

# Proclamation



Pam Iorio, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, to raise awareness of the vital role rail plays in our nation's transportation system, Amtrak will be celebrating its first annual *National Train Day* on Saturday, May 10, 2008 which will be the culmination of six weeks of promotions, events, partnerships, and celebrations held throughout the country; and

**WHEREAS**, this date is significant as it is also the 139<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah in 1869, connecting the east and west coasts of the United States for the first time by rail; and

**WHEREAS**, as our country works to find more energy efficient ways to travel, rail ridership continues to rise. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, rail contributes less per passenger mile to greenhouse gas emissions than either cars or airplanes; and

**WHEREAS**, known as one of the best ways to discover the beauty of our country, train travel is also a part of America's cultural heritage and can be found in our music, movies and literature; and

**WHEREAS**, while this recognition was initiated by Amtrak in an effort to build awareness of the comfort, ease and efficiency of train travel and the network of services available from coast to coast, other groups with an interest in train travel and history have become involved such as the National Association of Railroad Passengers and the Florida Coalition of Railway Passengers; and

**WHEREAS**, locally, Tampa's Union Station will be the site of festivities honoring this occasion with participation by Amtrak, The Tampa Bay Lightning, the Florida Railroad Museum, Pinellas County Heritage Village, HART and many others. As an Amtrak city, Tampa is honored to join in this recognition.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pam Iorio, Mayor of Tampa, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim May 10, 2008 as

## "NATIONAL TRAIN DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to recognize the vital role rail plays in the success of our city and to take part in activities planned to celebrate this industry and all those who have been involved through the years.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008.

Mayor

