# 2015 Transportation Summit Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT)

# Status of Rapid Transit Corridors in Miami-Dade County

Presented by:

January 22, 2015



#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Historical Overview





# Rapid Transit Corridor Projects People's Transportation Plan (PTP)



- AirportLink Completed in 2012
- North Corridor
- East-West Corridor
- Beach Corridor (Bay Link)
- Northeast Corridor (Coastal Link)
- South Corridor (South Link)
- Kendall Corridor (Kendall Link)
- Douglas Road Corridor

#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects North Corridor

- Planned Enhanced Bus Service (EBS) service along NW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) being analyzed as part of the BRT Implementation Plan
- Connecting to Metrorail and Miami Intermodal Center (MIC)
- BRT improvements consist of dedicated curbside bus lanes along curbside, bus stations, branding and more frequent service along NW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- BRT improvement identified in the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan as a cost-feasible project.





#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects East-West Corridor

- Express Bus Service is programmed along SR-836
- Enhanced Bus Service (EBS) has been planned along Flagler Street
- BRT being analyzed along Flagler Street as part of the BRT Implementation Plan
- BRT improvements consist of dedicated curbside bus lanes along Flagler Street with bus stations, branding and increased service frequencies
- Passenger rail service along existing parallel rail corridors being examined by the Miami-Dade MPO





## Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Northeast Corridor



- Planned EBS improvements are programmed along Biscayne Blvd
- Construction of the inter-city All Aboard Florida (AAF) project first phase (WPB to Miami) has begun
- Planning for the Tri-Rail Coastal Link (TRCL) commuter rail service between Jupiter and Miami to enter FTA's Project Development Phase
- TRCL and AAF continue close coordination regarding infrastructure and service options



#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects South Corridor

- MPO approved (2006) policy for enhanced BRT and Metrorail extension to SW 104<sup>th</sup> Street, including grade separation at major intersections and additional park & ride facilities
- MDX conducting a PD&E for elevated express lanes along the Busway
- Integration of busway enhancements with MDX planned express lanes





#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Kendall Corridor

- Implementation of Kendall Cruiser in 2010
- BRT being analyzed as part of the BRT Implementation Plan building upon prior BRT planning efforts
- BRT improvements consist of dedicated curbside bus lanes with bus stations, branding and daily frequent service







## Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Douglas Corridor

- Douglas Corridor Transit Study (2014) identified potential for BRT and LRT along 37 Avenue
- BRT being further analyzed as part of the BRT Implementation Plan
- BRT consists of dedicated curbside bus lanes with bus stations, branding and frequent daily service
- BRT connects the MIC and Douglas Road Metrorail Station and serves Coral Gables CBD
- Possible integration with the North Corridor BRT project at the MIC





#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Beach Corridor

- Beach Corridor Transit Connection Study wrapping up in early 2015.
- The Study represents a collaborative effort, funded and coordinated with:
  - Miami-Dade MPO (lead agency)
     FDOT
     Miami-Dade Transit
     City of Miami
     City of Miami Beach
     Downtown Development Authority (DDA)



Study purpose was to update and refine the Light Rail Transit (LRT) / Streetcar system adopted from the Bay Link Study in 2003

#### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Beach Corridor

- The Beach Corridor Transit Connection Study is guided by the Technical Steering Committee (TSC) and a Policy Executive Committee (PEC)
- The Beach Corridor PEC is comprised of 5-members
  - Miami-Dade County Mayor Gimenez
  - City of Miami Mayor Regalado
  - City of Miami Beach Mayor Levine
  - Miami-Dade MPO (2) Commissioners Barreiro and X. Suarez
- The Study performed numerous tasks including:
  - Technology assessment
  - Capital and operating costs update
  - Identification of potential funding options
  - Environmental screening
  - Development of an implementation plan



#### Beach Corridor Refined Alignments

- Direct Connection from Downtown Miami to Miami Beach Convention Center
- Service frequency 5 min. during the peak periods, 10 min. during off-peak





# Beach Corridor Refined Alignments

- Operational Loop plus Alton (OLA)
- Alternating trains along Washington and Alton
- Daily service frequency of 5 min. along main line and 10 min. on Alton Road and Washington Avenue branches





## Beach Corridor Refined Alignments

- Alton Road Hybrid as an independent line running from South Pointe to Miami Beach Convention Center
- Combined with Direct Connection alignment





# Beach Corridor Technology Assessment

- Global review of state-of-the-art systems
- Maximize off-wire technology and/or limited overhead wire
- Considered both overhead storage system and in-ground energy source for off-wire technology
- A public-private partnership (P3) project delivery method is preferred to design, build, operate and maintain the project







#### Beach Corridor Capital and Operating Costs

- Capital and operating costs updated from the 2003 Bay Link Study
- Operating costs assume the different operating service levels

	2003 LPA	Direct Connection	OLA	DC+ Hybrid
Capital Cost	\$774	\$532	\$646	\$694
Annual O&M Cost	\$45	\$22	\$34	\$49



# Beach Corridor Funding Options

- Will need ~\$70 M/year for P3 availability payments
  - Order of magnitude value
  - Cash flow analysis required
- Causeway tolling is the largest potential source of revenue
- Without tolling, will need combination of other sources
- Other funding sources considered
  - Special Assessment District
  - Tax increment financing
  - Parking surcharge
  - Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT)
  - Tourist and Convention Development surtax



## Beach Corridor Environmental Screening

- Some change in the natural and man-made environment from 2004
- Age of document requires complete update
- Major issues to be addressed in NEPA
   FEC railroad crossing
   Utility relocation impacts
   Construction impacts
   ROW impacts at stations
   Roadway drainage and sea level rise





# Beach Corridor Next Steps

- Formally approve study recommendations including Implementation Plan
- Complete project development and environmental process
- Identify funding source(s)
- Continue partnership approach to advance the project





### Rapid Transit Corridor Projects Summary

- A re-focus has occurred on many of these corridors towards delivering rapid transit improvements throughout Miami-Dade County
  - Greater emphasis on project delivery
  - Improvements under consideration are better aligned with the current funding environment
  - Realization that public sector alone cannot deliver all improvements need for private partners
- Multi-agency partnership is working in tandem to advance these rapid transit corridor projects



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