

RESOLUTION 09-0960

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY 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 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 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 BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

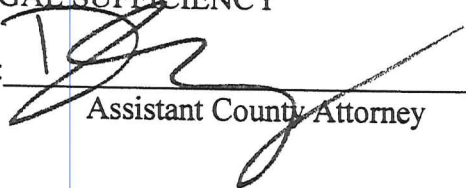
Section 1. Requests the assistance of Governor Crist and FDOT Secretary Kopelousos to prioritize the Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner Vana who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burt Aaronson and upon being put to vote, the motion passed as follows:

Commissioner John F. Koons, Chairman	Aye
Commissioner Burt Aaronson, Vice Chairman	Aye
Commissioner Karen T. Marcus	Aye
Commissioner Shelley Vana	Aye
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams	Aye
Commissioner Jess R. Santamaria	Aye
Vacant	

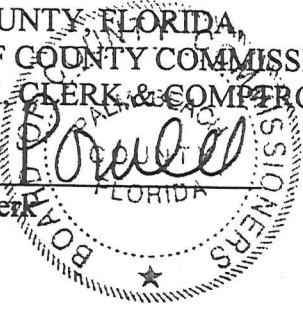
The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of June, 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: 
Assistant County Attorney

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA,
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By: 
Deputy Clerk



STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF PALM BEACH,
I, SHARON R. BOCK, Clerk and Comptroller,
certify this to be a true and correct copy of the original
filed in my office on June 16, 2009
dated at West Palm Beach, FL on 6-24-09

By: 
Deputy Clerk

