



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Scott Announces \$175,000 Investment for the Port Manatee Commerce Center**

*Project will create/support 76 new direct high wage jobs*

**PALMETTO** – Governor Rick Scott today announced that the \$357,000 Port Manatee Commerce Center (PMCC) project will receive a \$175,000 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The PMCC is prepared to construct a parallel 450 linear feet rail spur and construct a new 14,000 sq. ft. loading ramp to expand existing bulk carrier new intermodal services at an operating Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC).

Governor Scott said, "I'm committed to ensuring that our transportation projects create more jobs for Florida families. This investment of \$175,000 for Port Manatee will enhance port infrastructure and create more opportunities for families in the region."

This \$357,000 investment is among the first four grants for the Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC) Infrastructure Support Program. This program provides an annual allocation of \$5,000,000 with a 50 percent matching fund requirement from applicants.

ILCs play a significant role in expanding our trade and logistics infrastructure by enhancing the state's seaports, airports, railroads, and supporting intermodal highway connectors.

FDOT Secretary Ananth Prasad said, "The Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC) Infrastructure Support Program is an important part of the department's commitment to support freight growth in Florida. By enhancing our trade and logistics infrastructure we will create job opportunities and strengthen Florida's economy."

Port Manatee Commerce Center Operations Manager Kevin Button said, "It is an honor to be recognized as a recipient for the Intermodal Logistics Center Infrastructure Support Program matching funds grant. We are pleased Governor Scott and FDOT included small businesses in this initiative and recognize it is small businesses which drive local job creation."

FDOT selected four projects to fund from a total of eight applications received in the FY 2012/2013 funding cycle. The other three selected projects include Keystone ILC

Terminal (Jacksonville), South Florida Logistics Center (Miami), and Port of Panama City Intermodal Distribution Center (Panama City). All four selected projects support and create a total of 1,213 direct and indirect jobs

Please see the attached documents for additional information on the four projects and ILCs.

The 2014 funding cycle is now open. The department is accepting applications for the next \$5 million annual allocation:

<http://www.freightmovesflorida.com/intermodal-logistics-center/ilc-overview>

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