

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: January 12, 2010

☒ Consent ☐ Regular
☐ Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted By: ADMINISTRATION

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to receive and file:

A) Resolution R-1294-09 of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, urging the Florida Legislature to pass legislation providing a dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail through a new \$2 rental car surcharge or other new dedicated funding source; and

B) Resolution No. 2010-54 of the City Commission of the City of Pompano Beach, Florida, supporting the enactment of a \$2 per day car rental surcharge to save Tri-Rail from default.

Summary: N/A

Background and Justification: N/A

Attachments: Original Documents

Recommended By: Patty Hurdle 12/16/09
Agenda Coordinator Date

Approved By: [Signature] 12/16/09
Assistant County Administrator Date

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (16)
11-3-09

RESOLUTION NO. R-1294-09

**RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
PASS LEGISLATION PROVIDING A DEDICATED FUNDING
SOURCE FOR TRI-RAIL THROUGH A NEW \$2 RENTAL
CAR SURCHARGE OR OTHER NEW DEDICATED FUNDING
SOURCE**

WHEREAS, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority operates Tri-Rail in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Public Transportation Association, Tri-Rail consistently has been one of the nation's fastest growing commuter rail systems in recent years; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail recently has seen double-digit growth in ridership, increasing from 7,500 daily riders in 2005 to more than 14,000 daily riders at the present time; and

WHEREAS, during 2008, Tri-Rail carried more than four (4) million passengers reflecting a 23 percent increase over 2007 ridership, and marking the first time in Tri-Rail's 20 year history that it has surpassed the four (4) million passenger benchmark in a single calendar year; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail and other public transportation not only offers riders an economical way to travel, but also an easy way to protect the environment by reducing air pollution, conserving gasoline and reducing road congestion; and

WHEREAS, perhaps for these reasons, Tri-Rail ridership has continued to increase even as gasoline prices have declined since their peak in the summer of 2008; and

WHEREAS, despite solid increases in ridership, the Florida Legislature has not provided Tri-Rail with a new dedicated funding source to ensure its continued success despite attempts by a coalition of Tri-Rail supporters over the last several years; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature not approving a dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail combined with the current budget situation led Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties to scale back their annual contributions to the statutorily-required \$4.2 million each for the current 2009-10 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a state-approved new dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail and reduced county contributions has required Tri-Rail to impose substantial fare hikes and reductions in service to continue operating at a time when public demand for Tri-Rail services has never been higher; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a viable new state-approved dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail also may threaten to jeopardize federal stimulus funds for a high-speed intercity rail system connecting Miami, Orlando and Tampa; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Florida Legislature approve a new dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail during the 2010 state legislative session, not only to ensure Tri-Rail's continued viability but also to draw down critically-needed federal stimulus funds for high-speed rail; and

WHEREAS, a new \$2 rental car surcharge is estimated to generate approximately \$50 million annually that could be used to help fund Tri-Rail,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to pass legislation providing a dedicated funding source for Tri-Rail through a new \$2 rental car surcharge or other new dedicated funding source.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation, the Mayor and Members of the Broward County Board of County Commissioners, the Chair and Members of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners and the Chair and Governing Board of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbying team to advocate for the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2010 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Katy Sorenson. It was offered by Commissioner **Katy Sorenson**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Bruno A. Barreiro** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Dennis C. Moss, Chairman	aye
	Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman	absent
Bruno A. Barreiro		aye
Carlos A. Gimenez		aye
Barbara J. Jordan		aye
Dorrian D. Rolle		absent
Katy Sorenson		aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto		absent
	Audrey M. Edmonson	aye
	Sally A. Heyman	absent
	Joe A. Martinez	aye
	Natacha Seijas	nay
	Rebeca Sosa	aye

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The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of November, 2009. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK



By: **DIANE COLLINS**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Jess M. McCarty

STATE OF FLORIDA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

I, HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts, in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of said County, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution R-1294-09, which was adopted by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners at its meeting held on November 3, 2009, as appears of record.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal on this 2nd day of December, A.D., 2009.

HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County, Florida



By: Tara C. Deaz
Deputy Clerk

Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County, Florida

6A

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-54

**CITY OF POMPANO BEACH
Broward County, Florida**

**CITY OF POMPANO BEACH
BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution 2010-54
as filed in the office of the CITY CLERK
between my hand and official seal in the CITY OF
POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, this 15th day of
DECEMBER, A.D. 2010
ASCELETA HAMMOND
CITY CLERK

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING
THE ENACTMENT OF A \$2.00 PER DAY CAR RENTAL
SURCHARGE TO SAVE TRI-RAIL FROM DEFAULT;
PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY
CLERK; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail provides passenger service for the residents of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, who account for 30% of the population of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the population in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties has increased 10% in ten years, while Tri-Rail ridership has increased by 77%; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail is recognized as the spine of the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties transit system, providing passenger commuter service from the Magonia Park Station (four miles north of West Palm Beach) to the Miami International Airport Intermodal Center – a distance of 72 miles; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail connects to transit service to all three of Southeast Florida's International Airports; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail riders have connecting service throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties via the three counties bus systems and Metrorail in Miami; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail provides passenger stations in the cities of West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, Boca Raton, Deerfield Beach, Pompano Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Opa-Locka and Hialeah; and

WHEREAS, these cities future growths are dependent on transit oriented development around its Tri-Rail Station; and

WHEREAS, two thousand businesses in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties participate in the Tri-Rail Employee Discount Program; and

WHEREAS, 75% of Tri-Rail riders are choice riders, i.e. they do not have to use Tri-Rail, but choose to use Tri-Rail; and

WHEREAS, almost every Tri-Rail rider takes a motor vehicle off the road, thereby reducing traffic congestion, dependency on foreign oil, and pollutants in the air; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail's success in reducing headways from one hour or more to 20 minutes in the busy morning and afternoon commuting hours has increased operating costs faster than passenger fares can offset; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail implemented a 25% across-the-board rider fare increase to offset increased operating expenses related to double tracking and increasing weekday service from 30 trains to 50 trains; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties have been forced to reduce their voluntary extra subsidies to Tri-Rail on account of declining property tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail is in imminent danger of default; and

WHEREAS, Tri-Rail's default will severely disrupt transportation throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida will be held responsible for repaying a \$256 million grant when Tri-Rail defaults; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission of the City of Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida, hereby calls upon the Honorable Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Senate President, Jeff Atwater, and Florida Speaker of the House, Larry Cretul to call a special session of the Florida Legislature to enact funding mechanisms earmarked for support of Tri-Rail, including a \$2.00 per day rental car surcharge, with the exception that such surcharge shall not apply to a person renting a car as a substitute vehicle, while such person's motor vehicle is down for maintenance or repair.

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk is authorized and instructed to provide true copies of this Resolution the Honorable Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Senate President, Jeff Atwater, and Florida Speaker of the House, Larry Cretul, the Florida League of Cities, the Broward County League of Cities, and each of the several cities, towns and villages of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of November, 2009.


LAMAR FISHER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


MARY L. CHAMBERS, CITY CLERK

GBU/jrm
11/20/09
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