

## About the Campaign

- The Sunset Limited Line passenger rail service ran from New Orleans to Jacksonville until portions of the rail were damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.
- Now Amtrak and the Southern Rail Commission (SRC) are working to reinstate this route, but Live Oak is not(yet) being considered as a stop for the route.
- The City of Live Oak and Suwannee County would like Amtrak and the SRC to consider making Live Oak an "East of NOLA Route" stop.





# Why Live Oak?





PRIME LOCATION





HISTORY



## **Economic Impact**

- Southern Rail Commission officials project 138,300 yearly passengers will use the proposed Live Oak station.
- The station is estimated to generate annual profits for Amtrak between \$6.77 and \$7.24 million.
- The renovated train station will attract new businesses, industry, visitors and revenue to the city and surrounding areas.





### Prime Location

Live Oak is located in the center of the North Florida Business Diamond – the area bounded by Tallahassee, Valdosta, Jacksonville and Gainesville – and served by:

- Two regional airports
- Three state highways
- Two interstate highways
- ... Two international airports







## Prime Location

The remodeled rail station is centrally located in a safe, well-lit area of downtown across from the Fire Station and Chamber of Commerce.









## **Hub for Tourism**

- Live Oak is home to the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park:
  - \*\* Hosts eight major annual music festivals
  - \*\* Receives 600,000 guests annually









## **Hub for Tourism**

- Live Oak is a favored destination for eco-tourists due to:
  - Bountiful camping grounds and plains
  - \*\* The Suwannee River
    - Diving capital of the world









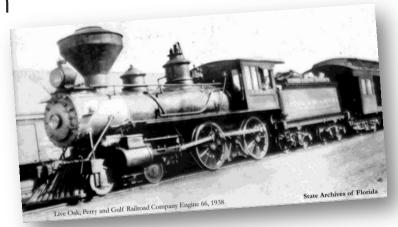


## History

Live Oak owes its existence and namesake to the expansion of the railroad in the 1800s.



The city was a stop on the previous Sunset Limited Line that ran from New Orleans to Jacksonville.





### Where are we so far?

- The federally chartered Gulf Coast Working Group is working to determine how to restore passenger rail services across America's southern coast.
  - They sent an update to Congress on December 14, 2016, detailing their progress and identifying next steps that must be taken, which include:
    - --- Finalizing a list of infrastructure needed to restore service
    - --- Agreeing to order-of-magnitude capital cost estimates
    - Identifying potential sources for federal, state and local funding
- Senator Bill Nelson has confirmed his support for the campaign.
- Petition signature update: 1,060 signatures as of March 23, 2017





## Live Oak Station by the Numbers:

- 138,300 yearly passengers projected
- Between \$6.77 and \$7.24 million in annual profits estimated for Amtrak
- Live Oak already hosts more than 600,000 tourists on an annual basis
- Centrally located in North Florida Business Diamond near various markets:

Valdosta......42 miles Jacksonville...84 miles Savannah.....220 miles Gainesville.....70 miles Orlando......179 miles Atlanta.......273 miles Tallahassee....82 miles Tampa.......194 miles Pensacola....275 miles



#### How to Get on Board:

- Sign and share the online petition at: www.allaboardliveoak.com/petition
- Spread the word! The website offers downloadable materials with information about the campaign you can share with others at:

www.allaboardliveoak.com/get-on-board

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		<ul> <li>It would generate between \$12.25 and \$12.72 million annually to America.</li> </ul>	
		Dear Gregory B. White, Chairman, Southern Rail Commission, I would like the Southern Rail Commission to consider making Live Oak a stop on the Sonset Limited Line because:	
Dear Joe McHagh, Vice President, National Rullroad Passenger Corporation,		Dear Gregory B. White, Chairman, Southern Rail Commission,	



#### How to Get on Board:

Check out our website at:

www.allaboardliveoak.com

Connect with us on social media! Share why you're on board using #AllAboardLiveOak.

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