

MEMORANDUM

TC
Agenda Item No. 1(G)1


TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 3, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Ordinance relating to the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) and the People's Transportation Plan; amending, by a two-thirds vote of the Commission membership, sections 2-1421 and 29-24 of the Code; revising membership and appointment process and term of office for the CITT; revising procedures for amendments to the Five Year Implementation Plan; clarifying the powers and duties of the CITT; revising the deadline by when the CITT shall annually present the Five Year Implementation Plan update to the Board; revising certain requirements relating to the Board's rejection of the CITT's recommendations; providing that the Board may reject the CITT's recommendations under certain circumstances; revising provisions relating to term of office for CITT members appointed by County Commissioners and providing for expiration of such terms for existing members; providing for County Commissioners to make appointments or re-appointments to fill vacancies; making technical and conforming changes

The accompanying ordinance was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Oliver G. Gilbert, III.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/smm

MDC001

Memorandum



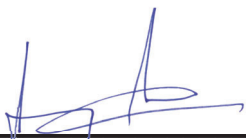
Date: March 3, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Fiscal Impact Statement for Ordinance Relating to CITT and People's
Transportation Plan

The approval of this Ordinance will not have a fiscal impact to Miami-Dade County.



Jimmy Morales
Chief Operating Officer

Memorandum



Date: March 3, 2026

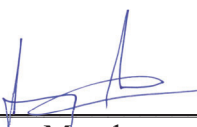
To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Social Equity Statement for Ordinance Relating to CITT and People's
Transportation Plan

The proposed ordinance amends Sections 2-1421 and 29-124 of the Miami-Dade County Code to strengthen governance, accountability and efficiency in the administration of the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) and the People's Transportation Plan (PTP). More specifically, the ordinance: (1) modernizes CITT membership requirements by establishing direct appointments, defined term limits and automatic expiration of terms tied to the appointing authority, i.e., Commissioner, County Mayor and Miami-Dade League of Cities; (2) clarifies that the CITT serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) and may not advocate policy positions to external entities, consistent with the Board's legislative and policy-making duties under the Home Rule Charter; (3) accelerates the deadline for submission and approval of the annual Five-Year Implementation Plan update from January 1 to November 1, better aligning plan approval with the start of the County's fiscal year; and (4) streamlines the plan amendment process by allowing the Board, by a two-thirds vote of its membership, to take action when it disagrees with a CITT recommendation without requiring the item to be returned to the Trust for a reconsidered recommendation, saving up to six months in the agenda processing and approval timelines.

These reforms promote social equity by removing procedural delays that have historically slowed the delivery of transportation projects funded by transportation surtax proceeds. Streamlined governance and clearer lines of accountability allow transit projects to advance in a more timely, predictable and fiscally responsible manner, reducing the risk of missed funding opportunities and cost escalation. Accelerating project delivery directly benefits communities that rely most on public transportation, including low-income households, seniors, people with disabilities and transit-dependent workers, by improving access to reliable mobility, employment, education and essential services. While focusing the Board's advocacy for policy positions on behalf of the County may limit CITT's independent public engagement and lobbying activities absent Board approval, it ensures consistent, coordinated advocacy efforts. The ordinance enhances efficiency and accountability in the use of surtax revenues, ensuring that public funds are translated more quickly into tangible transportation improvements with equitable, countywide benefits.



Jimmy Morales
Chief Operating Officer



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 16, 2025

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 4(A)

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and second reading
(per Ordinance Nos. 02-116 and 02-117)
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership , 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated)

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 4(A)
12-16-25

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT) AND THE PEOPLE'S TRANSPORTATION PLAN; AMENDING, BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP, SECTIONS 2-1421 AND 29-24 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; REVISING MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS AND TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE CITT; REVISING PROCEDURES FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE FIVE YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; CLARIFYING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CITT; REVISING THE DEADLINE BY WHEN THE CITT SHALL ANNUALLY PRESENT THE FIVE YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATE TO THE BOARD; REVISING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE BOARD'S REJECTION OF THE CITT'S RECOMMENDATIONS; PROVIDING THAT THE BOARD MAY REJECT THE CITT'S RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; REVISING PROVISIONS RELATING TO TERM OF OFFICE FOR CITT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND PROVIDING FOR EXPIRATION OF SUCH TERMS FOR EXISTING MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS OR RE-APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES; MAKING TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN AND EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2002, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopted Ordinance No. 02-116, approving, subject to County voters' approval, the levying of a one-half percent surtax for the development and construction of new transit and transportation projects throughout Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Exhibit 1 to Ordinance No. 02-116 listed specific transportation and transit projects to be paid for in whole or in part with those surtax funds; and

WHEREAS, also on July 9, 2002, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 02-117, creating the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) to "monitor, oversee, review, audit, and investigate implementation of the transportation and transit projects funded in whole or in part with surtax proceeds"; and

WHEREAS, among other provisions, Ordinance No. 02-117 provided for the membership composition of the CITT and the method of appointment and term of office of such members; and

WHEREAS, the current method of appointment of members to the CITT includes a nominating committee process that has in the past resulted in delays in filling vacancies due to difficulties in attaining quorum of the nominating committee; and

WHEREAS, revising the method of appointment to the CITT to direct appointment by the County Commissioners, Mayor, and League of Cities will ensure that the CITT maintains appropriate membership to fulfill its role in reviewing and providing recommendations to the Board regarding important transit projects; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2002, the voters of Miami-Dade County approved the surtax for the development and construction of new transit and transportation projects outlined in Exhibit 1 to Ordinance 02-116; and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2010, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 10-53, which established the Five Year Implementation Plan and the procedures for modifications to same; and

WHEREAS, at present, the CITT is required to initially review any proposed deletion, material change, or addition of a County project and to forward a recommendation thereon to the Board, which may either accept or reject the CITT's recommendation; but if the Board rejects the

CITT's recommendation, the matter is referred back to the CITT for a reconsidered recommendation, which the Board may accept by majority vote, or by two-thirds vote of the Commission membership, take action other than contained in the CITT's reconsidered recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the two-step process for modifications to the Five Year Implementation Plan can be time consuming, and has the potential to delay time sensitive plan amendments, which could also potentially jeopardize funding for time sensitive projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to revise and streamline the procedures for approving amendments to the Five Year Implementation Plan and to make changes to the manner of selection and term of CITT members; and

WHEREAS, the CITT serves principally to advise the County Commission; and

WHEREAS, as the legislative and governing body of the County, this Board establishes policy direction that should guide all County-affiliated entities in order to maintain consistency in governance; and

WHEREAS, the CITT, while valuable in providing input and expertise, should operate within the framework of policies established by this Board, ensuring that recommendations align with the County's broader strategic priorities; and

WHEREAS, when County boards, such as the CITT, adhere to the policy direction set by this Board, it helps prevent conflicting guidance, enhances operational efficiency, and ensures that County resources are used in a manner consistent with the priorities set by elected representatives; and

WHEREAS, maintaining alignment between the County Commission and its County boards, such as the CITT, strengthens governance by fostering a unified approach to policy implementation and decision-making,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Section 2-1421 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:¹

Sec. 2-1421. - Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust created; powers over expenditure and use of proceeds of proposed Charter County Transit System Surtax.

(a) *Creation >>and General Requirements for Membership<<*. A Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust ("Trust") is hereby created. The Trust will have fifteen (15) members [~~one residing in each of Miami-Dade County's thirteen commission districts, one appointed by the Mayor without regard to such appointee's district of residence, and one appointed by the Miami-Dade League of Cities without regard to such appointee's district of residence~~]. Members of the Trust shall be residents of Miami-Dade County who possess outstanding reputations for civic involvement, integrity, responsibility, and business and/or professional ability and experience or interest in the fields of transportation mobility improvements or operations, or land use planning. No person shall be eligible to serve as a member of the Trust who has any interest, direct or indirect, in a contract with the County or in any corporation, partnership or other entity that has a contract with the County, or who is a member of a community council. The Trust [~~and the Nominating Committee, as defined below,~~] will be comprised of members who are representative of the geographic, ethnic, racial and gender make-up of the County.

¹ Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

>>(b) Membership and Appointment. One member shall be directly appointed by memorandum by each Commissioner, the County Mayor, and the Miami-Dade League of Cities. All members shall be County residents and each Commissioner appointee shall reside in the appointing Commissioner's district. A member may be removed with or without cause by whoever appointed such member.

(c) Vacancies. Appointments to fill any vacancy on the Trust shall be filled in the manner described above and shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term of office of the Trust member whose resignation or removal created such vacancy. Anyone appointed to fill a vacancy shall under no circumstances serve as a Trust member for more than eight (8) consecutive years.

(d) Term. Unless the Board of County Commissioners by two-thirds vote of its membership waives the term limit requirements of this section, all appointments shall be made for a term of four (4) years and no member may serve more than eight (8) consecutive years notwithstanding and prevailing over any other provision of the Code, including section 2-11.38.2. This section shall apply to all Trust members, including existing Trust members as of the effective date of this Ordinance No. ___. In the case of Commissioner or Mayor appointees, the term of such Trust members shall automatically expire when: (1) the appointing Commissioner or Mayor leaves office; or (2) the appointing Commissioner's or Mayor's term of office expires.<<

~~[(b) Initial members.~~ The initial members of the Trust shall be nominated and appointed in the manner set forth in this subsection. The Board of County Commissioners shall appoint a nominating committee (the "Nominating Committee") comprised of seventeen (17) members as set forth below who are representative of the geographical, ethnic, racial and gender make-up of the County:

~~(1) The Executive Director of the Miami Dade League of Cities or one of the League's officers shall serve as a member of the Nominating Committee;~~

- ~~(2) The Chairperson of the United Way or his or her designee shall serve as a member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(3) The Chairperson of the Greater Miami Visitors and Convention Bureau or his or her designee shall serve as a member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(4) The Chairperson of the Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee or his or her designee shall serve as a member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(5) The Chairpersons of the Community Councils shall meet and shall, by majority vote, appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(6) The Chair of the Ethics Commission or his or her designee;~~
- ~~(7) The President or CEO of the Urban Environment League shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(8) The President or CEO of the local branch of the Urban League shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(9) The President or CEO of the Alliance for Aging shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(10) The President or CEO of the Miami Dade Branch NAACP shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(11) The President or CEO of the Coalition of Chambers shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(12) The President or CEO of Florida International University shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(13) The President or CEO of Miami Dade Community College shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- ~~(14) The President or CEO of People Acting for the Community Together (P.A.C.T.) shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~

- (15) ~~The President or CEO of Underrepresented People's Positive Action Council (UP-PAC) shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee;~~
- (16) ~~The Executive Director of the local chapter of the League of Women Voters shall appoint one member of the Nominating Committee; and~~
- (17) ~~The Executive Director of the Haitian American Grass Roots Coalition shall appoint one member.~~

~~The Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of four (4) candidates from each Commission District to the Commissioner of each District for selection. The District Commissioner must select from the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee; however, the District Commissioner may request one additional slate of entirely new nominations. The Board of County Commissioners shall ratify each District Commissioner's selection. The Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of four (4) candidates without regard to district to the Miami Dade League of Cities for selection. The Miami Dade League of Cities must select from the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee; however, the League may request one additional slate of entirely new nominations. The Nominating Committee shall also submit a slate of four (4) candidates without regard to district to the Mayor for selection. The Mayor must select from the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee; however, the Mayor may request one additional slate of entirely new nominations.~~

~~(c) *Term of initial members.* The initial members from Districts 1 to 5, inclusive, shall serve two year terms; the initial members from Districts 6 to 9, inclusive, shall serve three year terms; and, the initial members from Districts 10 to 13, inclusive, shall serve four year terms. The selection of the Mayor shall serve an initial term of four years. The selection of the Miami Dade League of Cities shall serve an initial term of two years. The foregoing notwithstanding, such initial terms shall be subject to automatic expiration as provided in subsection (c) of Section 2-11.38.2 of this Code provided however, a District Commissioner appointed Trust member may continue to serve until the appointment and ratification of the succeeding District Commissioner's selection.~~

~~(d) *Subsequent membership and term.* Any vacancy on the Trust that occurs after appointment of the initial membership, as well as appointment of successors to those members whose terms have expired shall be filled directly by appointment of the Commissioner for the district for in which a vacancy occurs, or, in the case of a vacancy in a Miami Dade League of Cities appointment shall be filled by appointment of the League, or, in the case of a vacancy in a mayoral appointment shall be filled by appointment of the Mayor. [[Such appointments shall be made from a slate submitted by the Nominating Committee in accordance with subsection (b) pertaining to initial members, and shall have the qualifications for Trust membership set forth in subsection (a) above.]] The foregoing notwithstanding, an incoming District Commissioner or Mayor may elect to re-appoint his or her predecessor's currently serving appointee, in which case there shall be no need for the Nominating Committee to submit a slate of candidates for such vacancy. The term of any Trust member appointed or re-appointed pursuant to this subsection after the initial terms set forth in (e) above shall be for a term of four years, and in the case of Commissioner or Mayor appointees shall be subject to automatic expiration as provided in subsection (c) of Section 2-11.38.2 of this Code provided however, a District Commissioner or Mayor appointed Trust member may continue to serve until the appointment and ratification of the succeeding District Commissioner's or Mayor's selection. Members may be re-appointed. If an appointment is not made by the District Commissioner (or the League or Mayor where applicable) within thirty (30) days from the date on which the Nominating Committee submits the required slate of candidates, the County Commission may appoint the successor.]]~~

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(f) *Attendance and quorum requirements.* Any Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~ member shall be automatically removed if, in a given fiscal year: (i) he or she is absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without an acceptable

excuse; or, (ii) if he or she is absent from three (3) of the Trust's ~~[[or Nominating Committee's]]~~ meetings without an acceptable excuse. A member of the Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~ shall be deemed absent from a meeting when he or she is not present at the meeting at least seventy-five (75) percent of the time. An "acceptable excuse" is defined as an absence for medical reasons, business reasons, personal reasons, or any other reason which the Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of its membership, deems appropriate. The requirements of this section may be waived by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the full Board of County Commissioners. A quorum of the Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~ shall consist of a majority of those persons duly appointed to the Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~, provided that at least one-half (1/2) of the full Trust ~~[[or Nominating Committee]]~~ membership has been appointed.

(g) *Powers and duties.* The Trust shall have the following duties, functions, powers, responsibilities and jurisdiction with regard to use and expenditure of proceeds of any Charter County Transit System Surtax that is levied by the County under authority of Section 212.055(1), Florida Statutes:

- (1) To monitor, oversee, review, audit, and investigate implementation of the transportation and transit projects listed in any levy of the surtax, and all other projects funded in whole or in part with surtax proceeds; ~~>>provided, however, that unless specifically authorized by the Board of County Commissioners, the Trust shall not urge, recommend, or present a policy position to any entity other than the Board of County Commissioners, including but not limited to any federal, state, local governmental or private entity;<<~~

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Section 2. Section 29-124 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 29-124. - Special fund created; uses of surtax proceeds; and role of Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust.

The surtax proceeds collected by the State and distributed hereunder shall be deposited in a special fund set aside from other County funds in the custody of the Finance Director of the County. Moneys in the special fund shall be expended for the transportation and transit projects (including operation and maintenance thereof) set forth in Exhibit 1 to this article (including those projects referenced in the ballot question presented to the electors to approve this levy) and the adopted Five Year Implementation Plan, subject to any amendments thereto made in accordance with the Transportation Planning Organization ("TPO") process or made in accordance with the procedures specified in subsection (d) of this section.

Expenditure of surtax proceeds for contracts procured by or on behalf of Miami-Dade Transit or for transit-related procurements shall be subject to the following limitations:

* * *

- (d) The Trust shall in consultation with the Mayor recommend to the County Commission a Five Year Implementation Plan. The Five Year Implementation Plan shall include a detailed scope of work, schedule and budget, consistent with the federal requirements for the TPO TIP and Long Range Plan, for each project included in Exhibit 1 of the People's Transportation Plan, as amended, anticipated to be implemented in whole or in part during the five year period. The Five Year Implementation Plan shall be approved by the County Commission in accordance with the procedures established in paragraph ~~[(f)]~~ (e) of this section. The initial Five Year Implementation Plan shall be approved no later than January 1, 2011. The Five Year Implementation Plan shall be updated annually and the Trust shall

present the recommended Five Year Implementation Plan to the County Commission and posted online no later than November 1st of each year.<< ~~[[no later than January 1st of each year and shall be presented to the County Commission.]]~~ The annual report shall detail the progress on each project included in the Five Year Work Plan.

- (e) The County Commission shall not delete or materially change any County project contained in the list attached as Exhibit 1 to this article nor add any project to the list or delete, materially change or add any project to the Five Year Implementation Plan except in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subsection (e). The Five Year Implementation Plan and any proposed deletion, material change or addition of a County project shall be initially reviewed by the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust ("Trust"), which shall forward a recommendation thereon to the County Commission. The County Commission may ~~[[either]]~~ accept ~~[[or—reject]]~~ the Trust's recommendation >>by a majority vote<<. ~~[[If the County Commission rejects the recommendation, the matter shall be referred back to the Trust for its reconsideration and issuance of a reconsidered recommendation to the County Commission.]]~~ The County Commission may >>, by a two-thirds vote of the Commission membership,<< ~~[[approve, change or]]~~ reject the Trust's ~~[[reconsidered]]~~ recommendation >>and proceed in any manner that the County Commission deems appropriate, with or without further consideration by the Trust<<. ~~[[A two-thirds vote of the Commission membership shall be required to take action other than as contained in the reconsidered recommendation of the Trust.]]~~ The foregoing notwithstanding, the list of County projects contained in Exhibit 1 and the Five Year Implementation Plan may be changed as a result of the metropolitan planning organization process as mandated by federal and state law as applied to the TPO.

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Section 3. Within 45 days of the effective date of this Ordinance No. ____, the term of office for each a Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust ("Trust") member appointed by a County Commissioner shall expire and result in a vacancy. Each County Commissioner shall make a direct appointment by memorandum to fill such vacancies in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. It is provided, however, that nothing herein shall be deemed to preclude a County Commissioner from reappointing the same member to fill such vacancy. Anyone appointed to fill a vacancy shall under no circumstances serve as a Trust member for more than eight (8) consecutive years, including any consecutive years of service completed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance No. ____.

Section 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such invalidity.

Section 5. It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance, including any sunset provision, shall become and be made a part of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate word.

Section 6. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of enactment unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

Section 7. This ordinance may only be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of County Commissioners. Any amendment or repeal of this ordinance shall further require a minimum of six weeks between first and second reading.

PASSED AND ADOPTED:

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency:

Handwritten initials "GBK" in blue ink above a handwritten signature in black ink.

Prepared by:

Annery Pulgar Alfonso
Dale P. Clarke

Prime Sponsor: Commissioner Oliver G. Gilbert, III