USF Board of Trustees
March 18, 2010

**Issue:** Resolution in Support of Transit Rail Systems

**Proposed action:** Approve a Resolution in support of improved transportation opportunities provided by mass transit rail systems.

**Background information:** There are two significant efforts relating to mass transit systems: one is the high-speed rail connecting Tampa to Orlando and on to Miami; the other is the light rail connecting key areas in the Tampa Bay Region, including connecting to the high-speed rail system.

The University is impacted by these transit systems, both directly with proposed stops on the outskirts or adjacent to our Tampa and Polytechnic campuses as well as indirectly as a way to improve access through more efficient and affordable transportation and to reduce the growth of greenhouse gas emissions.

**Strategic Goal(s) Item Supports:**
- **Goal II:** Promoting globally competitive undergraduate, graduate and professional programs that support interdisciplinary inquiry, intellectual development, knowledge and skill acquisition, and student success through a diverse, fully-engaged, learner-centered campus environment.
- **Goal III:** Expanding local and global engagement initiatives to strengthen and sustain healthy communities and to improve the quality of life.
- **Goal IV:** Enhancing all sources of revenue, and maximizing effectiveness in business practices and financial management to establish a strong and sustainable economic base in support of USF’s growth.

**Workgroup Review:**

**Supporting Documentation:** Resolution; proposed stops on the Tampa Campus and maps from the 2005 Tampa Campus Master Plan

**Prepared by:** T. Frecker, Associate Vice President, Business & Finance, March 10, 2010
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVED TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEMS

March 18, 2010

WHEREAS the USF System’s network of independently accredited institutions, campuses, and affiliated organizations is reliant upon effective means of transportation throughout the area; and

WHEREAS the USF System is one of the largest employers in the Tampa Bay Region; and

WHEREAS USF recognizes that improved transit systems, including rail, will bring economic development and employment opportunities to the Tampa Bay Region; and

WHEREAS implementation of an improved rail system is needed in order to relieve traffic congestion and reduce green house gas emissions, in keeping with USF’s climate and sustainable living commitments; and

WHEREAS light rail stations in the USF area will provide easily accessible and affordable transportation for students, employees and the community; and

WHEREAS since 2005 USF has included provisions for light rail stops in its Tampa Campus Master Plan in accord with Sec. 1001.74 (6) (g) Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS USF’s new Polytechnic Campus will include provision(s) for linking with light rail and/or high speed rail, which will provide an efficient method of transportation between USF Polytechnic and USF Tampa; and

WHEREAS light rail transit systems provide the opportunity to connect USF to the Florida High Speed Rail station in Downtown Tampa which will be a key connection in the regional system; and

WHEREAS such interconnectivity will provide the opportunity to increase access to USF learning, research, sports, social, and cultural offerings; and

WHEREAS such interconnectivity will provide easier access for our students and employees, providing expanded opportunities for student internships and for developing and sustaining business partnerships and collaboration,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES that it:

1. Proclaims its support for the development and implementation of improved transit and rail systems in the Tampa Bay Region and the State of Florida.

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Rhea F. Law, Chair                      Judy Genshaft, Corporate Secretary
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