



CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT

TRANSPORTATION TRUST

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MOVING
FOFORWARD



Chairman's Message



As we bid farewell to winter and enter spring, I'm proud to share key milestones we have been able to achieve in advancing Miami-Dade's transportation future.

The Northeast Corridor of the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program made tremendous progress when, last year, Miami-Dade County received approval from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for its request of \$389.5 million in federal-grant funds, moving it into the Engineering phase of the FTA New Starts Capital Investment Grant program. This achievement, combined with the \$337.8 million in surtax funds committed by the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust, reflects our dedication to delivering reliable, connected transit options.

We are also focused on strengthening our community involvement through presentations we are giving at municipalities and community organizations, in tandem with continued expansion of the CITT Ambassador Program. These two endeavors are giving residents an opportunity to learn more about our transit and transportation systems and actively engage in its planning and advocacy.

Additionally, we are persisting in our efforts to fill vacancies on our Trust, ensuring that all areas of our County are well represented and that the Trust reflects leadership and voices across all communities.

These initiatives highlight our commitment to continue building an accessible, efficient, and equitable transportation system for all Miami-Dade residents.

Robert Wolfarth, Chair
Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust

Northeast Corridor Advances to Engineering Phase of FTA New Starts Capital Investment Grant (CIG) Program

In late 2024, the Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) announced that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) had approved its request for funding of the Northeast Corridor Rapid Transit Project which could receive up to \$389.5 million in federal-grant funds.



This advanced the project into the Engineering phase of the FTA New Starts Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program. Prior to the Project's consideration for a Full Funding Grant Agreement, Miami-Dade County will need to submit a revised financial plan and then receive approval from Congress.

"There is an abundant demand for commuter rail service along this corridor and receiving FTA's approval will greatly support its development. That is why the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust has long advocated for commuter rail service along the Northeast Corridor and why we have committed more than \$337.8 million in Surtax funds towards fully developing this corridor," said CITT Chair Robert Wolfarth.

The Northeast Corridor is part of the 85-mile Coastal Link, which will operate on the Florida East Coast Railway corridor and will deliver a reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly transit option to South Florida residents, workers and visitors.

Town of Cutler Bay Begins Improvements on Franjo Road



The Town of Cutler Bay has begun work on the Franjo Road Complete Streets Project. It is envisioned and meticulously planned to cater to all modes of transportation. It will include pedestrian and bicycle users, and will feature road improvements that will improve transportation efficiency and create a safer and more enjoyable environment for everyone.

As part of the improvements, the town will enhance public safety and pedestrian mobility with new street lighting and bus shelters with bus pull-out bays, which will ensure a safer and more comfortable experience for transit users.

The CITT is contributing approximately \$6.5 million in municipal Surtax funds towards this

project, which is estimated to be completed in June 2026.

For more information on this project, visit www.cutlerbay-fl.gov and search for "Franjo Roadway Improvement Project."

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CITT Holds it's 2024 Annual Municipal Workshop



The CITT held its 2024 Annual Municipal Workshop, with representation from 24 municipalities and covered a broad range of critical topics – from the Miami-Dade SMART Program and municipal transit contracting, to advancing cycling infrastructure and beyond.

The workshop brought together a diverse group of presenters and thought leaders, including representatives from the County's Internal Compliance Department, the Department of Transportation & Public Works and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Attendees also learned about the new Live Local Act – a comprehensive, statewide attainable housing strategy, designed to increase the availability of affordable housing opportunities for Florida's residents, who desire to live within the communities they serve.

This workshop exemplifies the power of partnership and how different municipalities and agencies can learn from each other – not only by sharing knowledge and resources but also by aligning strategies toward a shared vision: a smarter, more efficient transportation system that serves everyone in Miami-Dade County.

To see the presentations and access the resources provided during the 2024 Annual Municipal Workshop, visit miamidade.gov/citt/municipal-workshop.asp.

South Corridor Progressing to Near Completion

Miami-Dade County continues to progress in its development of rapid transit corridors – particularly the South Corridor, which is also known as the South Dade TransitWay.

The South Dade TransitWay upgrades have nearly reached completion, with service expected to start this summer.



As part of this corridor, the County is building 14 new and iconic stations that will offer shelter from the elements and pre-paid boarding.

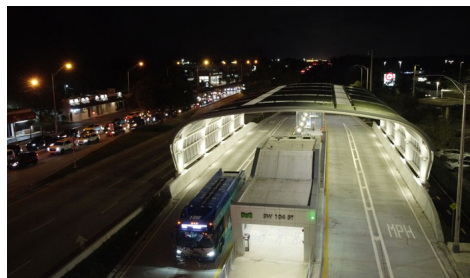


Photo Credit: DTPW

It is also building a five-level Park & Ride facility at SW 168 Street, adjacent to the South Dade TransitWay. Once completed, this Park and Ride facility will feature approximately 645 parking spaces, bicycle storage, electric vehicle charging, public restrooms, and more.

This corridor, which runs 20 miles adjacent to State Road US1, between the Dadeland South Metrorail station and Florida City, is one of six corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program. It connects numerous municipalities that represent some of the fastest-growing communities in Miami-Dade County.

For more information on the South Corridor, visit: www.miamidade.gov/global/transportation/smart-plan-south-dade-transit-way-corridor.page.

For more information on the People's Transportation Plan and the Transportation Trust, visit miamidade.gov/citt.

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