

RESOLUTION 2006-10

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY ENDORSING PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLK TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, public transportation provides access to life-essential goods and services for low income individuals, older Polk residents, and disabled citizens; and

WHEREAS, public transit is a vital resource to emergency management personnel and residents in the event of weather-related or other disasters; and

WHEREAS, public transportation offers Polk governments an invaluable tool for addressing growth management issues by enhancing mobility options and increasing capacity on existing roadways to mitigate the impacts of growth on the transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that transit use protects the natural environment by easing congestion, reducing air pollution, and saving energy; and

WHEREAS, public transportation provides transportation to and from work, spurs economic development and job creation, and increases business activity and real estate values; and

WHEREAS, Polk County is an urbanizing county with diverse travel needs within and across county borders, and there is a demonstrated need for countywide and regional transit services; and

WHEREAS, Polk Regional Transportation Organization (RTO) was created in 2004 to improve the coordination of existing transit services and to develop and implement a plan for countywide transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Polk RTO is continuing to lead efforts to coordinate existing transit services as provided by the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District, Winter Haven Area Transit, and the Polk County Transit Services Division; and

WHEREAS, the Polk Transportation Planning Organization and the Polk RTO have prepared a long-range plan for countywide transit services, and these services will benefit all of the residents of Polk County; and

WHEREAS, Polk RTO has developed proposed legislation for the creation of a Polk Transit Authority, and this legislation will provide a means to merge the existing transit

providers into a single authority with a dedicated funding source to provide the planned countywide transit services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Polk City Florida That the City of Polk City endorses the RTO's proposed legislation for the creation of a Polk Transit Authority.

THIS RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Polk City, Florida at its regular meeting assembled on the 12th of December, 2006.

CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Donald L. Penton, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
Sylvia Sims, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jeffrey Sullivan, City Attorney