

## RESOLUTION 2019-05

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROPOSED BUS RAPID TRANSIT AS CURRENTLY DESIGNED SOUTH OF 75<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, As currently designed south of 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue on Gulf Boulevard, the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach (City) opposes the grant application to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the "Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Project" (BRT) proposed by the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) of Pinellas County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the PSTA did not consult the City prior to submitting its application to the FTA, has misrepresented the City's support for the BRT, which is still reflected in the PSTA application, and has not supplied reliable data to support a successful BRT in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is geographically a narrow barrier island and Gulf Boulevard is the City's primary north-south thoroughfare for its residents, businesses and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's current plans and investments for Gulf Boulevard involve improving pedestrian use, undergrounding utilities, as well as enhancing the appearance and look of a beach destination, all of which are incompatible with the current design of the BRT and its related facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is attempting to negotiate with PSTA a compromise Interlocal Agreement that may connect the BRT to the City and at the same time respect the type of mass transit along Gulf Boulevard more appropriate for the City's scale and vision; and

**WHEREAS**, the City supports mass transit in general to and on Gulf Boulevard, but negotiations with PSTA are ongoing and PSTA is still planning the BRT and related facilities on Gulf Boulevard south of 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue, despite the City's objection.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, THAT:**

SECTION 1. Recitals. The above recitals ("Whereas" clauses) are true and correct and adopted hereby as findings, purpose and intent of the City Commission.

SECTION 2. The City Commission is hereby opposed to the proposed BRT and related facilities as currently designed by the PSTA south of 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue on Gulf Boulevard, and requests that the FTA take no further action on PSTA's application.

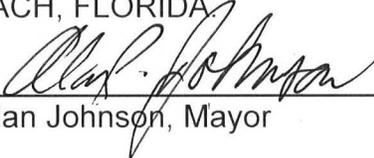
SECTION 3. The City Manager is directed to immediately transmit this Resolution to PSTA, the City of South Pasadena, the City of St. Petersburg, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the FTA.

SECTION 4. The City Commission directs the City Manager and City Attorney to invite PSTA, the City of South Pasadena, and the City of St. Petersburg to continue negotiating collectively a reasonable Interlocal Agreement for the BRT and related facilities in the City and bring the agreement to the City Commission for its consideration.

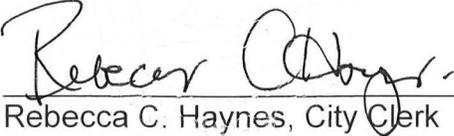
SECTION 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Passed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019, by the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida.

CITY COMMISSION, CITY OF ST. PETE  
BEACH, FLORIDA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

  
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Andrew Dickman, City Attorney