

**A RESOLUTION ON THE
PROPOSED COMMUTER RAIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce is committed to encouraging vigorous community dialogue and thorough exploration of important community issues and priorities which may contribute significantly to enhancing the economic vitality, quality of life and positive community reputation of the Central Florida region; and

WHEREAS, the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce is aware of the proposed \$473.5 million Commuter Rail Project advocated by Congressman John Mica (R-Winter Park) which is designed to traverse a 60.4 mile route through four traffic congested counties in the Central Florida region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Commuter Rail Project may contain a number of attractive advantages which include a 50% federal and 25% state funding commitment, offering a critical transportation alternative to I-4 during its upcoming reconstruction, providing significant travel time savings to its users during peak travel time periods, the possibility of reducing future automobile usage of I-4, the substantial reduction of CSX freight routes through heavily urbanized areas in the region and encouraging further economic development and commerce in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce recognizes that, in order to successfully achieve the proposed Commuter Rail Project, important issues including but not limited to its funding and viability must be promptly and fully resolved by affected governmental bodies and impacted public agencies along with the reaching of necessary interlocal agreements; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce does hereby commend the extraordinary leadership and vision of Congressman John Mica in conceiving the Commuter Rail Project as a potential means of improving the region's transportation capabilities and does hereby salute his sustained and tenacious efforts to secure federal funding for the proposed project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce encourages an appropriate level of diligence by Osceola County and other local jurisdictions to ensure the achievement of the best possible project for not only the riders of commuter rail, but for the taxpayers as well; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce that once the comprehensive evaluation of all relevant issues pertaining to the viability of the Commuter Rail Project are properly completed, reviewed and reconciled by all affected governing bodies and impacted public agencies, the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce commends the proposed Commuter Rail Project for its consideration by the governing bodies of the four counties as an extraordinary example of regional partnership and cooperation in finding meaningful regional transportation solutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce on the 12th day of August, 2005.



Tom White
2005 Chairman of the Board
Kissimmee/Osceola County
Chamber of Commerce



Mike Horner
President/CEO
Kissimmee/Osceola County
Chamber of Commerce