



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #15a

DATE: APRIL 6, 2009

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
REGARDING THE CREATION OF A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

The attached resolution requests that the Florida Legislature and Governor support the creation of a dedicated funding source for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) that will generate at least \$50 million per year.

These funds will serve as a dedicated funding source for the SFRTA and provide a required local match for Federal Transit Administration funding. With this funding, the region will be able to create additional transit opportunities for the region's residents and visitors and enhance regional mobility and connectivity.

Recommendation

Support the Resolution



RESOLUTION #09-02

A RESOLUTION BY THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL REQUESTING THAT THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE ESTABLISH A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF THE REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM BY THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties form the seven county region represented by the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties form the nation's seventh largest metropolitan statistical area with a population of more than 5.6 million in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the population of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties is expected to exceed 6.4 million by 2020; and

WHEREAS, South Florida's traffic congestion cost, based on wasted time and fuel, was approximately \$2.7 billion in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Regional Planning Council has identified certain regional transportation projects and transit improvements as critical to South Florida's economy and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the regional nature of transportation demand in South Florida requires that efforts be focused on regional solutions; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has stated that the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority has the overall authority to coordinate, develop, and operate a regional transportation system in South Florida (Chapter 2003-159, Laws of Florida); and

WHEREAS, the Board of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority is composed of elected and appointed officials and private sector appointees from Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority has unanimously agreed that the SFRTA must pursue a dedicated funding source in order to address the Region's transit needs and remain competitive for federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority is requesting that the Florida Legislature establish a dedicated funding source that will generate an amount of not less than \$50 million to help meet Southeast Florida's transportation needs and provide the local match for securing state and federal funds for capital projects, and

WHEREAS, a dedicated funding source for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority will enable South Florida to enhance its regional transit system; improve regional mobility and connectivity; provide additional opportunities for economic growth, increase the Region's competitiveness at the federal level; and support an improved quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1. The Council supports the creation of a dedicated funding source for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority that will generate at least \$50 million per year to enable the SFRTA to address growing regional transit needs.

SECTION 2. The Council requests that the Governor and Florida Legislature support the creation of a dedicated funding source for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority during the 2009 State Legislative Session.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

ADOPTED this 6th day of April, 2009.

Sandra Walters, Chair
South Florida Regional Planning Council

Date