RESOLUTION NO. 19-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL REPRESENTING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF INDIAN RIVER, MARTIN, PALM BEACH, AND ST. LUCIE COUNTIES, FLORIDA REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS TO PRIORITIZE THE INTERCITY RAIL COMPONENT OF THE FEC CORRIDOR PROJECTS (FROM JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI) AS PART OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING 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 Delray Beach; and

WHEREAS, cities along 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 are currently implementing programs to redevelop historic downtowns built around train stations; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the 2006 Florida Rail Plan identifies passengers 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
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;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Delray Beach requests the assistance of Governor Crist and FDOT Secretary Stephanie C. 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. The City Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Florida Governor Charlie Crist, Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of Delray Beach City Commission at the regular meeting assembled this 21st day of April, 2009.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

City Clerk