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**GOVERNOR BUSH ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH CSX
TRANSPORTATION TO TURN TRI-RAIL OPERATION OVER TO STATE**

ORLANDO – Governor Jeb Bush today announced an agreement in principle between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and CSX Transportation Inc. (CSXT) that provides for transfer of operational control of the rail corridor, serving South Florida’s Tri-Rail commuter rail service, to the state. The agreement in principle will give FDOT and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) control of maintenance and dispatch of passenger and freight trains along the 81 miles of Tri-Rail corridor between West Palm Beach and Miami, while also opening the possibility of commuter rail in Central Florida. The final agreement is expected to be completed in the coming months as the state and CSXT work together to finalize implementation plans.

“Today’s announcement puts us on an exciting track toward Florida’s transportation future, giving South Florida more control over its Tri-Rail operations” said Governor Bush. “When combined with the recent rail corridor double tracking, these measures should significantly improve the reliability of commuter rail service.”

Through the agreement, FDOT will improve reliability of Tri-Rail by gaining control of all rail movement including dispatch and maintenance operations along the commuter rail line in South Florida. In addition, the agreement allows cooperation between the parties to extend commuter rail service in South Florida from the vicinity of Miami International Airport south and then southwest to the terminus at Homestead.

“This agreement in principle represents a long-anticipated resolution to the complex and important issue of how to meet freight and commuter rail desires in the robust Florida economy,” said Michael Ward, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CSX Corporation.

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In addition to benefits for South Florida, the agreement in principle will provide significant benefits to Central Florida residents. The Central Florida agreement in principle opens the opportunity for commuter rail in Central Florida. Under the agreement, the state will provide commuter rail service along a 61-mile stretch between DeLand in Volusia County and Poinciana in Osceola County.

For more information on the agreement in principle, please visit <http://www.dot.state.fl.us>.

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