



RESOLUTION NO. 09-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. LUCIE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION REQUESTING THAT GOVERNOR CRIST AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY KOPELOUSOS 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 St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (St. Lucie TPO) includes representatives from the City of Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, the County of St. Lucie, the School Board, and Community Transit; and,

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 Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, and the County of St. Lucie; 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 Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, and the County of St. Lucie and throughout the State of Florida; and,

WHEREAS, transit, including rail transit, is a key component of improved mobility, especially between cities and counties 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,

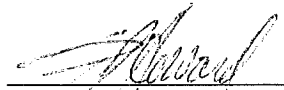
WHEREAS, the Intercity FEC Corridor Project (Jacksonville/Miami) is an appropriate project for inclusion by the State of Florida in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan; and,

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 that the St. Lucie TPO requests that Governor Crist and FDOT Secretary Kopelousos prioritize the Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the Federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida.

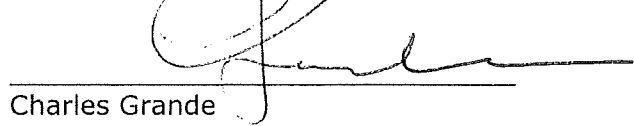
DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of June, 2009.

Attest:



Sarah Howard
Secretary

St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization



Charles Grande
Chairman

Approved as to Form and Correctness:



Heather Young
St. Lucie TPO/Assistant County Attorney