

RESOLUTION NO. 209

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security, for at least the last two years, Bay County has had among the highest unemployment in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, according to the State of Florida, Visit Florida, this area is the second highest vehicular traffic destination in the State with an estimated 7 million tourists each year; and

WHEREAS, according to Tyndall Air Force Base, the current Panama City-Bay County Airport is located in the Tyndall Military Operations Area and the restricted airspace of Tyndall Air Force Base, and the Parker City Council desires to protect Tyndall Air Force Base and Coastal Systems Station from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission of the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority sought an extension of the existing runway into North Bay, which the City of Parker supported. Rather than disturb North Bay or destroy potentially hundreds of homes adjacent to the existing airport, the Parker City Council has determined that it is preferable to relocate the airport, if the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority determines that the relocation of the airport is economically feasible; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Parker, Florida, seeks improved air service by increasing flight destinations, increased flights for improved scheduling, punctual flight service, and reduced airfare; and

WHEREAS, improved air service will not only improve the quality of life for traveling Parker citizens, but it will also make this area more accessible to tourists and visitors who conduct business and trade with citizens of the City of Parker, Florida.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Parker, Florida that:

1. The Parker City Council respectfully requests the Florida Legislature to provide funding for Phase 3 of the Panama City-Bay County Airport Project which will result in a master plan for a relocated airport, an environmental assessment of the proposed sites to be identified in the current feasibility study, and 80% of the construction design of a new facility, if the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority determines that the relocation project is economically feasible.
2. The Parker City Council respectfully requests the Florida Legislature to provide funding for improvements to the transportation system within Bay County and throughout the Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern as

designated by Governor Jeb Bush in November, 1999.

3. The Parker City Council respectfully requests funding of the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority Project by the Federal Aviation Administration for construction and completion of the Project, if the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority determines the Project to be economically feasible.
4. The Parker City Council insists that if the airport is relocated, that it be placed in an area which has minimalizes the impacts on existing residential areas and on environmental resources.
5. The Parker City Council respectfully requests the assistance of Representative Bense, Senator Childers, Senator Clary, Senator Thomas, Senator Mack, Senator Graham, Governor Bush and President Clinton and from the Florida Department of Transportation, the Florida Legislature, United States Congress and the Federal Aviation Administration in funding the Panama City-Bay County Airport relocation upon a determination by the Panama City-Bay County Airport Authority that the Project is feasible.
6. Ultimately, the Parker City Council desires to improve the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Parker by creating economic development enablers which create jobs for our citizens and stabilize our economy.

PASSED in special session this 10th day of March, 2000.

CITY OF PARKER

By Brenda Hendricks
Brenda Hendricks, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dave Linger
Dave Linger, City Clerk