



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

Consent

F.8.

1/10/2023

Subject:

Letter of support to Representative Tyler Sirois for naming the SR 405 bridge the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge. - District 1

Fiscal Impact:

None

Dept/Office:

District 1 Commission Office

Requested Action:

It is requested that the Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign the attached letter addressed to Representative Tyler Sirois.

Summary Explanation and Background:

The attached letter to Representative Tyler Sirois expresses support for an Act of the Florida Legislature naming the SR 405 bridge, currently under construction on the NASA Causeway, the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge. Memorial designations on transportation facilities in Florida are accomplished jointly through an Act of the Florida Legislature and a Resolution from the appropriate local government. Upon official designation by the Florida Legislature, it will be the responsibility of the legislative sponsors of the designation to obtain local Resolutions in accordance with Section 334.071(3), F.S.

Groundbreaking for constructing two high-level fixed bridges to replace the existing NASA Causeway bridge commenced on December 14, 2021. The construction of the bridges marks a new era for Florida's Space Coast and supports the innovation and growth of the space industry. The new 4,025-foot-long span will be a critical corridor for SpaceX and Blue Origin commercial spaceflights.

Naming this vital bridge the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge will honor her legacy, acknowledge the history of females in space, and inspire generations of females considering a career in the STEM fields.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Include copy of signed letter in minutes for January 10, 2023 meeting.



January 11, 2023

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1

RE: Item F.8., Letter of Support to Representative Tyler Sirois for naming the SR 405 bridge the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on January 10, 2023, approved and authorized you to sign the Letter of Support addressed to Representative Tyler Sirois for naming the SR 405 bridge the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kimberly Powell".

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/pp



BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Rita Pritchett
Chair, District 1

Tom Goodson
Commissioner, District 2

John Tobia
Commissioner, District 3

Rob Feltner
Commissioner, District 4

Kristine Zonka
Vice-Chair, District 5

January 10, 2023

Honorable Tyler I. Sirois
Florida House of Representatives
260 North Tropical Trail, Suite 206
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Dear Representative Sirois,

The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners supports naming the newly constructed bridge on SR 405 the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge.

On June 18, 1983, Sally Ride made history aboard the Space Shuttle *Challenger* STS-7 mission as she was both the youngest American astronaut and the first American woman to fly in space. In addition, Sally Ride was in NASA Astronaut Group 8, the first class of NASA astronauts to include women. She crewed two shuttle missions, spending more than 343 hours in space.

Following the *Challenger* disaster in January 1986, Ride was appointed to the Rogers Commission, the Presidential Commission charged with investigating the tragedy. She headed the commission's Subcommittee on Operations and was both the only Space Shuttle astronaut and current NASA employee on the commission.

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Naming this vital bridge the Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge will honor her legacy, acknowledge the history of females in space, and inspire generations of females considering a career in the STEM fields.

Sincerely,

Rita Pritchett, Chair

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners