

RESOLUTION NO. 2009 - 652

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND THE SECRETARY OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 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 had historically operated as a passenger rail line along Florida's east coast, traversing or providing rail connections to urban areas, including the City of Rockledge; and

WHEREAS, the counties and municipalities along the FEC corridor have historically developed around the 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 Rockledge 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 to Miami) is an appropriate project for inclusion by the State of Florida in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan; and

WHEREAS, both Amtrak and FDOT have already developed 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 ROCKLEDGE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Office of the Governor of the State of Florida is requested to assist the City of Rockledge by prioritizing the Amtrak FEC Corridor Project from Jacksonville to Miami as a part of the State's Federal economic stimulus package.

SECTION 2. That the Florida Department of Transportation, through its Secretary, is requested to also

assist the City of Rockledge by prioritizing the FEC Corridor Project from Jacksonville to Miami as part of the State's Federal economic stimulus package.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall cause a copy of this Resolution to be delivered to both the Governor's Office of the State of Florida and the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rockledge, Florida, this 3rd day of June, 2009.

E. Georgia Phillips
Chairman, Rockledge City Council

ATTEST:
Betsi Moist
City Clerk