

COMMITTEE
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Criminal & Civil Justice
Appropriations Committee

Full Appropriations on
General Government and
Healthcare

Energy & Utilities Policy
Committee

Government Accountability
Act Council

Roads, Bridges, & Ports
Policy Committee



Florida House of Representatives
Representative Darryl E. Rouson

Darryl.Rouson@myfloridahouse.gov

DISTRICT OFFICES

RECEIVED
441 45th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
(727) 552-1370

2009 AUG - 4 PM 3:13
802 Manatee Avenue East
Bradenton, FL 34208
(941) 708-8570

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION
TALLAHASSEE OFFICE

1003 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-0925

July 31, 2009

Commissioner Bruce Curry
Hillsborough County Planning Commission
601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 18th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602

Commissioner Curry,

I am writing to express my support for the Multi-Modal Center in Southern Hillsborough County. I understand the Hillsborough County Planning Commission has rejected to amend the land use zoning so this project can move forward. I am hopeful that on August 13 the BOCC will vote in favor of this project. As the elected State Representative for District 55, which includes areas of BOTH Southern Hillsborough and Manatee Counties, I see this project as critical to my constituents because it will bring many economic and environmental benefits.

This project will be extremely important to the economical well being of the residents living in Southern Hillsborough County. I know the residents support the Multi-Modal system because I have received their emails and letters asking me if there is anything I can do to make sure this project becomes a reality. In a time when Florida is experiencing historically high unemployment, it is critical to make decisions that will create jobs and bring wealth.

To preserve the regional environment, the developers of the land are willing to restore and donate 92 acres of wetlands to SWFTMD. This is an important environmental benefit because the land is now currently abandoned farm land with many unnatural species of shrubs and trees. The preservation of these wetlands is important to the regional habitat, and it would be in the best interest of this habitat to undergo such a restoration project.

As a Representative who serves on the Roads, Bridges, and Ports Policy Committee in the Florida Legislature, I endorse this project because we are able to gain much needed efficiencies from this distribution center which will serve the Port of Manatee and Port of Tampa. With this property's direct access to railroads and interstates, we can ensure consumers and citizens that there will be cost savings created from a more efficient supply chain.

I urge you to vote in favor of the Multi-Modal Center so this region may be able to realize the economic and environmental benefits this project will bring. Please let me know if you need any additional information that will help to make this important decision.

Regards,



Representative Darryl E. Rouson

Cc: Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners