HENRY FLAGLER RIDES AGAIN

Reviving Cities, Towns and Rail Stations Along the FEC Corridor
APA Florida/CNU Florida “Brown Bag” Presentation
February 23, 2010
“With my railroad in Florida I envision an American Riviera.”

Henry M. Flagler, 1895
“One entered the City like a god; ...
2010
Penn Station, NYC

...one scuttles in now like a rat.”

Vincent Scully
New Yorker Magazine, 1965
But he could have just as easily been writing about…

Look… We have arrived!

ROAD RAGE

Aggressive driving is America’s car sickness du jour. But is there a cure for thinking everyone else on the road is an idiot?

by Andrew Ferguson

SOCIETY
Working on the Railroad

- South Florida East Coast Corridor Study
- Amtrak/FEC Corridor Project
- Preparations Being Made by Towns and Cities Along the FEC Railway
- FDOT/DCA Model Code for TODs
What will become of this environment?
It will have to change.
No Shortage of Railroads in Florida (37)

- Of the 223,000 miles nationally, Florida has about 3,400 miles of track on the ground.
- Paved roads in the US: 5.7 million miles. Paved roads in Florida: 101,798 miles.

Common Freight Carriers
- Alabama and Gulf Coast Railway (AGR)
- AN Railway (AN)
- Bay Line Railroad (BAYL)
- CSX Transportation (CSXT)
- First Coast Railroad (FCRD)
- Florida Central Railroad (FCEN)
- Florida East Coast Railway (FEC)
- Florida Midland Railroad (FMD)
- Florida Northern Railroad (FNOR)
- Florida West Coast Railroad (FWCR)
- Georgia and Florida Railway (GFRR)
- Norfolk Southern Railway (NS)
- Seminole Gulf Railway (SGLR)
- South Central Florida Express, Inc. (SCXF)
- Talleyrand Terminal Railroad (TTR)

Private Freight Carriers
- CF Industries (CFIZ)
- Conrad Yelvington Distributors, Inc. (CYDX)
- The Mosaic Company (IMCX)
- NASA Railroad (NLAX)
- Perdue Farms (PFMX)
- Port Manatee Railroad (MAUP)
- Port of Palm Beach District (PPBD)
- Port of Panama City (PPC)

Passenger Carriers
- Amtrak (AMTK)
- SunRail (Proposed)
- HSR Orlando-Tampa (Proposed)
- Florida Gulf Coast Railroad Museum (FGCX)
- JTA Skyway
- TECO Line Streetcar System
- Miami Metromover
- Miami Metrorail
- Inland Lakes Railway (ILRV)
- Okavango Railroad
- Seminole Gulf Railway (SGLR)
- Tri-Rail (TRCX)
- Walt Disney World Monorail
- Walt Disney World Railroad
Great Union Railroad Depot
Jacksonville, Florida

1919-1974

Passenger Terminal

1986-2010

Convention Center
Working on This Issue Since 1986

**St. Lucie County**
- Fort Pierce

**Martin County**
- Jensen Beach
- Stuart
- Port Salerno
- Hobe Sound

**Palm Beach County**
- Tequesta
- Jupiter (3)
- Palm Beach Gardens
- Lake Park
- Riviera Beach
- Mangonia Park
- West Palm Beach (8)
- Lake Worth (2)
- Boynton Beach
- Delray Beach
- Boca Raton (2)

**Broward County**
- Oakland Park

**Miami-Dade County**
- Miami Shores
- Overtown
- El Portal
What is TOD …

• Walkable special districts or neighborhoods located at & around transit stations in a ¼ to ½ mile ring
• Contains broad mix of uses (such as residential, office, retail, entertainment, civic/cultural)
• Tie-into local transit (trolleys, buses, taxis)
• Densities appropriate to context
• More compact than surrounding areas
• Built around civic plazas & community spaces
• Appropriate treatment of parking (shared, reduced & structured)
And the Differences Between...

TOD vs TAD

- Transit Oriented Development vs.
- Transit Adjacent Development

- Auto-oriented uses
- Large surface parking lots
- Suburban office campuses
- Big-box format retail
- Pedestrian unfriendly
You Want Better Ridership?

Effects of Land Use and Urban Design on Transit Mode Share

Availability of Convenience Services 3.7% increase in transit
Mix of Land Use 3.5% increase in transit
Accessibility of Services 3.3% increase in transit
Areas Perceived as Safe 1.8% increase in transit
Aesthetically Pleasing Environment 4.1% increase in transit

Design Matters...
Some would say “Right Train, Wrong Track.”

2030 and 2035 LRTPs suggest service on the FEC Line.
Current Condition

**Tri-Rail**
(Miami-Mangonia Park on the CSX)

**Amtrak**
(Miami-Jacksonville on the CSX)

No Passenger Service on the FEC
In 1994: A Huge Missed Opportunity

FEC Railroad and Land

FOR SALE

$400,000,000
Passenger Service on the FEC?

Close in 2001…But the Money Ran Out
2008

A Paradigm Shift
It’s imagining new transportation systems. I’d like to see high speed rail where it can be constructed. I would like for us to invest in mass transit because potentially that’s energy efficient. And I think people are a lot more open now to thinking regionally…

The days where we’re just building sprawl forever, those days are over. I think that Republicans, Democrats, everybody… recognizes that’s not a smart way to design communities. So we should be using this money to help spur this sort of innovative thinking when it comes to transportation.

(President Barack Obama, Fort Myers, FL  Feb 10, 2009)
Why America Needs Trains

BY VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN
“Auto and truck transportation accounts for 70 percent of the oil consumed by the US and nearly one-third of its carbon emissions. So one of my jobs is to keep cars off our nation’s roads and highways.”

U.S. DOT Secretary Ray LaHood
Parade Magazine, 2009
Change Viewed as a Necessity
South Florida East Coast Corridor Study

- Focus on **NORTH-SOUTH** mobility issues
- **85-mile study area centered on the FEC Alignment**
  - Encompasses Tri-Rail and future FEC alternatives
  - Addresses EAST-WEST and other feeder connections
  - Work with towns and cities on land use mix and station locations
  - US1 as an opportunity corridor

A Regional Plan $$$
Amtrak/FEC/FDOT
Federal Stimulus Project

It's a Bargain!

$268,000,000
for stations
and track improvement

It's a Bargain!
LEOPOLD KOHR

The Inner City

Y Lolfa
Has Led to Some of TCRPC’s Most Important Work

WPB/TOD Charrette January 9-15, 2010
Has Led to Some of TCRPC’s Most Important Work

WPB/TOD Charrette January 9-15, 2010
KEY COMPONENTS
(SFECC + Amtrak)

Future N-S Service on FEC

Extend Tri-Rail Service North of WPB

Provide New Amtrak Service From Jacksonville to Miami Through WPB

Create Required Connector
Potential CSX/FEC “Connector” Locations

At this time, the Northwood location seems most feasible

- Preserves Seaboard Station
- Area is older, industrial uses
- No direct neighborhood impacts
- Within NW/PC CRA
Potential CSX/FEC “Crossover” Locations

The Northwood location also poses design challenges.
A Sampling of Pending Transit/TOD …
The Transcontinental Railroad
1863-1869

1087 miles of track
You’d Think We Could Make a Deal?
If Agriculture is the New Golf, then Billions ($$$) are the New Millions ($$)

THIS YEAR
$800,000,000 Amtrak Capital Projects
$6 Billion over the next 4 Years for Amtrak Projects
$2.5 Billion for Intercity/HSR
$2-$3 Billion in Jobs Bill

$1.25 Billion for High Speed Rail
Gov. Crist announces his support for Jax-Miami line

Posted: February 12, 2010 - 12:09am

"In the spirit of Henry Flagler, we need to re-ignite the effectiveness of FEC," Crist said.
Mica confident of Amtrak funding

Assurances at area officials' joint session

Congressman John Mica said Monday he is "almost positive" that $268 million for Amtrak commuter rail service along our east coast will be included in the next round of federal stimulus funding.

He made the comment as area officials gathered in a joint session to outline their needs. Everything from State Road 9B in the northeast to land acquisition in St. Augustine Beach and Main Street in Hastings was covered - Mica noting that the deadline for filing requests is less than three weeks away, February 26.

On the Amtrak plan, which would use FEC rails and create stations in eight cities including St. Augustine, Mica said "they picked the biggest numbers" in the first round.

Meanwhile, the Florida Department of Transportation is looking at an alternative source, $2.5 billion in the U.S. Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act. Nazih K. Haddad, FDOT passenger rail development manager, said these funds will be available this year.

Multimodal transportation was high on Mayor Joe Boles' list, as he pointed out both Greyhound and Sunshine Bus systems now have stops at our Visitor Center, "and a train station a short distance away can make
Dear Secretary Kopelousos:

The July 28, 2008 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Amtrak and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding FDOT’s proposed acquisition of the DeLand to Poinciana, Florida, rail line (the Central Florida Corridor) from CSX and the planned Sun Rail commuter service on that line is terminated.

Until FDOT recognizes the legitimate business concerns that Amtrak has explained in many past (oral and written) communications in the January 21, 2010 letter, and in the January 27, 2010 meeting, no one at Amtrak will be authorized to discuss or negotiate any new agreements with Florida on this or any other service contemplating the use of Amtrak.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Boardman
President and Chief Executive Officer

February 22, 2010
“I’ve Been Waiting for 42 Years, Where’s My Train?”