

**Board of Trustees**

James Theriac, Chair  
Alberta K. Wilson, Vice Chair  
Stephen G. Charpentier  
Alan H. Landman  
Dixie N. Sansom

**District Administration**

1519 Clearlake Road  
Cocoa, Florida 32922  
321/632-1111  
Fax: 321/433-7065

**Cocoa Campus**

1519 Clearlake Road  
Cocoa, Florida 32922  
321/433-7060  
Fax: 321/433-7064

**Melbourne Campus**

3865 N. Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
321/433-5502  
Fax: 321/433-5820

**Palm Bay Campus**

250 Community College Pkwy.  
Palm Bay, Florida 32909  
321/433-5150  
Fax: 321/433-5305

**Titusville Campus**

1311 North U.S. 1  
Titusville, Florida 32796  
321/433-5078  
321/433-5113

**Virtual Campus**

3865 N. Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
321/433-5880  
Fax: 321/433-5882

**Website**

www.brevardcc.edu

September 16, 2009

Ms. Stephanie Kopelousos  
Secretary of Transportation  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**RE: Amtrak Passenger Service for the FEC Corridor**

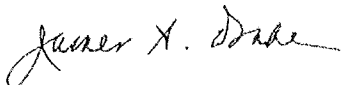
Dear Ms. Kopelousos:

As a nonpartisan public institution, Brevard Community College collaborates with county and municipal government to lend support to proposals that are designed to benefit our residents. In that spirit, I request that high-priority status be given to the Amtrak project (i.e., "Intercity Rail Component of the FEC Corridor Project") extending from Jacksonville to Miami, as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

Historically, what is now Brevard County grew and developed in tandem with the expansion of the pioneering railroad network of Henry Flagler, and our communities continued to flourish with the easy interconnectivity made possible by railway transit. Although passenger-based railway transit remains a critical component of a sustainable transportation network, passenger service by Amtrak along the eastern coastline is a missing piece of the transportation network in Brevard County.

Passenger train service would expand tourist access, enhance economic development opportunities, improve urban and interurban connectivity, and expand quality of life opportunities for current and future residents. The reintroduction of passenger service will also help promote Florida's "green economy," and will also improve our energy independence. For all of these reasons, we appreciate your leadership in helping secure this important investment in the future of our state.

Cordially,



James A. Drake, Ph.D.  
President  
Brevard Community College

JAD/mhr

✓ cc: Michael Busha, Executive Director, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

RECEIVED

SEP 24 2009

TREASURE COAST  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL



#### Board of Trustees

James Theriac, Chair  
Alberta K. Wilson, Vice Chair  
Stephen G. Charpentier  
Alan H. Landman  
Dixie N. Sansom

#### District Administration

1519 Clearlake Road  
Cocoa, Florida 32922  
321/632-1111  
Fax: 321/433-7065

#### Cocoa Campus

1519 Clearlake Road  
Cocoa, Florida 32922  
321/433-7060  
Fax: 321/433-7064

#### Melbourne Campus

3865 N. Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
321/433-5502  
Fax: 321/433-5820

#### Palm Bay Campus

250 Community College Pkwy.  
Palm Bay, Florida 32909  
321/433-5150  
Fax: 321/433-5305

#### Titusville Campus

1311 North U.S. 1  
Titusville, Florida 32796  
321/433-5078  
321/433-5113

#### Virtual Campus

3865 N. Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
321/433-5880  
Fax: 321/433-5882

#### Website

[www.brevardcc.edu](http://www.brevardcc.edu)



September 16, 2009

The Honorable Charlie Crist, Governor  
State of Florida, The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

#### RE: Amtrak Passenger Service for the FEC Corridor

Dear Governor Crist:

As a nonpartisan public institution, Brevard Community College collaborates with county and municipal government to lend support to proposals that are designed to benefit our residents. In that spirit, I request that high-priority status be given to the Amtrak project (i.e., "Intercity Rail Component of the FEC Corridor Project") extending from Jacksonville to Miami, as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

Historically, what is now Brevard County grew and developed in tandem with the expansion of the pioneering railroad network of Henry Flagler, and our communities continued to flourish with the easy interconnectivity made possible by railway transit. Although passenger-based railway transit remains a critical component of a sustainable transportation network, passenger service by Amtrak along the eastern coastline is a missing piece of the transportation network in Brevard County.

Passenger train service would expand tourist access, enhance economic development opportunities, improve urban and interurban connectivity, and expand quality of life opportunities for current and future residents. The reintroduction of passenger service will also help promote Florida's "green economy," and will also improve our energy independence. For all of these reasons, we appreciate your leadership in helping secure this important investment in the future of our state.

Cordially,

James A. Drake, Ph.D.  
President  
Brevard Community College

JAD/mhr