

# Priscilla A. Taylor

County Commissioner, District 7  
Board of County Commissioners



September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Tiger Grant Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to wholeheartedly recommend the Port of Palm Beach Slip 3 project for discretionary grant funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery program.

This critical project will contribute to the long-term economic competitiveness of not just the port and region but the nation; will upgrade safety and quality of key existing transportation infrastructure and facilities; will feature sustainability and livability components; and will improve quality of life in economically disadvantaged communities.

Speaking as a former three-time member of the Florida House of Representatives, former chairwoman of the Port of Palm Beach District Board of Commissioners and present member of the Palm Beach County Commission, representing District 7, in which the Port of Palm Beach is located, I am confident that the Slip 3 project is precisely the kind of endeavor ideally suited for TIGER funding.

At the heart of such federal grant funding is the creation and retention of well-paying jobs, and the Slip 3 project will create substantial construction employment plus facilitate hundreds of sustained jobs after the construction has been completed, as the refurbished and expanded slip area will support efficient movement of cargos while broadening the port's berthing capacity and scope of services. Palm Beach County – and some of our most economically challenged communities in particular – depends heavily upon the Port of Palm Beach as a primary economic engine.

It is also of note that this Slip 3 project slip has the support of numerous crucial public- and private-sector interests, from Palm Beach County and several of its cities to Florida Power & Light Co. and sugar, molasses and cement industry leaders. These government and industry stakeholder parties are rallying to advance this vital project, with hopes that local, state and federal funding will all help bring it to fruition, thus strengthening the transportation network while bringing hundreds of good-paying jobs to an economically struggling area.

I welcome the opportunity to provide further insights regarding the critical nature of this project and wish to express advance appreciation for your consideration of assisting in its funding.

Most appreciatively,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Priscilla A. Taylor".

Priscilla A. Taylor  
Board of County Commissioners, District VII  
Palm Beach County

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