



## Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust

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Stephen J. Gardner  
President & Chief Executive Officer, Amtrak  
Amtrak Headquarters  
1 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20001

March 15, 2022

**RE: Letter Urging Amtrak to Bring Service to the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC)**

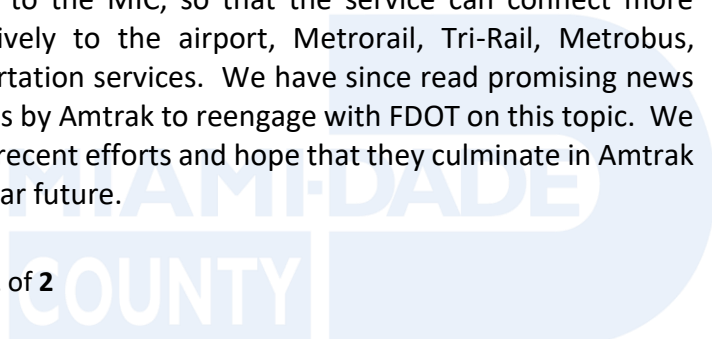
Dear Mr. Gardner,

The purpose of this letter is to encourage Amtrak to extend its Silver Meteor/Silver Star Intercity Passenger Rail Service to the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) terminal at the Miami International Airport.

The Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) is a quasi-independent agency of Miami-Dade County charged with overseeing a local option transportation surtax (i.e., the "half-penny"), which voters approved by referendum in 2002. One of the key projects to be funded with the "half-penny" surtax to-date is the expansion of Metrorail to the Miami Intermodal Center, or "MIC," a facility that aims to connect an array of transportation modes to each other and to Miami International Airport. In addition to Metrorail, the MIC was built to accommodate the Tri-Rail regional commuter service, the MIA Mover people mover to the nearby airport, Metrobus, Intercity Bus, Amtrak, and several other transportation services.

Unfortunately, several years since its opening, the MIC has yet to benefit from the proposed Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail Service. While initial design flaws prohibited this Intercity Passenger Rail Service from accessing the MIC, we understand that those problems may have since been resolved by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and that the primary thing needed for Amtrak to serve the MIC is a desire and willingness to do so.

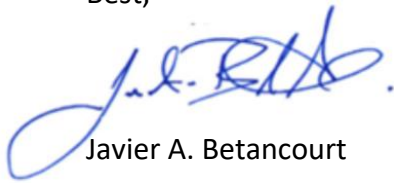
This issue was discussed at a recent meeting of the CITT, at which time the Chairman of the Trust directed me to write a letter urging Amtrak to consider extending its Intercity Passenger Rail Service to the MIC, so that the service can connect more directly, efficiently, and effectively to the airport, Metrorail, Tri-Rail, Metrobus, Intercity Bus, and other transportation services. We have since read promising news of renewed interest and activities by Amtrak to reengage with FDOT on this topic. We applaud and fully support these recent efforts and hope that they culminate in Amtrak service to the MIC in the very near future.



If there is anything the CITT can do to assist in the realization of this long delayed Intercity Passenger Rail Service to the MIC terminal, we would be happy to consider it. This would be a win-win-win for Amtrak, the citizens of Miami-Dade County, and our traveling visitors. We respectfully and eagerly request that you please make this happen.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, thoughts or concerns. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,



Javier A. Betancourt

- c: CITT Trust Members
  - Hon. Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
  - Hon. Oliver G. Gilbert III, Chair, Transportation Planning Org., Vice Chair, Board of County Commissioners, and District 1 Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
  - Hon. Eileen Higgins, Chair, Transportation Mobility & Planning Committee and District 5 Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
  - Bruno Maestri, Vice President, Govt. Affairs & Corporate Communications, Amtrak
  - Todd Stennis, South Regional Senior Manager, Amtrak
  - Stacy Miller, FDOT District 6 Secretary
  - Steven Abrams, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
  - Jimmy Morales, Chief Operations Officer, Miami-Dade County
  - Eulois Cleckley, Director of Transportation and Public Works, Miami-Dade County
  - Aileen Bouclé, Executive Director, Transportation Planning Org., Miami-Dade County
  - Bruce Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney, Miami-Dade County
  - Monica Cejas, Deputy Director, Office of the CITT