

From: "Raymond Gilley"
Date: 04/13/2009 05:22 PM
Subject: Your Support Requested: Job Creation, Employee Mobility

Dear Representative:

No doubt there are tough decisions to be made this Legislative Session. None are more important than those that keep citizens employed during this economic downturn. The Central Florida Commuter Rail Project, also known as *SunRail*, will do just that.

This project will immediately create more than **13,000 construction and operations jobs statewide**, with an additional **113,000 jobs from transit-oriented development** around the line.

In addition to providing much needed jobs, it will also make Florida **more attractive to businesses** looking to expand or relocate and allow companies to tap into geographically broader talent pools, as well as to help ease congestion on our state's gridlocked roads. Suffice it to say, this is about more than just Central Florida – ***SunRail* will be the backbone of a larger statewide system**, changing the way Floridians travel for generations to come.

Central Florida has tried for rail in the past and not succeeded. Like before, if we miss our chance, the Federal dollars tied to this program will disappear and once again go to work in another state...helping *them* to be more competitive.

As Chairman of the Florida Economic Development Council and President of the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission, I stand in support of multimodal transportation solutions for Florida, including *SunRail* and Senate Bill 1212. Joining FEDC in supporting this project are numerous state and regional organizations, including Floridians for Better Transportation, the Association of Florida Community Developers, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Florida League of Cities, the African American Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida, the Amalgamated Transit Union, Central Florida Chamber for Persons with Disabilities, LLC, the Tampa Bay Partnership, the Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce, and many others who, when combined, have committed more than 70 Resolutions and Letters of Support for *SunRail*.

So I ask: Will you stand with us and do what is necessary to give a desperately needed jolt to our economy?

Vote yes for *SunRail*.

Sincerely,

Ray Gilley
Chairman, Florida Economic Development Council
President & CEO, Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission

cc: Amy Evancho, Florida Economic Development Council

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