

**RESOLUTION NO R-09-079**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 1212 RELATING TO PUBLIC TRANSIT, SPECIFICALLY COMMUTER RAIL.**

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is undertaking the development and implementation of the Central Florida Commuter Rail Project; and

**WHEREAS**, implementation of the Commuter Rail Project will result in overall social and environmental benefits, improve the quality of life in the state, stimulate economic growth, create new employment opportunities, and serve as a positive growth management catalyst; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commuter Rail Project will greatly benefit the citizens and visitors to Florida, and is needed to provide transportation opportunities and relieve traffic congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commuter Rail Project will become an integral part of Florida's balanced transportation system and, with concurrent development improvements to roadways and bus transit, will greatly enhance the mobility of the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, financial commitments have been made by participating entities; and

**WHEREAS**, Congressman Mica and Congresswoman Brown have pledged to secure more than \$300 million in federal funding for the project which would otherwise be lost to rail transit projects elsewhere in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, it is more critical than ever to provide the traveling public with transportation alternatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commuter Rail Project will include improvements to the CSX freight lines from Jacksonville to the Tampa area, developing critical infrastructure for our region's important logistics and distribution industry; and

**WHEREAS**, freight line improvements will increase the business opportunities and expansion at Port Manatee, and

**WHEREAS**, investing in building and connecting our resources through multi-modal options is a key economic development objective that is essential to offer the high quality-of-life that will attract and retain the talented workforce that our region needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commuter Rail Project will support the efforts of Governor Crist's Energy and Climate Change Action Plan, established by Executive Order 07-128, with ambitious goals for reducing statewide green house gas emissions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida that:

The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners supports Senate Bill 1212 which will facilitate the Florida Department of Transportation's implementation of the Commuter Rail Project.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, this 24th day of March, 2009.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: *Dr. Gerald J. Brewer*  
Chairman

ATTEST:  
R. B. SHORE  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: *Diane E Vollmer*  
Deputy Clerk

