



**SOUTH FLORIDA  
REGIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION  
AUTHORITY**

800 NW 33rd Street | Pompano Beach, Florida 33064 | P 954/942-7245 | F 954/788-7878 | [www.sfrta.fl.gov](http://www.sfrta.fl.gov)

October 21, 2016

Commissioner Jean Monestime, Chairman  
Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners  
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220  
Miami, Florida 33128



**RE: Miami-Dade Transit and Mobility Service Committee Meeting - October 13, 2016**

Dear Commissioner Monestime,

The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) congratulates Miami-Dade County on passing the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan. SFRTA joins Miami-Dade County in the belief that advances in rapid transit are key to addressing mobility concerns in the region.

SFRTA was pleased that the Miami-Dade Transit and Mobility Service Committee passed agenda items 2B and 2C on October 13, 2016, and forwarded them to the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners with a favorable recommendation. Agenda Item 2B recommends that Miami-Dade County prepare a report analyzing the feasibility and effectiveness of utilizing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to help fund the SMART Plan transportation infrastructure projects. Agenda Item 2C suggests that Miami-Dade County prepare a report evaluating land uses within approximately one half-mile of each SMART Plan corridor and recommending ways to integrate land use and transportation planning within and around each of the SMART plan corridors.

SFRTA agrees that significant future investments in transit as outlined in the SMART Plan must be supported by transit oriented land use, zoning, and development. Supporting transit in this way will make future transit projects more competitive for Federal funding and set the stage for higher future transit ridership and farebox recovery.

SFRTA is also seeking to implement progressive policies and is currently in the process of updating its Transit Oriented Development (TOD) policy, with the goal of incorporating progressive, transit supportive policies within one half mile of Tri-Rail stations. SFRTA hopes to encourage increased transit supportive density, commercial uses, and gradually discourage parking. We will, of course, share the new policy with Miami-Dade County when adopted.

Chairman Monestime

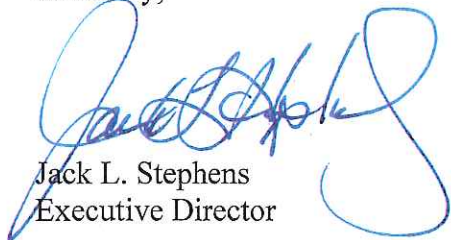
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Again, SFRTA would like to congratulate Miami-Dade County on passing the SMART Plan and Agenda Items 2B and 2C at the October 13, 2016 Transit and Mobility Service Committee.

We look forward to continued collaboration in meeting the region's mobility needs.

Sincerely,



Jack L. Stephens  
Executive Director

cc: Mayor Carlos Gimenez  
Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr., Vice Chair  
Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan  
Commissioner Audrey Edmonson  
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman  
Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro  
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa  
Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez  
Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava  
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss  
Commissioner Javier D. Souto  
Commissioner Juan C. Zapata  
Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Alice Bravo, P.E., Director, Transportation and Public Works  
Aileen Boucle, AICP, Executive Director, Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Mark Woerner, Assistant Director for Planning  
Jerry H. Bell, Assistant Director for Planning Designee  
William L. Cross, SFRTA Director of Planning & Capital Development

## SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 16-03**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE MIAMI-DADE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN**

WHEREAS, by the year 2040 the Southeast Florida population is expected to increase by thirty three to forty five percent in population and employment, but reasonable opportunities to expand highway capacity are limited, which will dramatically worsen congestion levels and travel times; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 United States Census found the South Florida region (excluding the Everglades) to be the third most densely populated metropolitan area in the nation; and

WHEREAS, benefits of public transportation include reduced travel time, reduced congestion, enhanced safety, improved access for workers, lower transportation costs, lower business costs, lower cost of living, increased business productivity, lower prices and costs of other goods and services, and promote economic growth; and

WHEREAS, riding public transportation provides significant environmental benefits and has been cited as the best way to lower a household's carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, investment in public transportation has been found to create more jobs than other commonly recommended economic sectors and strategies; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical need to expand existing transit service to provide for the mobility and economic needs of Southeast Florida residents; and

WHEREAS, the SFRTA mission is to "coordinate, develop, implement, in cooperation with other government agencies and the community, a viable transportation system that improves quality of life, and promotes sustainable growth for future generations."

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2016, SFRTA Governing Board approved a new proposal for completing the 8.5-mile Tri-Rail Downtown Miami Link (TRDML) that would connect the South Florida Rail Corridor (SFRC) with the Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) corridor and the new Miami Central Station to provide for the expansion of Tri-Rail service to downtown Miami; and

WHEREAS, the TRDML marks the historic expansion of commuter rail service onto the FEC railway, located in the heart of Downtown Miami, and Miami Central Station will be home to Tri-Rail and Brightline train service, with convenient connections to existing public transit systems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**, that the attached SMART Plan is hereby endorsed.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member NICK INAMDAR who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Board Member: BETH TALABISCO, and upon being put to vote, the votes were as follows:

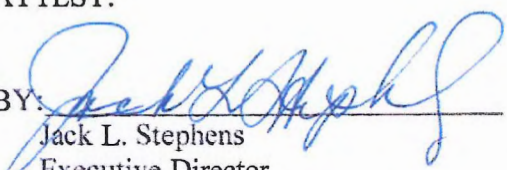
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams, Vice Chair - *yes*  
Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro - *yes*  
Member Andrew Frey - *yes*  
Member Frank Frione - *yes*  
Member Nick A. Inamdar - *1st*  
Member Gerry O'Reilly - *yes*  
Member F. Martin Perry - *Absent*  
Commissioner Tim Ryan, Chair - *yes*  
Member James A. Scott - *yes*  
Member Beth Talabisco - *2nd*

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution dully passed and ADOPTED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SFRTA)

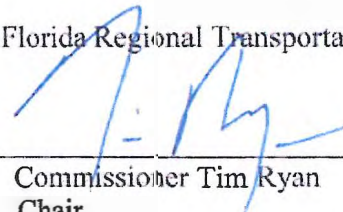
ATTEST:

BY:

  
Jack L. Stephens  
Executive Director

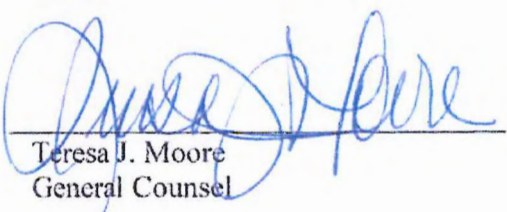
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

BY:

  
Commissioner Tim Ryan  
Chair

(SFRTA seal)

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency by:

  
Teresa J. Moore  
General Counsel