



FORT PIERCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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August 24, 2009

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

Subject: Reintroduction of Amtrak Passenger Service on the FEC Corridor in Florida

Dear Governor Crist:

I am writing to express the strong support of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency regarding the reintroduction of Amtrak passenger service on the FEC Corridor along Florida's east coast. St. Lucie County was formed historically with the introduction of Flagler's railroad in the early 1900s, and our community flourished with the easy interconnectivity provided by rail transit.

Amtrak passenger service along the coastline is a missing piece of the transportation network in St. Lucie County. Passenger train service would expand tourist access, expand economic development opportunities, improve interconnectivity, and expand quality of life opportunities for our residents. Transit is also a critical component of a sustainable transportation network, one that will help promote Florida's green economy and improve energy independence.

The Board of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency resoundingly requests your office prioritize the Amtrak project (termed 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. We appreciate your leadership in helping secure this important investment in Florida's sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Jon Ward
Director

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