

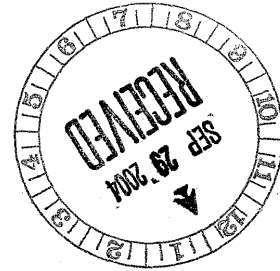
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## SARASOTA COUNTY

"Dedicated to Quality Service"

September 22, 2004



Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
Mercury Building  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

Subject: Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X), Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P.  
Abandonment Exception – In Sarasota County, Florida

Dear Secretary Williams:

By decision dated April 2, 2004, in the above captioned matter, the Surface Transportation Board granted a notice on interim trail use allowing the parties until September 29, 2004, to reach an agreement. Sarasota County is currently in the process of finishing all of the acquisition due diligence requirements and negotiations. Sarasota County has a closing date set for December 1, 2004. Therefore, an additional extension of time is being requested in order to conclude the acquisition of the property. Sarasota County hereby requests an additional three-month extension.

If you have any questions, please contact James K. Harriott, P.E., General Manager, Transportation Planning and Transit Services, at (941) 861-0921. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Alan T. Wheeler, P.E.  
Executive Director

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SEP 30 2004

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Public Record

cc: Board of County Commissioners  
James L. Ley, County Administrator  
David R. Bullock, Deputy County Administrator  
Susan M. Scott, Deputy County Administrator  
James K. Harriott, P.E., General Manager