RESOLUTION NO. 14-092

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF AN EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE ALL ABOARD FLORIDA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FROM 45 DAYS TO 90 DAYS AND AN EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE "FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT" FROM 30 DAYS TO 60 DAYS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County, Florida, has made the following determinations:

1. The All Aboard Florida passenger rail project will connect South and Central Florida utilizing 195 miles of an existing, active rail corridor located along the eastern portion of the state.

2. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida-Operations LLC (AAF), between Miami and Orlando, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach.

3. Governor Rick Scott has emphasized the need to give ample time and opportunity to the public to express their views on the draft Environmental Impact Statement, which is expected to be released by the FRA in the next several weeks.

4. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) voted unanimously at its May 16, 2014 meeting to request that Governor Scott and local governments in the region appeal to the FRA to extend the public comment period for the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the All Aboard Florida project from 45 to 90 days. The Council has conducted extensive public outreach on the topic and several potential impacts to the regions' communities have been identified.

5. The Board of County Commissioners also requests that the FRA extend the public comment for the "Final EIS" from 30 days to 60 days.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County, Florida:

1. This Board does hereby request an extension to the public comment period for the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the All Aboard Florida project from 45 to 90 days.

2. This Board does hereby also request an extension to the public comment period for the final Environmental Impact Statement for the All Aboard Florida project from 30 to 60 days.

3. The County Administrator shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Federal Railroad Administration in Washington, DC, Florida Governor Rick Scott and Michael J. Busha, Executive Director with TCRPC.

4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

After motion and second, the vote on this resolution was as follows:
Frannie Hutchinson, Chair  AYE
Paula Lewis, Vice-Chair  AYE
Chris Dzadovsky, Commissioner  AYE
Tod Mowery, Commissioner  AYE
Kim Johnson, Commissioner  AYE

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 17TH day of June 2014.

ATTEST:

Deputy Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY:

Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
CORRECTNESS:


County Attorney