



November 19, 2024

Ms. Kimberly Holland
Assistant Secretary of Strategic Development
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Holland,

Following-up on previous conversations regarding Amtrak's use of the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC), we wanted to express our sincere thanks to the entire Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) team that engaged with the Amtrak team as we jointly evaluated use of the MIC to support Amtrak's long-distance intercity passenger rail network.

As we recently reported, that evaluation is now complete, and has concluded that it is currently not feasible to divert Amtrak long-distance trains, the *Silver Meteor* and *Silver Star* (temporarily operating as the *Floridian*) to the MIC, as our southern terminus. The servicing requirements of these trains, and the additional costs associated with operations to and from the MIC, ADA-related modifications (such as the removal of mini-high platforms and signage reconfiguration) and interior outfitting weighed heavily in our decision.

As a result, Amtrak will advance our alternative plan, implementing ADA and other facility improvements at the current Hialeah site. That work is expected to begin in Spring 2025 and continue through at least June, 2028. We acknowledge and understand that FDOT and the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) will make available to others the space at MIC that has previously been retained for Amtrak's use.

While we were unable to make an economic and operational case for our long distance operations, we believe there is strong potential to incorporate the MIC into future state-sponsored Amtrak intercity corridor service. The MIC's modern exterior, and close proximity to other regional and international transportation options makes it extremely well suited to such use. Our hope is that as Florida's long-range vision for intercity passenger rail continues to advance, Amtrak and the MIC can play a principal role in that future.

Our regular meetings have been extremely helpful in progressing issues of joint benefit and concern, and we look forward to the continued dialogue on the issues, including the ones identified in your letter to me (attached) of July 16.

Thank you again for your continued support of Amtrak and our mission to provide safe and reliable intercity passenger rail transportation to the citizens of Florida, and to the nation.

Very truly yours,



Jim Blair
AVP Host Railroads

Cc:

Steve Braun	-	FDOT - D4
Stacy Miller	-	FDOT - D6
Anna Quero	-	FDOT
Dennis Newman	-	Amtrak
Dave Handera	-	Amtrak
Kyle Montgomery	-	Amtrak

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Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
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605 Suwannee Street
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JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.
SECRETARY

July 16, 2024

Jim Blair, AVP Host Railroads
Amtrak
30th Street Station | 4th Floor North; Box 20
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Mr. Blair:

RE: Amtrak Access to Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) Headhouse

This letter is in response to your communication transmitted on June 7, 2024, via email regarding Amtrak's terms and conditions in order to relocate the Amtrak Miami station to the East Headhouse located at the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC).

Over the past 12 months, FDOT and Amtrak have diligently worked towards reaching a mutually acceptable agreement and significant progress has been made in resolving the terms, except for the annual fee for the use of the headhouse.

The terms from the 1997 Amtrak Operating Agreement are outdated and require further consideration for costs borne by State, in addition to future costs associated with Amtrak operating at the MIC.

We appreciate your willingness to continue these discussions. We look forward to further conversation and are hopeful we can reach mutually agreeable terms.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly A. Holland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kim Holland, PE

Assistant Secretary of Strategic Development
Florida Department of Transportation

CC: S. Braun, D4 Secretary
S. Miller, D6 Secretary

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