



## MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #III.G

---

DATE: JUNE 6, 2016

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SFRC RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN

---

SFRC Resolution 16-01 supports Miami-Dade County's and Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) efforts to advance transit corridors and transit supportive projects in the South Florida Region. The Miami-Dade MPO has authorized Step 3 Project Development for the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan, which identifies six Rapid Transit Corridors. A critical component of the plan is a connected network of Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) system in order to comprehensively expand the reach of mass transit in the State's most congested and populated region.

In 2010, the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, spearheaded the development of the seven-county Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (Partnership) and its successful designation as an inaugural U.S. HUD Sustainable Community. Completed in 2014, the Partnership's *Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan*, a 50-year vision and plan, reflects general agreement around priority initiatives and investment in key areas of importance to Southeast Florida's future. Broadly stated, these initiatives are focused on issues related to Everglades and waterways; balanced mobility/transportation; climate preparedness and resilience; education and workforce; and economic competitiveness and opportunity. The *Prosperity Plan* highlights a "Region in Motion" as the preferred development scenario with an emphasis on quality transit and transit-oriented development as critical to the region's future resiliency and greater prosperity.

This plan will advance implementation of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's *Seven50: Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Plan* by advancing the development of transit corridors and transit supportive projects; reducing congestion and greenhouse gas emissions; enhancing connectivity and economic opportunity for communities and the region's workforce; and enhancing regional mobility.

### Recommendation

Approve the Resolution.



South Florida Regional Council  
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021  
954.985.4416 Phone, 954.985-4417 FAX  
[www.sfrionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfrionalcouncil.org)



## RESOLUTION 16-01

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MIAMI-DADE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) TRANSIT EXPANSION THROUGH THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN

**WHEREAS**, the South Florida Regional Council is a regional public policy and planning agency representing the geographic area of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties;

**WHEREAS**, the South Florida Regional Council is voluntarily created pursuant to an Interlocal Agreement of Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties, and Florida Statutes;

**WHEREAS**, the Council Board consists of county and municipal elected officials, gubernatorial appointees, and ex-officio representatives representing the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida departments of Transportation, Environmental Protection, and Economic Opportunity;

**WHEREAS**, the Council's mission is to work with, and provide assistance to, its member units of local governments and other regional stakeholders to develop and implement creative strategies that will result in more prosperous and equitable communities, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy;

**WHEREAS**, in 2010 the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, spearheaded the development of the seven-county Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (Partnership) and its successful designation as an inaugural U.S. HUD Sustainable Community;

**WHEREAS**, completed in 2014, the Partnership's *Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan*, a 50-year vision and plan, reflects general agreement around priority initiatives and investment in key areas of importance to Southeast Florida's future;

**WHEREAS**, broadly stated, these initiatives are focused on issues related to Everglades and waterways; balanced mobility / transportation; climate preparedness and resilience; education and workforce; and economic competitiveness and opportunity;

**WHEREAS**, the Partnership's *Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan* highlights a "Region in Motion" as the preferred development scenario with an emphasis on quality transit and transit-oriented development as critical to the region's future resiliency and greater prosperity;

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the electors of Miami-Dade County approved the imposition of a one-half percent surtax with the purpose of improving mass transit within Miami-Dade County;

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 Miami-Dade County ranked 12th, along with Atlanta and Detroit, as one of the nation's most congested urban areas according to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute's 2015 Urban Mobility Scorecard;

**WHEREAS**, the People's Transportation Plan includes eight (8) rapid transit corridors located throughout Miami-Dade County;

**WHEREAS**, under Resolution #06-16, dated February 16, 2016, the MPO Governing Board unanimously approved a policy to set as highest priority for the community the advancement of Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects in Miami-Dade County;

**WHEREAS**, under Resolution #26-16, dated April 21, 2016, the MPO Governing Board unanimously endorsed the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan and directed the MPO Executive Director to work with the MPO Fiscal Priorities Committee (FPC) to determine the costs and potential sources of funding for Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) study for each selected corridor.

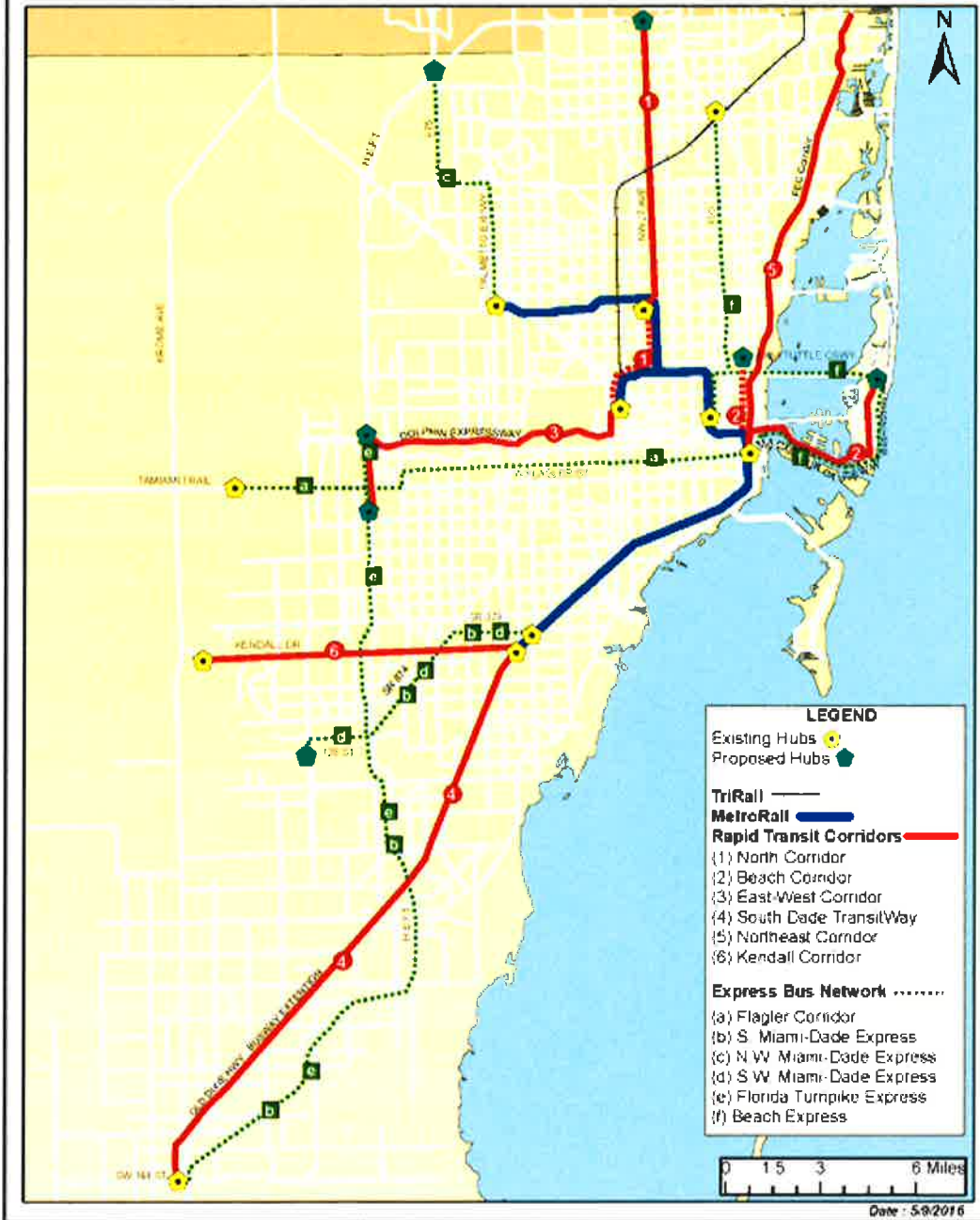
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL**, that the Council wishes to express its support for Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and its leadership to provide rapid transit corridors along the six (6) corridors selected in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan. This plan will advance implementation of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's *Seven50: Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Plan* by reducing congestion and greenhouse gas emissions; enhancing connectivity and economic opportunity for communities and the region's workforce; and enhancing regional mobility.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL, THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICIA T. ASSEFF, CHAIR



**Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan**  
**Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**



<http://miamidadempo.org/smartplan.asp>





April 26, 2016

**Chairman**

Jean Monestime

**Vice Chairman**

Francis Suarez

**Members**

- Bruno A. Barreiro
- Esteban Bovo, Jr.
- Jose "Pepe" Diaz
- Audrey M. Edmonson
- Maurice Ferre
- Oliver G. Gilbert, III
- Perla T. Hantman
- Carlos Hernandez
- Sally A. Heyman
- Barbara J. Jordan
- Smith Joseph
- Philip Levine
- Daniella Levine Cava
- Roberto Martell
- Dennis C. Moss
- Jeff Porter
- Rebeca Sosa
- Sen. Javier D. Souto
- Xavier L. Suarez
- Juan C. Zapata

**Non-Voting Members**

**FDOT District VI**

- Gus Pego, P.E., Secretary
- Harold Desdunes, P.E.

**Miami-Dade MPO**

**Executive Director**

Aileen Boucle, AICP

Mr. Jim Boxold, Secretary  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street, MS 59  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

Subject: Miami-Dade MPO Resolutions #06-16 and #26-16

Dear Secretary Boxold:

Attached please find copies of Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) resolutions that unanimously support the advancement of transit corridors, and transit supportive projects, in the South Florida Region. The Miami-Dade MPO has authorized Step 3 Project Development for the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan, which identifies six Rapid Transit Corridors (see attached matrix). A critical component of this plan is a connected network of Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) system, in order to comprehensively expand the reach of mass transit in the State's most congested and populated Region.

The approval of Step 3 Project Development is a critical step to obtain project authorization, and pursue the necessary transportation funds needed to implement the SMART Plan. In the coming months, the MPO Fiscal Priorities Committee will be assessing the plan in order to establish the requirements of the financial framework for the success of the plan. I look forward to working with you, the District team, and all of our transportation partners, to advance the SMART Plan and address the critical transportation needs in South Florida.

I want to thank you for your continued support, and specifically recognize Assistant Secretary Blanchard, D-6 Secretary Pego, and his team for stepping-up to assist in several high-profile MPO requests, including the recent FDOT presentation at the MPO Autonomous Vehicle Exhibition. I look forward to recognizing your team's contributions and excellent work at our upcoming MPO meetings.

Sincerely,

Aileen Bouclé, AICP  
MPO Executive Director

**Attachments**

- c: Honorable Jean Monestime, Chairman, MPO Governing Board
- Honorable Francis Suarez, Vice Chairman, MPO Governing Board

**Miami-Dade MPO**

111 NW 1st Street, Suite 920  
Miami, Florida 33125  
305-375-4507  
mpo@miamidadempo.org  
www.miamidadempo.org

**MPO RESOLUTION #06-16**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY OF THIS BOARD TO SET AS HIGHEST PRIORITY THE ADVANCEMENT OF RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECTS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND DIRECTING THE MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO AMEND THE 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO INCLUDE SAID POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, Title 23 US Code designates and provides the MPO as the lead agency with the authority to carry out the transportation planning process within Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Dade 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Update (LRTP) as approved on October 23, 2014, reflects all of the federal MAP-21 National Goals and the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) goals. Furthermore, the LRTP addresses all federal, state, regional and local requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the MPO Governing Board Chair has emphasized a renewed sense of urgency to improve transit mobility options with the creation of the Transit Solutions Committee and the Fiscal Priorities Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Transit Solutions Committee and the Fiscal Priorities Committee are responsible for identifying immediate opportunities to advance and prioritize funding for mass transit services; and

**WHEREAS**, this body is responsible for conducting the transportation planning process in Miami-Dade County and recognizes that Rapid Transit Corridor Projects are highest priority and should be advanced in order to provide a comprehensive mobility network that increases regional mobility, reduces congestion, and considers the transportation needs of all residents within the County,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA**, that the MPO Governing Board hereby establishes a policy to set as highest priority for this community the advancement of Rapid Transit Corridor and transit supportive projects in Miami-Dade County; and directing the MPO Executive Director or designee to amend the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan to include said policy, providing no currently funded projects are negatively impacted.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was sponsored by Vice Chairman Francis Suarez and moved by Vice Chairman Francis Suarez. The motion was seconded by Board Member Rebeca Sosa, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Chairman Jean Monestime -Aye**  
**Vice Chairman Francis Suarez -Aye**

Board Member Bruno A. Barreiro	-Absent	Board Member Smith Joseph	-Absent
Board Member Esteban Bovo, Jr	-Aye	Board Member Philip Levine	-Absent
Board Member Jose "Pepe" Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Daniella Levine Cava	-Aye
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Dennis C. Moss	-Aye
Board Member Maurice Ferre	-Aye	Board Member Jeff Porter	-Aye
Board Member Oliver Gilbert, III	-Aye	Board Member Rebeca Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Perla Tabares Hantman	-Aye	Board Member Javier D. Souto	-Aye
Board Member Carlos Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Xavier L. Suarez	-Aye
Board Member Sally A. Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Juan C. Zapata	-Absent
Board Member Barbara J. Jordan	-Aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

By Zainab Salim  
 Zainab Salim, Clerk  
 Miami-Dade MPO



**MPO RESOLUTION #26-16**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN AND DIRECTING THE MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO WORK WITH THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FISCAL PRIORITIES COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE THE COSTS AND POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY FOR SAID PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the electors of Miami-Dade County approved the imposition of a one-half percent surtax with the purpose of improving, among other things, mass transit within the County through the People's Transportation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the People's Transportation Plan included eight rapid transit corridors located throughout Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 16, 2016, the MPO Governing Board unanimously approved a policy to set as highest priority for this community the advancement of Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Solutions Committee has, over the past several months, received and considered input from transportation partner agencies, elected officials, and the public at large; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Solutions Committee has reviewed the proposed Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan and has forwarded the proposal with a favorable recommendation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Planning Organization remains committed to the development of these rapid transit corridors,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA**, that the attached Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan is hereby endorsed. The Governing Board of the Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby directs the MPO Executive Director to work with the Fiscal Priorities Committee to determine the costs and potential sources of funding for Project Development and Environment Study for said projects. The MPO Executive Director is further directed to take all necessary steps to implement the attached SMART Plan.



The adoption of the foregoing resolution was sponsored by MPO Transit Solutions Committee moved by Vice Chairman Francis Suarez. The motion was seconded by Board Member Dennis C. Moss, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Chairman Jean Monestime-Aye**  
**Vice Chairman Francis Suarez-Aye**

Board Member Bruno A. Barreiro	-Aye	Board Member Smith Joseph	-Absent
Board Member Esteban Bovo Jr	-Aye	Board Member Philip Levine	-Absent
Board Member Jose "Pepe" Diaz	-Absent	Board Member Daniella Levine Cava	-Aye
Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Roberto Martell	-Aye
Board Member Maurice Ferre	-Aye	Board Member Dennis C. Moss	-Aye
Board Member Oliver G. Gilbert, III	-Absent	Board Member Jeff Porter	-Aye
Board Member Perla Tabares Hantman	-Absent	Board Member Rebeca Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Carlos Hernandez	-Absent	Board Member Javier D. Souto	-Absent
Board Member Sally A. Heyman	-Aye	Board Member Xavier L. Suarez	-Aye
Board Member Barbara J. Jordan	-Aye	Board Member Juan C. Zapata	-Absent

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2016.

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

By Zainab Salim  
Zainab Salim, Clerk  
Miami-Dade MPO





MIAMI-DADE METROPOLITAN  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan

<b>MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDOR PLAN</b>		
<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED OR IN-PROGRESS</b>
<b>North Corridor (NW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue)</b>	Planning and Environmental Phase In-Progress	<b>Continuation of Federal Environmental Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PD&amp;E will start in April 2016 (FDOT)</li> <li>• Light Rail Transit (LRT) and/or appropriate premium transit technology</li> </ul>
<b>Beach Corridor</b>	N/A	<b>Advance to Priority I Funded LRTP - Planning and Environmental Phase</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light Rail Transit (LRT) and/or appropriate premium transit technology</li> </ul>
<b>East-West Corridor SR-836</b>	N/A	<b>Advance to Priority I Funded LRTP - Planning and Environmental Phase</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light Rail Transit (LRT) and/or appropriate premium transit technology</li> </ul>
<b>South Dade TransitWay</b>	N/A	<b>Advance to Priority I Funded LRTP - Planning and Environmental Phase</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion of US-1 Busway from Enhanced Bus Service to Light Rail Transit (LRT) and/or appropriate premium transit technology</li> </ul>
<b>TriRail Coastal Link (North East/FEC Corridor)</b>	Planning and Environmental Phase In Progress	<b>Continuation of Federal Environmental Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passenger Rail Service on FEC Corridor</li> </ul>
<b>Kendall Corridor</b>	Planning and Environmental Phase In-Progress	<b>Continuation of Federal Environmental Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PD&amp;E will start in June 2016 (FDOT)</li> <li>• Light Rail Transit (LRT) and/or appropriate premium transit technology</li> </ul>
<b>BUS EXPRESS RAPID TRANSIT (BERT) NETWORK</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flagler Corridor (Planning &amp; Environmental Phase in Progress: BRT and/or Reversible Lanes)</li> <li>• S. Miami-Dade Express (Southern Miami-Dade County to Dadeland North Metrorail Station via Florida Turnpike/SR 874/SR 878)</li> <li>• N.W. Miami-Dade Express (I-75/Miami Gardens Drive Park-n-Ride to Palmetto Metrorail Station)</li> <li>• S.W. Miami-Dade Express (Southwest Miami-Dade County from Miami Executive Airport to Dadeland North Metrorail Station via SR 874/SR 878)</li> <li>• Florida Turnpike Express (South Miami-Dade to Doral)</li> <li>• Beach Express North/Central/South (I-395/Mac Arthur Causeway &amp; SR 112/ I-195 – Julia Tuttle Causeway)</li> </ul>		