

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION



1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The State of Florida Public Transit Block Grant Program was enacted by the Florida Legislature to provide a stable source of state funding for public transportation. The Block Grant Program requires public transit service providers to develop and adopt a Transit Development Plan (TDP). A TDP major update is required every five years and TDP annual updates are required in interim years. TDP updates must be submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) by September 1st of each year.

This TDP annual update meets the requirements of and has been prepared in accordance with Florida Administrative Code (FAC) Rule 14-73.001. This Plan will be used by Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) as a strategic planning and guidance tool, as delineated in Section 341-052, F.S.:

Transit Development Plans are required for grant program recipients pursuant to Section 341.052, F.S. A TDP shall be the provider's planning, development, and operational guidance document, based on a ten-year planning horizon and covering the year for which funding is sought and the nine subsequent years.

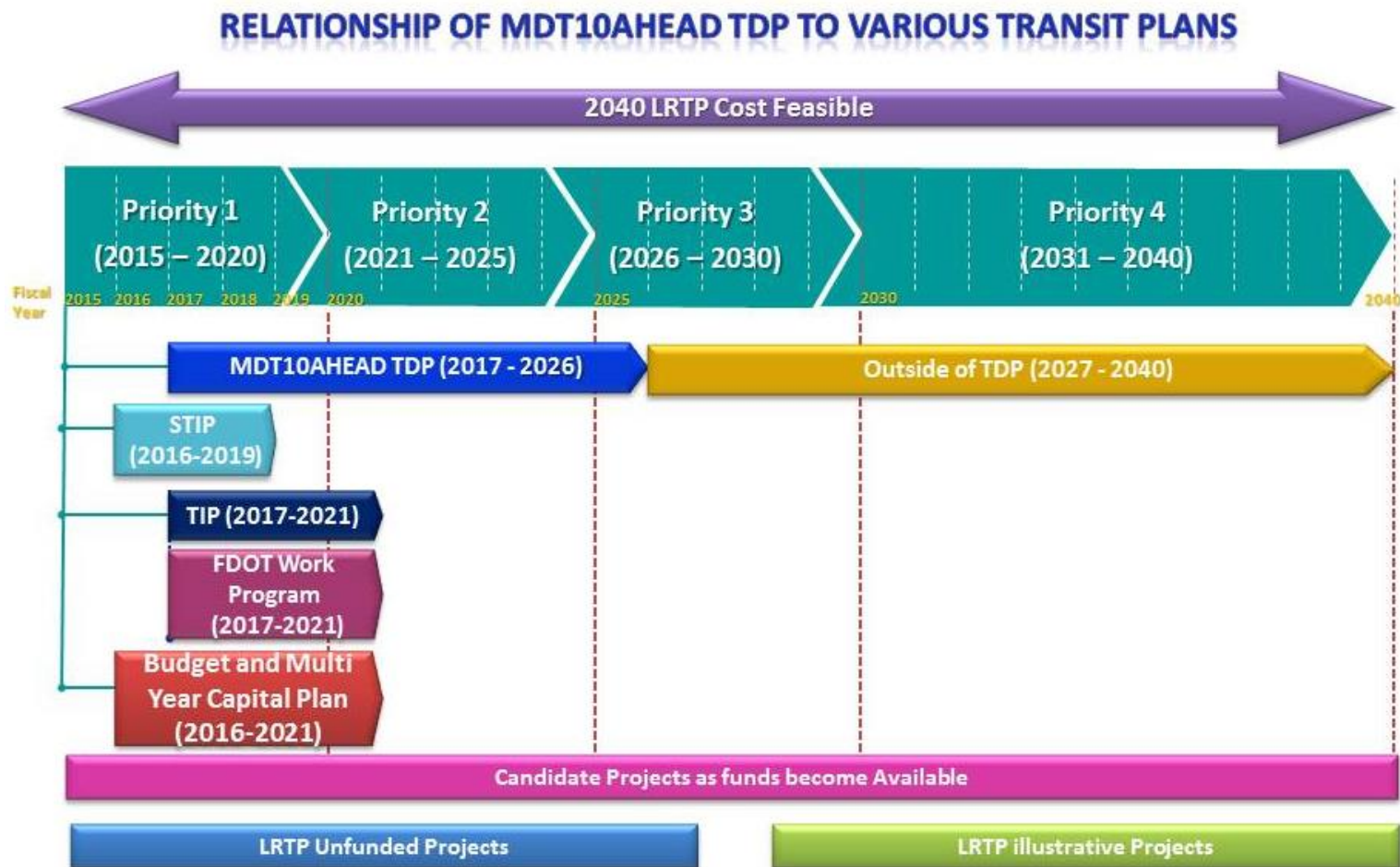
DTPW is proud to present *MDT10Ahead 2016 Annual Update*, the agency's TDP, which serves as the agency's strategic guide for public transportation in Miami-Dade County over the course of the next ten years. The 2014 major update, *MDT10Ahead*, was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to resolution R-1036-14. The 2015 Annual Update, *MDT10Ahead*, was approved by the FDOT District Six on October 16, 2015.

MDT10Ahead includes a summary of DTPW's facilities and services in Chapter 2; describes the past year's civic engagement efforts in Chapter 3; assesses the agency's performance in 2015 in Chapter 4; identifies DTPW's 2016 implementation plan in Chapter 5; explores short-term plans (2017-2026) in Chapter 6 and longer term plans (2027 and Beyond) in Chapter 7; and in Chapter 8 explores the Transit agency's finances. Overall, *MDT10Ahead* presents the operational and capital improvements needed to ensure DTPW is able to provide quality transit services to the County's residents and visitors for years to come. This document is DTPW's planning tool for the implementation and operation of transit services through 2026.

On the whole, the TDP is a benchmark document that describes the current state of DTPW and the direction it intends to go in the coming years. *MDT10Ahead* is fiscally constrained, and the proposed ten year improvements were developed with this constraint. The TDP is subject to change in correspondence with the County's Adopted Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan.

1.1 Relationship of MDT10Ahead to other Locally Adopted Transportation Plans

MDT10Ahead establishes both funded and unfunded needs in order to create the framework for a long-term vision of transit improvement projects as represented in the 25-year Miami-Dade County 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). In addition, *MDT10Ahead*, as updated annually, identifies and presents short-term improvements for implementation through the five-year Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), FDOT Work Program process and Miami-Dade County FY 2016 Adopted Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan.



1.1.1 Long Range Transportation Plan to the Year 2040

The update of the Miami-Dade County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to the Year 2040 is a primary activity in Miami-Dade County's transportation planning process to meet federal and state requirements for an update of the Transportation Plan every five years. Federal law requires that the LRTP address minimum of a 20-year planning horizon from the date of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) adoption.

The 2040 LRTP was approved by the MPO Governing Board on October 23rd, 2014.



1.1.2 Transit Development Plan (TDP) - MDT10Ahead

MDT10Ahead presents both funded and unfunded transit needs in order to create a framework for transit improvements that can be implemented within a 10-year planning horizon. As previously mentioned, DTPW is a recipient of the State of Florida Public Transit Block Grant Program and is required to develop a TDP on an annual basis with major updates required every five years.

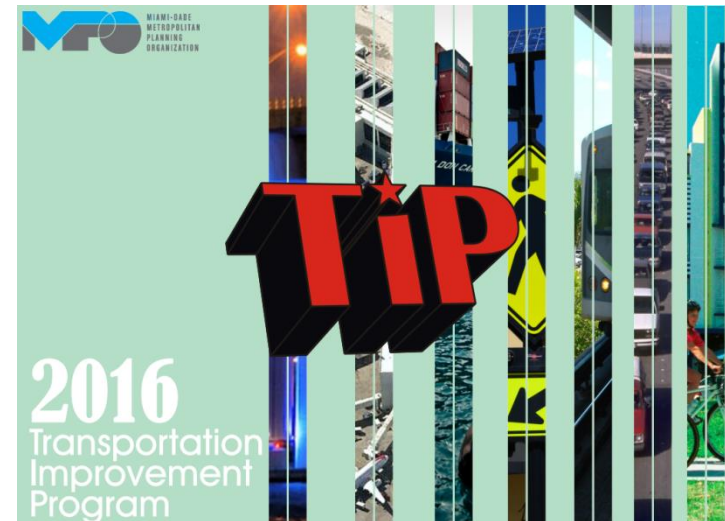
The 2014 major update, MDT10Ahead, was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on December 2nd, 2014. The 2015 Annual Update, *MDT10Ahead*, was approved by the FDOT District Six on October 16, 2015.



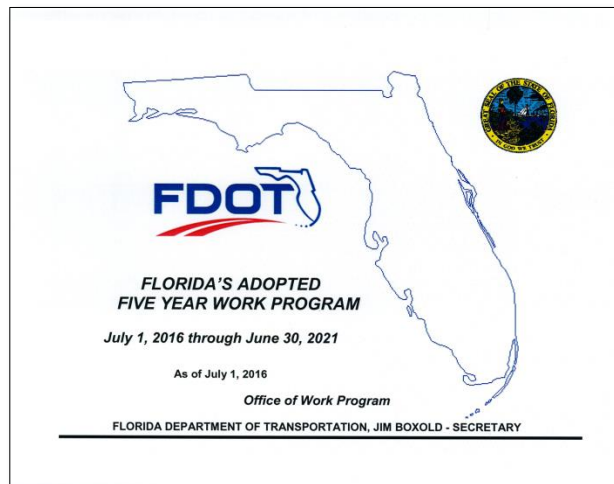
1.1.3 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) specifies transportation improvements for the next five years. All projects receiving federal funds must be included in this plan. Other major projects which are part of the area's program of improvements, but which do not receive federal funds, are included in the TIP as part of the planning process.

The current TIP covers the period from October 1st, 2015 through September 30th, 2020, and was approved by the MPO Governing Board on May 21st, 2015. Categories of improvements include Highway, Transit, Aviation, Seaport, and Non-Motorized improvements. All of the projects and priorities listed in the adopted TIP are consistent with those in the adopted 2040 LRTP.



1.1.4 Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Five Year Work Program



The Work Program is the tentative list of projects that will be funded and carried out in District 6 (includes Miami-Dade and Monroe counties) during the next five years. Developed annually, it FDOT's budget for work in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Projects are identified and schedules are developed based on priorities and allocated funds.

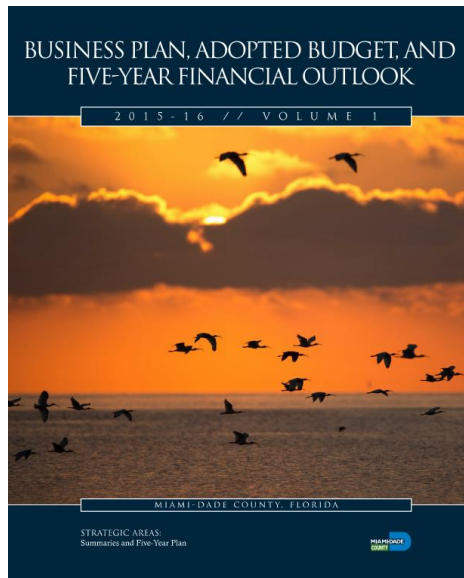
In each cycle, a new fifth year is added, and the first year drops off as projects are completed. A new project only begins to move forward after it is funded and then placed in the Work Program's fifth year. Each phase of a project generally takes two years to complete. Therefore, some projects could take up to 10 years or more from initiation to completion and would cycle through the Work Program several times. The current five year Work Program covers the period from July 1st, 2016 through June 30th, 2021.

1.1.5 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a federally mandated document which must include a listing of projects planned with federal participation in the next four fiscal years. Although the STIP is approved annually by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) at the beginning of each federal fiscal year (October 1st), FHWA allows FDOT to report these four years on a state fiscal year basis (July 1st thru June 30th). This is because the report is based upon the same projects that are listed in the first four years of FDOT's Adopted Five Year Work Program.

Projects shown in both the Work Program and the STIP are all drawn from the same Work Program Administration (WPA) database. Work Program reports and STIP reports are simply differently formatted reports of the same projects programmed in the WPA database. Therefore, in order for a project to be listed in the approved STIP, it must first be included in the WPA database and programmed in the first four years of the Adopted Five Year Work Program. The project must either be included in the Tentative Work Program during the annual Tentative Work Program development cycle, or it must be amended into the Work Program and STIP after it has been adopted on July 1st of each state fiscal year.

1.1.6 Adopted Budget and Multi Year Capital Plan



Miami-Dade County has a responsibility to appropriately plan for and strategically manage the funding of public services desired by the community. The annual budget and multi-year capital plan are essentially a plan of activities consistent with the County's Strategic Plan and the resources required to achieve those goals. The County's adopted budget is a powerful financial management tool that helps:

- Prioritize programs and service levels
- Prepare for operational challenges in advance
- Provide appropriate funding to each department
- Create accountability and ensure transparency of the planned use of public funds
- Establish a sound fiscal framework for proper day to day monitoring

Each department's operating and capital budgets are evaluated on an annual basis as one cohesive plan. The County's budget and multi-year capital plan, spans six fiscal years, is adopted on an annual basis by the Board of County Commissioners, and conveys the services to be delivered to the community as well as the resources required to provide those services.

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