

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH, CHRISTOPHER AND KAREN.**

**THIS AWARD IS A GREAT HONOR, AND I'M REALLY PLEASED TO ACCEPT IT ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY AND OUR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS.**

**THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S 2.7 MILLION RESIDENTS AND MILLIONS OF VISITORS IS MY TOP PRIORITY AS MAYOR.**

**AND THE FACT THAT WE'VE EARNED THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S "GOLD STANDARD AWARD" -- WHICH IS THE HIGHEST RATING POSSIBLE, BY THE WAY -- DEMONSTRATES OUR DEDICATION TO BUILDING A STRONG SECURITY PROGRAM.**

**THIS ACCOLADE CONFIRMS THAT OUR WORK IS NOT GOING UNNOTICED, AND THAT WE'RE AMONG THE VERY BEST IN NATION FOR TRANSIT SECURITY.**

**IN FACT, I KNOW THAT THE COUNTY'S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS IS ONE OF ONLY 13 AGENCIES IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO RECEIVE THE PRESTIGIOUS "GOLD STANDARD" IN 2015. AND I WANT TO RECOGNIZE DEPARTMENT**

**DIRECTOR ALICE BRAVO AND HER TEAM FOR ALL THAT THEY DO TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S TRANSIT PASSENGERS. THANK YOU, ALICE.**

**I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE DEPUTY MAYOR ALINA HUDAK, WHO, UNTIL RECENTLY, OVERSAW THE COUNTY'S TRANSIT AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS. THANK YOU, ALINA.**

**JUST YESTERDAY, ALICE, ALINA AND I WERE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE E-GOV SUMMIT TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF OUR "TRANSIT WATCH APP."**

**FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH IT, THIS APP ALLOWS OUR METRORAIL, METROBUS, AND METROMOVER RIDERS TO INSTANTLY AND ANONYMOUSLY SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION ABOUT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO OUR CENTRAL CONTROL SECURITY OFFICERS.**

**AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, "IT TAKES ALL OF US, TO PROTECT ALL OF US." AND I'M CONFIDENT THAT OUR "TRANSIT WATCH" APP, IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER INVESTMENTS WE'RE MAKING IN OUR**

**SECURITY SYSTEM, WILL BRING GREATER SAFETY TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BY EMPOWERING OUR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION RIDERS TO ASSIST IN OUR COMMUNITY'S SAFETY.**

**MY THANKS AGAIN TO THE T.S.A. FOR THIS AWARD. I ASSURE YOU THAT WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO ALL WE CAN TO KEEP MIAMI-DADE'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, AND OUR RIDERS, AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE.**

