

Resolution No. 2009-3

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY DEFUNIAK SPRINGS
REQUESTING AMTRAK TO RESTORE SUNSET LIMITED RAIL PASSENGER
SERVICE IN FLORIDA.**

WHEREAS, prior to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Amtrak operated the three-day-a-week Sunset Limited rail passenger service between New Orleans and destinations in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak discontinued operation of the Sunset Limited service between New Orleans and Florida due to partial destruction of the CSX railroad caused by Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak has not resumed the Sunset Limited service between New Orleans and destinations in Florida, even though the CSX damaged rails have been repaired and freight rail traffic is again utilizing the line; and

WHEREAS, rail passenger service will become an even more important alternative transportation mode to the private automobile as our nation moves toward reducing our dependency on foreign oil; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak trains and infrastructure provide a reliable rail option, reduce congestion on roads and in the skies; and

WHEREAS, passenger rail provides a more fuel-efficient transportation system, thereby providing cleaner transportation alternatives and energy security; and

WHEREAS, passenger railroads emit only 0.2% of the travel industry's total greenhouse gases; and


WHEREAS, daily passenger train service would be the next logical step in the revitalization and reconstruction of the Florida Gulf Coast;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS THAT:

The City of DeFuniak Springs requests Amtrak to restore Sunset Limited rail passenger service between New Orleans and destinations in Florida.

APPROVED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of DeFuniak Springs, Florida, this 23rd day of March, 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


C. Harold Carpenter, Mayor

ATTEST:


Vanessa Mitchell, Deputy Clerk