



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and  
Domestic Security, *Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Transportation, Tourism, and Economic  
Development  
Commerce and Tourism  
Judiciary  
Regulated Industries  
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

**SENATOR AUDREY GIBSON**  
6th District

December 13, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary, US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

Please accept this letter of support for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's FASTLANE II Grant program.

The Northeast Florida Freight Rail Program project FASTLANE II, will add 7,000 ft. of new track, modernize manual air switches to digital switches, upgrade the signaling and add 5.5 miles of Centralized Traffic Control (CTC). CTC consists of a centralized train dispatcher's office that controls railroad interlocking and traffic flows in the rail system designated as CTC territory which is now being handled by local signal operators.

This FDOT/JTA project meets all categories of FASTLANE I and II, as it also includes more efficient freight movement in Jacksonville by reducing congestion and blockage which brings Downtown to a complete halt. This project will not only benefit Northeast Florida, but all the states that do freight and logistics business via rail with in the State of Florida.

As a member of the Florida Senate's Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations committee, I am excited to see the opportunity that Northeast Florida Freight Rail Program has created by FASTLANE I and look forward to FASTLANE II.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey Gibson".

Audrey Gibson  
State Senator  
District 6

REPLY TO:

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- 205 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5009

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**JOE NEGRON**  
President of the Senate

**ANITERE FLORES**  
President Pro Tempore