

## Martin County Submits Federal-State Partnership Grant Application for Brightline Station \$45 million award would help fund new intercity passenger rail station

Stuart, Fla. (December 17, 2025) Martin County successfully submitted an application for the Federal-State Partnership (FSP) grant that will help fund a Brightline station in Martin County. The County is excited and optimistic about the possibility of utilizing federal funds to construct an intercity passenger rail station that will generate economic development and provide a much-needed transportation alternative.

The FSP grant will be utilized to support the design and construction of the approximate 8,000 square foot train station that will be in downtown Stuart in Martin County. In addition to a station and platform, the project will include a surface parking lot and rail infrastructure improvements necessary for the introduction of the station.

"We are confident that our grant application will be competitive, and we look forward to kicking off this important project and delivering a Brightline station to our residents, businesses and visitors," said Sarah Heard, Chair, Martin County Board of County Commissioners. "Increased mobility options will provide significant benefits to our county and region."

According to the Martin County Tourist Development Council, more than 1.5 million people from Central and South Florida visit Martin County each year via automobile. With Brightline stations conveniently located in Orlando and five South Florida cities, intercity passenger rail will be a viable and comfortable way to travel to and from Martin County. The project received significant and widespread support from downtown business, the county-wide business community and residents.

"Brightline is thankful to the Martin County Board of County Commissioners for having the leadership and vision as well as the many residents and local business owners who supported the project," said Brian Kronberg, SVP of Development and Construction for Brightline. "We are hopeful this grant will be awarded so that the Treasure Coast can benefit from a new Brightline station and gain a new transportation option that will easily and efficiently transport residents and visitors."

The total project cost is estimated to be \$60 million, and Martin County will contribute up to \$15 million. It is anticipated the station will open in 2028.

Residents are encouraged to visit <u>www.martin.fl.us</u>, Martin County's online resource for services, news and information, and connect with us on social media. Follow us on  $\underline{X}$ ,(formerly known as Twitter) <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> and subscribe to our <u>YouTube Channel</u>. ####

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## About the Martin County Board of County Commissioners

The five-member Board of County Commissioners is the legislative governing body of Martin County. Each Commissioner is elected to a four-year term by voters in the countywide area. Chapter 125.01 of the Florida Statutes establishes the specific duties and powers of the Board of County Commissioners. Exercising their legislative powers, the County Commission adopts ordinances (local laws) and resolutions to establish policies and programs to protect the health, safety and general welfare of Martin County residents.

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