

Agenda Item #:

3A3

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: December 1, 2009

Consent

Regular

Ordinance

Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted By: Legislative Affairs

Submitted For: Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: Resolution By The Board Of County Commissioners Of Palm Beach County, Florida, requesting that Governor Crist, Senate President Atwater, and House Speaker Cretul include statewide dedicated funding for regional transportation authorities in the call announcing a possible special session; requesting support for a dedicated funding source or sources for regional transportation authorities, specifically the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority; providing an effective date.

Summary: At the request of Commissioner Jeff Koons, staff was directed to draft this resolution.
COUNTYWIDE (DW)

Background and Justification:

Attachment:

- 1. Resolution

Recommended by:


Department Director

11/19/09
Date

Approved by:


Assistant County Administrator

11/30/09
Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Capital Expenditures	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Operating Costs	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
External Revenues	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Program Income (County)	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
In-Kind Match (County)	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
NET FISCAL IMPACT		<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

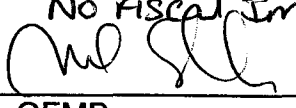
Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes ___ No ___
 Budget Account No.: Fund ___ Department ___ Unit ___
 Object ___ Program NA


B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: _____

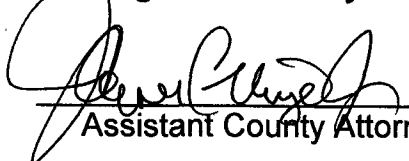
III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

NO Fiscal Impact
 11/23/09
 OFMB

 11/24/09
 Contract Development and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency:


 Assistant County Attorney

11/23/09
11/23/09
11-2009

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

REVISED 10/95
 ADM FORM 01

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT GOVERNOR CRIST, SENATE PRESIDENT ATWATER, AND HOUSE SPEAKER CRETUL INCLUDE STATEWIDE DEDICATED FUNDING FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES IN THE CALL ANNOUNCING A POSSIBLE SPECIAL SESSION; REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE OR SOURCES FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES SPECIFICALLY THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has identified certain regional transportation projects and transit improvements as critical to South Florida's economy and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Regional Planning Transportation Authority (SFRTA) Tri-Rail system has been in existence for 20 years and is currently the 3rd fastest growing commuter rail service in the United States, providing 16,000 daily trips for South Florida residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the SFRTA has tried for more than five years without success to obtain a dedicated state funding source that will generate approximately \$50 million per year; and

WHEREAS, absent the creation of a dedicated state funding source for the SFRTA prior to its next fiscal year, it will be unable to meet the terms of its Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration and may be found in violation of its agreement to operate a 48 train service with 20-minute headways during peak hours; and

WHEREAS, in his September 17, 2009 letter to the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, Mr. Peter Rogoff, director of the Federal Transit Administration, states that the Federal Transit Administration's approval to provide federal funding for the Segment 5 Double Track Project in South Florida was predicated on the SFRTA's ability to ensure stable and reliable funding to cover both capital and operating costs at the agreed upon level of service of 48 trains with 20-minute headways during peak hours; and

WHEREAS, also in his letter to the SFRTA, Mr. Rogoff states that in the event that the SFRTA defaults on the terms of its' Full Funding Agreement, the Federal Transit Administration may seek restitution of the total grant amount of approximately \$250 million plus interest from the State and local funding partners which guaranteed the stability and reliability of the funding sources outlined in the original funding plan; and

WHEREAS, also in his letter, Mr. Rogoff states that the Federal Transit Administration will take into account such a default when considering future funding requests from the SFRTA, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, and the State of Florida as it evaluates other projects that rely on these sources and partners; and

WHEREAS, high-level officials with the Federal Transit Administration have made it clear that a failure to fund the capitol and operating needs of the SFRTA so that it meets the terms of its Full Funding Grant Agreement will jeopardize all future federal funding for transit-related projects not only in South Florida, but throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a dedicated funding source or sources for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and other regional transportation authorities is critically needed to ensure statewide rail connectivity over time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that

- 1) The Board of County Commissioners supports the creation of a dedicated funding source or sources for the State's regional transportation needs.
- 2) The urgency of the funding situation for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority underscores the need for the Governor and the Florida Legislature to address the creation of a stable and reliable funding source as quickly as possible to prevent a foreseeable default of the SFTRA's Full Funding Agreement with the Federal Transportation Administration and possible detrimental impacts to Florida as it pursues future federal funding for transportation and transit projects.
- 3) The Board of County Commissioners requests that Governor Crist, Senate President Atwater and House Speaker Cretul include in the call of a potential special session of the Florida Legislature the creation of a dedicated state funding source for regional transportation authorities.
- 4) The Board of County Commissioners further request that Governor Crist and the Florida Legislature support the creation of a dedicated funding source for the SFRTA and other regional transportation authorities at its earliest opportunity.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____ who moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to vote, the motion passed as follows:

Commissioner Burt Aaronson, Chair
Commissioner Karen T. Marcus, Vice Chair
Commissioner John F. Koons
Commissioner Shelley Vana
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams
Commissioner Jess R. Santamaria
Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor

The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this

_____ day of _____, 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By:  _____
Assistant County Attorney

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA,
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By: _____
Deputy Clerk