

CITY OF DANIA BEACH

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RESOLUTION NO. 2006-184

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ITS AFFILIATED REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES (REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION/REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY) TO RECOMMEND STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN THE FLORIDA EAST COAST CORRIDOR AREA, TO EXPAND LOCAL AND REGIONAL PASSENGER SERVICE IN THAT AREA TO MEET THE GROWING TRANSIT NEEDS AND COMPLEMENT FREIGHT INDUSTRY GROWTH IN THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA AREA; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 1995, a collaboration of freight operators and the Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) completed the “Rail Rationalization Study” and recommended long term planning for both the South Florida Rail Corridor (“CSXT”) and Florida East Coast (“FEC”) Corridor, including double tracking of the CSXT and the concurrent, public investment in the FEC Corridor, and to consider implementation of passenger service within the FEC Corridor; and

WHEREAS, in 1997 and 1998, cities and counties in the Southeast Florida region began to meet on a continuing basis to approve resolutions asking state and federal transportation agencies to negotiate with the Florida East Coast Industries, Inc. (“FECI”) for inclusion of passenger service within its Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the FDOT 2020 and 2025 Mission Statements called for safe, interconnected statewide transportation systems for Florida’s citizens and visitors that ensure mobility of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, the FDOT and its affiliated regional offices are required to expand and enhance rail systems in Florida to respond to statewide mobility needs; and

WHEREAS, the FEC Corridor right-of-way represents an important and strategic transportation corridor that provides vital freight and transportation rail services to and from South Florida; and

WHEREAS, the trend in economic growth along the FEC continues to increase resulting in the building of compact residential and commercial development, including the

accommodation of tens of thousands of new residents and hundreds of thousands of square feet of office space within walking distance of the corridor (3/4 of a mile or less); and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the Regional Transportation Organization (“RTO”) began a strategic plan, entitled “South Florida Transit Analysis” that is funded by a collaboration of cities, regional business groups, and Congress in 2000, outlining transit corridor expansion alternatives including the FEC Corridor; and

WHEREAS, FEC rail services for local and regional passengers could connect to the existing single corridor of Tri-Rail and provide Florida visitors, workers, residents and the transportation disadvantaged in all categories better service, reducing reliance on private automobiles, decreasing roadway congestion, increasing mobility, and enhancing ridership on all existing services provided by significant investment of local, county, state and federal resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That the FDOT and its affiliated agencies involved with the RTO are strongly encouraged to define specific and detailed baseline local and regional passenger services needed for cities and unincorporated areas along the FEC Corridor area within at least ¼ of a mile of those corridors where tremendous compact growth is underway, and include this important technical information in the conclusions of the aforementioned “South Florida Transit Analysis”.

Section 2. That the RTO is encouraged to support the conclusions of the South Florida Transit Analysis and recommend the full funding of the needed transit service expansion within or along the FEC Corridor area to the extent that passenger services can be added without negatively affecting current or future freight operations.

Section 3. That the RTO is encouraged to actively pursue its RFA status with the intention of fully funding and operating an expanded local and regional service along the FEC Corridor area and seek the support and necessary “local match” from jurisdiction as needed.

Section 4. That the RTO is encouraged to work with interested local governments to complete interlocal agreements to implement the actions recommended in Sections 1 through 3, above.

Section 5. That the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to all government agencies involved, including County Commissions and officials involved in regional transit planning, the RTO and its membership, the Florida League of Cities, municipalities and Chambers of Commerce within the South Florida area, CSXT and FECI and their affiliates at the air and sea ports.

Section 6. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed to the extent of such conflict.


Section 7. That this Resolution shall be in force and take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on October 10, 2006.




PATRICIA FLURY
MAYOR-COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



LOUISE STILSON, CMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS

BY: 

THOMAS J. ANSBRO
CITY ATTORNEY