

## CITT's GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

The intent of the *CITT's Guiding Principles and Priorities*, approved by the CITT Board of Trustees on October 24, 2018, is to provide guidance to the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust ("CITT"), and its staff and partners, on actions and activities related to the implementation of the Peoples Transportation Plan ("PTP") and use of surtax funds. The CITT shall actively seek to amend the CITT By-Laws, County Code and/or State Statutes as necessary to effectuate these provisions.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) is an independent arm of Miami-Dade County created by the voters to monitor, oversee, review, audit and investigate implementation of the transportation and transit projects funded with surtax proceeds.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES & PRIORITIES

- 1. Independence.** The CITT was created by the voters as an independent entity of the County, and shall endeavor to protect and reaffirm its independence as necessary and appropriate.
- 2. Voter Intent.** Projects, programs and activities related to the CITT, PTP and surtax proceeds shall align with the original intent of the voter approved PTP referendum. This includes the intended expenditure of surtax dollars on new and enhanced transportation programs, projects and service, and not on the operation and maintenance of the system existing prior to the PTP.
- 3. Public Good.** Consistent with the "Citizens" in its title, the CITT should at all times be guided by the public good, and not by political considerations or special interests, and shall strive for equity and fairness across geographic, demographic and socio-economic lines in all of its actions and activities.
- 4. Good Governance.** The CITT shall at all times adhere to good governance practices and principles, holding itself to the highest ethical standards, conducting its business in an open and transparent manner, establishing a culture of integrity, professionalism and accountability, and providing sound financial stewardship of surtax funds.
- 5. Balance of Interests.** The CITT shall engage in a thoughtful and comprehensive approach to addressing transportation and mobility issues; one which balances, complements and furthers other community objectives, such as placemaking, quality of life, economic development, health and fitness, affordable housing and sustainability.
- 6. Funding Partnerships.** Surtax funds should be leveraged as a local match to attract other funds to the maximum extent possible, including federal/state/municipal funds and private sector contributions. Surtax funds should not exceed 50% of project costs for capital projects, except as otherwise approved by the CITT.
- 7. 5 Year Plan.** In coordination with the County, the CITT shall proactively propose revisions to the PTP 5 Year Implementation Plan ("5 Year Plan"), including the addition and deletion of projects, consistent with these Guiding Principles & Priorities and the CITT's Strategic Objectives.

- 8. Performance, Capacity & Connectivity.** The CITT shall prioritize projects that enhance the performance, capacity and connectivity of the transit system, including the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan and 1<sup>st</sup>/last mile solutions that connect the system to surrounding communities, over projects that promote the use of single occupancy vehicles. Furthermore, the CITT shall work with the County, municipalities, and other transportation entities to ensure that all systems complement and connect with one another and work as seamlessly and efficiently as possible.
- 9. Capital Expansion Reserve Fund.** The CITT shall work to increase contributions to the Capital Expansion Reserve Fund (CERF), including directing any recaptured, reimbursed, or otherwise uncommitted surtax proceeds to the fund, and increasing the percentage of surtax proceeds dedicated to the fund. CERF should be reserved for critical projects that advance or support the SMART Plan; and any proposed use of CERF should first be reviewed and approved by the CITT and BCC.
- 10. 1<sup>st</sup>/Last Mile Solutions.** The CITT shall endeavor to have a percentage of annual surtax proceeds dedicated to 1<sup>st</sup>/Last mile solutions, such as bicycle/pedestrian facilities, that connect surrounding communities to transit stations and major employment centers.
- 11. On-Time & On-Budget.** The CITT shall monitor surtax-funded County and municipal projects to ensure that they are on-time and on-budget, and shall, to the extent possible, withhold, recapture or repurpose funds for projects that are significantly delayed or over-budget unless an acceptable justification is otherwise provided.
- 12. Customer Experience.** The CITT shall work with the County and municipalities to ensure that the expenditure of surtax funds is resulting in a positive customer experience and that transit systems and facilities are safe, clean & well-maintained, and operating efficiently and effectively.
- 13. Promotion.** The CITT shall support the development and execution of a multi-pronged branding, marketing and public relations campaign(s) to promote the CITT, PTP and its initiatives, and support promotional efforts that aim to increase the use of alternative transportation modes, such as transit, carpooling and bicycle/pedestrian facilities.