

RESOLUTION 2009-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE INDIAN RIVER COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION 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

WHEREAS, the FEC corridor historically functioned as a passenger rail line along Florida's east coast, traversing or providing rail connections to urban areas such as Vero Beach and Sebastian in Indian River County; 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 Indian River County 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

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 THAT:

The **INDIAN RIVER COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION** strongly supports inclusion of the Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

THIS RESOLUTION was moved for adoption by Flescher, and the motion was seconded by Atkinson, and, upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Peter D. O'Bryan	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Chairman Debbie MacKay (School Board)	<u>Absent</u>
Commissioner Bob Solari	<u>Nay</u>
Commissioner Joseph Flescher	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Gary Wheeler	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Wesley Davis	<u>Nay</u>
Mayor of Vero Beach, Sabin Abell	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember of Vero Beach, Bill Fish	<u>Absent</u>
Councilmember of Sebastian, Dale Simchick	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Mayor of Sebastian, Jim Hill	<u>Aye</u>
Mayor of Fellsmere, Susan Adams	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember of Indian River Shores, Frannie Atchison	<u>Aye</u>

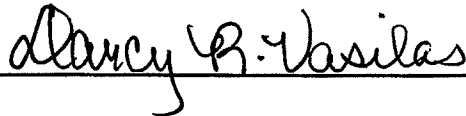
The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 8th day of July, 2009.

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**



Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

ATTEST:



**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**


_____ **COUNTY ATTORNEY**
for