



RESOLUTION NO. 2009-03

SUPPORTING FLORIDA HIGH SPEED RAIL, SUNRAIL, AND AMTRAK PASSENGER SERVICE ON THE FLORIDA EAST COAST LINE

WHEREAS, the Central Florida MPO Alliance brings together six metropolitan planning organizations in Central Florida and is seen as a model for regional cooperation throughout the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Central Florida MPO Alliance collectively recognizes the importance of the development of a fully comprehensive multi-modal transportation system to provide for the travel demands now and into the future; and

WHEREAS, the Central Florida MPO Alliance collectively supports that alternative forms of passenger transportation be provided at the local, regional and statewide level to provide for a sustainable future for the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, travel demand between Florida's major metropolitan areas is rapidly growing and is expected to continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a lack of transportation alternatives for intercity travel in the State of Florida and it is not practical to plan for sufficient highway capacity alone to serve the current and expected demand for intercity travel; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation has filed four applications to pursue and secure federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for (1) construction to begin on the Tampa-Orlando section of the high speed rail project; (2) for the additional planning work that needs to be done for the Orlando-Miami segment; (3) to purchase the right of way for the Central Florida Commuter Rail project (SunRail), and (4) to restore Amtrak passenger rail service along the Florida East Coast Rail Corridor (Jacksonville to Miami); and

WHEREAS, development of the proposed corridors would create over 25,000 permanent jobs and tens of thousands of construction jobs; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the Central Florida MPO Alliance member organizations have acted individually to support these and other statewide initiatives toward connectivity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Central Florida MPO Alliance fully supports the applications filed by the Florida Department of Transportation for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to secure federal funding for high speed rail project (Tampa-Orlando); for the additional planning work that needs to be done for the Orlando-Miami segment; the Central Florida Commuter Rail project (SunRail), and restoration of Amtrak passenger rail service along the Florida East Coast Rail Corridor (Jacksonville to Miami);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Central Florida MPO Alliance encourages the members of Florida's Congressional delegation to fully support the state's grant applications and that they actively promote the value of these projects with officials from the United States Department of Transportation and President Obama.

Passed and duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Central Florida MPO Alliance on the 16th day of October, 2009.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting as Chair of the Central Florida MPO Alliance certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Central Florida MPO Alliance.


Chairman

Attest:


Secretary Treasurer