

~A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINED INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC TRANSPORATION~

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Florida Transportation Commission to provide leadership on issues related to Florida's statewide transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, one of the primary functions of the Florida Transportation Commission is to recommend major transportation policies for the Governor's approval, and assure that approved policies are properly executed; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Transportation Commission shall periodically review the status of the state transportation system including highway, transit, rail, seaport, intermodal development, and aviation components of the system and recommend improvements to the Governor and Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the availability of public transportation provides personal freedom and mobility for citizens across the state; and

WHEREAS, public transportation provides increased capacity by creating more economical choices to address the needs of a growing and changing population; and

WHEREAS, readily available public transportation serves a vital role in protecting the environment, conserving energy and providing for the health, safety and security of the citizens and visitors of the state; and

WHEREAS, public transportation takes cars off the road, thus reducing road congestion and improving travel time; and

WHEREAS, public transportation provides easy-access links within and among all forms of modern travel – highway, air, water, bus and rail; and

WHEREAS, the National Alliance of Public Transportation Advocates (NAPTA) states that public transportation in transit-intensive metropolitan areas saves \$22 billion annually in transportation costs, lowers household expenses, and frees up income for other essential needs; and

WHEREAS, public transportation is an essential element for sustaining a vibrant business community, fostering a strong economic climate, creating hubs for new business, cultural and tourism activities, as well as aiding in redevelopment efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Florida Transportation Commission declares its support for the promotion of public transportation alternatives to improve transportation mobility and efficiency, to promote environmentally conscious methods of moving people and goods that reduce the state's total carbon emissions, and to provide alternatives to seniors, those with disabilities and those in lower income families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Transportation Commission supports the implementation of enhanced public transportation options through initiatives such as:

- The Central Florida Commuter Rail System
- The Regional Transportation Systems envisioned by the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA), the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), and other regional systems.

Signed this 3rd day of March, 2008.

Marcos Marchena, Chairman

Florida/Transportation Commission

Sidney Calloway, Vice Chair

Florida Transportation Commission

Martha "Marty" Lanahan, Secretary

Florida Transportation Commission

Marshall M. Criser III, Commissioner Florida Transportation Commission

Bart R. Pullum, Commissioner

Florida Transportation Commission