

APPROVED
BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUN 02 2009 NP/CAS/BS

RESOLUTION

of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
regarding
**SUPPORT FOR THE PURSUIT OF A STRATEGY TO
ACCOMPLISH THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUNRAIL PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2009-M-18

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has undertaken the development and implementation of the SunRail Project (also known as the Central Florida Commuter Rail Project) running from Deland in Volusia County through Seminole County, and Orange County to Poinciana in Osceola County; and

WHEREAS, FDOT has reached agreement with CSX Transportation providing for the acquisition of the CSXT's A-Line between Milepost A749.7 near Deland and A814.1 near Poinciana, a distance of approximately 61.5 miles for the use of the SunRail Project; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the SunRail Project will result in overall social and environmental benefits, improve the quality of life in the state, stimulate economic growth, create new employment opportunities, and serve as a positive growth management catalyst; and

WHEREAS, the SunRail Project will greatly benefit all of the citizens of and visitors to the Central Florida region, and is needed in order to relieve traffic congestion, provide transportation opportunities, and provide a relief for I-4 traffic during its reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, the SunRail Project will become an integral part of Central Florida's balanced transportation system and, with concurrent development of improvements to roadways and bus transit, will greatly enhance the mobility of the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, the SunRail Project will provide a vital link to future inter-city passenger rail projects now being planned as alternatives to automobile travel throughout Florida; and

WHEREAS, the development of alternative transportation projects will help Florida's citizens and visitors not to be hostages to the volatility of transportation and energy costs caused by quickly changing political situations and economic conditions world-wide; and

WHEREAS, new federal air quality standards for ozone put Central Florida at risk of being declared a non-attainment area which could result in sanctions being imposed; and

WHEREAS, financial commitments for the SunRail Project have been made by the Local Government Partners and state funding is contained in the Five-Year Work Program of the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Mica and Congresswoman Brown have pledged to secure more than \$300 million in federal funding for the SunRail Project and, if not used for this project, will be lost to rail transit projects elsewhere in the country; and

WHEREAS, the SunRail Project will support the efforts of Governor Crist's Energy and Climate Change Action Plan, established by Executive Order 07-128, with ambitious goals for reducing statewide green house gas emissions;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida that:

Section 1. The Orange County Board of County Commissioners reaffirms that Orange County remains fully committed to the SunRail project and encourages continued pursuit of a strategy that will bring this critical project to fruition; and

Section 2. The Orange County Board of County Commissioners reaffirms that Orange County remains fully committed to the partnership of Central Florida local governments, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Federal Transit Administration, and the members of our Congressional Delegation seeking to accomplish the design, construction and implementation of the SunRail Project; and


Section 3. The Orange County Board of County Commissioners supports the examination of alternatives for addressing the insurance and liability issues to advance the project absent changes in state statute so the transaction can be completed with CSX Transportation.

ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF JUNE, 2009.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

By: 
Richard T. Crotty
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: 
Deputy Clerk

