

# T ransportation ransformation

*Connecting Communities Through Transportation Choices*

## CENTRAL BROWARD EAST-WEST TRANSIT STUDY - PREMIUM TRANSIT SERVICE FOR BROWARD COUNTY

Because of the increasing demands on the transportation system, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting the Central Broward East-West Transit (CBEWT) Study to provide mobility options in the central portion of Broward County.

The basis for the Study is projected population growth, limited opportunities for expanding east-west roadways, and the desire to promote economic development through the provision of reliable high-speed/high-capacity transit service.

FDOT is coordinating with Broward MPO, Broward County Transit (BCT), and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to complete the next step in the process: development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The EIS process is a review of the impacts of potential projects

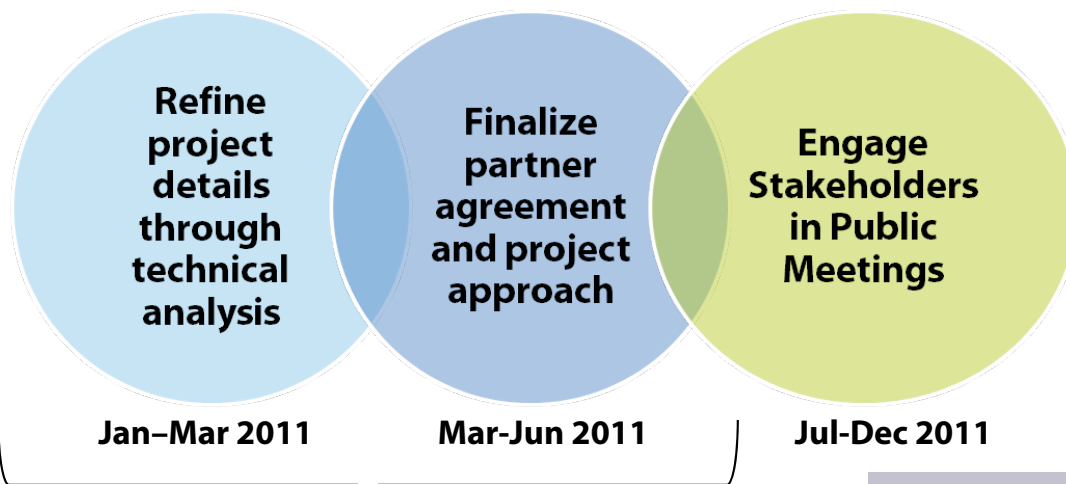
on the natural, physical, cultural and social environments. It includes a comprehensive evaluation of the alternative alignment and technologies that the Broward MPO approved in October 2010.



The schedule of the EIS process allows time for technical review, agency coordination, and public input. The FDOT team is asking stakeholders to help the project team understand the impacts and benefits of potential alternatives in relation to their communities. The Broward MPO will continue to provide information to engage stakeholders in upcoming meetings and public hearings.

To find out more about the Central Broward East-West Transit Study and how you can become involved, please visit [www.centralbrowardtransit.com](http://www.centralbrowardtransit.com).

### PROJECT NEXT STEPS



**Partners in achieving project objectives include: Florida Department of Transportation, Broward County Transit, Downtown Development Authority, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority & Broward MPO.**

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## FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Mayor Rae Carole Armstrong  
Chair, Broward MPO  
Mayor, City of Plantation

### Commitment to Regionalism

The year 2035 is not a distant horizon for the Broward MPO. In 2009, the MPO approved the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as part of its assignment from the federal government for policy and strategic transportation planning for the developed area of Broward County. The LRTP is a blueprint for long-range investment in a multi-modal transportation system in the context of a larger region. For instance, the LRTP considers the north/south cross-boundary travel patterns of commuters between Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties.

One of the main challenges we are focused on today is defining how we can grow strategically as a region, combining resources and funding with our neighbors to move people, goods, and services across County lines. With strategic allocations, and by working together, the combined federal resources of the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach MPOs, which total nearly \$13 billion, could help to build an

integrated regional mass transit system that offers a seamless transportation system in South Florida.

For its own part, the Broward MPO continues to seek funds to keep projects moving forward. Toward that end, on February 1, 2011 the Broward MPO presented priorities of the LRTP to the Broward League of Cities and Broward Legislative Delegation for the 2011 Legislative Session. During this joint meeting the Broward MPO conveyed the need for legislators to establish a position that demonstrates strong support for regionalism.

With regionalism and legislative initiatives in mind, the MPO is asking for your support for transportation projects with a regional approach. We encourage you to contact your legislators and voice your opinions on the transportation bills currently before the legislature. To learn more about priorities in the LRTP visit the Broward MPO online at: [www.browardmpo.org/mpo/2035lrtp/projectdocuments.html](http://www.browardmpo.org/mpo/2035lrtp/projectdocuments.html).

## FHWA AND BROWARD MPO HOST PEER EXCHANGE WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR MANAGED LANES IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

On February 10, more than 60 transportation professionals and members of the public attended a workshop to explore strategies for managed lanes, also known as HOT (High-Occupancy Toll) lanes, in Broward County. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Broward MPO invited national experts to discuss best practices, design concepts, options and experiences with implementation, and challenges and opportunities for managed lanes expansion in Southeast Florida. The workshop took place in the Broward MPO Board Room.

Currently in South Florida, the I-95 Express Managed Lanes have replaced the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes in Miami-Dade County. The HOT lanes operate under a variable tolling system that allows each driver to determine whether the cost of the toll is worth the time savings. The toll rates fluctuate depending upon the level of traffic and are based on maintaining the free flow of traffic at a minimum speed of 50 miles per hour in the HOT lanes.

At the recent Managed Lanes Workshop held at the Broward MPO, James Wolfe, the Secretary of Florida Department of Transportation for District Four, stated that the 95 Express ([www.95express.com](http://www.95express.com)) managed lanes are "highly successful." He added that the purpose of the Managed Lanes is traffic flow, not profit, and the Managed Lanes are currently only a concept for Broward County.

To obtain a copy of the workshop materials, visit Broward MPO online at: [www.browardmpo.org/mpo/pubs.htm](http://www.browardmpo.org/mpo/pubs.htm) and scroll down to *Publication Links*.



Gregory Stuart, Executive Director of the Broward MPO, welcomes workshop participants that included transportation professionals and members of the public from the tri-county region.



FHWA and the Broward MPO host speakers from around the country to gain a national perspective on Managed Lanes.

Presenters pictured: Back row, Left to Right: Bob Arnold, (FHWA), Jessie Yung (FHWA), Chris Swenson (Wilbur Smith Associates), Alfred Lurigados (MDX), Ming-Shiun Lee (URS Corporation), Jeff Weidner (FDOT), Marty Stone (Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority) Front row, Left to Right: Greg Jones (FHWA), Craig Stone (Washington State Department of Transportation), Bob Poole (Reason Foundation), Ingrid Weisenbach (San Diego Association of Governments)

# BROWARD MPO HOSTS A JOINT MEETING OF THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES AND BROWARD LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION



On February 1, the Broward MPO provided the setting for a joint meeting of the Broward League of Cities (BLOC) and the Broward Legislative Delegation (BLD). The discussion covered the challenges of coordination between Broward, Miami-Dade

and Palm Beach MPOs and the opportunities for the strategic allocation of federal funds. The Broward MPO conveyed the need for unified leadership and strong support for regionalism.

The Broward Legislative Delegation also shared information on three bipartisan transportation funding bills. One bill, in particular, seeks to return funds taken from transportation reserves for State Roads and Florida Turnpike.

Mayor Rae Carole Armstrong, City of Plantation and Chair of the Broward MPO, concluded the meeting by asking BLOC and BLD members for support of the 2035 LRTP goals. She also asked the members to share support and/or concern for transportation bills with Gregory Stuart, Broward MPO Executive Director.

## BROWARD MPO EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

### Leadership Broward Foundation Offers Transportation Session to its Members

The Broward MPO continually seeks ways to educate the public about transportation planning opportunities and challenges that face Broward County and the tri-county region. On February 10, 2011, the Broward MPO presented to the Senior Executive Orientation (SEO) of the Leadership Broward Foundation. The SEO is "designed to acquaint senior-level executives with the physical, social, economic and educational structure of our community." Source: [http://www.leadershipbroward.org/index.php?sub\\_menu=Programs&src=gendocs&link=SeniorExecutiveOrientationSEO&category=Programs](http://www.leadershipbroward.org/index.php?sub_menu=Programs&src=gendocs&link=SeniorExecutiveOrientationSEO&category=Programs)



*The Leadership Broward Foundation offered a Transportation Session as part of the Senior Executive Orientation (SEO). The panels focused on air, sea and ground transportation.*

The SEO Transportation Session included a "Ground and Surface Transportation" Panel Discussion with James Cromar, Broward MPO Livability Planner and Paul Lampley, P.E., FDOT I-595 Construction Project Manager. Ray Monteleone served as the moderator, focusing the panels on issues related to the movement of people, goods and services into and around the region.

The Panel discussion topics included how to increase transportation options and regional mobility; the relation of land development patterns to transportation; the limited space for new development and roadway expansion in Broward County; and transit investments to increase transportation options and improve the efficiency of the transportation network.

The SEO participants asked about transit opportunities related to the I-595 expansion project and how Premium Transit, such as the FEC project, can change the cultural mindset of South Floridians. James Cromar said that rather than try to change the local culture, the MPO is proposing investments in transit as part of an economic development strategy to maintain and improve the quality of life for the community.

### Broward MPO Presents at Annual TRB Conference

In January, nearly 11,000 participants attended the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) 90th annual meeting held in Washington, D.C. This year's national conference theme was *Transportation, Livability, and Economic Development in a Changing World*, and included over 85 sessions and workshops.

Christopher Ryan, Public Information Officer for the Broward MPO, is an active member of TRB's Public Involvement Committee ([www.trbpi.com](http://www.trbpi.com)). He presented the Broward MPO submission, *Livability Planning*, at the Poster Session for Public Involvement in Transportation.

The poster session highlighted public involvement best practices, new technologies, and state of the art applications in transportation. Posters displayed various modes, as well as different stages of the planning process, from visioning and long-range planning to design and construction.

*The TRB selected the MPO's Livability Planning poster for presentation at the conference. Through the combined talent of staff, the Broward MPO achieved national recognition. Left to Right: Charlene Burke, James Cromar and Priscila Clawges*





**Help us GO GREEN!**  
Request to receive the Broward MPO  
newsletter via e-mail by contacting  
Chris Ryan at ryanc@browardMPO.org  
or call (954) 876-0036

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

	APR 2011	MAY 2011	JUN 2011	JUL 2011
<b>Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)</b> <i>Meets every 2nd Thursday at 9:30 a.m.*</i>	No Meeting	12	9	14
<b>Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)</b> <i>Meets every 4th Monday at 2:15 p.m.*</i>	25	23	27	No Meeting
<b>Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR)</b> <i>Meets every 4th Tuesday at 6 p.m.*</i>	26	24	28	No Meeting
<b>Broward County Coordinating Board (BCCB)</b> <i>Meets every 3rd Monday at 2 p.m.*</i>	No Meeting	16	20	No Meeting

\*Dates could change due to holiday or conflict.

All meetings are held in the Broward MPO Board Room, Suite 850, in the Trade Centre South building. For more information on upcoming meetings, please contact **Chris Ryan, Broward MPO Public Information Officer, at (954) 876-0036.**

This publication can be made available in large print, audio recording, or braille by request.

## SAVE THE DATE!

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), extends an invitation to members of the public to attend a Public Meeting on **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** from **6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** for the Certification Review of the Broward MPO's Metropolitan Planning Process.

A Certification Review occurs every four years. The certification process determines if the Broward MPO is meeting planning requirements as defined in federal laws and regulations, and allows FHWA and FTA to add value to local processes by sharing best practices, techniques, and technology.

The Public Meeting is an opportunity to give input on transportation planning in the region, and to provide the Federal Review Team with local knowledge that can lead to a better understanding of community interests and concerns.

Plan to join the FHWA and the FTA on **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** from **6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** in the Broward MPO Board Room located at Trade Centre South, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 850, Fort Lauderdale.