



DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC WORKS

# Annual Report











MAKING SIGNIFICANT STRIDES TO STRENGTHEN OUR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND EXPAND MOBILITY OPTIONS



## DELIVERING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS TODAY!

An efficient, reliable public transit system is the foundation of a healthy community. That's why I am happy to report that last year, our Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) continued to strengthen our transit system and expand mobility options for all with great results.

Transit ridership is up nearly 6% across all modes, with an 11% increase in rail and a 5% increase in bus ridership. These gains have catapulted DTPW to become the 10th largest transit agency in the country. From redesigning our bus network in November 2023 to today, the gains are even more impressive, with ridership up 10%.

And later this year, we are launching what will be the nation's longest battery electric bus rapid transit corridor, at 20 miles long. The South Dade Transit Way will have a seamless rider experience, complete with state-of-the-art train-like buses, air-conditioned waiting areas, and enhanced safety.

We also continue advancing our SMART Program to deliver important transit corridors for our community, our Vision Zero goal to significantly reduce traffic fatalities and injuries, and the County's first-ever Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan to harmonize our efforts within the county and across municipalities.

There is so much to be proud of – continuing improvements to bus service, creating more transitoriented communities, and making roadways safer for all. Each milestone highlighted in this publication started with our residents and their feedback. Engagement is a cornerstone of my administration and will remain a guiding principle.

Together, we're making headway creating greater access to transit and quality of life. Let's keep going! Kindest regards,

**Daniella Levine Cava**Mayor of Miami-Dade County



## FORGING AN EVEN BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH SAFER, MORE SUSTAINABLE, RELIABLE, AND CONNECTED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

As the Interim Director and CEO of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, I want to thank all employees for their hard work and dedication to our residents in 2024. In 2025, we will continue to seize on our momentum and accelerate critical transportation and mobility programs and projects for all our residents and build on the great foundation we've built along with Mayor Cava, the Board of County Commissioners, partners and stakeholders.

As someone who grew up in this community, I'm truly humbled by this opportunity. To help lead such an enterprise and its people is incredibly inspiring and a tremendous privilege. As we embark on this new journey together, we face both great challenges and opportunities. My number one priority is supporting our residents in their daily lives and each of our 4,000 employees and their well-being.

There are many things moving in the right direction in the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) under the leadership of Mayor Cava and the Board of County Commissioners. Of note, our SMART Program is advancing with our South Corridor set to begin revenue service in 2025 with state-of-the-art stations and bus rapid transit service that will reduce peak time travel times by as much as 40%, and with our Northeast Corridor clearing environmental requirements and securing key funding commitments so that we can move closer to commuter rail service along this critical link.

We also continue engaging with riders and residents to improve our transit services and roadways so that they are especially safer for pedestrians. Impactful annual performance creates the momentum to start the year on a high note.

Together, we are a step closer to our lofty vision of being the world's best provider of transportation options. With gratitude, high hopes and admiration.

Josiel Ferrer-Diaz

Interim Director Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW)

## **KEY MILESTONES IN 2024**



Miami-Dade Transit system is now the 10th largest in the country.



Miami-Dade Transit has recovered more than 110% of the ridership lost during COVID-19.



Metrobus ridership has increased by more than 10% since the launch of the Better Bus Network, the largest overhaul of the Metrobus system in 40 years, in November 2023.



Public Works crews resurfaced 136 miles of roadway, built 205 miles of new sidewalks, and cleaned 442,461 feet of drainage pipes.



DTPW is on pace to putting in service one of the largest zeroemissions, all electric bus fleets in the country.



In 2025, the South Dade Transit Operations Center, a new cuttingedge and first-of-its kind in the nation bus operations facility, will open for service.



In 2025, the department will launch Miami-Dade County's first-ever Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system on the South Dade TransitWay. With a length of 20 miles, the TransitWay will be the longest battery electric BRT system in the nation on a dedicated corridor with level boarding, gate arms and 14 state-of-the-art stations.



DTPW received various prestigious recognitions including COMTO's Public Agency of the Year and the Transportation Planning Organization's Safe Streets Summit – Agency of the Year award for the Vision Zero Program.



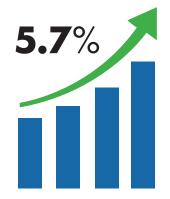
FEDERAL **FUNDING** AWARDED IN 2024 **\$265,712,754**  STATE **FUNDING** AWARDED IN 2024 \$**73,322,784** 

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS BY TRANSIT MODE

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRIPS COMPLETED ACROSS ALL MODES IN 2024: 84.8 MILLION

**4.6 million more** riders on all four modes combined — Metrobus, Metrorail, Metromover and STS — from 2023 to 2024.

Metrorail achieved the biggest improvement with a **11.2** % increase in ridership from 2023 to 2024.





## **METROBUS**

#### SYSTEM PERFORMANCE METRICS

Metrobus serves all major shopping, entertainment and cultural centers, as well as major hospitals and schools. Service is available from Miami Beach, Key Biscayne, West Miami-Dade, Homestead, Florida City and the Middle Keys.



#### TOTAL ANNUAL BOARDINGS

2024 61.1 Million
2023 58.3 Million



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WILL SOON OPERATE ONE OF THE LARGEST ZERO-EMISSIONS ELECTRIC BUS FLEET AMONG PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES IN THE COUNTRY.

ON-TIME PERFORMANCE (OTP)		
2023	2024	
65.04%	65.13%	

#### **SYSTEM SUMMARY**

- 70 bus routes.
- 750 Active buses.
  - 588 peak vehicles operated by DTPW.
  - 43 on contracted services.
- 27 million miles traveled annually.
- 9 Express routes.
- Over 5,100 parking spaces at bus Park & Ride lots and garages.
- A two-lane, 20-mile-long exclusive bus TransitWay.

\*As of the Nov. 25, 2024 Metrobus lineup.

#### TOP FIVE ON-TIME PERFORMANCE BY ROUTE

KOO12		
ROUTE	AVERAGE	
338	86.64%	
302	80.00%	
837	79.96%	
88	78.44%	
135	78.11%	

### HIGHEST RIDERSHIP TOP FIVE ROUTES

ROUTE	BOARDINGS
100	5,397,000
11	3,655,000
77	3,641,000
9	3,594,000
27	2,991,000

## **METRORAIL**

#### SYSTEM PERFORMANCE METRICS



The Metrorail system is a 25-mile dual track that provides service to Miami International Airport (MIA) and runs from Kendall through South Miami, Coral Gables, and downtown Miami; to the Civic Center/ **lackson Memorial** Hospital area; and to Brownsville, Liberty City, Hialeah, and Medley in northwest Miami-Dade, with connections to Broward and Palm Beach counties at three stations.

## DTPW IS ACTIVELY WORKING ON MAINTAINING AND UPGRADING METRORAIL'S TRACKS AND GUIDEWAY TO IMPROVE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY FOR MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT RIDERS.

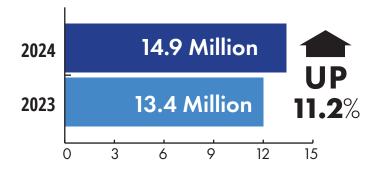
#### TOTAL BOARDINGS

#### **TOP FIVE METRORAIL STATIONS IN 2024**

TOTAL	7,271,669
UHEALTH   JACKSON	1,170,223
DADELAND NORTH	1,188,114
DADELAND SOUTH	1,339,330
BRICKELL	1,609,591
GOVERNMENT CENTER	1,964,407

**Interesting fact:** The top five Metrorail stations account for 49% of the total annual ridership.

#### **TOTAL ANNUAL BOARDINGS**



#### **SYSTEM SUMMARY**

- 24.8 miles of dual track.
- 23 Metrorail stations.
- 136 Metrorail cars; fleet replaced starting 2017.
- 8,330 Metrorail parking facilities spaces.

## **METROMOVER**

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE METRICS

#### TOTAL ANNUAL BOARDINGS

7.2 Million 2024 7 Million 2023 2.9%

## **PARATRANSIT**

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE METRICS

#### TOTAL ANNUAL BOARDINGS

1.6 Million 2024

1.46 Million 2023

# **6.7**%

#### SYSTEM SUMMARY

- 4.4 miles of track.
- 21 Metromover stations.
- 29 Metromover cars.



#### ON-TIME PERFORMANCE (OTP)

85.8%	88.6%
DECEMBER 2023	DECEMBER 2024

#### 2024 SYSTEM SUMMARY

■ Service 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week including holidays.

**BETWEEN 2023 AND 2024, OTP PEAKED AT 92.7% IN JULY 2024** 

- 38,443 registered certified clients.
- Door-to-door service throughout Miami-Dade County.
- Free fares for STS EASY Card holders on fixed route service.

#### (Metrobus and Metrorail).

- Average of 5,100 weekday trips, 2,400 Saturday trips, and 2,000 Sunday trips.
- Total STS vehicles: 390.

#### **SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS**

Metromover has been in service for almost 40 years and while the system has expanded and vehicles have been replaced, the backend systems responsible for keeping the free Automated People Mover (APM) functioning properly are showing signs of decay due to wear and tear.

For this reason, Metromover riders have experienced frequent service disruptions. However, service improvements are underway. DTPW is working with a contractor to replace and repair Metromover subsystems to ensure reliability, accessibility, and future-readiness. While under construction, the project may cause some inconveniences to riders, including scheduling changes, but when completed, Metromover's service and reliability will vastly improve.



## VISION ZERO

The countywide **Vision Zero** program is a systematic approach to implementing safety measures to reduce mobility-related fatalities and serious injuries to zero by 2040. The program has gained tremendous momentum in the last couple of years and in 2024, it achieved the following milestones:

- Secured nearly \$6 million in grant funding for the implementation of roadway improvements and Vision Zero safety projects.
- Currently prioritizing Top 100 locations countywide in need of safety measures and completed 18 out of 22 safety improvement projects countywide.
- Completed the construction of 20 Quick Build projects.
- Published the County's inaugural Vision Zero Action Plan and developed a new Vision Zero Dashboard with support from the National Safety Council's Road to Zero Grant, with the Dashboard becoming available for public use in the first quarter of 2025.
- Successfully concluded the Community Liaison Program, a program funded by the National Safety Council's Road to Zero Grant designed to gather valuable public feedback on safety projects implemented across the county.
- Coordinated and participated in 18 events and collected 131 surveys for the program, focusing on the Kendall and Overtown areas.

#### **SERIOUS INJURIES ON MIAMI-DADE** COUNTY ROADWAYS



#### **FATALITIES ON** MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ROADWAYS



\*Data as of November 19, 2024 at press time. Source: Signal Four Analytics - Florida Traffic Safety Dashboard











## **PUBLIC WORKS** PIVOTAL PROGRESS

As part of DTPW's milestones in 2024, the department's Public Works staff achieved the following progress throughout the County:



- Resurfaced 136 miles of roadway.
- Built 205 miles of new sidewalks.
- Filled 10,433 potholes.
- Repaired approximately 66 miles of sidewalks.
- Cleaned more than 102 linear miles of canals.
- Installed 3.9 miles of new drainage pipes.
- Cleaned 442,461 linear feet of drainage pipes.
- Cleaned 11,636 drainage structures.
- Installed 24 new traffic signals.
- Completed 10.965 work orders for traffic signal repairs.







The Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program is a comprehensive and proactive approach that's advancing five rapid transit corridors to greatly expand and enhance Miami-Dade County's public transit infrastructure.

#### **SMART PROGRAM** gains in 2024

#### NORTHEAST CORRIDOR

In October 2024, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved DTPW's request for funding for the Northeast Corridor Rapid Transit Project which could be up to \$389.5 million in federal grants.

The Northeast Corridor marks the first segment of the 85-mile Coastal Link commuter rail, aimed at connecting Miami-Dade with Broward and Palm Beach counties. Spanning 13.5 miles, the project leverages the existing rail corridor shared with Brightline and Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) freight services. It will integrate the Miami Central and West Aventura stations while adding five new stops, providing direct connections to Wynwood, the Design District, Little Haiti, North Miami, and the FIU North Campus.

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#### **SMART PROGRAM** benefits include:

- Improvements in safety.
- Reduction in traffic congestion.
- Reduction of transportation-related emissions.
- A significant increase in public transit ridership.
- Reduction in the number of vehicles on the road.
- Increase in housing, retail, and office development

#### **SOUTH DADE CORRIDOR**

Scheduled to open in 2025, the TransitWay on the South Dade Corridor will offer Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service with a train-like experience that will save commuters time during peak hours between Dadeland South Metrorail Station and Homestead.

BRT service on the TransitWay will offer total comfort with seamless level boarding and air-conditioned vestibules at 14 cutting-edge stations that will be the stops for the MetroExpress service.

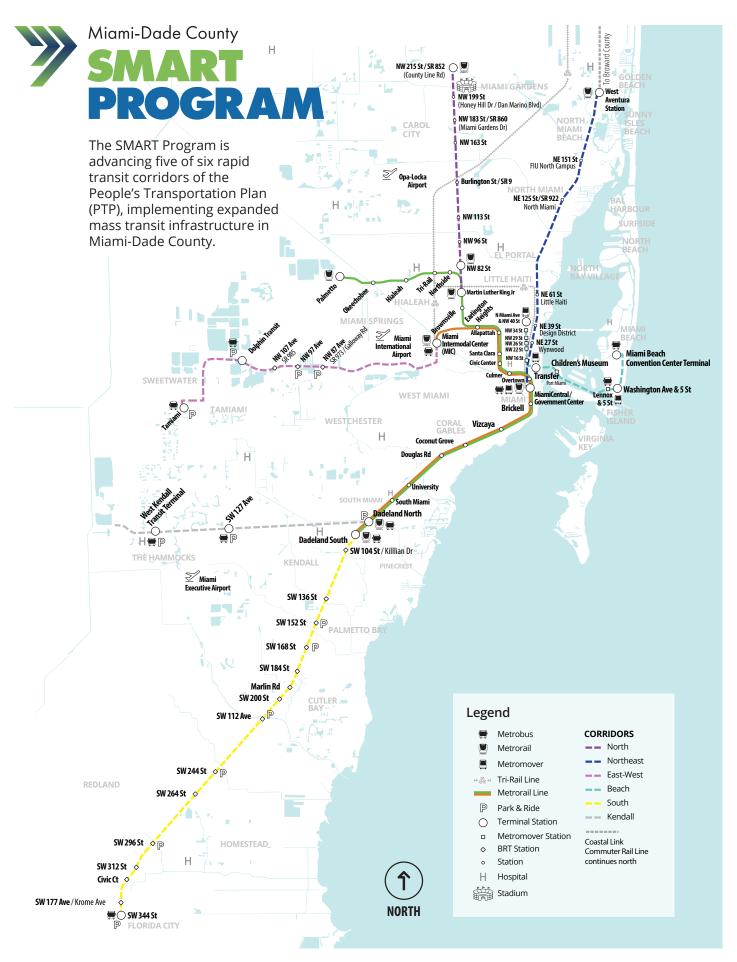
#### **NORTH CORRIDOR AND EAST-WEST CORRIDOR**

DTPW also received confirmation from Washington D.C. of \$500,000 of earmarked funds for planning stages of the North Corridor as well as \$8 million for the predevelopment of the East-West Corridor.



near transit stations and along major transportation corridors.

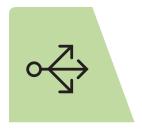
- Expanded connections to jobs, education, and other popular destinations in Miami-Dade County.
- A larger and interconnected network of premium transit services.
- More job opportunities in the transportation industry.





SHIFT305 is revitalizing Miami-Dade's transportation system. This roadmap action plan encompasses four goals: safe, clean, efficient and connected.

# MOBILITY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS CHANGING



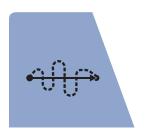
#### CONNECTED

DTPW is committed to providing Miami-Dade residents, workers and visitors with a transportation network that allows them to easily get to the places they work, play and learn.



#### **CLEANER**

DTPW is committed to providing transportation in Miami-Dade County that is resilient to climate impacts now, and sustainable for future generations.



#### **EFFICIENT**

DTPW is committed to utilizing Miami-Dade County's street spaces, data and operations to minimize travel times and costs, and to maximize quality of life.



#### **SAFER**

DTPW is committed to promoting a culture of safety and security by making Miami-Dade streets, paths and transportation programs secure and accessible to all and driven by data to ensure the highest level of safety and quality of service.

#### SHIFT305 CONNECTED

#### TRANSIT-ORIENTED COMMUNITIES

Transit-Oriented Community (TOC) developments built along major transit corridors throughout the County make living car-free possible because these communities provide transportation options and connections to employment centers, schools, healthcare, and entertainment and culture venues.

Transit-oriented communities also help to increase the number affordable homes to Miami-Dade County residents. In fact, through the construction of dozens of new TOC developments in partnership with the private sector, there are approximately 1,400 Affordable/Workforce Housing units throughout the County's TOCs, and an additional 3,200 Affordable/Workforce Housing units are in progress or planned for future projects.



In 2024, various TOC milestones were achieved including the grand opening of Grove Central directly connected to the Coconut Grove Metrorail Station.

The County also commemorated the groundbreaking of Phase V of Brownsville Transit Village, conveniently located next to the Brownsville Metrorail Station, and the groundbreaking of Phase 2 of Quail Roost Station which stands next to the South Dade TransitWav where the department will launch the longest emissions-free Bus Rapid Transit service in the country in 2025. Other Transit-Oriented Community plans are in the works for 2025 and beyond.

#### THE UNDERLINE

In 2024, together with Friends of the Underline, DTPW commemorated the grand opening of Phase 2 of The Underline, a unique 10-mile multimodal corridor that is transforming the underutilized land beneath the Miami-Dade County Metrorail guideway into a first-class walkable, and cycling-friendly green space.

Thanks to the support from Friends of the Underline, the State of Florida, benefactors, agency partners,

and various municipalities, DTPW is fast-tracking the construction of Phase 3 - a 7.36-mile segment that connects the Vizcaya Metrorail Station to the Dadeland South Metrorail station and the last one of the three that will complete the entire corridor from Brickell to Dadeland South. The Underline features many amenities for the community from dog parks to basketball courts to areas for arts activations.



#### SHIFT305 CONNECTED

#### **DADELAND SOUTH INTERMODAL STATION**

In 1984, the Metrorail system opened for service which included a connection between Overtown just north of Downtown Miami to the Dadeland South Metrorail station, the system's terminus station on the southern end of the Metrorail elevated guideway.

Today, Dadeland South Station needs several infrastructure improvements to significantly enhance service reliability, comfort and safety for Metrorail and Metrobus riders. In the spring of 2024, DTPW started working on several infrastructure renovations for the station. The

construction enhancements will transform the station into a complete intermodal hub by providing greater connectivity between transit services, The Underline, and the South Dade Trail.

One of the busiest stations in our Metrorail system, the Dadeland South Metrorail station is also scheduled to provide a seamless connection to the County's first-ever Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system that will operate on the South Dade TransitWay of the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program.



#### ROADWAYS AND NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

The Roadway and Neighborhood Improvement program delivers enhancements to arterial roads and intersections which help improve connectivity.

The program includes over 30 ongoing roadway improvement projects worth \$118 million.

This program includes resurfacing, guardrail, sidewalks, traffic signals, and streetlights improvement. In 2024,

the Department completed the following roadway improvements:

- Fifty-six resurfacing projects totaling \$15,555,000.
- Twenty-one sidewalk projects totaling \$860,000.
- Eighteen drainage improvements projects totaling \$3,958,000.

#### **VENETIAN CAUSEWAY**

In July 2024, the U.S. Department of Transportation Bridge Investment Program (BIP) confirmed a grant award of \$100.5 million for major repairs needed for the aging Venetian Causeway, a crucial connector between Miami and Miami Beach.

Constructed in the mid-1920s with an initial design lifespan of 50 years, the 11 bridges, including the easternmost movable bridge, have reached the end of their useful life. Because of this, DTPW staff, along with agency and project partners, are working to replace the historic bridges. The new bridges will have a useful life of approximately 75 years, honoring the history and original appearance of the Venetian Causeway while incorporating modern safety features.

Construction advertisement for this project is tentatively estimated for early 2026. Once completed, the bridge replacement project will make the Venetian Causeway a safer and more efficient corridor for all users.



#### SHIFT305 CONNECTED

#### NW 17th AVENUE BASCULE BRIDGE

DTPW is working with other agencies and stakeholders to evaluate improvement alternatives, such as replacing or rehabilitating the NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge. As part of this process, in November 2024, the department held a kick-off public meeting to discuss various alternatives to enhance the bridge's operation and reliability with residents and businesses.

Running along NW 17th Avenue, the movable bridge provides an important connection on this corridor between the health district anchored by Jackson Memorial Hospital, to several business, and residential areas, as well as loanDeport Park, Home of the Miami Marlins, on the

south side of the Miami River. The NW 17th Avenue Bascule Bridge also provides an essential service to the marine industry, with dozens of cargo vessels traversing the Miami River daily.



The bridge was constructed in 1929 and is the only remaining bridge over the Miami River, built as part of the Harbor Bond Issue of 1926. In fact, this bridge is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In recent years, the aged and deteriorated condition of the bridge have resulted in numerous repairs and extended bridge closures.







#### **SHIFT305** EFFICIENT

#### **PUBLIC WORKS ASSETS**

As part of DTPW's core mission, the department operates, repairs, and maintains a myriad of public infrastructure assets throughout Miami-Dade County.

These public infrastructure assets include:

- Over 7,680 paved lane miles and 18.5 million linear feet of sidewalk.
- Over 400 miles of bicycle lanes and trails/greenways countywide.
- 27,668 streetlights.
- 2,962 signalized intersections and 2,100 other traffic control devices.
- Over 1,250,000 traffic signs.
- 181 fixed roadway bridges not including 8 movable bridges, 14 pedestrian bridges, and 7 Culverts.
- Over 64,154 drainage structures (not including MDC right-of-ways).
- 18 pump stations.
- 190 linear miles of secondary canals.



#### **SHIFT305** EFFICIENT

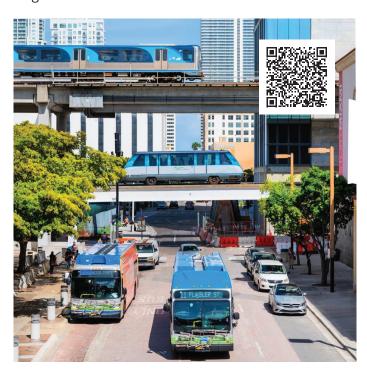
#### COUNTYWIDE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

The department is putting the final touches on the first-ever Countywide Transportation Master Plan (CTMP). The main goal of the master plan is to identify capital investment projects and improvement initiatives for transit, pedestrian, bicycle, roadways, and freight to be completed throughout Miami-Dade County in the next 20 years. The plan is being developed with the support and feedback from the community, as well as stakeholders, and is consistent with existing strategic plans and initiatives from Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and the Board of County Commissioners.

The CTMP's vision is to create an integrated multimodal capital and transit service investment plan that advances transportation infrastructure improvements in Miami-Dade County to provide a more efficient, connected, safe, and clean transportation system. Main goals for the CTMP include:

- Identify multimodal investments for the next 20 years.
- Harmonize DTPW multimodal project investments with future municipal transportation and transit projects.
- Engage stakeholders to develop scenarios that outline choices in transportation.
- Establish processes to prioritize investments across modes.

- Inform the public of planned transportation infrastructure improvements.
- Achieve infrastructure improvement goals of Miami-Dade County.
- Prioritize the needs of the public based on input gathered.



#### **BETTER BUS NETWORK**

In November 2024, DTPW completed the latest refinements to the County's Metrobus network as part of the Better Bus Network (BBN), the most comprehensive and complete realignment of bus routes in the past 40 years. Since the launch of the BBN in November 2023, DTPW has continued to listen to and process feedback from the community and Metrobus riders. As a result, the department implemented many service improvements for Metrobus throughout 2024.

The feedback received has directly informed bus network enhancements and the implementation of new services such as the expansion of the MetroConnect zones and the launch of the supplementary MetroLink fixed routes. Ultimately, DTPW's goal is to provide more service, for more people, with more frequency as the department staff continues to finetune one of the largest bus networks in the country to provide the most reliable service possible in 2025 and beyond.



#### SHIFT305 EFFICIENT

#### **BUS OPERATOR RECRUITMENT**

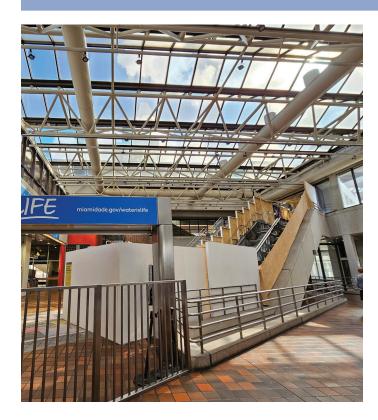


Bus operators provide the true heart of service to Miami-Dade County and its communities. For this reason, DTPW has continued to bolster its efforts to recruit, hire, and retain bus operators since 2022. The department instituted two new financial incentives including an unprecedented hiring bonus for Metrobus operators of \$5,000. Additionally, DTPW has continued to participate in job and career fairs throughout the county, has stablished a tutoring and guidance program for potential candidates, and developed partnerships with Miami Dade College and

the Miami-Dade County Public Schools system to better appeal to young students who may be interested in bus operator job opportunities.

As a result of these incentives and new recruitment strategies, almost 200 new candidates successfully completed a nine-week, paid training and joined the 1,500 strong family of Metrobus operators in 2024. Additional operators are needed, and the department will continue to boost its hiring effort throughout 2025.

#### CONVEYANCE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS



DTPW has budgeted approximately \$100 million in the next five years to replace escalators at four Metromover stations, modernize 27 elevator/escalator units at five Metrorail stations, and add new conveyance units to Miami-Dade Transit's system.

Additionally, through private-public partnerships, the County has secured added investments of more than \$8 million for infrastructure conveyance enhancements at various Metrorail stations located next to Transit-Oriented Community Developments (TOD).



#### SHIFT305 CLEANER

#### **SOUTH DADE TRANSIT OPERATIONS CENTER (SDTOC)**

In 2024, the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) started construction of a new cutting-edge, future-ready and first-of-its-kind in the nation bus operations facility, the South Dade Transit Operations Center (SDTOC). This \$265 million transit investment is being built in Homestead, and once fully completed in 2026, it will be the home of the department's new fleet of 100 zero-emissions, 60-foot articulated battery-electric buses.

Part of the new zero-emissions fleet will provide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service on the nationally recognized South Dade TransitWay which is set to open in 2025. The complex is the first major operations and



garage facility built by DTPW in 40 years. Additionally, it's estimated that this innovative Metrobus operations center will create almost 300 permanent jobs.



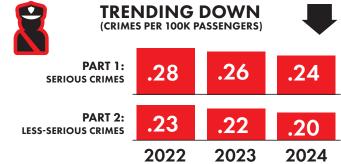
#### **SHIFT305** SAFER

#### SAFETY AND SECURITY



Safety is DTPW's number one priority and as such the department is steadfast in making sure all employees and Miami-Dade Transit riders are safe while using the system.

While safety precautions are put in place and enforced by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, it's imperative for all transit passengers to abide by the rules as we all work together to keep each other safe and secure.



#### SHIFT305 SAFER

#### **IMPROVED METRORAIL SAFETY**



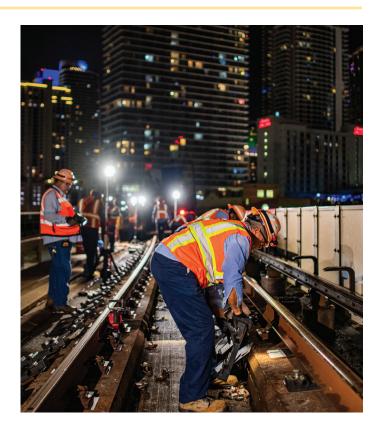
Following the Federal Transportation Agency's (FTA) and the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) safety mandates, DTPW frequently inspects the Metrorail tracks and guideway, and removes debris

and obstructions to ensure safe operations daily. Additionally, Metrorail crews work on maintaining and upgrading Metrorail's tracks and guideway to improve safety and reliability for Miami-Dade Transit riders the 365 days of the year.

The work is extensive, meticulous, and time-consuming, and not all of it can be completed after service hours. For this reason, single-tracking takes place on weekends and after 8 p.m. on weekdays to allow the work to be performed safely and as expeditiously as possible.

Single-tracking is an industrywide practice that allows regular track maintenance and upgrades to be installed safely while minimizing service impacts. Some of the major safety upgrades include the replacement of fasteners, acoustical barriers, and tracks. Additionally, single tracking is sometimes necessary due to construction work happening near the tracks by another agency or private contractor.

Single-tracking at the current levels will continue for another 12 months.



#### **FOR-HIRE TRANSPORTATION**

The Department regulates for -hire chauffeurs and vehicles such as taxicabs, limousines, passenger motor carriers (including jitneys and tour vans), special transportation service vehicles, non-emergency transportation services, private school buses, and ambulance services.

DTPW provides chauffeur training sessions and enforces for-hire ordinances to ensure that visitors and residents who utilize for-hire transportation are transported in vehicles that are licensed, safe, insured, cosmetically pleasing, and operated by licensed trained chauffeurs.

To protect consumers, the Department also conducts undercover enforcement operations to deter unlicensed transportation providers from operating.

In 2024, DTPW conducted 89 chauffeur training sessions.

- Completed 9,268 for-hire vehicle inspections.
- Issued 16,042 licenses (new and renewals).
- Trained more than 35 law enforcement personnel from various local agencies.
- Increased the number of undercover operations to 34 to curtail unlicensed transportation providers from targeting unaware consumers.





#### **SHIFT305** SAFER

#### RICKENBACKER CAUSEWAY





DTPW staff and Mayor Cava's team took immediate actions to increase safety along the Rickenbacker Causeway following a fatal accident on this corridor in 2022. Since then, our planning and public works teams have been actively working on several major safety improvements on the Rickenbacker Causeway to continue enhancing safety and efficiency along the highly utilized causeway by motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. As part of the work being done, the department is developing a Master Plan that will provide a holistic planning framework for the Causeway. The scope of the Master Plan includes coordination with the Village of Key Biscayne, City of Miami, partner agencies, and stakeholders, the identification of short-term projects aimed at funding within the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and long-term projects for future funding opportunities. The study is scheduled to be completed in 2025.

Some of the safety improvements completed on this corridor include the relocation of the entrance driveway to Hobie Beach Park and the consolidation of driveways east of the William Powell Bridge and west of Bear Cut Bridge. These enhancements on the Rickenbacker Causeway have reduced the number of driveways, which help minimize mobility conflict points.

#### **NORTH HOBIE ISLAND BEACH**



After several resiliency and safety improvements, DTPW reopened North Hobie Island Beach on the Rickenbacker Causeway to the public in December 2024. The nearly \$14 million revitalization project restored 9.6 acres of critical

waterfront along the Causeway, providing major infrastructure upgrades and improved access to public areas for residents and visitors. A \$2 million grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) contributed to the project's success.

The reimagined construction of North Hobie Island Beach is part of a series of improvement projects for the Rickenbacker Causeway and the soon to be launched Countywide Transportation Master Plan (CTMP), the first of its kind for Miami-Dade County. By focusing on safety, connectivity, and sustainability, DTPW is building a more resilient and inclusive community that will benefit residents and visitors, while setting a new standard for how urban areas can thrive while coexisting harmoniously with nature, ensuring that Miami-Dade remains a vibrant, welcoming, and sustainable destination.





#### **EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

#### AIR, LAND, AND SEA ENGAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM AND INDUSTRY FORUM

In partnership with the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) Miami Chapter, DTPW hosted the Air, Land, and Sea Engagement Symposium and Industry Forum in November 2024. This was the second Industry Forum organized by the department in the last three years. The event brought together industry leaders, government officials, and transportation innovators to discuss the future of Miami-Dade's growing transportation sector.

One of the event's highlights was the presentation of the 2024 Mobility Champion Awards. Overall, the 2024 Industry Forum was a powerful reminder of what can be achieved through public-private partnerships, with attendees leaving inspired and equipped to shape the future of transportation.



#### 2024 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITY TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

For the first time ever, Miami-Dade County hosted the 12th annual National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) conference. Every year, the renowned conference convenes 1,000 officials, planners, and practitioners to advance the state of transportation in cities across North America and DTPW was thrilled to have hosted, alongside Miami-Dade County, this international conference in May 2024.

With government leaders, engineers, planners, policy makers, and advocates converging around innovative solutions that especially address access, the conference is designed to equip attendees with the resources, information, and relationships to build safe, sustainable, equitable, and accessible streets.

This was the first time this prestigious event was held in the southeast U.S.

#### **ULTRA MUSIC FESTIVAL**

The Ultra Music Festival was a blast for attendees and

many of them also enjoyed our Transit beat as we provided extended hours on Metrorail and Metromover during the world-renowned event at Bayfront Park from March 24 through the 27. Miami-Dade Transit extended service until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, helping move over 190,000 passengers on Metrorail and Metromover combined, which is our highest Friday through Sunday ridership since the start of the pandemic over 3 years ago.



Throughout the weekend, DTPW deployed an army of volunteers to our Metrorail and Metromover stations to help guide festivalgoers with a smile and useful information on how to reach Bayfront Park using our public transportation infrastructure. The work of these transit ambassadors and many others behind the scenes made a tremendous difference in the success of the weekend and made our department shine. At the same time, it exposed the many benefits of our Transit system to locals and tourists from all over the world.



#### **METRORAIL CIVIC CENTER STATION RENAMING**



During a special ceremony on July 12, 2024, the Metrorail Civic Center station, one of the highest ridership stations in the Metrorail system, was officially renamed UHealth | Jackson Station. The naming rights deal, led by Mayor Daniella Levine Cava's Office

of Innovation and Economic Development, is a first-of-its-kind public-private revenue generating opportunity for Miami-Dade County with the University of Miami Health System and Jackson Health System.

Located in the heart of Miami-Dade's Health District, the renamed station serves as a landmark to two of the world's

leading medical healthcare systems, promotes healthier living through collaborative activations, and ensures easier access for transit riders. The marketing partnership will generate nearly \$3 million in non-tax revenue and includes a wide array of value-added benefits for the County.

With annual ridership of more than 13.4 million on Metrorail, 90,000 annual boardings at this station, and hundreds of thousands of pedestrians and motorists in close proximity each year, DTPW and partners intend for this renaming effort to remind residents and visitors they can reach top notch health care easily and seamlessly, right in their own community.



#### MIAMI-DADE INNOVATION AUTHORITY CHALLENGE



In partnership with Miami-Dade Innovation Authority (MDIA), the County's Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED) and CoMotion, DTPW started a collaboration for the launch of the Miami-Dade Innovation Authority Challenge in 2024.

Aimed squarely at early-to-growth stage tech startups, the initiative's main goal is to discover companies that can bring to the table innovative solutions that enhance Transportation Visibility in Miami-Dade County. As part of the challenge's process, startups were encouraged to submit entries that leverage technologies like AI, machine learning, and real-time traffic data to create solutions that can reroute vehicles, improve pedestrian flow, and even help public transit adapt in real-time.

The initiative will provide three startups with \$100,000 each to pioneer cutting-edge solutions to manage Miami's complex traffic landscape. Applications for the MDIA's Enhancing Transportation Visibility challenge were accepted until November 22, 2024. Once the winners are announced, the selected companies will develop and test their technology together with DTPW.

This partnership presents a unique opportunity for startups to revolutionize transportation visibility in Miami-Dade County, enhancing safety, reducing congestion, and improving the overall transportation experience in one of the nation's fastest growing urban areas.





#### **AGENCY OF THE YEAR**

On March 1, 2024, DTPW was named "Agency of the Year" at the prestigious Safe Streets Summit hosted by the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) in collaboration with Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA). DTPW was honored with this esteemed accolade for its Vision Zero initiative to reduce and eradicate traffic accident injuries and fatalities.

Elected officials, transportation professionals, and key community partners from across Southeast Florida gathered to engage in critical conversations around the summit's theme "Embracing Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility."

## A TESTAMENT TO DTPW'S COMMITMENT

# The department has been nationally recognized with following acolades in 2024.

- Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 2024 Industry Award for Public Agency of the Year (first ever).
- Florida Public Transit Association's (FPTA) Operator of the Year: Metrobus Operator Anthony Howard.
- 2024 Florida Triple Crown Bus Roadeo 3rd place:
   Metrobus operator Joseph Esquilin.
- Institute of Sustainable Infrastructure Envision Gold Award (first ever) for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in South Dade.
- Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) 1st place: Interior/Exterior Signage category for the Metrobus System Map.
- Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) 1st place: Social Media category for the "Love your Operator" campaign.



- Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Safe Streets Summit - Agency of the Year / Vision Zero Program.
- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) -Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
- National Association of Counties (NACo) -Achievement Award

#### **COMMEMORATING MIAMI-DADE'S DIVERSE CULTURE**

As part of DTPW's community involvement, DTPW staff and leadership team proudly commemorated many important occasions that are part of South Florida's rich and diverse culture throughout 2024. Among some of the events, the department continued its unique and popular bus tours highlighting Hispanic Heritage Month and Black History Month.

Earlier in the year, DTPW's leadership team gathered to participate in the department's clean-up day in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Metrorail's Earlington Heights Station and the team was also honored to take part in the 47th Annual MLK Parade showcasing a uniquely wrapped Metrobus.

Among other community events, DTPW staff commemorated Haitian Heritage Month, Women's History Month, Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, Black Business Month, Bike to Work Day and many other community engagement events and symposiums. Also, for the first

time ever in the history of DTPW, the department honored its military veterans during a moving ceremony commemorating Veterans Day.











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