

## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-17

**A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF PINECREST, FLORIDA, URGING THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TO UNDERTAKE A NEW STUDY OF THE SOUTH DADE BUSWAY TO DETERMINE THE NEED AND PLANS FOR FUTURE TRANSIT IN SOUTH DADE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT OR BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM ALONG THE SOUTH DADE BUSWAY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the South Dade Busway, located on what was originally the Henry Flagler's Florida Coast Railroad's (FEC) link between Miami and Key West, runs parallel to US 1 including the length of the Village's commercial corridor (Pinecrest Parkway); and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration undertook a *Major Investment Study* of the former FEC corridor in 1985 recommending a busway for the section south of the Dadeland South Metrorail station and an eight-mile two-lane exclusive roadway designed for the use of buses operated by Miami-Dade Transit and local emergency vehicles opened for service between the Dadeland South Metrorail station and Cutler Ridge in February 1997 - an extension of the South Dade Busway to Florida City was completed in 2002; and

WHEREAS, increases in ridership on the South Dade Busway led the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to commission the *South Miami-Dade Corridor Alternative Analysis Report* (South Link Study), completed in 2006, which provided an evaluation of alternative transportation development options (Metrorail, light rail transit (LRT), bus rapid transit (BRT), etc.) for the corridor – the study concluded that, over a ten year period, Metrorail should be extended from the Dadeland South station to 104th Street, BRT should be implemented from 104th Street to Florida City and that LRT should be considered when warranted by ridership; and

WHEREAS, the *South Dade Busway Feeder Study* (2008), conducted by the Lehman Center for Transportation Research at FIU, studied how to improve and enhance new feeder services to the Busway and the *South Dade Managed Lanes Study* (2008) cited the MPO's 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and noted that the population of South Dade is projected to increase by 83% while the countywide project is just 43% by 2030; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, the Village of Pinecrest submitted an application for the Municipal Grant Program from the MPO, for the purpose of funding a feasibility study for a LRT system along the existing South Dade Busway corridor - said study would evaluate current light rail options, estimate ridership, develop the cost of operating and maintaining a light rail system, and identify funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, LRT systems have become a common fixture in many American cities over the past several decades, benefiting adjacent communities by boosting economic development, reducing pollution and traffic congestion, and providing drivers with an economical alternative to the automobile; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Pinecrest wishes to encourage the MPO to undertake a new study of the South Dade Busway to determine the need and plans for the future of transit in South Dade with strong emphasis on the development of a LRT or BRT system along the South Dade Busway;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF PINECREST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Village Council hereby urges the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization to undertake a new study of the South Dade Busway to determine the need and plans for the future of transit in South Dade with emphasis on the development of a light rail transit (LRT) or Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system along the South Dade Busway.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

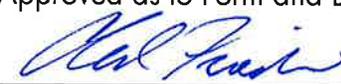
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of March, 2015.

  
Cindy Lerner, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Guido H. Inguanzo, Jr., CMC  
Village Clerk

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mitchell Bierman  
Village Attorney

Motion by: Councilmember Ball  
Second by: Vice Mayor Ross

Vote: Councilmembers Ball, Kraft, McDonald, Vice Mayor Ross, and Mayor Lerner voting Yes

