



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
GOVERNING BOARD

MEETING OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007 AT 2:00 PM

STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER
111 NW FIRST STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33128
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Chairman
Bruno A. Barreiro

Vice Chairwoman
Barbara J. Jordan

Voting Members
Kevin A. Burns
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Audrey M. Edmonson
Shirley M. Gibson
Carlos A. Gimenez
Perla T. Hantman
Sally A. Heyman
William H. Kerdyk
Joe A. Martinez
Dennis C. Moss
Julio Robaina
Dorin D. Rolle
Marc D. Sarnoff
Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson
Rebeca Sosa
Javier D. Souto
Richard L. Steinberg

Non-Voting Members
(FDOT District VI)
John Martinez, P.E.
Gary L. Donn, P.E.

County Mayor
Carlos Alvarez

County Manager
George M. Burgess

**Assistant County
Manager**
Ysela Llort

**MPO Secretariat
Director**
Jose Luis Mesa, Ph.D.

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1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - June 28, 2007
3. MPO COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL REPORTS
 - A. CITIZEN COMMITTEES
 1. COMMITTEES VACANCY LIST
 2. CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)
 3. TRANSPORTATION AESTHETICS REVIEW COMMITTEE (TARC)
 4. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
 5. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FTAC)
 - B. MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)
 1. Status Report
4. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS
 1. **2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO DELETE THE PROPOSED I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)
 2. **2030 LRTP/ FY 2008 TIP AMENDMENT: PORT OF MIAMI TUNNEL**
RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FUNDING PLAN APPROVED BY THE MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PORT OF MIAMI TUNNEL PROJECT AND APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE YEAR 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND TO THE 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO MODIFY THE PRIORITY AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)
 3. **FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT: I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD FUNDING FOR THE MIAMI-DADE PORTION OF I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)
 4. **FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT CAPITAL ACQUISITION**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIXTEEN SIXTY-FOOT HYBRID BUSES FOR TRANSIT OPERATION OF THE I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

5. FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT: ROLL-FORWARD PROJECTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) ROLL-FORWARD PROJECTS THAT WERE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED IN THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2007 TIP FOR AUTHORIZATION AND WERE NOT OBLIGATED BY JUNE 30, 2007 (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. MPO PROGRAM PRIORITIES

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL LISTING OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM

2. TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TRIP) PROJECTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING PROJECTS IDENTIFIED AS REGIONAL PRIORITIES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) DISTRICT 6 FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER THE FY 2008/09 TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

3. SUPPLEMENTAL JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA VANPOOL PROGRAM

4. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND GANNETT FLEMING, INC TO UPDATE THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) TO THE YEAR 2035

5. MPO BOARD MEMBERSHIP CHANGE

RESOLUTION APPROVING A CHANGE TO THE MPO GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERSHIP PLAN TO INCLUDE VOTING MEMBERSHIP FOR THE CITY OF HOMESTEAD AS PER REQUIRED BY FLORIDA STATUTES

6. MPOAC LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES FOR FY 06/07

RESOLUTION APPROVING \$500 TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STATEWIDE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPOAC) FOR THEIR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

7. KENDALL-LINK STUDY PREFERRED RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY

RESOLUTION SELECTING A PREFERRED RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY FOR THE KENDALL CORRIDOR

5. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan: Citizen Presentation (Mayor Joseph Kelly) regarding Sound Barriers on State Road 9

B. COUNTY MANAGER

C. COUNTY ATTORNEY

1. Memorandum from County Attorney: Recent changes to state law

D. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DISTRICT VI)

E. MPO SECRETARIAT

1. Rail-Volution 2007 Conference in Miami Beach
2. MPO Quarterly Newsletter: Transportation Voice (Fall 2007)

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS

PLEASE SUBMIT AGENDA ITEMS TO THE MPO SECRETARIAT BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2007. ITEMS THAT FAIL TO MEET THIS DEADLINE WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A SUBSEQUENT MONTH AGENDA.

It is the policy of Miami Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The facility for this meeting is accessible. For sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or materials in accessible format, please call 305-375-4507 at least five business days in advance.



**FINAL OFFICIAL
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA
GOVERNING BOARD**

SUMMARY MINUTES

MEETING OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007 AT 2:00 P.M.

**STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER
111 NW FIRST STREET
COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

The following members were present for the regular meeting of the Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization on October 4, 2007:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Board Member Kevin A. Burns | Board Member Dorrin D. Rolle |
| Board Member Jose “Pepe” Diaz | Board Member Marc D. Sarnoff |
| Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson | Board Member Katy Sorenson |
| Board Member Shirley M. Gibson | Board Member Rebeca Sosa |
| Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez | Board Member Javier D. Souto |
| Board Member Perla T. Hantman | Board Member Richard L. Steinberg |
| Board Member William H. Kerdyk | Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan |
| Board Member Joe A. Martinez | Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro |

Non-voting members present: Mr. Gary L. Donn, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

The following staff members were present: Jose-Luis Mesa, Director, MPO Secretariat; and Gerald Sanchez, Assistant County Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro called the meeting to order at 2:23 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Barreiro asked Mrs. Zainab Salim, MPO Staff, to call the roll.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Board Member Burns | -Present | Board Member Moss | -Absent |
| Board Member Diaz | -Present | Board Member Robaina | -Absent |
| Board Member Edmonson | -Present | Board Member Rolle | -Present |
| Board Member Gibson | -Present | Board Member Sarnoff | -Present |
| Board Member Gimenez | -Present | Board Member Seijas | -Absent |
| Board Member Hantman | -Present | Board Member Sorenson | -Present |
| Board Member Heyman | -Absent | Board Member Sosa | -Present |
| Board Member Kerdyk | -Present | Board Member Souto | -Present |
| Board Member Martinez | -Present | Board Member Steinberg | -Present |

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Present
Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Present

Mrs. Salim announced quorum was attained.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Asst. County Attorney Sanchez informed the Board that items 4.A.1 2030 LRTP Amendment: I-75 Interchange @ NW 154th Street and 4.B.6 MPOAC Legislative Advocacy Activities for 07/08 were requested to be deferred by sponsoring agencies.

Board Member Rolle moved for approval of the agenda as amended. Board Member Martinez seconded the motion. The agenda as amended was approved.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Rolle moved for approval of the June 28, 2007 minutes. Board Member Martinez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

3. MPO COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL REPORTS

A. CITIZEN COMMITTEES

1. COMMITTEES VACANCY LIST

Vice Chairwoman Jordan appointed Theodore Karanstsalis to BPAC. Board Member Sosa appointed Steve Greenberg to BPAC and Miguel Alvarado to CTAC. *(This appointment was read into the record by Board Member Martinez).*

2. CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)

Mr. Norman Wartman, CTAC Chair, provided the Board with a brief update of CTAC activities. He concluded by distributing the resolutions recently passed by CTAC. *(A copy of CTAC resolutions is available at the MPO Secretariat).*

Board Member Martinez requested clarity on the recent vote taken by CTAC regarding the Kendall Corridor. Mr. Wartman responded that the CTAC subcommittee passed a resolution supporting the proposed preferred strategy with the deletion of the CSX component. He then stated that although majority of the members present at the full CTAC meeting voted in favor of the proposed preferred strategy with the CSX component, it failed to obtain the necessary 2/3 votes to overturn the subcommittee actions.

3. TRANSPORTATION AESTHETIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (TARC)

Mr. Juan Crespi, TARC Chair, provided the Board with a brief update of TARC activities. He concluded by reviewing the resolutions recently passed by TARC. *(A copy of TARC resolutions is available at the MPO Secretariat).*

4. BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

Mr. Ted Silver, BPAC Chair, provided the Board with a brief update on BPAC activities. He informed the Board that BPAC heard a presentation on the Planning and Zoning Department/MPO study of zoned rights-of-way and updated typical sections. He further stated that the study looked into what the needs were to build complete streets and various ways this could be achieved. He then stated that BPAC heard a presentation from Ms. Sue Ruh from the East Coast Greenway Alliance. He further stated that Ms. Ruh is touring the east coast of Florida and is reporting on existing paved paths that should be designated into this system of paths stretching from Key West to the Canadian border. He also stated that several facilities on Miami Beach, along Metrorail, and the US-1 Busway will be recommended for inclusion in the East Coast Greenway System. Mr. Silver concluded his report by informing the Board of the recent resolutions passed by BPAC. (*A copy of BPAC resolutions is available at the MPO Secretariat*).

Board Member Souto requested clarity on the status of the FEC Corridor Bike Path project from Dadeland North to the Miami International Airport. Mr. David Henderson, MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, responded that this path is part of the Ludlam Trail project that is currently being studied by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mr. Mesa further added that the study entails several phases including evaluating the corridor to determine the best alternative. He then stated that once a greenway is selected the next phase would be to identify the facilities.

Board Member Souto expressed concern with the length of time associated with this study. He then stated that during a recent cycling trip he noticed a fence was erected in the areas identified as part of the Ludlam Bike Trail. He concluded by requesting staff to provide him with a status report on the Ludlam Trail Project and the reason a fence are erected along the trail at Coral Way and 70th Street.

Board Member Gimenez expressed concern with the signage along the Metrorail Path from Vizcaya Station to 57th Avenue. He then requested that staff look into placing directional signage along the path to assist cyclists and pedestrians. He concluded by stating that the M-Path south of Vizcaya Station needs repaving.

Board Member Martinez requested clarity on whether BPAC's expertise has been utilized by the Parks and Recreation Department on various projects regarding bike and pedestrian usage. He then stated that the purpose of this request is to diminish funds paid to consultants to conduct community outreach events when committees like BPAC could be utilized more by County departments. Mr. Henderson responded by stating that the Parks Department has not requested BPAC to review any of their projects thus far.

Board Member Gibson suggested that staff consider a marketing campaign on sharing the roadways and educating motorists to respect bicyclists and pedestrians. She concluded by stating that there is a serious need for this type of educational initiative in the northwest portion of the county.

5. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FTAC)

Mr. Silvia Bernstein, FTAC Chair, provided the Board with a brief update of FTAC activities. She stated that FTAC is sponsoring a Job Fair on Saturday October 6th, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Caleb Center in Board Member Edmonson's district. She further stated that the fair would have groups from the freight community offering training and jobs in trucking, warehouses and other areas of cargo handling. She then stated that FTAC has been working with FDOT and Board Member Diaz on advancing the funding for the second phase of the 25th Street Viaduct Project. She concluded by stating that the FDOT District VI has committed to funding the second phase of this project in the fifth year of the Work Program.

Board Member Diaz requested clarity on whether the second phase of the 25th Street Viaduct Project was approved. Mr. Foutz responded that although FDOT has the 2nd phase of the 25th Street Viaduct Project programmed in the fifth year of the Draft FDOT Tentative Work Program, the Department is awaiting the final approval from Tallahassee.

Board Member Diaz requested that staff notify his office when this item is scheduled for approval in Tallahassee. He concluded by requesting confirmation that the funding for the 2nd phase of this project is \$190 million and that the project design does merge the Palmetto Expressways as previously discussed. Mr. Foutz responded affirmatively.

Board Member Souto expressed concern with the 18-wheelers being able to utilize all-lanes on SR 836. He then concluded by requesting staff to provide a report on the steps other urbanized areas have taken to regulate the freight traffic on the highways.

Board Member Diaz stated he has attempted on many occasions to find solutions to the truck issue in Miami-Dade County especially since his district is heavily industrial. He then stated that he previously worked with the FDOT and MPO on this issue and discovered that many of the expressways north of South Florida have a greater distance between exits which allows them to restrict trucks to certain lanes. He concluded by stating that because of the shorter distance between exits on expressways in Miami-Dade County state law prohibits imposing similar restriction on the trucks.

B. MIAMI DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)

1. MDX Status Report

Mr. Alfred Lurigados, MDX Director of Engineering, provided the Board with a brief update on the projects included in the MDX Status Report, in addition to marketing efforts by MDX. (*A copy of this report is available at the MPO Secretariat*).

4. ACTION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET *RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO DELETE THE PROPOSED I-75 INTERCHANGE AT NW 154TH STREET (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)*

This item was deferred at the written request of MPO Board Member Seijas.

2. 2030 LRTP/FY 2008 TIP AMENDMENT: PORT OF MIAMI TUNNEL *RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FUNDING PLAN APPROVED BY THE MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PORT OF MIAMI TUNNEL PROJECT AND APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE YEAR 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND TO THE 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO MODIFY THE PRIORITY AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)*

Chairman Barreiro opened the public hearing. Chairman Barreiro closed the public hearing.

Board Member Steinberg expressed concern that a previous request to receive a report on the impact the Port Tunnel project will have upon the flow of traffic on the I-395 Causeway to and from Miami Beach was never provided. He concluded by moving that the item be deferred. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sosa.

Mrs. Ysela Llorca explained that there would be real cost associated with the deferral of this project. She concluded by suggesting that the Board consider passing the resolution with conditions.

Upon the motion to defer vote, the motion failed.

Board Member Rolle stated that he previously requested at a Board of County Commission meeting a report on the impact upon the Port Tunnel project and its Tri-Party Master Agreement should the City of Miami choose not to become a party. He then stated that this

information is still needed and is important. He concluded by stating he will support the item presented but would like the information previously requested.

Board Member Diaz moved for approval of the resolution with the following conditions:

- Staff provides members of the MPO with a report regarding the impact the Port Tunnel project will have upon the flow of traffic on the I-395 Causeway to and from Miami Beach.
- The City of Miami commits to the \$55 million financial contribution for the Port Tunnel project.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan seconded the motion.

Chairman Barreiro requested that a roll call vote be taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Aye

Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Aye

Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Robaina	-Absent
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Rolle	-Aye
Board Member Gibson	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Gimenez	-Aye	Board Member Seijas	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Absent	Board Member Sorenson	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Sosa	-Nay
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Nay
Board Member Martinez	-Aye	Board Member Steinberg	-Nay

MOTION PASSED 11-3.

3. FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT: I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD FUNDING FOR THE MIAMI-DADE PORTION OF I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

Chairman Barreiro opened the public hearing. Chairman Barreiro closed the public hearing.

Board Member Martinez moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion.

Chairman Barreiro requested that a roll call vote be taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Aye

Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Aye

Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Robaina	-Absent

Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Rolle	-Aye
Board Member Gibson	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Gimenez	-Aye	Board Member Seijas	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Absent	Board Member Sorenson	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Martinez	-Aye	Board Member Steinberg	-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 4. FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: 1-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT CAPITAL ACQUISITION**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIXTEEN SIXTY-FOOT HYBRID BUSES FOR TRANSIT OPERATION OF THE I-95 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

Chairman Barreiro opened the public hearing. Chairman Barreiro closed the public hearing.

Board Member Sosa expressed concern with the proposed size of the buses being purchased. She then stated that the operation and maintenance costs are very high for these types of buses. Mr. Harpal Kapoor, MDT Director, responded that the ridership on the I-95 Corridor is currently operating at full capacity. He further stated that the larger buses will be able to accommodate the additional ridership that will be obtained from the route expanding into Broward County. He concluded by stating that the operation costs for this program will be funded from the toll monies collected and MDT will not need to allocate any funding for this program.

Board Member Diaz moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Rolle seconded the motion.

Chairman Barreiro requested that a roll call vote be taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Aye

Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Aye

Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Robaina	-Absent
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Rolle	-Aye
Board Member Gibson	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Gimenez	-Aye	Board Member Seijas	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Absent	Board Member Sorenson	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Martinez	-Nay	Board Member Steinberg	-Aye

MOTION PASSED 13-1.

5. FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT: ROLL-FORWARD PROJECTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) ROLL-FORWARD PROJECTS THAT WERE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED IN THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2007 TIP FOR AUTHORIZATION AND WERE NOT OBLIGATED BY JUNE 30, 2007 (ROLL CALL REQUIRED)

Chairman Barreiro opened the public hearing. Chairman Barreiro closed the public hearing.

Board Member Edmonson requested clarity on whether the transportation shelters proposed are for the NW 7th Avenue Transit Hub. Mrs. Mayra Bustamante, MDT Deputy Director, responded that the bus shelters are to be placed within the corridor and not part of the 7th Avenue Transit Hub project. She further stated that MDT is still working on developing the transit portion of the transit hub.

Board Member Diaz moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Martinez seconded the motion.

Chairman Barreiro requested that a roll call vote be taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro-Aye

Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan-Aye

Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Absent
Board Member Diaz	-Aye	Board Member Robaina	-Absent
Board Member Edmonson	-Aye	Board Member Rolle	-Aye
Board Member Gibson	-Aye	Board Member Sarnoff	-Absent
Board Member Gimenez	-Aye	Board Member Seijas	-Absent
Board Member Hantman	-Absent	Board Member Sorenson	-Aye
Board Member Heyman	-Absent	Board Member Sosa	-Absent
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
Board Member Martinez	-Aye	Board Member Steinberg	-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. MPO PROGRAM PRIORITIES

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL LISTING OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM

Vice Chairwoman Jordan moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

2. TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TRIP) PROJECTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL LISTING OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM

Vice Chairwoman Jordan moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

3. SUPPLEMENTAL JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA VANPOOL PROGRAM

Vice Chairwoman Jordan moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

4. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND GANNETT FLEMING, INC TO UPDATE THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) TO THE YEAR 2035

Vice Chairwoman Jordan moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

5. MPO BOARD MEMBERSHIP CHANGE

RESOLUTION APPROVING A CHANGE TO THE MPO GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERSHIP PLAN TO INCLUDE VOTING MEMBERSHIP FOR THE CITY OF HOMESTEAD AS PER REQUIRED BY FLORIDA STATUTES

Vice Chairwoman Jordan moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

6. MPOAC LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES FOR FY 07/08

RESOLUTION APPROVING \$500 TO BE PROVIDED TO THE STATEWIDE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPOAC) FOR THEIR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

This item was deferred at the request of the sponsoring agency.

7. KENDALL-LINK STUDY: PREFERRED RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY

RESOLUTION SELECTING A PREFERRED RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY FOR THE KENDALL CORRIDOR

Board Member Martinez acknowledged the residents of the Kendall Corridor that appeared to voice opposition to the CSX component of the proposed preferred strategy. He further stated that several environmentalists have also spoken out against the project for different reasons. He then clarified by stating that information regarding the Urban Boundary Line and the proposed project has been misrepresented. He stated that it has been incorrectly presented by some that the proposed light rail portion of the strategy will extend out to the area of Country Walk and the Tamiami Airport. He further clarified by stating that this option would require double-tracking which is not being considered now or later. He further stated that the proposed traffic solution is not perfect and unfortunately every traffic solution proposed will bother or impact someone. Board Member Martinez informed the Board that his family's house was sacrificed many years ago for the construction of the SR 836 Expressway. He then stated that had not his position on the MPO Board required that he represents the 2.3 million Miami-Dade County residents then he may also be opposed to the CSX component of the strategy. He also expressed concern with the BRT on 137th Avenue as an alternative to CSX component. He further explained that the BRT on 137th Avenue fails to address the no-left turns aspect. He then stated that there would be no left-turns permitted into the businesses and developments along this corridor. He concluded by reminding the Board that the study project conducted four (4) public hearings in 2006 and five (5) in 2007 in addition to the numerous opportunities extended to the public to speak at previous Board meetings. He further concluded by requesting that this time be dedicated to the MPO Board to make a decision on this project.

Board Member Sorenson commended Board Member Martinez for actively seeking a traffic solution for the Kendall Corridor. She concluded by requesting that several citizens from the audience be allowed to speak in regards to this project. She further concluded by stating that Mr. Eric Prince, Kendall resident, has developed a presentation regarding this study that he would like to share with the Board.

Chairman Barreiro responded that this item is not a public hearing. He further stated that residents had opportunities throughout the study to voice their concerns. He concluded by stating that many Board members were provided briefings by the residents and staff on this issue. He further concluded by stating that he will not entertain a public hearing for this item.

Board Member Gimenez expressed concern with the projected cost per new transit trip provided in the study. He stated that the CSX component would cost more than six times the proposed BRT component. He then requested clarity on who will be funding this project. He further requested clarity on whether any consideration was given to placing the BRT on the railway itself. He concluded by expressing concern with the operation costs and the ridership numbers provided. Mr. Mesa responded by stating that staff is looking for approval from the MPO Board in order to seek funding for this project because most of the project is unfunded. He also stated that the option of the BRT was considered and addressed in the report provided. He further stated that having a BRT on the railway presented significant issues with the ownership of the property as well as providing access in and out of the right-of-way.

Board Member Martinez added that the CSX corridor is required to be maintained as a transit freight communication corridor. He then stated that he previously attempted to get the FDOT to move the tracks from its current location and parallel it to the Turnpike but the agency is in the business of building roads not mass transit. He then stated that the BRT has a capital cost that is approximately \$150 million more than the CSX component.

Board Member Sorenson expressed concern that the land-use in this corridor is considered low density residential. She further stated that it is not feasible for this type of system to be used in such a low density area. She then stated that the Orange-Line is the number one priority for the County and currently it is not fully funded. She also stated that the cargo that is not being transported in the day because of the passenger trains would need to operate at night which would require them to blow their horns and really impact the quality of life for the residents. Furthermore, she stated that the trains have to legally blow the horns in order to warn the area that they are approaching. She then stated that the current busway in South Dade is a huge success and heavily used and should be considered for the Kendall Corridor. She also expressed that the 137th Avenue portion should be further investigated. She concluded by stating that the County will never have a perfect transportation system because the community was not planned with transit in mind. She further concluded by stating that the BRT is the best short and long-term solution for the Kendall Corridor and urged the Board to reject portions of the study that involves implementation of the diesel-light-rail and the CSX component.

Board Member Sosa stated that no funding has been dedicated for these projects proposed as part of the Kendall strategy. She concluded by requesting clarity on whether approval of the resolution was a binding decision from the Board to build the projects or would staff need to return to the Board with more information for a final decision. She further concluded by stating that although she has concerns with some portions of the proposal she did not want to close the door to an opportunity of improving traffic in Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Mesa responded that the purpose of the proposal is to obtain direction from the Board so that staff can proceed to further research all the components of the proposed strategy. He further clarified by stating that staff can not proceed with placing these projects into the MPO funding track or TIP development process which also includes community consultation, unless the Board is supportive of the proposed strategy for the Kendall Corridor. He concluded by stating that staff is seeking a policy direction from the Board at this time. He further concluded by stating that the train activity being proposed will only impact the communities between the Metrozoo and Dadeland North area.

Board Member Burns stated that he had mixed feelings on the CSX component. He then stated that his residence is located near the FEC railroads and the horn blowing is disturbing but he lives with it. He also stated that three railroad crossings exists within the City limits that are a lot busier than the proposed railroad system. He further questioned if the Board was going to ignore its responsibility that something has got to change in the way transit is approached in Miami-Dade County. He then stated that he did not believe the projected ridership of 1800 for the CSX corridor. He further stated that he believed many did not ride the transit system because it is not reliable which is unlike other places throughout the country where many consider their transit system dependable and it is heavily used. Board Member Burns added that a successful transportation system entails different components that should be reliable. He then stated that the BRT is needed in the Kendall Corridor. He further stated that a fifty-foot right-of-way should not exist in a corridor and not be utilized. He concluded by asking whether the CSX would have the authority under the federal protection to return and build tracks further west. He further concluded by stating that it was too early in the process to dismiss the possibility of further studies.

Board Member Martinez responded that the plan requires the tracks to be acquired by an agency like MDT or South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA). He then stated that CSX will no longer own the tracks but will continue to have the right to operate their freight trains. He further stated that the proposal, causes for the tracks to be upgraded and it would include single tracks with sidings in some areas. He concluded by stating that going further west would require double-tracking which is impossible for some areas.

Board Member Burns requested clarity on whether another track existed that runs along the airport that could actually come down to the rock pit from the north which could eliminate the freight altogether on the proposed line. He then stated that if this was possible then the CSX line could be used for a light rail system. He concluded by stating that this is the type of questions he would like to obtain answers to. He further concluded by stating at this point he does not mind allowing staff the opportunity to continue looking at this and similar options.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan stated that she regretted that the staff presentation on the project was not provided at the beginning of the item. She further clarified by stating that the outside community that is watching are listening to a conversation that started in the middle. She then stated that at some point the staff needs to be able to provide this presentation to the Board. She concluded by asking staff if additional cost and time frame is associated with proceeding with the proposed strategy. Mr. Mesa responded that staff would return to the Board with a proposed budget attached in terms of hiring a consultant to conduct the additional work for the Kendall Corridor.

Board Member Diaz stated he supports the approach Board Member Martinez has taken. He then stated that the need to look further at the ridership numbers to ensure they are correct is important. He further stated that be able to travel to the different places around the world has allowed him to the opportunity to experience various types of transportation modes used. He then stated that if the MPO did not take advantage of the CSX land then someone else would. He further stated that this is an opportunity for the MPO to look at the advantages the CSX corridor can produce to the Kendall Corridor. He concluded by stating that he preferred more information be provided on this study including more detailed analysis on where the technology and structure being proposed for the area.

Board Member Sosa requested clarity on whether the proposed strategy was part of the People's Transportation Plan that was approved by the voters. Mr. Bruce Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney responded that the Kendall Corridor is listed in the PTP as a rapid transit improvement which could be bus or train.

Board Member Sosa requested clarity on whether the proposed strategy would be competing with the Orange Line Projects for federal funding. Mr. Mesa responded that the staff can approach funding this strategy where it would not compete with the Orange Line Projects.

Board Member Hantman distributed maps of the schools that are within the study project corridor and would be impacted. She then stated that staff from Miami-Dade Public School Board met with MPO staff and have been assured that all safety and school operations will be analyzed as the project proceeds. She concluded by stating that she would support the item and hope that the MPO continues to address her biggest concern which is the children's safety.

Chairman Barreiro stated that he supports mass transit and believes that there needs to be a bigger move to get more people out of their cars. He then stated that he is a big supporter of the Metrorail system because research has proven the less people have to transfer between modes of transportation the more likely they would utilize the system. He further stated that if one looks at older cities like Chicago and New York it could be said that it wasn't built overnight. He further stated that these cities prepared for the density that they have today. He then

stated that one builds its system for the future density that is expected to incur. He also stated that he did not foresee the growth in Miami-Dade County to come to a halt and therefore supports the study going forward considering all modes. He then stated as a member of SFRTA he is always pushing for them to connect to the current systems like Metrorail. He further concluded by stating that he believed the FEC Corridor to be an ideal candidate to connect the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport with the Miami International Airport with expansion to Homestead. He then concluded by stating that he would only support the project at the end if it integrated with our current system.

Board Member Gimenez requested clarity on whether the strategies proposed for the Kendall Corridor will include other options not listed in the report provided. Mr. Mesa responded that should the recommendation be approved as presented staff would concentrate on the strategies proposed in the report unless the Board directs them to do otherwise.

After much discussion, Board Member Martinez moved for approval of the resolution and Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The resolution passed 13-2 with the following amendments:

- Staff researches all possible alternatives and technologies for the CSX component. (*Gimenez*)
- Requested that the additional study include research on the feasibility of the loop alternative. (*Diaz*)
- Deletion of the terms implementation, completion, and constructions from the proposed strategy for the Kendall Corridor. (*Sosa*)
- Requested staff evaluates the transit services along the FEC Corridor from Dadeland North to the Miami International Airport. (*Souto*)

5. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Vice-Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan: Citizen Presentation (Mayor Joseph Kelly) regarding Sound Barriers on State Road 9

Mayor Joseph Kelly, City of Opa-Locka, expressed concern with impacts the train activity is having on the community in the area. He concluded by asking the MPO Board to assist in identifying a solution to the noise problem that center around the 2.5 mile area along the train tracks. He further concluded by stating that the city has already contacted the Federal Railroad Administration in order to establish a quiet zone similar to that granted to the City of Aventura.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan requested staff to prepare a scope of work and budget for a study to identify the process of installing

sound walls. She further requested that this study include a comprehensive look at the various types of sound walls available.

Board Member Sosa further requested that the study include fiscal alternatives in regards to availability of federal and state funds. She then stated that the City of Miami Springs is a good example to learn from because they've recently dealt with similar issues.

Board Member Souto requested staff provide a scope of work and budget to study all the rail corridors and any highway corridors that could be used to alleviate congestion in Miami-Dade County.

A. COUNTY MANAGER

B. COUNTY ATTORNEY

1. Memorandum from County Attorney: Recent changes to State law reference MPO Process

No discussion on this item.

C. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (District VI)

F. MPO SECRETARIAT

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7. ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.