



**CITY OF DANIA BEACH  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** October 27, 2015

**TO:** Robert Baldwin, City Manager

**VIA:** Marc LaFerrier, AICP, Director

**RE:** **CD-110-15:** The City of Dania Beach supports Broward Metropolitan Organization (MPO) in the creation of a "Quiet Zone" in the Florida East Coast (FEC) railway corridor.

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The Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway traverses through many local government jurisdictions in eastern Broward County. All Aboard Florida (AAF) proposes to initiate passenger rail service and increase freight service on the FEC railway. In order to mitigate the impacts of the anticipated additional train traffic on the FEC rail corridor, a "Quiet Zone" will need to be established requiring all trains to stop utilizing their horns upon approaching each grade crossing. The creation of a continuous "Quiet Zone" from the Miami-Dade County border to the Palm Beach County border within Broward County will provide the highest level of community benefit for railway noise mitigation on the FEC.

The AAF intends to install additional supplemental safety measures (quad-gates and full crossing improvements) at predetermined crossings to meet the federal requirements for the creation of a "Quiet Zone". At this time, FDOT, MPO and AAF have identified the NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street cross for the supplemental safety measures. The other FEC's crossings on Dania Beach will be improved with new and enhanced safety crossings that may include: lights, gates, roadway surfacing, signage and traffic signalization.

The City of Dania Beach through a previous Resolution (Number 2014-031) supported the creation of a "Quiet Zone" and any additional railroad crossing improvements consistent with their agreement with FEC Railway. Affected local governments are required to apply for a "Quiet Zone" designation either individually or through a joint application. The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has offered to improve process and approval efficiency by

assisting local governments by coordinating the joint application for a Broward County "Quiet Zone" designation. As such, the City of Dania Beach should be the one of the applicants for a county-wide "Quiet Zone".

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Approval of the resolution supporting the creation of a "Quiet Zone".