



CENTRAL FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP

SPECIAL THANKS

We're Charting A New Course To Support Florida's "New Economy"

As you know, late yesterday afternoon, the Florida Senate adopted the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation. This represents an historic moment for Florida, and we owe our thanks to many who joined in our "common cause." After great debate and consideration, this matter has now been finally decided; and, in the process, we've begun to chart a clear course, one designed to support Florida's "New Economy."



Upper Left: LYNX CEO Linda S. Watson, Daytona Regional Chamber Vice President of Government Relations, Jim Cameron, Volusia County Council Chair and Central Florida Commuter Rail Member Frank T. Bruno, Jr., and Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer celebrate yesterday. **Upper Right:** Mayor Dyer and Florida Governor Charlie Crist, exchange congratulations, after yesterday's historic vote.

Lower Left: Senator Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando, is shown in the Senate Chambers. **Lower Center:** Senator Al Lawson, D-Tallahassee, a Co-sponsor of the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation, shown as the closing speaker yesterday.

Lower Right: Senator Lee Constantine, R-Altamonte Springs, also a Co-sponsor of the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation, speaks during yesterday's debate.

The Central Florida Partnership Is Working To Turn "Ideas To Results"

The [Central Florida Partnership](#) was created to be a place where regional leaders could convene, set priorities, address our region's toughest problems and identify our greatest opportunities. Serving business, civic and community leaders in Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole and Volusia Counties – the [Central Florida Partnership](#) is a business led initiative where we will collaborate, cooperate and coordinate – solving the problems that matter most to the millions of people who live, work, learn and play in the *Central Florida Region*.

There Were "Many Hands" In The "Circle of Service"

And, from the very beginning, the [Central Florida Partnership](#) has been working to champion a multi-model transportation system. The passage of the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation is an important step in regards to this matter. As you know, to advance this goal, the [Central Florida Partnership](#) created the Central Florida Transportation Corridors "Task Force," being led by [Carmen Dominguez](#) and [Michael Weinberg](#). To support this effort, the [Central Florida Partnership](#) also created the Core Strategy Team (CST) for Commuter Rail, along with the Council of "Great Thinkers." And, working together with others from across the Central Florida Region and across the State of Florida, we've now achieved an significant milestone. For sure, the [Central Florida Partnership](#) has worked with a host of colleagues to advance this matter, with specific emphasis on *SunRail*, and now the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation. None of this would have been possible without the support and encouragement of many; along these lines, I want to personally acknowledge the support of our Board of Directors, and the support of the Investors of the

[Central Florida Partnership.](#)

Here Are Some "Shout Outs" That Are Important for You to Know About

For sure, I want to acknowledge the leadership of [Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer](#) and every member of the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission. Plus, I want to acknowledge the leadership of [Senate President Jeff Atwater](#), [Senator Lee Constantine](#), [Senator Andy Gardiner](#), [Senate President-Elect Mike Haridopolos](#), and [Speaker-Designee Dean Cannon](#). And, special thanks should be extended to [Congresswoman Corrine Brown](#) and [Congressman John Mica](#); I want to also acknowledge the support of [METROPLAN ORLANDO](#), and extend my thanks to dozens and dozens of other associations, organizations and groups that joined hands to achieve this noteworthy goal. This is especially true regarding the leadership of [Stuart Rogel](#) and his extraordinary "team" at the *Tampa Bay Partnership*, and the wonderful teamwork of the Florida Department of Transportation, under the regional leadership of [District Secretary Norrane Downs](#). And, finally, I want to thank [Ed Turanchik](#) and the thousands of supporters of *Connect Us*, and acknowledge the patient understanding by members of management and shareholders of CSX Transportation, Inc., for standing strong during the rough-and-tumble "process of politics."

Transit Legislation Is Tangible Evidence That Our Work Is Succeeding

From our first day, the [Central Florida Partnership](#) has been about turning "Ideas to Results." And, when it comes to this important matter, the Statewide Rail Transit Legislation is tangible evidence that our work is succeeding; so, it is with great enthusiasm that I write to acknowledge my sincere appreciation of your continued support of our "shared vision" and "common cause." Much more will be written about this matter in the days and weeks ahead; but no more sincere words will ever be penned about this topic; simply put, "thank you."



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The [Central Florida Partnership](#) is a collaborative of business and civic leaders committed to procuring a better tomorrow for Central Florida's seven counties - Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole and Volusia. We are thoughtful leaders united by a single, guiding principle - that we have both the power and the responsibility to make change happen. Working together, through four "Lines of Business" - [Orlando, Inc. \(Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce\)](#) (Regional Entrepreneurship), [BusinessForce](#) (Public Policy Advocacy), [myregion.org](#) (Regional Research & Resolves) and [Leadership Orlando](#) (Regional Leadership) - the Central Florida Partnership is moving "Ideas to Results."