

SUWANNEE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

1907 VOYLES STREET, SW

LIVE OAK, FL 32064

(386) 362-5332



June 2, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am the Administrator of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for Suwannee, Hamilton and Columbia Counties. Our facility is located inside the city limits of Live Oak, FL in beautiful Suwannee County.

We would like you to strongly consider Live Oak, Florida's train depot as a designated stop between Jacksonville, FL and New Orleans, LA. Live Oak is situated in close proximity to the I-10/I-75 interchange and is the halfway point between Jacksonville and Tallahassee.

Suwannee County is home to the historic Suwannee River and boasts of many natural springs, parks, hiking and biking trails. The first Saturday in December is Live Oak's Christmas on the Square. The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, located on the banks of the Suwannee River, hosts many festivals and events in which patrons travel from near and far to attend. Stephen Foster State Park is in neighboring Hamilton County, which is host to the Florida Folk Festival and the Wild Azalea Festival. Neighboring Columbia County hosts the annual Olustee Battle Reenactment. These are just some of the events that are held in our area that draws thousands of visitors. I am confident that many would be happy to utilize the Amtrak as a means of transportation to our area.

As the local transportation agency, SVTA is located 1.9 miles from the depot and will be available to provide transportation services for passengers from the train depot to a number of locations. Our professional bus operators (PBO) are trained in safety and security measures. Our vehicles undergo both a pre-trip and post-trip inspection every day and we pride ourselves on the cleanliness and safety of our vehicles. We could have a vehicle on site on a fixed schedule to assure that passengers have a minimal wait time.

The placement of a stop here in Live Oak would be a huge financial boost not only to our lovely town, but, the entire Suwannee Valley Region.

Sincerely,

Larry Sessions,
Administrator