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Amtrak east-coast project meets in Melbourne, Titusville

Revival of historic route would including stops in Daytona Beach and Cocoa

By Ludmilla Lelis, Orlando Sentinel

12:11 PM EDT, May 17, 2010

BREVARD COUNTY - Melbourne and Titusville will host meetings this week to discuss a project to revive passenger train service on Florida's east coast between Jacksonville and Miami.

The two Brevard County cities are among those that would have new rail stations as part of the \$250 million proposal.

Amtrak and the state Department of Transportation have proposed reviving the passenger route, first forged by Henry Flagler in the 1800s but discontinued in 1968. A group is vying for federal funds and is trying to finalize an application package this summer.

Under the proposal, the six-hour route between Jacksonville and Miami would be served by four passenger trains a day, two northbound and two southbound, with stops along several cities, including Daytona Beach. Because the rail lines still exist and are still being used by rail lines, most of the costs involve new stations and upgrades to the existing track so that the passenger train can travel at the desired train speed of 90 mph.

The Melbourne pair of meetings will be held 6 p.m. tonight (Monday, May 17) at City Hall, 900 East Strawbridge Ave. with a follow-up meeting about the potential Melbourne train station tomorrow, Tuesday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 pm, at the Chamber of Commerce, 1005 East Strawbridge Ave.

Another pair of meetings will be held in Titusville, tomorrow (Tuesday, May 18), from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall, 555 S. Washington Ave., followed by a meeting about the potential Titusville train station on Wed., May 19, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon., also at City Hall.

For a more detailed story about the project, click [here](#)

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