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**RESOLUTION 54, 2009**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND THE 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 AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**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 Palm Beach 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 Palm Beach Gardens 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has deemed approval of this Resolution to be in the best interest of the citizens and residents of the City of Palm Beach Gardens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA that:**

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing recitals are hereby affirmed and ratified.

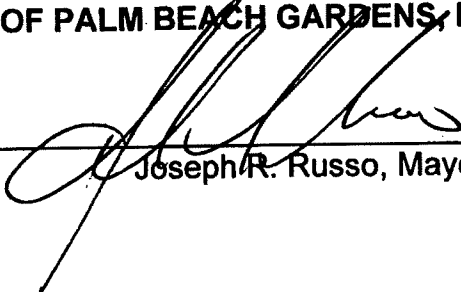
**SECTION 2.** The City Council requests the assistance of Governor Crist and FDOT Secretary Kopelousos to prioritize the Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

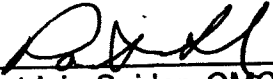
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PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

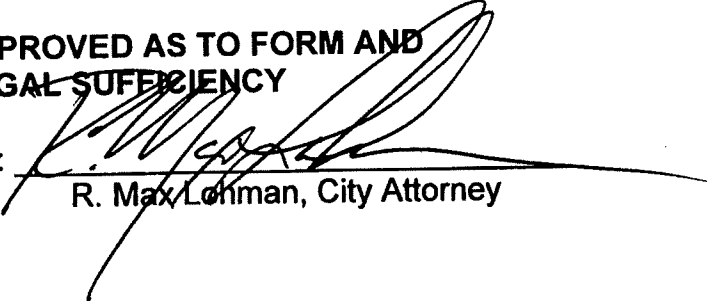
CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

BY:   
Joseph R. Russo, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY:   
Patricia Snider, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

BY:   
R. Max Lehman, City Attorney

VOTE:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
MAYOR RUSSO	✓	—	—
VICE MAYOR LEVY	✓	—	—
COUNCILMEMBER JABLIN	✓	—	—
COUNCILMEMBER BARNETT	✓	—	—
COUNCILMEMBER PREMURROSO	✓	—	—

