May 1, 2014

Honorable Senator Joe Negron
412 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

(Via e-mail)

Reference: All Aboard Florida Project – Delayed Funding for Quiet Zones

Dear Senator Negron:

The Town Council for the Town of Indian River Shores, Florida has been listening and reading with great interest information relating to the proposed passenger rail service, All Aboard Florida, for several months. The planned project will pass about a mile as the crow flies across the Indian River Lagoon from our residents, which has led to a very tangible concern for noise levels that could impact their property values as well as the Town’s tax base.

With such scarce information available to residents and elected officials in our County about this project, a great amount of skepticism and inability to determine if the train is a beneficial project to pass through our County or if it’s detrimental to our lifestyle, budgets and property values.

We respectfully ask that the State remove any funding for quiet zones from the current and proposed FY14-15 budget so that our communities will have the opportunity to receive more information about All Aboard Florida and have time to fully understand the project’s impact in Indian River County. No one wants to see the project “fast-tracked” through the system.

Thank you for your assistance, and we anticipate your support and reply.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Barefoot
Mayor

cc: Indian River Shores Town Council
Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, & Okeechobee County Boards of County Commissioners (via email)
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (via email)
Treasure Coast Municipal Governments (via email)
Secretary Ananth Prasad, Florida Department of Transportation
Rail & Motor Carrier Ops Office Administration Fred Wise, FDoT
Florida Governor Rick Scott