

RESOLUTION

of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
regarding
**SUPPORT FOR INNOVATIVE TRAFFIC SIGNAL
TECHNOLOGIES PILOT PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2016-M-09

WHEREAS, the Orlando metropolitan area (which includes Orange, Seminole, and Osceola Counties) now has more than two million residents and the population is expected to continue growing at a rate of 2-3% each year; and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan area is the nation's top visitor destination with more than 62 million visitors in 2014 (which is more than 500,000 visitors on a typical day) and strong growth from domestic and international markets is expected to continue; and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan area's continued growth and prosperity depend on a transportation system that can safely and efficiently move an ever greater volume of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, there are limited opportunities for building new roads in densely developed, urbanized areas while further expanding existing arterials may not be cost-feasible in terms of right-of-way and can be contrary to community interests; and

WHEREAS, to meet these challenges, more emphasis is being placed on other solutions such as transit, non-motorized transportation, and the use of transportation system management and operations strategies to optimize utilization of existing arterials; and

WHEREAS, traffic signals play a critical role in moving vehicles on arterials while also providing for the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, advances in traffic signal technology and related traffic management practices have been shown to improve utilization of urban arterials and reduce travel time delays, which are the goals of an effective transportation system management and operations program; and

WHEREAS, one such advance has been made with adaptive traffic signal technology which results in traffic signals being operated based on information from roadside devices whose effectiveness can be confirmed with probe vehicle technology such as electronic toll transponders or Bluetooth-enabled devices within vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a new federal transportation funding bill has been approved by Congress to replace the former federal transportation funding act (MAP-21) and it is expected to include funding for one or more pilot projects to accelerate the deployment of innovative traffic signal technologies; and

WHEREAS, Florida Congressman John Mica has called this opportunity to the attention of local governments and has offered to lend his support in obtaining federal

discretionary funds to conduct one or more pilot projects using innovative traffic signal technologies throughout the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of prospective arterials in the Orlando metropolitan area that are considered to be promising corridors for possible pilot projects, such as US 17-92, US 192, US 441, SR 414, SR 50, SR 426, SR 434, SR 436, SR 438, and SR 482; and

WHEREAS, under a new federal transportation bill recently approved by Congress and the President, it is expected that the United States Department of Transportation will develop specific information on pilot projects such as criteria that will be used for evaluation/selection, procedures for submitting grant applications, funding match requirements, etc.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

Section 1. Findings.

- a. That in anticipation of this new funding opportunity, it is in the best interests of Orange County, Florida ("County") to join together at both the policy and technical levels to prepare for submitting a region-wide grant application for an innovative traffic signal technology pilot program.
- b. That MetroPlan Orlando and the Florida Department of Transportation/District 5 will take the lead, working closely with County, and other local governments, to develop one or more pilot projects that conform to the criteria established for the discretionary grant program by the United States Department of Transportation.
- c. That County staff will work diligently with MetroPlan Orlando and the Florida Department of Transportation/District 5, along with other local governments, to develop a competitive grant application to obtain federal funding for one or more pilot projects to evaluate the benefits of innovative traffic signal technologies.

d. That County will be open to considering a future recommendation that financial resources in the form of a local match be committed to the pilot project once the opportunity is better defined by the United States Department of Transportation and the specifics of the pilot project(s) have been identified.

Section 2. Effective date. This Resolution shall take effect upon the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF FEB 16 2016, _____.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

By: *Teresa Jacobs*
Teresa Jacobs
County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: *Barbara Snell*
Deputy Clerk

Print: Barbara Snell

