RESOLUTION NO. 2009- 64

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COCOA, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS TO PRIORITIZE THE INTERCITY RAIL COMPONENT OF THE FEC CORRIDOR PROJECT (FROM JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI) AS PART OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the FEC corridor was historically operated as a passenger rail line along Florida’s east coast, traversing or providing rail connections to urban areas like Cocoa; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s east coast historically developed around train stations along the FEC railroad; and

WHEREAS, local governments and the private sector along Florida’s east coast are currently implementing programs to redevelop historic downtowns built around train stations; and

WHEREAS, improved mobility is highly desired in Cocoa and throughout the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, transit, including rail transit, is a key component of improved mobility, especially between cities and throughout the Florida’s east coast; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 Florida Rail Plan identifies passenger transit along the FEC corridor as a potential “Coastal Route” for new passenger rail service in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak is well-suited to provide passenger rail service along Florida’s east coast; and

WHEREAS, the reintroduction of Amtrak service along Florida’s east coast would provide near-term jobs and economic stimulus for Florida’s residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government is seeking appropriate projects for inclusion in the Federal economic stimulus package to provide immediate and near-term job opportunities for projects; and

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WHEREAS, the Intercity FEC Corridor Project (Jacksonville/Miami) is an appropriate project for inclusion by the State of Florida in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan; and

WHEREAS, former work by Amtrak and FDOT includes plans for the improvements necessary to initiate Amtrak service on the FEC corridor;

WHEREAS, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, as follows:

Section 1. That the City of Cocoa requests the assistants of Governor Crist and FDOT Secretary Kopelousos to prioritize the Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, the Brevard County Legislative Delegation, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners, and municipalities within Brevard County.

Section 3. Repeal of Prior Inconsistent Resolutions. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Section 4. Severability. Should any section or provision of this resolution, or any portion hereof, any paragraph, sentence, or word be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder hereto as a whole or part thereof to be declared invalid.

Section 5. Effective date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council of the City of Cocoa, Florida.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Cocoa, Florida, in a regular meeting assembled on the 23rd day of June, 2009.

Michael C. Blake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Clark, City Clerk

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF BREvard
This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of records filed in the office of the City Clerk. Witness my hand and official seal this 24th day of June, 2009

JOAN CLARK, CITY CLERK
CITY OF COCOA, FLORIDA

By Joan Clark