

RESOLUTION NO. 09-123

A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNOR CRIST AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS TO PRIORITIZE THE INTERCITY RAIL COMPONENT OF THE FLORIDA EAST COAST CORRIDOR PROJECT (FROM JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI) AS PART OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the Florida East Coast (FEC) corridor was historically operated as a passenger rail line along Florida's east coast, traversing or providing rail connections to urban areas like St. Lucie 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 down towns built around train stations; and

WHEREAS, improved mobility is highly desired in St. Lucie 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 Florida Department of Transportation includes plans for the improvements necessary to initiate Amtrak service on the FEC corridor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners request the assistance of Governor Crist and Florida Department of Transportation 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.

2. The County Administrator is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos, and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council Executive Director Michael J. Busha.

After motion and second the vote on this resolution was as follows:

Chair Paula A. Lewis	AYE
Vice-Chair Charles Grande	AYE
Commissioner Doug Coward	AYE
Commissioner Chris Dzadoovsky	AYE
Commissioner Chris Craft	AYE

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 14th day of April, 2009.

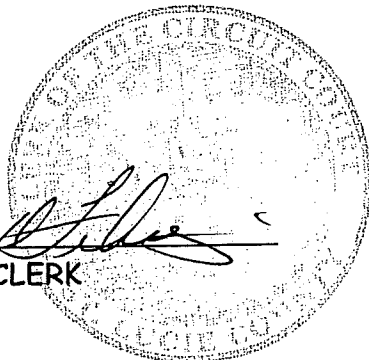
ATTEST:


DEPUTY CLERK

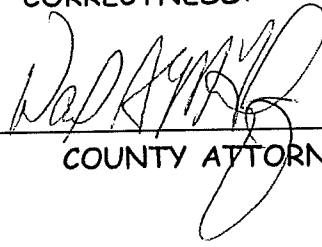
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY:


CHAIR



APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM AND
CORRECTNESS:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. A. ...', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

COUNTY ATTORNEY