



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#13-1616**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** December 3, 2013

**TITLE:** GRANT APPLICATION - Resolution approving the submittal of a grant application to the Economic Development Administration - Department of Commerce, FY 2014 Economic Development Assistance Programs, \$368,146, Match required of equal amount, \$368,146 for a \$736,291 total project cost.

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a resolution authorizing the proper city officials to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a construction grant to extend NW 2nd Avenue from NW 2nd Street (where it currently ends) to NW 4th Street.

The grant application is limited to cost of planning, engineering, design and construction of the bypass road, including curbing and sidewalk, to mitigate the closing of NW 2nd Street where it intersects with the Florida East Coast Railroad right-of-way.

This planned road extension is adjacent to the Florida East Coast Rail corridor and in close proximity to the future All Aboard Florida passenger station. The passenger rail station platform will be 860 feet long, thus the crossing at NW 2nd Street must be closed. In order to maintain traffic flow in the area, we are proposing a perimeter road that will create a bypass, allowing east-west traffic to cross the tracks at NW 4th Street or Broward Boulevard. This is important for nearby residents and businesses. The project perimeter road will be approximately 645 linear feet and within a new 50 foot right of way with curbing, drainage, sidewalk and landscaping. All Aboard Florida will serve as the private sector partner in the grant application and will commit the required matching funds in accordance with the EDA Federal Funding Opportunity announcement and program requirements.

**Background**

The City is requesting a grant in the amount of \$368,146 with a required 50% total project cost cash match in the amount of \$368,146. Matching funds have been identified through a private source, All Aboard Florida – Operations, LLC to fund the said project grant match funds. Their commitment to the match and to the project has been articulated in the attached letter to the City. As the matching fund partner, all costs in excess of EDA

provided funds for the planning, design, and completion of the project will be paid by All Aboard Florida. As current owner of the property, All Aboard Florida – Operations, LLC will convey full title and control of the new right of way property to the City of Fort Lauderdale.

The All Aboard Florida intercity passenger rail station will breathe significant new life into the downtown area near the station, creating growth opportunities for existing businesses while attracting new ones.

The grant cycle is for FY 2014, Cycle 2 and the grant application is due to grants.gov on December 13, 2013 by 11:59pm.

### **Special Conditions**

Right of way determination is required, along with approval of roadway plans by Public Works. The project must be competitively bid for construction. Upon grant acceptance, Commission will have a separate agenda item for approval of a financial agreement with All Aboard Florida to memorialize financial terms of federal grant match donation.

### **Resource Impact**

There is an anticipated positive fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$368,146 which, coupled with the financial commitment for the matching funds from All Aboard Florida – Operations, LLC, would allow for project implementation.

### **Strategic Connections**

1. This item is a Commission Annual Action Plan priority, included within the Management Agenda, specifically advancing the All Aboard Florida Passenger Rail and Station Area Plan.
2. This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the **Infrastructure and Business Development Cylinders of Excellence**, specifically advancing:
  - **Goal 1:** Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal City.  
Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners.
  - **Goal 7:** Be a well-positioned City within the global economic and tourism markets of the South Florida region, leveraging our airports, port, and rail connections.
3. This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Connected*.

Related CAM(s): N/A

Attachment(s):      EX 1: All Aboard Florida Funding Commitment Letter  
                            EX 2: Development Plan Diagram  
                            EX 3: Resolution

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