RESOLUTION 2009-103
PRIORITIZE INTERCITY RAIL COMPONENT

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS TO PRIORITIZE THE INTERCITY RAIL COMPONENT OF THE FLORIDA EAST COAST (FEC) CORRIDOR PROJECT (FROM JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI) AS PART OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 the City of Palm Coast and Flagler 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 the City of Palm Coast and Flagler 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 CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. REQUEST TO GOVERNOR CRIST AND FDOT SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS. The City of Palm Coast 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 2. SEVERABILITY. If any section or portion of a section of this Resolution proves to be invalid, unlawful, or unconstitutional, it shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force, or effect of any other section or part of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. CONFLICTS. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with any of the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS. The City Manager is hereby authorized to take any actions necessary to implement the action taken in this Resolution.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council.
DULY ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Palm Coast, Florida, on this 2nd day of June 2009.

CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Daniel E. Davis, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form and legality

[Signature]

William E. Reischmann, Jr., Esq.
City Attorney