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**Chairman's Message**

As the new Chairman of the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT), I am reminded that Miami-Dade County is a great place to live, work and play. Public Transportation plays a vital role in both the economic and physical health of our residents and offers great benefits to the community.

The CITT is dedicated to its core responsibilities to provide oversight of the People's Transportation Plan (PTP) and develop proactive plans that meet the challenges of improving public transit in our community. My fellow Trust Members and I remain committed in safeguarding the public's money and we work diligently to maintain the Public's confidence, ensuring that the half-penny transportation Surtax funds are spent as intended.

Over the years, PTP funded projects have greatly enhanced public transportation. For example, we now have a 2.5-mile Metrorail extension to Miami International Airport; new Metrorail, Metromover, and Metrobus vehicles; rail and bus transit system and station enhancements; Special Transportation Services (STS) for people who can't use regular transit services; fare free municipal trolley/on-demand services; an advanced traffic management system; roadways, bridges, and neighborhood improvements, and more.

We are proud of the accomplishments made with the half-penny Surtax thus far and look forward to taking Miami-Dade County to another level with innovative and cost-effective solutions that will help us implement the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.

It is an exciting time for transportation in Miami-Dade County. We have never been better connected locally and regionally, and the vision for the future is equally impressive. The investments of our half-penny sales Surtax into public transportation and the expansion of our system are connecting people and communities, serving the residents, helping sustain our growing economy, and contributing to the ongoing and prosperous development of Miami-Dade County which brings about increased business opportunities and high-paying job prospects. And all this is possible thanks to the contributions of the taxpayers whom we represent as the Trustees of the half-penny sales Surtax.

Robert Wolfarth, Chairman

