



July 1, 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 Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) Committee on June 4, 2009 regarding the reintroduction of Amtrak passenger service on the FEC Corridor along Florida's east coast. Palm Beach 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 Palm Beach 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 Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) Committee resoundingly requests your office to 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 to secure this important investment in Florida's sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Jeff Koons
Chairman

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

P.O. Box 1989
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**Palm Beach County
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July 1, 2009

Ms. Stephanie C. Kopelousos
Secretary of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

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

Dear Secretary Kopelousos: *Stephanie*

I am writing to express the strong support of the Palm Beach County Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) Committee on June 4th 2009 regarding the reintroduction of Amtrak passenger service on the FEC Corridor along Florida's east coast. Palm Beach 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.

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