

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
GOVERNING BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2008 AT 2:00 PM

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

AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. ACTION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

**1. 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT:
CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS AT NW 57TH AVENUE AND NW 135TH
STREET**

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO INCLUDE IN PRIORITY IV UNFUNDED THE CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS AT NW 57TH AVENUE AND NW 135TH STREET *(Roll Call Required)*

**2. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:
BUSWAY FLYER TO KEY LARGO PROJECT**

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO MODIFY THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION FOR THE BUSWAY FLYER TO KEY LARGO PROJECT *(Roll Call Required)*

**3. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:
ORANGELINE METRORAIL EXTENSION**

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO TRANSFER FROM THE EAST-WEST METRORAIL EXTENSION PROJECT TO THE NORTH CORRIDOR METRORAIL EXTENSION PROJECT \$4,900,500 IN FEDERALLY EARMARKED FUNDS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 *(Roll Call Required)*

**4. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: NEW
FREEDOM AND JARC PROJECTS**

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO RECONCILE THE FUNDING AMOUNTS FOR THE NEW FREEDOM AND JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) PROJECTS *(Roll Call Required)*

**5. FY 2008/09-2012/13 FDOT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM
AMENDMENTS**

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008/09-2012/13 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT VI WORK PROGRAM

B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. VANPOOL PROGRAM CONTRACT EXTENSION

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO EXTEND FOR ONE YEAR THE EXISTING CONTRACT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND VPSI, INC., TO PROVIDE VEHICLES, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA VANPOOL PROGRAM



Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro

Vice Chairwoman

Barbara J. Jordan

Voting Members

Lynda Bell

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

Dorrian D. Rolle

Marc D. Sarnoff

Natacha Seijas

Katy Sorenson

Rebeca Sosa

Javier D. Souto

Richard L. Steinberg

Non-Voting Members

(FDOT District VI)

Gerry O'Reilly, 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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**2. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER RICHARD L. STEINBERG
RESOLUTION URGING FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TO FAST TRACK OPTION 4 OF THE I-95 EXPRESS PROJECT AND TO
PROVIDE UNCONTROLLED ACCESS AT APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS**

3. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Board Member Kevin A. Burns: Northeast Miami-Dade Corridor Traffic Study
2. Request by MPO Board Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan: Feasibility Study on installing barriers along NW 8th Street entrance ramp on I-95
3. Request by MPO Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson: Status Report on relocating traffic lights to NW 66th Street and Biscayne Boulevard

B. COUNTY MANAGER

C. COUNTY ATTORNEY

D. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DISTRICT VI)

E. MPO SECRETARIAT

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

SPECIAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2008 AT 2:00 P.M.

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

The following members were present for the special meeting of the Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization on July 16, 2008:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Board Member Kevin A. Burns | Board Member Dennis C. Moss |
| Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson | Board Member Dorrin D. Rolle |
| Board Member Shirley M. Gibson | Board Member Katy Sorenson |
| Board Member Carlos A. Gimenez | Board Member Rebeca Sosa |
| Board Member Sally A. Heyman | Board Member Javier D. Souto |
| Board Member William H. Kerdyk | Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan |
| Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro | |

Non-voting members present: Mr. Gus Pego, FDOT District VI Secretary and Mr. Gary Donn, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

The following staff members were present: Jose Luis Mesa, Director, MPO Secretariat; Bruce Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney and Zainab Salim, MPO Board Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Barreiro asked Mrs. Salim to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. Salim announced quorum was attained.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Attorney Libhaber informed the Board that **Item 2.A.4** was requested to be withdrawn by the sponsoring agency. He further stated that Board Member Steinberg has requested that **Item 2.B.2** be deferred.

Chairman Barreiro suggested that the Board accepts the withdrawal request and wait until FDOT gives a formal submittal of **Item 2.B.2** before deferring action.

Board Member Burns requested that **Item 3.A.1** be moved up in the agenda to allow input from Board Member Heyman who needed to leave early. Chairman Barreiro responded that this item will be taken up after the public hearing items.

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

2. ACTION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

- 1. 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT: CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS AT NW 57TH AVENUE AND NW 135TH STREET**
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO INCLUDE IN PRIORITY IV UNFUNDED THE CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS AT NW 57TH AVENUE AND NW 135TH STREET

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

Board Member Heyman moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sorenson 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 Bell	-Absent	Board Member Martinez	-Absent
Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	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	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
		Board Member Steinberg	-Absent

The resolution passed unanimously.

2. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT: BUSWAY FLYER TO KEY LARGO PROJECT

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

Mr. David Clodfelter, Miami-Dade Transit (MDT), informed the Board that the original bus service was going to be offered to prevent passengers from having to take a transfer at Florida City. He then stated that once staff looked further into the implementation of the route it was discovered that a duplication of service would exist as well as MDT did not have the capabilities to transmit its radio waves to Monroe County. He concluded by stating that funding would not be affected but instead used to enhance the headways for the current Route 84.

Chairman Barreiro asked how the Dade-Monroe routes would operate once the Fare Collection System was implemented. Mr. David Fialkoff, MDT, responded that staff is working on developing the policies that would address the services being provided by the private-sector and Broward County. He then stated that until the fare collection equipments are installed on buses with services being provided by the private-sector or Broward County a paper currency will still be required.

Chairman Barreiro requested that staff return with a report once this issue is finalized. Mr. Fialkoff responded that the MDT will submit the policy recommendations to the appropriate boards for approval.

Board Member Souto requested that MDT inform the Board of all the routes that entered into another county including any associated costs. Mr. Fialkoff responded that staff will provide a report on the routes that enter into Monroe and Broward counties with information on the ridership.

Board Member Moss moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sorenson 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 Bell	-Absent	Board Member Martinez	-Absent
Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	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	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
		Board Member Steinberg	-Absent

The resolution passed unanimously.

3. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: ORANGELINE METRORAIL EXTENSION

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO TRANSFER FROM THE EAST-WEST METRORAIL EXTENSION PROJECT TO THE NORTH CORRIDOR METRORAIL EXTENSION PROJECT \$4,900,500 IN FEDERALLY EARMARKED FUNDS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

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

Board Member Sosa requested clarity on whether staff received clearance from Washington to transfer these funds from the East/West Corridor to the North Corridor Project. Mr. Clodfelter responded that staff met with Congressmen Lincoln Diaz-Ballard and Kendrick Meek regarding this issue and they have approved the transfer of these funds.

Board Member Sorenson requested clarity on what the \$4,900,500 will be used towards. Mr. Clodfelter responded that the monies will go towards Preliminary Engineering for the North Corridor Project.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan 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 Bell	-Absent	Board Member Martinez	-Absent
Board Member Burns	-Aye	Board Member Moss	-Aye
Board Member Diaz	-Absent	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	-Aye	Board Member Sosa	-Aye
Board Member Kerdyk	-Aye	Board Member Souto	-Aye
		Board Member Steinberg	-Absent

The resolution passed unanimously.

4. FY 2008-2012 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: NEW FREEDOM AND JARC PROJECTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO RECONCILE

THE FUNDING AMOUNTS FOR THE NEW FREEDOM AND JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) PROJECTS

This item was **withdrawn** at the request of the sponsoring agency.

5. FY 2008/09-2012/13 FDOT TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2008/09-2012/13 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT VI WORK PROGRAM

Board Member Sosa moved for approval of the resolution and Board Member Gibson seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

B. NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. VANPOOL PROGRAM CONTRACT EXTENSION

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO EXTEND FOR ONE YEAR THE EXISTING CONTRACT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND VPSI, INC., TO PROVIDE VEHICLES, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA VANPOOL PROGRAM

Attorney Libhaber informed the Board that this item was scheduled on the previous month agenda which was canceled. He then explained that the contract extension would need to be retroactive because of the June 30th deadline.

Board Member Sosa requested clarity on the process of selecting a vendor for the Vanpool Program. She further expressed concern with the last minute request by staff to approve the extension of the existing contract. She then concluded by stating that this item should have been presented to the Board for approval at least seven months prior to the June 30th deadline. She further concluded by requesting that staff submit contract renewals before the Board within a reasonable timeframe to allow access to everyone and opportunity for selection of the best candidate. Mr. Mesa responded that last year a study was conducted of the Vanpool Program to determine the agency that the MPO could transfer the operations of the program to since the MPO is only a planning agency. He then stated that the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) was chosen as a good candidate to take over the program. He further stated that once staff started negotiations with SFRTA it was decided that the administrative costs proposed by SFRTA were significantly higher than what was currently being used to administer the program. Mr. Mesa informed the Board that SFRTA had subsequently withdrawn its interest in administering the program. He then stated that during the negotiation period, staff had worked under the assumption that SFRTA was proceeding with the RFP for the program and once it was realized otherwise, it was too late to proceed with a new RFP. He concluded

by stating that in May '09, a new vendor should be in place to administer this program.

Board Member Sorenson requested clarity on whether the Vanpool Program has experienced any increase in participants considering the high gas prices. She also requested clarity on how vanpool participants could register to use the I-95 Express lanes. Mr. Mesa responded that the Vanpool Program has seen an increase of eight vans over the last two months which has brought the vanpool total to 173 active vans. He then informed the Board that this is a regional program that has vans operating in the tri-county area. He further informed the Board that the program is fully funded with federal funds and the MPO recently received additional funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a credit for miles saved because of the vanpool activities.

Mr. Mesa informed the Board that seven (7) was the minimum number of participants required for the vanpool program. He further stated that the individuals would need to contact the South Florida Commuter Services and they will set-up the logistics. He then stated that this agency also handles the program's marketing efforts as well. Mr. Donn added that the participants of the Vanpool Program are allowed to utilize the I-95 Express lanes for free.

Board Member Souto requested that staff provide him with data that demonstrates the possible benefits to be received once the Vanpool Program reaches its full potential. He then concluded by stating that staff should utilize this opportunity while the gas prices are high to increase the marketing of this program. Mr. Mesa responded that staff increases on annual basis the marketing efforts for the program.

Board Member Burns expressed concern with the number of extensions that this contract has received. He further suggested that staff began the RFP process now to ensure next year another contract extension will not be needed.

Board Member Moss requested clarity on how the vehicles are fueled and who is responsible for the costs. Mr. Mesa responded that the program is subsidized. He further stated that the designated driver of the vanpool has access to the vehicle on the weekends. He then stated that the average amount each participant must contribute is \$80 per month which goes towards the maintenance of the van. He then stated that participation in the program is voluntarily and based on a 30-day contract. Mr. Jesus Guerra, MPO Program Manager, added that the gas, tolls and parking expenses are the responsibility of the vanpool participants. Hew further stated that the participants of each vanpool work out these logistics amongst themselves.

Board Member Souto moved for approval of the resolution. Board Member Sorenson seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

2. REQUEST BY MPO BOARD MEMBER RICHARD L. STEINBERG

RESOLUTION URGING FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO FAST TRACK OPTION 4 OF THE I-95 EXPRESS PROJECT AND TO PROVIDE CONTROLLED ACCESS AT APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS

Mr. Pego provided the Board with a brief overview of FDOT educational campaign as it relates to the I-95 Express project. He informed the Board that FDOT will begin implementing toll lanes in August.

Board Member Gibson informed the Board that she witnessed first-hand the violations taking place on the I-95 Express lanes. She concluded by stating that motorists should be informed that once they enter these lanes they will not be able to exit until Golden Glades.

Board Member Sorenson suggested that FDOT place additional signage that warns motorists that the next exit on the express lanes would not be until seven (7) miles. She further explained that many motorists may not be familiar with what is meant by the term "Golden Glades". Mr. Pego responded that staff will be implementing that type of language improvements.

Board Member Heyman expressed concern that the terminology used may not be understood by the tourists. She further stated that the signage needs to be placed at locations that give motorists that are not familiar with the area more time to react appropriately. She further suggested that staff consider using kilometers as well as mileage on the additional warning signs.

Board Member Souto stated that I-95 needs to improve the locations of the general lanes signage. He further requested clarity on how the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) will be providing the necessary enforcement to the express toll lanes. Mr. Pego responded that within the project design consideration was given to the enforcement. He further stated that the project identified locations designated for patrols to monitor violations of occupancy. He clarified by stating that the express lanes requires registered vehicles to have three or more passengers in order to avoid paying the tolls. He then stated that FHP has committed to providing the necessary resources to enforce the I-95 Express lanes appropriately.

Board Member Burns commended FDOT staff for their recent response in educating the public regarding this project. He suggested that FDOT consider implementing illuminated signage that present calming messages. He concluded by stating that the City of North Miami received a grant to address aggressive drivers within the city. He further concluded by welcoming FDOT staff to utilize the city's

help in educating the motorists in the general purpose lanes on this issue as well.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan requested clarity on how violators will be fine. Mr. Pego responded as such:

- \$100 fine for not paying the toll
- \$133 for weaving through the delineators and 3 points added to your license.

Board Member Moss suggested that FDOT staff contact the Governmental Information Center (GIC) to have language concerning this project placed on the county's website. He concluded by requesting clarity on the implementation scheduled for the project. Mr. Pego responded that the current schedule has the project implementation completed in mid-August. He then clarified by stating that the actual time schedule depends on when the contractors complete installing all the electronic devices plus the required thirty-day waiting period which is to ensure there are no bugs in the system.

Attorney Libhaber informed the Board that no quorum was present so deferral of the item could not be done. This item will appear on the next month agenda.

Chairman Barreiro stated that the remaining Board meetings are back to the regular Thursdays' meeting dates. He further stated that he is considering rescheduling the meetings from Thursdays to Wednesdays to avoid future conflicts with zoning hearings. He then requested that Board members consider this schedule change when preparing their calendars for next year. He concluded by requesting that Board members forward any issues with a Wednesday meeting date to him. He further concluded that the meetings would not be on School Board meeting dates.

5. REPORTS

A. MPO BOARD MEMBERS

1. Request by MPO Board Member Kevin A. Burns: Northeast Miami-Dade Corridor Traffic Study

Board Member Burns provided the Board with a brief overview of the Northeast Miami-Dade Corridor Traffic Study.

Board Member Sorenson requested clarity on whether this traffic study related to transit improvements like the FEC corridor. Board Member Burns responded that FEC corridor was part of the original twenty-six projects studied. He further stated that the proposed scope of work will focus on expanding the implementation of the East/West corridor and three elements of the original study recommendations. He then stated that this study will only focus on traffic improvements. He concluded by stating that the Northeast Mayor's Coalition has been following the

development of the FEC corridor study and is very supportive of it moving forward.

Board Member Heyman expressed appreciation that Board Member Burns scheduled to bring this scope of work before the Board for approval. She then stated that she supports this study and appreciates that it will allow staff to use the data they already have on the corridor and does not create additional financial burden on the program. She further stated that the FEC corridor is being pushed forward by local and tri-county organizations that are working with FDOT to have this project prioritized.

2. Request by MPO Board Vice Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan: Feasibility Study on installing barriers along NW 8th Street entrance ramp on I-95

Vice Chairwoman Jordan expressed concern that motorists have been crossing over the median on the NW 8th Street entrance ramp on I-95 in order to access the SR 836 exit. She further clarified by requesting FDOT to look at the feasibility of extending the median to prevent motorist from crossing into traffic. Mr. Donn responded that staff would refer the Board's concerns to their Traffic Operations Office and provide a report to the Board by the next Board meeting.

3. Request by MPO Board Member Audrey M. Edmonson: Status Report on relocating traffic lights on NW 66th Street and Biscayne Boulevard

Mr. Donn informed the Board that staff has met with Board Member Edmonson on this issue. He then stated that FDOT's Traffic Operations Office will investigate the various options including the possibility of installing flashing lights. He further stated that staff will meet with Board Member Edmonson within three weeks with the findings.

7. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.