

RESOLUTION 87-19

WHEREAS, explosive population growth in the First Coast area consisting of Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties has threatened efforts to provide an adequate ground transportation system, and

WHEREAS, the jurisdiction and function of the many agencies and authorities currently involved in making transportation decisions may result in duplication of effort and difficulty in meeting transportation priorities within the area, and

WHEREAS, local studies have indicated that the gap between existing funding levels and current and future needs is substantial and continues to widen, and,

WHEREAS, resolution of any jurisdictional, functional and funding problems may result in improved coordination and substantial savings based upon economies of scale, and

WHEREAS, there is a need to develop a regional solution to the transportation problems associated with rapid growth in this area.

WHEREAS, the underlying issue is fair and equitable representation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA does hereby support the establishment of a First Coast Regional Transportation Authority that would be empowered to plan, design, construct, and maintain existing and proposed facilities that are regional in scope, provided that the legislature deal with the critical issues listed below:

1. The membership must remain intact as defined in Chapter 3:

The Authority should be composed of nine members:

Five members appointed locally:

- 1 member appointed by the Baker County Commission.
- 1 member appointed by the Clay County Commission.
- 1 member nominated by the Mayor of Jacksonville and confirmed by the City Council.
- 1 member appointed by the Nassau County Commission.
- 1 member appointed by the St. Johns County Commission.

Four lay members appointed by the Governor:

- 2 lay members, appointed from the Mayor of Jacksonville nominations, who must reside in Duval County.
- 2 lay members, appointed from County Commission nominations, who must reside in one of the four remaining counties; however, they cannot reside in the same county.

2. The 85-15% funding formula as defined in Chapter 4, offers an equitable approach to promoting regional projects and, therefore, should be preserved.
3. Tolls derived from a specific project should be returned to that project. Any revenues in excess of that necessary for debt service should be used for early retirement of the indebtedness or a sinking fund for maintenance and/or rehabilitation.
4. Both the local option gas tax and local option sales tax and other taxing mechanisms which may be offered in the future by the Authority should be subject to a county-wide referendum held in each county.
5. All current indebtedness which may be contained within bond-holder requirements, but not limited to same shall be retired within the county of origin by funds exclusively from that county.

DULY ADOPTED, by the Board of County Commissioners, Nassau County,  
Florida, this 17th day of February.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Gene B. Blackwell  
Chairman

ATTEST:

T. J. Greeson  
T. J. Greeson  
Clerk of the Courts  
Ex-officio Clerk to the  
Board of County Commissioners