



11-B-1)

## Addendum to the City Council Meeting Agenda

**Author:** Jay Kramer      **Council Meeting Date:** Apr 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016      **Priority**   1   of   1  

**Title:** Draft Resolution to respond to U.S. Army Corps. Of Engineers Release no. 16-027

### **Summary:**

The U.S. Army Corps. Of Engineers is in the decision process of issuing permits to All Aboard Florida. The decision process will include the opportunity for the public to comment on the process concerning the probable impact to our wetlands through May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

### **Public need or issue addressed:**

### **Relevant City Charter, code references, legal:**

### **Dates of past decisions by Council relevant to the issue:**

### **Statement of the proposed solution to the public need or issue:**

Due to the shortness of time I would propose directing staff to immediately prioritize a response to this public notice and submit it to the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers in Jacksonville by the end of the month.

### **Additional attached documentation includes:**

Posted 4/12/2016

Release no. 16-027

Jacksonville, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Jacksonville District has issued a public notice in relation to an application for a Department of Army permit, submitted by All Aboard Florida – Operations, LLC., Coral Gables, FL. Comments will be accepted through May 2, 2016.

All Aboard Florida proposes to construct an intercity passenger railroad between Orlando International Airport and West Palm Beach, Fla. The new rail infrastructure would include new tracks, bridges over and under highways, shoreline stabilization associated with bridges over waterways, new signalization, new communication and train control systems, utility cable installation and multiple stormwater ponds with associated piping and infrastructure.

The Corps is neither a proponent nor opponent of any permit proposal. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on the information received through the Public Notice and the evaluation of the probable impact to associated wetlands. Comments regarding the application will be accepted through (insert date) and should be submitted in writing to the District Engineer through the Cocoa Permits Section, 400 High Point Dr., Suite 600, Cocoa Beach, FL 32926 within 21 days from the date of this notice.

The Corps is a cooperating agency in Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed All Aboard Florida – Orlando to Miami, Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Project. The FRA published a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the All Aboard Florida (AAF) project in the Federal Register; on August 21, 2015. Copies of the FEIS are available for public review online at FRA's website <http://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0819>.

The proposed project consists of two corridors, East-West (E-W) and North-South (N-S). The E-W Corridor would begin at the north end of the Orlando International Airport and extend east to Cocoa paralleling State Road 528. The approximately 32-mile corridor would require all new rail infrastructure, structures and systems. The N-S portion occurs within the existing Florida East Coast Railroad right-of-way between Cocoa and West Palm Beach. This segment is approximately 297 miles long and would require the replacement of tracks which previously existed within the corridor, relocation of existing utilities, replacement or repair of several existing bridge structures, and new systems.

The Public Notice is available <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx>

For additional information regarding the Corps' regulatory program, visit

<http://saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/SourceBook.aspx>