

RECEIVED

2010 FEB 23 PM 4:54

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 050-2010

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: February 22, 2010

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT A \$2.00 PER DAY CAR RENTAL SURCHARGE TO SAVE THE TRI-RAIL FROM DEFAULT

Please see that attached Resolution from the City of South Miami, Florida.

*JMG*  
JMG/REP

F:\CLERK\CLERK\FORMS\South Miami Reso tri rail.ltc.doc

**RESOLUTION NO. 27-10-13061**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT A \$2.00 PER DAY CAR RENTAL SURCHARGE TO SAVE TRI-RAIL FROM DEFAULT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail provides passenger service for the residents of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, who account for 30% of the population of the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the population in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties has increased 10% in ten years, while Tri-Rail ridership has increased by 77%; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail is recognized as the spine of the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties transit system, providing passenger commuter service from the Magonia Park Station (four miles north of West Palm Beach) to the Miami International Airport Intermodal Center – a distance of 72 miles; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail connects to transit service to all three of Southeast Florida's International Airports; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail riders have connecting service throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties via the three counties bus systems and Metrorail in Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail provides passenger stations in the cities of West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, Boca Raton, Deerfield Beach, Pompano Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Opa-Locka and Hialeah; and

**WHEREAS**, these cities future growths are dependent on transit oriented development around its Tri-Rail Station; and

**WHEREAS**, two thousand businesses in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties participate in the Tri-Rail Employee Discount Program; and

**WHEREAS**, 75% of Tri-Rail riders are choice riders, i.e. they do not have to use Tri-Rail, but choose to use Tri-Rail; and

**WHEREAS**, almost every Tri-Rail rider takes a motor vehicle off the road, thereby reducing traffic congestion, dependency on foreign oil, and pollutants in the air; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail's success in reducing headways from one hour or more to 20 minutes in the busy morning and afternoon commuting hours has increased operating costs faster than passenger fares can offset; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail implemented a 25% across-the-board rider fare increase to offset increased operating expenses related to double tracking and increasing weekday service from 30 trains to 50 trains; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties have been forced to reduce their voluntary extra subsidies to Tri-Rail on account of declining property tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail is in imminent danger of default; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Rail's default will severely disrupt transportation throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida will be held responsible for repaying a \$256 million grant when Tri-Rail defaults.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA THAT:**

**Section 1:** That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct.

**Section 2:** That the City Commission of the City of South Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, hereby calls upon the Honorable Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Senate President, Jeff Atwater, and Florida Speaker of the House, Larry Cretul to call a special session of the Florida Legislature to enact funding mechanisms earmarked for support of Tri-Rail, including a \$2.00 per day rental car surcharge, with the exception that such surcharge shall not apply to a person renting a car as a substitute vehicle, while such person's motor vehicle is down for maintenance or repair.

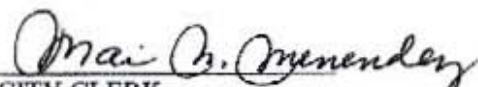
**Section 3:** That the City Clerk is authorized and instructed to provide electronic copies of this Resolution to the Honorable Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Senate President, Jeff Atwater, and Florida Speaker of the House, Larry Cretul, the Florida League of Cities, the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, and each of the several cities, towns and villages of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

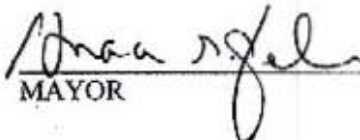
**Section 4:** This resolution shall be effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

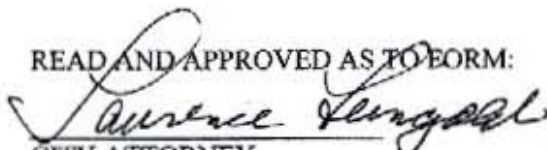
ATTEST:

APPROVED:

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR

READ AND APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
CITY ATTORNEY

Commission Vote:	5-0
Mayor Feliu:	Yea
Vice Mayor Beasley:	Yea
Commissioner Palmer:	Yea
Commissioner Newman:	Yea
Commissioner Sellars:	Yea