June 3, 2015

FDFC Board of Directors
Florida Development Finance Corporation
800 North Magnolia Avenue, Suite 1100
Orlando, Florida 32803

Dear FD FC Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Town Council of the Town of Jupiter, Florida, please accept this letter in opposition of the requested issuance of $1.75 billion in private activity bonds (PABs) to finance the proposed All Aboard Florida (AAF) passenger rail project. The Town Council’s opposition is due to the negative impacts that the proposed combination of freight and passenger service will have upon public safety.

The Town Council believes that the AAF proposal will have adverse impacts on the safety and welfare of the communities, families and businesses of coastal Florida. The proposed passenger service, combined with existing and anticipated increase in freight, will disrupt our region’s commercial and recreation maritime activities in navigable waterways due to the impacts on the Loxahatchee Bridge and result in new risks along the corridor that are unacceptable. Specifically, increased traffic on the corridor will create additional congestion at crossings that degrade public safety response times and the high speeds of the passenger trains, without significant protection, will expose vehicular and pedestrian traffic to new hazards.

The AAF proposal, as it stands, provides no benefits to the Town of Jupiter and only results in safety risks and costs to the community. Many of the issues that the Town Council raised during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement process have been ignored by AAF and should be resolved before any consideration be given to AAF’s funding request. For these reasons, the Town Council, on behalf of the Town of Jupiter, implores the FD FC to deny the request for the issuance of private activity bonds.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these important public safety concerns.

Sincerely,

Karen J. Golonka
Mayor

Jim Kuretski
Vice Mayor

Todd R. Wodraska
Councilor

Ilan Kaufer
Councilor