

RESOLUTION 23-R\_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE LOCATION OF A BRIGHTLINE PASSENGER RAIL STATION IN DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE; PROVIDING AUTHORIZATION TO THE CITY MANAGER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Port St. Lucie (“City”), with more than 240,000 residents, is the sixth-largest city in the State of Florida (“State”) and the largest city along the Brightline Corridor between Miami and Orlando; and

**WHEREAS**, the City continues to be one of the fastest-growing in the State with continued substantial increases in both new residents and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, intercity passenger rail service could prove to be a major economic benefit and amenity for the City's residents and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, intercity passenger rail service by Brightline provides a safe, comfortable, and convenient option for the City's residents and businesses to travel among the attractions and destinations from Miami to Orlando; and

**WHEREAS**, the City benefits Brightline by drawing increased ridership for events like the New York Mets Spring Training, which brings in approximately 175,000 baseball fans who travel to Port St. Lucie annually from the New York region and/or for riders who are visiting South Florida and the Orlando areas, many of which become future permanent residents of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, Downtown Fort Pierce is an ideal location for a Brightline passenger rail station to service the City and the City has supported the location since October 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council enthusiastically supports the location of a Brightline Station in Downtown Fort Pierce; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to be an active partner in the City of Fort Pierce’s proposal to bring a Brightline Passenger Rail Station to Downtown Fort Pierce such as working with Area Regional Transit, St. Lucie County, and the City of Fort Pierce to provide shuttle service between the Fort Pierce Brightline Station and major activity centers in the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA, THAT:**

Section 1. Ratification of Recitals. The foregoing recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Resolution.

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Section 2. Authorization. The City Manager and his designees are hereby authorized to take all actions appropriate and necessary to be an active partner in the City of Fort Pierce’s proposal to bring a Brightline Station to Downtown Fort Pierce and work to accomplish the purposes set forth therein.

Section 3. Conflict. If any resolutions, or parts of resolutions, are in conflict herewith, this Resolution shall control to the extent of the conflicting provisions.

Section 4. Severability. The provisions of this Resolution are intended to be severable. If any part of this Resolution is determined to be void or is declared illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shannon M. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sally Walsh, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Richard Berrios, Interim City Attorney