

RESOLUTION 2009-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT FUNDING FROM THE 2009 FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS BILL BE USED FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PINELLAS BAYWAY BRIDGE PROJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the Pinellas Bayway Bridge is a critical bridge for the City of St. Pete Beach in that it provides access to and from the southern end of the City for residents, businesses, and tourists alike; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pinellas Bayway Bridge is a primary evacuation route for the City of St Pete Beach, especially the Pass-A-Grill and Vina Del Mar areas, during a storm event or other emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing Pinellas Bayway Bridge is over 45 years old and the Florida Department of Transportation has done extensive studies and tests of the bridge and determined it must be replaced due to its age and condition; and

**WHEREAS**, extensive public input on the Pinellas Bayway Bridge project was received from a citizen's task force with representatives from the City of St. Pete Beach, City of St Petersburg, and Tierra Verde working with the Florida Department of Transportation that was incorporated into the final project design; and

**WHEREAS**, the contract plans (State project number 15200-3546) have been completed to replace the Pinellas Bayway Bridge, the project was previously bid out but delayed due to a lack of qualified bids, and the only barrier to proceeding with the project is a lack of funding at this time; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the goals of the 2009 Federal Economic Stimulus Bill is to fund infrastructure projects such as the Pinellas Bayway Bridge project to improve infrastructure and create employment opportunities through projects such as this one that can be bid out quickly and construction started immediately if funding for the project is made available; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St Pete Beach considers the Pinellas Bayway Bridge project to meet the goals and intent of the 2009 Federal Economic Stimulus Bill as understood at this time and therefore the project should be funded so that it can proceed as quickly as possible; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach, that:

Section 1. That the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach highly recommends that the Pinellas Bayway Bridge project be funded as a part of the 2009 Federal Economic Stimulus Bill.

Section 2. That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Governor Charlie Crist, State and Federal congressional representatives, and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSES AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2009.

  
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Mayor Mike Finnerly

ATTEST:

  
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Theresa McMaster, City Clerk