A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE THAT FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OFFICES BE LOCATED IN URBAN CENTERS.

PREMISES

1. The Governor's Management Advisory Committee, appointed by Governor Bob Graham, to examine management practices of Florida Department of Transportation, has recommended that Florida Department of Transportation District Offices be located in urban centers.

2. The location of Department of Transportation District Offices in urban centers will facilitate the solution of complex transportation problems by improving relationships and encouraging cooperation.

3. Orange County is one of the fastest growing counties in Florida, embodying the Orlando Urbanized Area, and will increase in population from 500,000 to 1,000,000 by the Year 2000.

4. The rate and size of population growth in Orange County results in complex transportation problems requiring close State-Local cooperation as a basis for their solution.

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

1. That Orange County supports the recommendation of the Governor's Management Advisory Committee that Florida Department of Transportation District Offices be located in urban centers.

2. That the Florida Legislature do all possible to effectuate the recommendation of the Governor's Management Advisory Committee.

3. That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Bob Graham, Governor.

4. That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Representative Tom Gustafson, Chairman, Florida House of Representatives Committee on Transportation, and:

   Senator George Stuart, Jr., District 14
ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY THIS DAY OF JANUARY, 1984.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: THOMAS H. LOCKER
Clerk to Board of County Commissioners

By: Deputy Clerk
DeLand frets over idea of losing DOT

By Al Truesdell
OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

DELAND — A recommendation that the state Department of Transportation move its district headquarters in DeLand to a larger city, probably Orlando, has angered city commissioners.

Commissioners voted late Monday to send local legislators a strongly worded resolution opposing the recommendation from a citizens committee appointed by Gov. Bob Graham to examine the management practices of the department.

The commissioners' resolution also says it would be an economic hardship on DeLand because of the number of jobs that would be lost. A report by the group called the Governor's Management Advisory Committee will be presented to the state Legislature this spring.

The report says district offices should be located in urban areas.

Please see DOT, C-8
Volusia lawmakers fighting to keep DOT regional office in DeLand

By Rick Tonyan
OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

DELAND — Evidence that moving the Department of Transportation's district headquarters to a larger city would be an unnecessary expense will be presented to the Legislature, Volusia County lawmakers said Tuesday.

Members of the legislative delegation joined with a variety of county, civic and political leaders in condemning the proposal to move the DOT's 5th District headquarters from DeLand to a larger city, probably Orlando.

Rep. Sam Bell, D-Ormond Beach, said he will set up a hearing with DOT administrators in the county and require them to estimate the costs of moving the headquarters.

Bell said he will present the cost estimates, along with transcripts of complaints from DeLand area residents, to the Legislature in the spring.

The move was proposed by a citizens committee appointed by Gov. Bob Graham to examine DOT management practices.

DOT's district headquarters should be in centers that are expected to be the focal point for regional growth and transportation problems, the nine-member Government Management Advisory Committee said.

The panel said that moving the district headquarters to a bigger city would improve relations with local officials and the news media and attract a better-qualified staff.

Opponents of the move contended that the DeLand headquarters is already at the center of the district.

"They must not have been here in the last 13 years," County Manager Tom Kelly said. "Either they have a sense of humor or they've overlooked some facts."

Rep. Tom Brown, a Port Orange Democrat, pointed out that the committee recommended moving the 5th District headquarters but said nothing about moving the 3rd District headquarters out of Chipley, which has a population about one-third of DeLand's.

DeLand civic leaders said that when the Legislature increased gasoline taxes last year, it was supposed to spend the extra money on road projects, not to build new transportation headquarters.

If DOT administrators feel that they need more office space for the 5th District, it would be cheaper to expand the DeLand headquarters than start from scratch in Orlando.

From B-1

DeLand residents said.

"This is outrageous to even think about," said Carl Reynolds, a longtime DeLand area civic leader. "If we need more buildings, let's put them here where you can buy the land for almost nothing."

The DeLand City Commission last month drafted a resolution condemning the proposed move. County council members are to consider a similar resolution on Thursday.

The DeLand district includes 12 counties: Orange, Seminole, Volusia, Brevard, Lake, Osceola, Marion, Putnam, Citrus, Sumter, Flagler and St. Johns. It has branch offices throughout the district.

DOT estimates that as many as 250 of the 470 employees in DeLand would be moved if the proposal becomes a reality. Maintenance workers probably wouldn't be moved, department administrators say.