

~A RESOLUTION RELATING TO FLORIDA'S FUTURE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ~

WHEREAS, the mission of the Florida Transportation Commission is to provide leadership in meeting Florida's transportation needs through policy guidance on issues of statewide importance and by maintaining oversight and public accountability for the Department of Transportation and other statutorily specified transportation authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is concerned that the current policies on transportation funding will not yield a sufficient and reliable source of revenue to sustain short and long term maintenance and growth of Florida's critically important infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) budget for the current fiscal year is \$6.9 billion, down from \$9.1 billion in FY 06/07, and is expected to drop to \$6.6 billion in FY 11/12; and

WHEREAS, the FDOT's revenue forecast through FY 14/15 has been reduced by \$6.4 billion in cash since November of 2006, due to reductions in traditional transportation and documentary stamp revenue sources, and recent budgetary constraints that have resulted in the deferral or deletion of almost \$10 billion in project commitments; and

WHEREAS, Florida's transportation infrastructure is primarily financed by federal, state, and local fuel taxes, accounting for 83.5 percent of non-toll transportation revenue; and

WHEREAS, over the past two years, transportation revenue generated from fuel sales has declined as a result of impacts from the economic recession, and further decline or a reduction in growth of fuel sales will persist as more fuel efficient vehicles enter the statewide fleet to meet the new federal Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE) standard of 35.5 miles per gallon by the 2016 model year; and

WHEREAS, it will be extremely difficult to achieve the goals and objectives of the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan without major reforms in transportation finance and funding; and

WHEREAS, Florida's unemployment rate reached 12.0 percent in November, with more than one million jobs lost due to the current economic crisis (roughly one-third of them in the construction industry), and every one billion dollars invested in Florida's transportation system produces 28,000 direct and indirect jobs, and every dollar invested in the transportation system returns five dollars in positive economic benefits to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation let to contract \$3.2 billion in construction projects in FY 06/07 (an all-time record), dropping to a projected low of \$1.2 billion in FY 12/13;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Florida Transportation Commission has concluded that the citizens of our state deserve to have a safe, well maintained, efficient and multimodal transportation system which affords them a strong economy and a high quality of life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND RECOGNIZED, that investment in transportation infrastructure will help put Florida on the path to full economic recovery through job creation and the provision of exceptional mobility options for people and freight mobility; motor fuel tax revenues, however, are deteriorating, and there is a critical need for a reliable, sustainable revenue source to fill that growing deficiency. Hence, the Florida Transportation Commission calls on the Governor and the Legislature to provide leadership in pursuing short and long-term transportation investment policies and strategies that will restore the State to full economic viability.

Adopted this 16th day of December, 2010.

Martha Lanahan, Chair

Florida Transportation Commission

Bart Pullum, Vice-Chair

Florida Transportation Commission

Garrett Walton, Secretary

Florida Transportation Commission

Ronald Howse, Commissioner

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Joseph Mazurkiewicz, Commissioner

Florida Transportation Commission

Marcos Marchena, Commissioner

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Manual Rose, Commissioner

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