project

Since AAF project announcement in March 2012, Council has participated in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Public Hearings</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Workshops</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Briefings with Elected Officials</td>
<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (Neighborhood &amp; Town Hall Meetings)</td>
<td>8</td>
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Council’s role has been to deliver and information to/from all interested parties in advance of the EIS.
Early Findings & Potential Impacts

- Passenger Rail Stations
- Grade Crossing Improvements & Quiet Zones
- Bridge & Marine Navigation Conflicts
- Access to Broadband Capacity
- Freight Rationalization
- Land Use Impacts
- Tri-Rail Coastal Link Access Negotiations
Passenger Rail Stations

Advance Amtrak/FEC Corridor Service

- Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT, Amtrak & FECI
- Stations previously identified in Stuart, Fort Pierce & Vero Beach

Add Additional AAF Stops in Treasure Coast

- Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT & FECI
- Stations previously identified in Stuart, Fort Pierce & Vero Beach

Address Pedestrian Circulation around West Palm Beach AAF Station
FDOT Funding for Quiet Zone Construction Costs

- Requires collaboration among local governments & FDOT

FECI & FDOT Support for Quiet Zone TIGER Grant for Martin, St. Lucie & Indian River Counties

- Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT & FECI
- Could be joint application with Palm Beach & Broward MPOs
Grade Crossing Improvements & Quiet Zones

Provide FECI Support for Pedestrian Pathways at all Grade Crossings
  • Requires collaboration among local governments & FECI
  • Could be component of safety improvements

Establish Consistent, Predictable & Reasonable FECI Grade Crossing Fee Schedule
  • Requires collaboration among local governments & FECI

Request FRA Clarify “Sealed Corridor” Requirements
Bridge & Marine Navigation Conflicts

**Synchronize Passenger & Freight Schedules to Reduce # of Bridge Closings**

- Requires collaboration among local governments, US Coast Guard, marine interests & FECI
- Additional collaboration among local governments & FECI for locations of sidings

**Establish Limits on Maximum Bridge Closure Time**

- Requires collaboration among local governments, US Coast Guard, marine interests & FECI
- May require modification of Code of Federal Regulations
Establish On-Site Bridge Tenders

- Requires collaboration among local governments, US Coast Guard & FECI
- Public lands possible for bridge tender structures in Jupiter & Stuart

Modernize Bridge Mechanisms & Structures

- Requires collaboration among local governments, US Coast Guard, marine interests & FECI

Provide Funding for 2nd Police/Fire Vessel & Dock in Jupiter/Tequesta

- Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT & FECI
Bridge & Marine Navigation Conflicts

Provide FDOT Funding for Long-Term Bridge Reconstruction

- Establishment of Bridge Working Group with participation by local governments, FDOT, marine interests, US Coast Guard, agencies & FECI
- Loxahatchee River Bridge – widening, raising
- St. Lucie River Bridge – alignment with A1A Bridge
Access to Broadband Capacity

Establish Discounted Broadband Access Rate for Public and Select Not-for-Profit Institutions

- Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT & FECI
- Entities could include:
  - Local Governments & Agencies
  - Educational Providers (K-12, colleges, universities)
  - Hospitals
  - Not-for-profit Biomedical Institutions
Freight Rationalization

Balancing Rail Activity on FEC & CSX Rail Corridors

- Long-term and complex issue
- Impacts of passenger rail versus freight
- Requires extensive collaboration and multi-party agreements among FDOT, CSX & FECI and others
Land Use & Transportation Impacts

Reduce Impacts in Historic Downtowns
• Requires collaboration among local governments, FDOT & FECI
• Adjust track layout to maintain downtown parking, pedestrian circulation & other improvements

Reduce Impacts to Property Values

Reduce Impacts to Traffic Circulation & Emergency Response
• Location of sidings
• Communication protocol
Tri-Rail Coastal Link Access Negotiations

Finalize Reasonable Access Fees & Terms for Tri-Rail Coastal Link

- Requires collaboration among local governments, MPOs, FDOT, SFRTA & FECI
- Corridor extends from Jupiter south to Miami
Recommendation

Council should direct staff to:

(1) Transmit these comments to the Federal Railroad Administration in advance of the publication of the draft EIS; and

(2) Request the Federal Railroad Administration conduct workshops in the Region for local governments prior to the issuance of the EIS.