

# Memorandum



**Date:** December 10, 2008

**To:** Honorable Chairman Dorrin D. Rolle  
and Members, Transit Committee

**From:** George M. Burgess  
County Manager

**Subject:** Monthly Orange Line Update

TC

Agenda Item No. 5(C)

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Attached is the Monthly Orange Line Update Report as requested during the February 7, 2008, Board meeting. This synopsis on the status of the three phases of the Orange Line will continue to be provided on a monthly basis in accordance with the Board's request.

  
Assistant County Manager

**MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT  
MONTHLY BRIEFING REPORT  
NOVEMBER 2008  
ORANGE LINE PHASE 1: MIC-EARLINGTON HEIGHTS CONNECTOR**

PROJECT PHASE:  Alternatives Analysis  Preliminary Engineering  Final Design  Bid & Award for Construction  Construction

**MDT PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Ahmed Rasheed, P.E.  
**ENGINEER 3:** Eva Kunath.

**CORRIDOR CONSULTANT:** URS Corporation Southern  
**COMMISSION DISTRICTS:** 2, 3, 5 & 6

**SCOPE**

- ◆ The Orange Line Phase 1: MIC-Earlington Heights Connector Metrorail Extension consists of a 2.4-mile elevated heavy rail extension of the existing Metrorail System;
- ◆ It will extend from the existing Earlington Heights Metrorail Station to the proposed Miami Intermodal Center (MIC);
- ◆ The Project includes one station at the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC);
- ◆ In October 2004, the decision was made to implement this Project with State and Local funds only.

**SCHEDULE**

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| ◆ Obtain Titles for All Parcels                 | December 2008                |
| ◆ Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) Construction Contract | March 2009                   |
| ◆ Revenue Operation Date                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr CY* 2012 |

\* **Calendar Year (CY)**

**BUDGET**

|                | 2006          | YEAR-OF-EXPENDITURE |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Project Cost** | \$440,000,000 | \$526,000,000       |

**FOUR (4) FDOT MIC COMPONENTS BUDGET**

|                | 2007         |
|----------------|--------------|
| Project Cost** | \$33,000,000 |

\*\* **Excluding Finance Charges**

**CURRENT STATUS:** Construction Award Recommendation process tentatively scheduled to be considered by the Transit Committee on December 10, 2008.

**ISSUES/HIGHLIGHT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2008**

- ◆ MDT continued Construction Award Recommendation process;
- ◆ The 4th Demolition Contract (Parcels 197, 198 and 311) demolition contractor is obtaining permits;
- ◆ The MDX/MDT Joint Use Agreement (JUA) was approved by the CITT on October 29, 2008;
- ◆ Utility relocation continues;
- ◆ CSXT Flagging was approved by the Board on November 20, 2008 and will be considered by the Full CITT Trust on December 17, 2008;
- ◆ Parcel 501: The Board approved the Negotiated Settlement agreement on November 20, 2008;
- ◆ Parcel 155: County Attorney's Office is scheduled to present the Negotiated Settlement agreement to the Board on December 2, 2008;
- ◆ The Full Trust approved the 2nd supplemental agreement to the URS contract for Post-Design Services on October 29, 2008;
- ◆ Parcel 260: FDOT continued environmental clean-up;
- ◆ Parcel 261: MDT is working with South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to receive a construction easement by December 2008;

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2008**

- ◆ Complete Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition and relocation;
- ◆ Parcel 260: Remediation is expected to be completed by December 31, 2008. The surplus declaration and non-exclusive perpetual easement are scheduled to be executed by December 30, 2008;
- ◆ Parcels 261: The surplus declaration and non-exclusive perpetual easement are scheduled to be executed by December 30, 2008;
- ◆ Continue County approval process for the CSXT agreement;
- ◆ Continue utility relocation;
- ◆ Continue permitting process;
- ◆ Continue demolition of parcels;
- ◆ Complete the conformed bid set.

**MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT  
MONTHLY BRIEFING REPORT  
NOVEMBER 2008**

**ORANGE LINE PHASE 2: NORTH CORRIDOR METRO RAIL EXTENSION**

**PROJECT PHASE:**  Alternatives Analysis  Preliminary Engineering  Final Design  Construction

**MDT PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Richard Pereira, P.E.

**CORRIDOR CONSULTANT:** PTG  
**COMMISSION DISTRICTS:** 1 & 2

**SCOPE**

- ◆ The proposed North Corridor Metrorail Extension consists of a 9.2-mile elevated fixed guideway extension of the existing Metrorail System from north of the existing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Station at N.W. 62nd Street to a terminus at NW 215th St. just south of Florida's Turnpike;
- ◆ There are seven (7) stations within the Project and seven (7) park-ride lots proposed for this Project.

**SCHEDULE\***

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| ◆ New Starts Preliminary Engineering Design (Control Point No. 1) Submittal | November 2007   |
| ◆ Begin FTA Risk Assessment   | April 2008      |
| ◆ Approval to Enter Final Design (FD)                                       | 4th Qtr CY 2009 |
| ◆ Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA)                                       | 4th Qtr CY 2010 |
| ◆ Complete Final Design   | 4th Qtr CY 2011 |
| ◆ Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) Construction Engineering & Inspection Consultant  | 4th Qtr CY 2012 |
| ◆ Right-of-Way Acquisition Completion                                       | 2nd Qtr CY 2013 |
| ◆ Begin Construction  | 2nd Qtr CY 2013 |
| ◆ Revenue Operations Date   | 4th Qtr CY 2017 |

\* Calendar Year (CY) - These dates represent a working timeline that will very likely be affected by the resolution of the financial plan and policy/administrative decisions made by BCC and FTA.

**BUDGET**

|                | 2008            | YEAR-OF-EXPENDITURES |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Project Cost** | \$1,106,380,000 | \$1,340,919,000      |

\*\*Based on FY2010 New Starts Criteria Report Submittal to FTA; excludes Finance Charges.

**CURRENT STATUS:** The New Starts Preliminary Engineering plans were submitted to FTA for Risk Assessment in April 2008. Right-of-Way (ROW) survey / engineering documents are substantially complete to allow the ROW acquisition phase to commence. Preliminary Engineering (PE) design effort was focused on maintaining the Project's cost effectiveness and supporting the FTA Risk Assessment currently underway. In February 2008, Project received a Medium-Low New Starts rating from the FTA based on a budgetary shortfall identified in the financial plan. The FTA considered the financial plan assumptions optimistic with regard to sales tax revenue, fare increases and growth in operating and maintenance costs and questioned the existing infrastructure renewal costs. MDT submitted the FY2010 New Starts Criteria Report & Financial Plan to FTA on September 19th. A stop work order was issued to the PE Consultant, PTG, on September 10th to preserve contract resources. Limited work will continue on activities needed to support federal funding process.

**ISSUES/HIGHLIGHTS DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2008**

- ◆ Submitted responses to FTA comments on FY2010 New Starts Criteria Report and Financial Plan;
- ◆ Held teleconferences with FTA and PMOC to discuss the Project schedule, Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Risk Assessment;
- ◆ Received executed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) from FTA on the SEA;
- ◆ Participated in Quarterly meeting with FTA on November 21st;
- ◆ Development of design components subjected to cost reduction measures in the New Starts PE/Systems Plans on hold per stop work order;
- ◆ FTA advised in Sept. 8th teleconferences that Project will not enter Final Design in 2008 and the Financial Capacity Assessment will not be conducted until the financial planning issues are resolved;
- ◆ Continued development of preliminary planning data regarding cost characteristics and pros/cons of alternate modes for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), BRT "Lite", Light Rail Transit (LRT), and Heavy Rail Transit (HRT).

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2008**

- ◆ Respond to subsequent FTA review comments and questions on FY2010 New Starts Criteria Report and Financial Plan;
- ◆ Transmit Notice of Availability of FONSI and make the final SEA and FONSI available to public via website and upon request.
- ◆ Prepare preliminary responses to draft findings of FTA risk assessment. Next steps, including development of Risk Mitigation and Contingency Management measures, are on hold pending resolution of financial planning issues;
- ◆ Continue preliminary development of alternative modes such as BRT, BRT "Lite", LRT, and HRT;
- ◆ Sign joint letter with Miami-Dade College on the transit station location and alignment within the College. This is on hold pending resolution of financial issues;
- ◆ Meet with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) to resolve issues related to an August 4, 2008 MDCPS Board resolution requesting MDT move the Project alignment away from the John H. Schee Maintenance Facility on NW 27th Avenue, due to what it considers to be substantial operational impacts. This is on hold pending resolution of financial issues;
- ◆ Work with FDOT to resolve outstanding issues associated with approval of the typical section package. This is on hold pending resolution of financial issues;
- ◆ Respond to public records request re: 215th Street tract.

**MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT  
MONTHLY BRIEFING REPORT  
NOVEMBER 2008  
ORANGE LINE PHASE 3: EAST-WEST CORRIDOR**

PROJECT PHASE:  Alternatives Analysis  Preliminary Engineering  Final Design  Construction

**MDT PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Ernesto Polo, P.E.  
**PMC PROJECT MANAGER:** Monica D. Cejas, P.E.

**CORRIDOR CONSULTANT:** HNTB Corporation  
**COMMISSION DISTRICTS:** 6, 10, 11 & 12

**SCOPE**

- ◆ The proposed East-West Corridor Project consists of a 10 to 13 mile fixed guideway extension of the existing Metrorail System from the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) at the Miami International Airport (MIA) to Florida International University (FIU) and points west to SW 137th Avenue;
- ◆ There are a maximum of 10 stations within the Project;
- ◆ In addition to the stations there are park-ride lots proposed for this Project.

**SCHEDULE \***

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ◆ Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) selection                        | 1st Qtr 2012 |
| ◆ New Starts Application/Request to enter Preliminary Engineering (PE) | 1st Qtr 2013 |
| ◆ PE completion  | 4th Qtr 2014 |
| ◆ Record of Decision (ROD)   | 4th Qtr 2014 |
| ◆ Final Design (FD) complete   | 3rd Qtr 2017 |
| ◆ Obtain Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA)                           | 3rd Qtr 2017 |
| ◆ R/W Acquisition complete   | 2nd Qtr 2019 |
| ◆ Project Completion (Calendar Year)                                   | 4th Qtr 2023 |

\* *Calendar Year (CY) -- These dates represent a working timeline that will very likely be affected by the resolution of the financial plan and policy/administrative decisions made by Board and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).*

**BUDGET**

|                | <b>2007</b>   | <b>YEAR-OF-EXPENDITURE</b> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Project Cost** | \$1.5 Billion | \$2.5 Billion              |

\*\**Excluding Finance Charges*

**CURRENT STATUS:** MDT has studied various heavy rail alignment options along the East-West Corridor. A stop work order was issued to the Corridor Consultant, HNTB, on September 10th to preserve contract resources. Limited work will continue on activities needed to support the planning process.

**ISSUES/HIGHLIGHT IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2008**

- ◆ Issued second letter authorizing HNTB to continue with miscellaneous support activities for the preparation of the technical presentation section of the Transit Summit. The total authorized, not to exceed amount, is \$18,460.00.
- ◆ Continued the process of reviewing the order of magnitude Capital, O&M Cost Estimates and assumption for the following modes:
  - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) "Lite"
  - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
  - Light Rail Transit (LTR)
  - Heavy Rail Transit (HRT)

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2008**

- ◆ Set up a follow-up meeting with South Florida Water Management District's Palm Beach Office.
- ◆ Baseline Alternative Development Report:
  - Continue to perform additional modeling runs to properly address FTA's comments;
  - Set-up technical meeting/field trip with FTA; and
  - Pending approval of the Final Baseline Report by FTA.
- ◆ Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM):
  - Need to set up teleconference with FTA to discuss range of alternatives that will be loaded in ETDM; and
  - MDT will seek FTA's commitment to act as the lead agency in the review process.