

Transportation-themed mural produced for Miami-Dade TPO by students from New World School of the Arts Business Class Infused National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE).

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT MIAMI-DADE TRANSPORTATION

MIAMI-DADE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## MIAMI-DADE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION **GOVERNING BOARD**



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# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2023 Annual Report of the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). Among the many milestones summarized in the following pages, the most significant accomplishment was the TPO Governing Board's adoption of the largest Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in agency history, funded at over \$12 Billion in transportation investments over the next five years. Over \$6 Billion is programmed in highway/expressway/state roads and arterials, while over \$5 Billion is programmed for intermodal, transit, seaport, and aviation. The remaining TIP categories include bicycle, pedestrian, trails, and local roads.

Another major highlight was TPO's quadrennial federal certification with both Federal Transit and Federal Highway Administration. The federal team highlighted multiple noteworthy TPO practices including programs that emphasize accelerated project implementation, congestion management, and public participation. As the largest TPO representing the most populous metropolitan area in the state, these highlights reflect the TPO Board's vision to expand mobility options and maximize the efficiency of the transportation network as our region continues to grow.

Summarized in this report is the scope and scale of Miami-Dade County major transportation facilities, projects, and programs, including a status of major transportation priorities advanced in 2023. TPO actively works with partner agencies to implement a wide range of transportation projects as well as identify the future transportation needs of our region. As part of this effort, TPO supported the grand opening of the Brightline Orlando Station connecting Florida's mega-region between Miami and Orlando with passenger rail service, as well as expanding travel options across Florida.

The TPO Governing Board continues to coordinate with transportation partners and municipalities to advance innovative mobility projects that reduce congestion, increase safety, and expand options with the use of new and emerging technologies. One of the most successful programs is the TPO SMART Demonstration Program, created in 2018, which has provided a comprehensive approach for the investment of a first mile/last mile network connecting to existing and future planned SMART Program stations. In 2023, the TPO Board prioritized funding for 19 new projects, and since its inception, TPO has brought together state and local partners to fund 46 demonstration projects resulting in new mobility services that otherwise would not be available in Southeast Florida. Collectively, this program has benefitted over 9 Million riders to connect to transit and other major facilities across the county.

TPO also coordinated with transportation partner agencies and municipalities to request funding, including over \$90 Million in federal grants awarded to projects that TPO supported, over \$4.7 Million for Transportation Alternatives (TA) projects, and \$1.5 Million in Federal HISP Safety project funds. The TPO Governing Board also approved the annual List of Program Priorities for FY 2029 that included requests for funding for the SMART Program, mobility projects, Complete Streets Program projects, capacity improvements, safety, and various other modalities.

As 2023 reached the end of the year, the TPO Governing Board recognized students (pictured below) from the New World School of the Arts who participated in TPO's inaugural transportation exchange program. This program provides opportunities for students to learn about the transportation industry while also advancing pathways for future artists to express their vision of the future transportation system, as illustrated on the front cover of this report.

I welcome you to please stay informed and participate in the transportation planning process by visiting our website at miamidadetpo.org.



#### - Aileen Bouclé, AICP, Executive Director

Miami-Dade TPO Governing Board Members recognizing students from New World School of the Arts Business Class Infused NFTE

# TRANSPORTATION AGENCY DASHBOARD

The below dashboard highlights Miami-Dade County's major transportation facilities and provide statistics regarding operations and industry rankings. As part of the federally required transportation planning process, Miami-Dade TPO coordinates and collaborates with each agency below to ensure maximum efficiency of the network as well as identify future transportation needs of the region.

LOCAL	Miami-Dade AVIATION Department	Total Passengers Over 500M Domestic: 29,294,995 International: 21,389,401	International Freight <b>#1</b> Among U.S. Airports	<ul> <li>Operates five airports in Miami-Dade County</li> <li>Annual economic impact \$32 Billion</li> <li>Total MIA cargo sector value \$73 Billion</li> </ul>
	<b>PORTMIAMI</b> Miami-Dade Seaport Department	Total Cruise Passengers 6.8M Each Year	Cruise Capital <b>#1</b> of the World FY 2023	<ul> <li>#1 International Cargo in the State of Florida</li> <li>Cargo Gateway of the Americas with 1.2M TEUs</li> <li>Annually contributes over \$43 Billion local economy FY 2023</li> </ul>
	Miami-Dade County Department of TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS	All Transit Modes Ridership <b>76M</b> Annually FY 2022-2023	Largest Public Transit Agency <b>1</b> in Florida	<ul> <li>Metrorail: 24.8 miles of dual tracks</li> <li>Metromover: 4.4 miles of track and 21 stations</li> <li>Metrobus: 830 buses for 101 routes</li> <li>Special Transportation Services: 5,000 weekday trips</li> </ul>
	Miami-Dade County PARKS, RECREATIO & OPEN SPACES Department	Total Annual Visitors <b>24</b> N FY 2022	Park System in Florida <b>#1</b> FY 2023	<ul> <li>Among top 3 largest park systems in U.S.</li> <li>280 parks maintained FY 2021</li> <li>172.55 miles of bike/walking trails</li> <li>16.33 miles of beach maintenance</li> </ul>
	EXPRESSWAY AGENCY	Total Annual Traffic <b>5.3M</b> Transactions FY 2022	# <b>1</b> in Florida to Retain 100% of Toll Revenues	<ul> <li>Funded entirely by toll revenues</li> <li>\$239 Million net toll revenue FY 2022</li> <li>Invested over 2 Billion in projects</li> <li>Five expressways systemwide</li> </ul>
REGIONAL	<b>TRI-RAIL</b> South Florida Regional Transportation Authori	Systemwide Annual Ridership <b>3.7</b> FY 2023	Total Active Train Sets	<ul> <li>1989 to 2023 over 92 Million rode Tri-Rail</li> <li>New service to MiamiCentral will bring 26 new trains per day in FY 2023/2024</li> <li>Commuter ridership increased 25%</li> </ul>
	BRIGHTLINE Passenger Rail	Total Annual Ridership <b>1.2M</b> FY 2022	Total Active Train Sets <b>10</b> Systemwide Daily	<ul> <li>Over \$5 Billion from private investments</li> <li>Six stations with new Orlando station</li> <li>235 miles of track between MIA and ORL</li> </ul>
STATE	Florida Department of TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT SIX In Miami-Dade County	Total Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled <b>33N</b> in Roads of the State Highway System	County with Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled #1 in Roads of the State Highway System	<ul> <li>2,886.2 lane miles in Miami-Dade County</li> <li>204 fixed and 10 movable bridges in Miami-Dade</li> <li>580.3 centerline miles in Miami-Dade County</li> </ul>
	Florida's TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE	Total Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled <b>5.4.M</b> FY 2022	Turnpike Network <b>#1</b> in Florida	<ul> <li>Serves over 67% of the Florida Population</li> <li>75% SunPass Participation</li> <li>511 total miles make up FL's Turnpike</li> <li>Over 3 Million customers use the Turnpike daily</li> </ul>

# TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DASHBOARD

The transportation project priorities of Miami-Dade TPO have resulted in key projects being funded to improve the overall movement of people and goods in Miami-Dade County and the region. The below summary represents TPO priority projects under various stages of project implementation progressing under a multi-jurisdictional framework of partner agencies.



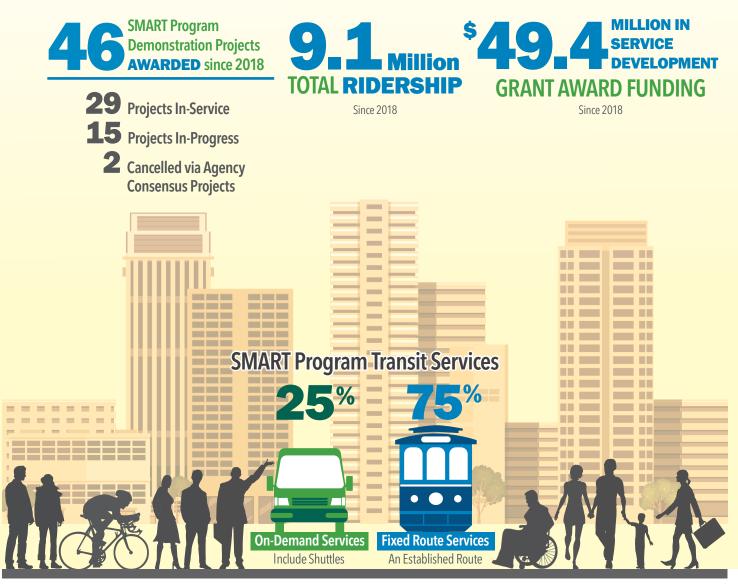
LOCAL	Miami-Dade County Department of TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS	<ul> <li>South Dade TransitWay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT): 70% Constructed, Expected Service fall 2024</li> <li>North Corridor: 10-mile Elevated Heavy Rail, Progressing in NEPA Phase</li> <li>Northeast Corridor: 13.5-mile Commuter Rail Phase 1, Aventura Station Completed</li> <li>Beach Corridor: 3-mile Elevated Guideway, Progressing in NEPA Phase</li> <li>Better Bus Network: Completed November 2023</li> <li>MetroConnect Program: Completed October 2023</li> </ul>
ONAL	<b>TRI-RAIL</b> South Florida Regional Transportation Authority	<b>\$71.1 Million Grant Matching for New Tri-Rail Vehicle</b> <b>Stock:</b> Completed May 2023
REGI	BRIGHTLINE Passenger Rail	<b>Extension from MiamiCentral Station to Orlando Station:</b> Completed September 2023
STATE	Florida Department of TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT SIX In Miami-Dade County	<ul> <li>I-395/SR-836/I-95 Design Build Interchange Reconstruction: 60% Constructed, Expected Completion Late 2027</li> <li>Golden Glades Interchange Enhancement Project: Construction Begins March 2024, Eight Year Project</li> <li>SR-25/US-27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction Project: 1 of 7 Segments Constructed, Expected Completion in 2032</li> </ul>
	Florida's TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE	SR-821/Florida's Turnpike Widening from SR-836/ Dolphin Expressway to NW 106th Street: Fully Constructed & Final Accepted 10-months Ahead of Schedule

#### MIAMI-DADE TPO 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



## **QUICK FACTS:**

The Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program is advancing the implementation of premium rapid transit corridors within Miami-Dade County. In 2018, TPO developed the SMART Demonstration Program to advance the SMART Program through partnerships with local transportation agencies and municipalities throughout the county. The program focuses on developing and expanding the first mile/last mile network to existing and future SMART Program transit stations. The program includes on-demand services and enhances integration of transit services at county and municipal levels. This program includes a mixture of federal, state, and local funding and has successfully funded 46 new mobility projects, exceeding 9.1 Million riders since the program's inception.



**Transportation Partners:** 

MIAMIDADE

COUNTY



Scan the QR code to view more information about the SMART Program Demonstration Projects.





The award winning SMART Street Transportation Enhancements Program (STEP) was developed to facilitate interagency coordination, innovation, and accelerated implementation of pedestrian and bicycle improvement projects that increase connectivity and enhance safety. SMART STEP is a formal program to advance Miami-Dade County Complete Streets and pedestrian/bicycle first mile/ last mile network.

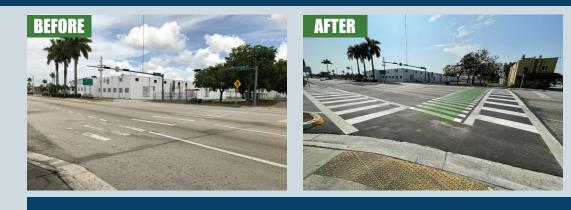
Since 2021, eleven SMART STEP projects have been identified with eight completed. The below two projects were completed in 2023.

In addition, the following projects have also been completed (access QR Code above):

- SE 8th Street & Brickell Avenue Intersection, Miami
- SW 6th Street & SW 8th Avenue, Lighthouse for the Blind, Miami
- West 74th Place at West 3rd Court & Amelia Earhart Park, Hialeah
- NW 74th Street & NW 107th Avenue, Doral
- Palm Drive/SW 344th Street & South Dade TransitWay, Florida City
- Palmetto Metrorail Station Towards NW 79th Avenue, Medley
- NW 157th Street & NW 22nd Avenue, Miami Gardens
- SW 92nd Street & SW 122 Avenue, Unincorporated Miami



Palm Drive/SW 344<sup>th</sup> Street & South Dade TransitWay - Florida City, FL



Implemented high emphasis pedestrian and bicycle crosswalk pavement markings and green-colored bike crossing pavement markings.



Palmetto Metrorail Station (northside towards NW 79th Avenue) - Medley, FL











Constructed a pedestrian transit connection from the Palmetto Metrorail Station to the industrial park located north of the station.

# **2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

# SMART 200 SMART Mobility. Accessibility. Prosperity.



The upcoming adoption of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), known as SMART M.A.P. 2050 (Mobility, Accessibility, Prosperity), represents a 25-year long-range horizon plan. SMART M.A.P. 2050 is a federally required document that comprehensively addresses transit, highway, freight, and non-motorized transportation improvements. The 2050 LRTP includes a five-phase process that works in tandem to update the LRTP based on continuous technical analysis and community involvement as follows:

- 1. PEOPLE Implement Public Involvement Plan, Fall 2022-Summer 2024
- 2. PERFORMANCE Review Policy and Establish Goals & Objectives, Completed Winter 2023-Spring 2023
- 3. PROJECTS Analyze the Transportation Network & Evaluate Alternatives, Winter 2023-Spring 2024
- 4. PRIORITIES Produce Cost Feasible List of Transportation Projects, Spring 2023-Spring 2024
- 5. POLICY Adopt the Miami-Dade TPO 2050 LRTP, Summer 2024

# SMART 2 PEOPLE & PERFORMANCE Phases

**PEOPLE** – Community workshops were held in seven Miami-Dade County Transportation Planning Areas (TPA) to obtain input and interact with members of the public regarding current and future mobility needs for Miami-Dade's transportation system, as seen below. Meetings provided information regarding population and employment growth projections. In addition to interactive transportation maps, participants engaged in conversations regarding desired transportation projects within their communities, as well as utilized an Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) platform tool to generate transportation alternatives for Miami-Dade County in 2050.

**PERFORMANCE** – 2050 LRTP Goals and Objectives have a strong emphasis on performance measures for the Miami-Dade County transportation system. As part of the LRTP's development, TPO worked directly with all stakeholders to identify key measurements aligning with federal, state, and local requirements. In addition, partner agencies provided guidance for future performance measures. Graphics on the next page show themes and associated goals for SMART M.A.P. 2050.



### Mobility



Safe, Secure & Reliable: All modes and technologies are maintained for safe and reliable operations



Safe, Secure & Reliable: All modes and technologies create an interconnected network

### Accessibility



Innovative: Leverage technologies to enhance all modes



Climate Resilient: All modes and technologies are built to accommodate climate events

### **Prosperity**



**Equitable:** Restore community connectivity with integrated livable communities design for all major transportation projects

1

**Economically Competitive:** Encourage land use supportive of all modes, technologies and telecommuting infrastructure

# SMART 200 PROJECTS Phase

**PROJECTS** – Includes three components that were highlighted during outreach workshops: Congestion Management, Needs Plan, and Scenario Planning.

For **Congestion Management**, a successful transportation system has a wide range of multimodal choices. The SMART Program includes a set of core corridors selected to increase accessibility and mobility for all. Economic growth can be accomodated by providing alternative forms of transportation along core corridors in the county to lessen congestion by reducing the reliance on individual vehicles through a multimodal approach. Outreach participants learned about the current state of congestion and other alternatives for travel, as well as opportunities to reduce congestion.

The **Needs Plan** is a list of all transportation projects being requested to be built and/or improved upon, regardless of cost. Community input was provided during workshops through the online, interactive Miami-Dade County Needs Assessment Tool. Mobility needs were collected and categorized by mode:

- E-Mass SMART Transportation
- Bicycle/Pedestrian/Micromobility
- Highway/Freight Mobility

E-Mass transportation is an interconnected network of transportation providers that use technological advancements to operate and collect fare and ridership data. The 'E' stands for expanded, enhanced, and emerging technologies.

**Scenario Planning** identifies key future trends and developing strategies for the future. Outreach participants were asked to provide their vision for Miami-Dade County in 2050. Ideas were entered as prompts into an Artificial Inteligence (A.I.) to create graphic renderings of transportation concepts.

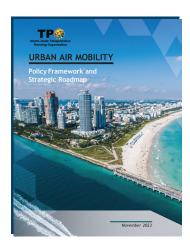
### SMART 200 SMART Plan 2.0 & Future Passenger Rail

As TPO develops the 2050 LRTP, the next generation of corridors for future premium transit improvements are being evaluated through a Future Transit Corridors Evaluation Study, which builds upon the current SMART Program. As part of the initial phase, 20 corridors were evaluated and ranked through various scenarios. This analysis carefully considered factors such as population density, development potential, and connectivity to major hubs in the region. Up to eight corridors will be selected to advance to the second phase of the study.

The TPO Board adopted the "CSX Southwest Railroad Corridor Assessment" recommendations, amending the 2045 LRTP for future shared freight/passenger rail corridor. The assessment recommended a corridor-wide visioning initiative to evaluate transit supportive land-use policies that will provide increased mobility while expanding ridership and goods movement. Interoperability between the different modes, including service, fare integration policies, balancing of ridership, and operational costs, will be coordinated in advance of implementing additional new passenger rail.

# **NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES**

**Urban Air Mobility** 



Urban Air Mobility (UAM) is a rapidly evolving industry that will revolutionize the movement of goods and people within an urban environment. TPO's UAM Policy Framework and Strategic Roadmap study assessed the regulations and infrastructure needed to integrate UAM solutions into Miami-Dade County's transportation network. The study identified several key factors that will affect the success of UAM implementation as a reliable mode of transportation in Miami-Dade.

Through a partnership with the Miami-Dade County UAM Working Group, extensive review of UAM-related case studies and technologies helped inform policies and concept of operations considerations. The UAM Working Group was established by the County with representation from public agencies and private industry led by Miami-Dade TPO, in partnership with Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD), PortMiami, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), University of Miami, consulting firms, and electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft manufacturers. TPO's leadership in UAM has resulted in new opportunities for UAM and Advance Air Mobility (AAM) through the Statewide Advance Air Mobility Working Group being led by FDOT.

#### **UAM Policy Framework and Strategic Roadmap**



- Veriports
- Energy Infrastructure
- Safety and Security
- Management of Airspace



- Aircraft and Operational Certification
- Land Use and Zoning
- Security



- Air Traffic Management
- Noise and Visual Pollution
- Social Equity
- Public Acceptance

#### Planning for a Connected Future



Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV) continue to be an emerging technology to transform and improve the safety of all users of the transportation system. TPO's CAV Strategic Plan examined the trends and technological progress of CAVs by assessing opportunities and challenges with technology integration within the Miami-Dade County network.

TPO, along with partner agencies including Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), FDOT, educational institutions, and private-sector industry members, formed a Study Advisory Group (SAG) to incorporate CAV technologies into short, mid, and long-term planning processes.

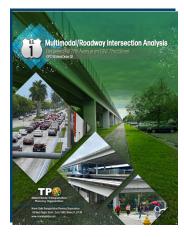
The CAV planning process relies upon building various future scenarios and analyzing how the technology will change travel patterns in future development.

# **DOCUMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**



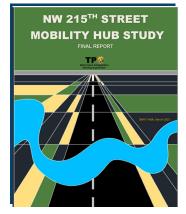
#### Miami-Dade County COVID-19 Freight Impact Analysis

Miami-Dade County has a robust and vibrant freight system including all major modes of transportation. Miami-Dade County COVID-19 Freight Impact Analysis compared preand post-pandemic freight/truck movement and freight industry data to aid in the 2050 LRTP development. This was achieved by providing an understanding of how a future global pandemic, or similar disruptions, may impact freight and trucking in the region. Some of the mitigation for the impacts of a future global distribution include conducting annual volume and travel time assessments of priority freight corridors in the region. This also includes an alternative freight corridor assessment as part of the 2050 LRTP update.



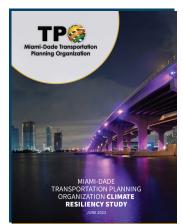
#### US-1 Multimodal/Roadway Intersection Analysis Between SW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Street

US-1 is a critical north-south corridor, linking residential communities to Miami-Dade County's urban core. A traffic analysis was conducted to assess vehicular and pedestrian crossings along and across US-1 between SW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. This study included analyzing accessibility and mobility impacts of recently constructed and approved commercial and residential development projects in the area along the corridor. The goal was to identify opportunities to enhance the crossing of the US-1 corridor for bicyclists and pedestrians, as well as vehicles. Many of the recommendations identified require a more detailed analysis to confirm construction feasibility and coordination with FDOT District Six.



#### NW 215<sup>th</sup> Street Mobility Hub Study

The proposed Unity Station is the northern termini station for the SMART Program North Corridor located at the intersection of NW 215<sup>th</sup> Street & NW 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Unity Boulevard. To support the accessibility and development potential at the station area, the NW 215<sup>th</sup> Street Mobility Hub Study was conducted. The study included gathering data on existing accessibility conditions in the study area through observation and stakeholder input, analyzing opportunities for enhanced accessibility and connectivity, identifying and ranking proposed improvements, and providing final recommendations and funding opportunities.



#### Climate Resiliency Study

As climate change continues to alter weather patterns, TPO is taking a proactive approach to address transportation infrastructure projects during the planning and programming process. Climate resiliency refers to the ability of the transportation system to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to any disruptions related to the climate or extreme weather. The objective of this study was to evaluate potential risks within the transportation system to understand future needs during the 2050 LRTP development process. The study used the Sea Level Scenario (SLS) Sketch Planning Tool developed by FDOT and University of Florida (UF), as well as the National Risk Index (NRI) tool, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to complete this analysis.

#### MIAMI-DADE TPO 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

### **SMART TRAILS UPDATE**

#### The Underline

The Underline Phase 2, *Hammock Trail*, runs 2.14 miles from Coral Way to SW 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It continued to be under construction and will be completed in spring 2024. Phase 2 enhances cyclist and pedestrian safety with intersection improvements, hydration stations, resting areas, dedicated biking, and walking trails with lighting and 24-hour security. Phase 2 showcases the first of many bioswales for the project that will help with stormwater flooding and runoff. Landscaping and reforestation are also a focus with over 100,000 native plants and trees added to the area.

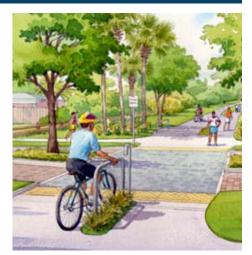
The Underline Phase 3 groundbreaking took place at the University Metrorail Station in September 2023, and has an expected completion in 2026. Phase 3, the longest of The Underline at 7.36 miles, consists of seven segments between SW 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Dadeland South Metrorail Station. The entire segment links various communities including the cities of Miami, Coral Gables, and South Miami, as well as unincorporated Miami-Dade County. When completed, Phase 3 will include twelve community amenity spaces featuring rotating art installments, bark park, fitness room, nature observation balcony, rain gardens, performance spaces, and activity parks.





#### Ludlam Trail

Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces (PROS) completed the Ludlam Trail Project Development and Environment Study (PD&E) in May 2023, in fulfillment of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. PROS is partnering with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six to design and construct the pedestrian bridges over FDOT roadways at Flagler Street, SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, and SW 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Additionally, PROS will be procuring a design consultant for the at-grade trail and roadway crossings in early 2024. The first segment of the Ludlam Trail has been constructed within the MiLine private development node. The Ludlam Trail will form part of the "Miami Loop" in Miami-Dade County's network of bikeways, along with The Underline, Perimeter Trail, and Miami River Greenway. The highly anticipated Ludlam Trail, located within the heart of Miami-Dade County, will be a 5.6-mile corridor with paths for biking, walking, and running, providing connectivity to schools, parks, transit, homes, workplaces, and locations to shop and dine.



#### **Biscayne-Everglades Greenway**

The first segment of the Biscayne-Everglades Greenway Trail was completed in March 2023. The trail is the first of its kind in the country in that it connects two national parks: Biscayne National Park to the east and Everglades National Park to the west. When completed, the approximately 42-mile trail, which includes nine unique trail segments, will connect users, from families and pedestrians, to the experienced riders, between the cities of Homestead and Florida City. Connections to businesses, cultural destinations, and natural destinations including Everglades and Biscayne National Parks will be possible. Project funding is from FDOT's SUN Trail Grant program to the City of Homestead. The trail is part of a longstanding mission to promote health, wellness, and a safe scenic route for riders.



## **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN INITIATIVES**

#### "Together We Cycle" Think Bike Event & Bicycling Needs Survey

Miami-Dade TPO collaborated with The Underline and Dutch Cycling Embassy to present an update of the 2018 Think Bike Event at the "Together We Cycle" event in February 2023. This included a roundtable discussion to share best practices regarding bike safety infrastructure in Miami-Dade County and the Netherlands. Afterward, during a panel session following the screening of the documentary "Together We Cycle" at The Underline's Brickell Backyard, TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP, discussed the importance of a connected bicycle/ pedestrian system and encouraged participants to take the Miami-Dade County Bicycling Needs Survey to provide input into the process.



#### Miami-Dade County Bike305 "Bike to Work" Day

Miami-Dade TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP, and staff rode their bicycles alongside Miami-Dade County Mayor, Daniella Levine Cava, elected officials, and transportation partners during the 10th Annual Bike to Work Day from Haulover Park to City of Aventura's Founders Park. During the event the City of Aventura received the Bike305 "Municipality of the Year Award" for outstanding efforts in promoting cycling and cycling-safety to residents and school children throughout the year. Bike305 began in 2013 with only six municipalities and has now grown to include 28 municipalities, all of which participate in creating bike safety programs to ensure the safety of community members and advocating for healthy lifestyles and transition alternatives for residents. Bike305's Bike to Work Day is an opportunity to encourage residents in all municipalities to ride a bicycle to work, school, parks, and fun destinations for a healthy way to live life.



#### TPO Partners with FDOT for "Statewide Mobility Week"

Mobility Week is an opportunity to explore how active travel choices like walking, biking, riding transit, and/or carpooling reduce traffic congestion, benefit the environment, and improve community health. Miami-Dade TPO co-hosted a workshop during "Statewide Mobility Week 2023" with various local transportation partners in November 2023 where elected officials and transportation professionals engaged in the development of a countywide network that is cohesive, comfortable, safe, attractive, and applicable for all ages and skills. Presentations were made by staff from both Bike305 and The Underline regarding cycling safety tips and the importance of good urban design of public spaces. Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation & Public Works (DTPW) conducted a demonstration on how to use the available bicycle racks on buses.

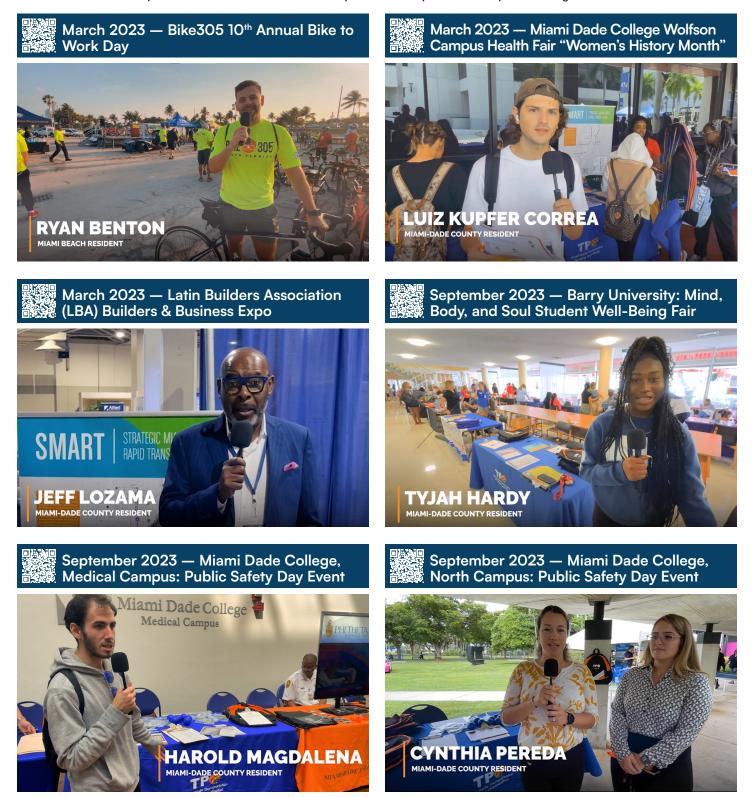






# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & INPUT**

"TPO on the Go!" is a video series that provides viewers with information regarding transportation projects based on outreach events attended by TPO staff. Short videos feature transportation related questions from attendees with responses from partner transportation agencies.



# **2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

The Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) is a formal partnership between Miami-Dade TPO, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA). Based on a tri-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Miami-Dade TPO is currently leading the administrative and technical staff functions of SEFTC as part of a national best practice to collaborate and rotate responsibilities among the three MPOs in the Miami Urbanized Area, from January 1, 2023, until December 31, 2028. Responsibilities include the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), as well as supporting travel demand model update for the Southeast Florida region.

The Southeast Florida 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) "the plan that connects the region" is a 25-year long-range plan that identifies the most significant transportation investments needed to support the growing travel demands

of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. It identifies the southeast Florida regional transportation goals, regional multimodal network, regional project needs, and funding through Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP). The 2050 RTP development began in January 2023 and will extend to August 2025.

SEFTC has accomplished regional efforts in the areas of freight, non-motorized planning, modeling, public involvement, as well as other regional initiatives. SEFTC has been recognized and highlighted nationally by the United States Department of Transportation as a national model of regional cooperation.



SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Learn more about the SEFTC by scanning the QR code



From left: Valerie Neilson, AICP, TPA Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP, TPO Executive Director, Honorable Christi Fraga, SEFTC Board Member, Honorable Beam Furr, SEFTC Chair, Honorable Chelsea Reed, SEFTC Vice Chair, and Bryan Caletka, MPO Director of Transportation & Human Resources





SEFTC meeting hosted at Miami-Dade TPO office in Downtown Miami

Miami-Dade Broward Palm Beach **THE PLAN THAT CONNECTS THE REGION** The Southeast Florida 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a 25-year horizon long-range plan that

The Southeast Horida 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a 25-year horizon long-range plan that identifies the most significant transportation investments needed to meet growing travel demands of the region covering Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.



Follow your local MPO's long-range transportation planning activities:

- Miami-Dade County: MiamiDadeTPOLRTP050.com
- Broward County: Routeto2050.org
- Palm Beach County: PalmBeachTPA.org/LRTP

For further information or questions and inquiries, please email: **contact@seftc.org** Share your thoughts by taking our survey by scanning the QR Code

Learn More at SEFTC.org

or visiting **SEFTC.org** 

## **REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS & ACTIVITIES**

SEFTC plays a critical role in helping the region move forward together. The following is what has been accomplished with a special focus on passenger rail, since finalizing the 2045 RTP.



#### \$71.1 Million in Grant Matching for New Tri-Rail Stock

A 72-mile-long commuter rail line, Tri-Rail helps workers, students, and visitors travel between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. In spring 2023, Tri-Rail received a \$71.7 Million Federal Transit Administration grant to replace older rolling stock. TRIP funding will provide additional support, increasing Tri-Rail's purchasing power to procure cars and locomotives that will help improve rider experience and overall system reliability.



#### **Regional Transit Corridor Projects Move Ahead**

Miami-Dade's Northeast and North Rapid Transit Corridors are underway. These new premium transit services (commuter and elevated heavy rail, respectively) will relieve congestion, improve multimodal connectivity, and support economic development.

Funding for the Broward Commuter Rail-South project was approved in late 2022, and the project was added as a Priority I project to the Broward MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan in February 2023. Future northward expansion of this line into Palm Beach County is also under consideration.



#### **5 Years of Brightline Support**

Having presented to SEFTC over the years from idea to implementation, SEFTC supports Brightline. Brightline, the only privately owned and operated intercity passenger railroad in the country, has carried passengers between Miami and West Palm Beach since 2018, and recently expanded service to include Miami-Orlando in September 2023. The line has generated \$2.4 billion in labor income, \$6.4 Billion in economic impact, and \$653 Million in tax revenue.

# REGIONAL 2023 SAFE STREETS SUMMIT

In February 2023, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) co-hosted the 2023 Safe Streets Summit "Back to the Streets" with Miami-Dade TPO and Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA). Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), transportation agencies from across the state, as well as national speakers attended the event.

Transportation professionals, elected officials, community partners, and other advocates of safer and resilient streets gathered for the two-day event which focused on how to improve safety, health, economic development, and mobility for all.

Awards included the "Miami-Dade County Complete Streets Community Award," granted to the City of Miami Gardens. The "Miami-Dade Complete Streets Champion" was awarded to Honorable Kionne L. McGhee, Chair, Miami-Dade TPO Non-Urban Core Task Force.



## **TPO TRANSPORTATION PARTNERS**

TPO priority projects are advanced in a multi-agency framework, based on collaboration and partnerships under various stages of project development. For example, the below projects are being advanced by the Expressway Authority in Miami-Dade County:

#### SR-836/I-95 Interchange Right-of-Way (ROW)

Partnering with FDOT District Six, the Expressway Authority has acquired ROW to design and build the SR-836 improvements, from NW 17th Avenue to I-95, in conjunction with the I-395/SR-836/I-95 Design Build project estimated at \$267.6 Million.

#### SR-836 & New Homestead Extension of Florida's Turnpike (HEFT) Ramp Connections

This project consists of new ramps from eastbound SR-836 to northbound HEFT, and from southbound HEFT to westbound SR-836. Additionally, SR-836 ramp connections are being provided to access the Dolphin Station Park-and-Ride site. Construction is underway with an estimated completion date at the end of FY 2024 and an estimated cost at \$57.0 Million.

#### SR-836 Southwest Extension/Kendall Parkway

This 14-mile corridor will extend SR-836 from its current terminus at NW 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SW 136<sup>th</sup> Street, improving mobility for southwest Miami-Dade County residents. Final design and construction of various components of the Kendall Parkway project has begun with the final design of the SR-836 widening scheduled to begin in early FY 2024. Final design and construction for the mainline extension, multi-use recreational trail, and transit stations has yet to begin, pending funding availability. Total cost estimated for all projects within the Kendall Parkway program is estimated at over \$1 Billion.

#### Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW)

#### SMART Program Corridors

DTPW, along with Miami-Dade County partners, continues to advance implementation of the SMART Program's five rapid transit corridors of the original People's Transportation Plan (PTP) and TPO's SMART Plan. A public meeting was held to discuss the implementation plans for the Northeast Corridor. These advancements signify meticulous progress in enhancing the corridor's capacity and functionality as part of the overarching SMART Program goals. The construction of the South Dade TransitWay has reached 70% completion. Fourteen Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations are currently under construction with some stations approaching completion. Revenue service is expected fall 2024.

#### Better Bus "SHIFTS into Gear" Action Plan

This is a flagship program of SHIFT305, a roadmap of 64 actions to accomplish over the next two years, organized around four core goals. Based on comprehensive community feedback and detailed data-driven analysis, it is designed to align the network with the actual needs of its users more effectively. The initial phase of the better bus network redesign was implemented in July 2023 and a ribbon cutting ceremony took place for Phase II in November 2023.

#### MetroConnect

DTPW has re-envisioned its on-demand, rideshare service, rebranding "GO Connect" to "MetroConnect." The service's evolution embodies an enhanced user experience, introducing complimentary services, new zones, and direct connections to key transit destinations. This revamped service promises expedited trip bookings, enhanced security measures, and a comprehensive view of transit links throughout the transit ecosystem.

#### Vision Zero

DTPW plans to improve safety for pedestrian and bicyclists with the goal of eliminating traffic-related deaths and severe injuries by 2040. DTPW's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant application was awarded \$16.2 Million in December 2023 by U.S. DOT. The projects outlined in the grant application will help address documented transportation safety inequalities within Miami-Dade County communities. DTPW is anticipating completing 22 safety projects by 2024.

#### **FDOT** Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six

#### ■ I-395/SR-836/I-95 Design-Build Project "Signature Bridge"

The I-395/SR-836/I-95 Design-Build Project is a partnership between FDOT District Six and the Expressway Authority. Construction began in 2019 with expected completion in late 2027 at a cost of approximately \$840 Million.

#### ■ NE 203<sup>rd</sup> Street Intersection Enhancement Project

The NE 203<sup>rd</sup> Street Intersection Enhancement Project began in fall 2021 with the goal to alleviate congestion at the Florida East Coast (FEC) rail crossing. The project is expected to be completed by late 2024 with an estimated construction cost of \$41.3 Million.

#### SR-25/US-27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction Project

FDOT is reconstructing 10-miles of SR-25/US-27/Okeechobee Road from the Miami-Dade/Broward County Line through the SR-826/Palmetto Expressway Interchange. Reconstruction of this 10-mile stretch is anticipated to be completed in 2032 and at an estimated cost of \$595 Million.

#### SR-972/SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street/SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue/Coral Way at SW 15<sup>th</sup> Road Roundabout Project

FDOT constructed a new signalized roundabout at the intersection of SR-972/Coral Way and SW 15<sup>th</sup> Road which is the first and only roundabout constructed along a state highway facility in District Six. The project cost was \$2.7 Million and was completed in June 2023.



#### Miami-Dade County Aviation Department (MDAD)

Miami International Airport (MIA) set a new record of 52 Million passengers in 2023 and also handled a record of 2.8 Million tons of cargo. Additionally, a 2023 study by PlanetWare found that MIA had the shortest average wait time for security of any airport in Florida, and the 6th shortest average wait time in the U.S., at 10.4 minutes. Utilizing iFly data, PlanetWare determines the average security wait time for airports across the U.S. based on wait time between the hours of 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. PlanetWare then used a list of the 31 U.S. airports with the most passengers on average each year to help narrow down the ranking and listed each airport from the longest to the shortest average wait time.

In recognition of its commitment to "prioritizing and ensuring an accessible, safe, and inclusive traveling experience for passengers with disabilities," MIA was accredited by the Airports Council International (ACI) Accessibility Enhancement Accreditation (AEA) program in 2023. MIA is the first airport in Florida and the second in the U.S. to be accredited by the program, which was created by ACI in September 2022 based on existing international best practices and recommendations, including those in the ACI Airport and Persons with Disability Handbook.

#### Miami-Dade County Seaport Department

PortMiami had its busiest cruise year, welcoming its 7 Millionth passenger in September 2023, surpassing the previous record of 6.8 Million passengers set in September 2019. Also of note, during FY 2023, PortMiami celebrated its two busiest cruise passenger days in history. The port also transported over one Million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) of cargo for the ninth consecutive year.

PortMiami is committed to sustainable growth with several capital projects aimed at increasing the efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint. Projects include replacement of diesel-powered gantry cranes to all electric rubber-tired gantries, installation of facial biometric system to expedite passenger debarkation process in collaboration with U.S. Customs and Boarder Protection, and implementation of building management systems to monitor electric uses. Through partnerships with Florida Power and Light (FPL) Company and cruise partners, PortMiami is finalizing the Shore Power Program. When completed, shore power capability will be available at cruise terminals and allow cruise ships to turn off their primary engines while docked, reducing air emissions.



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

CITT is a 15-member volunteer body created to oversee how Miami-Dade County's half-cent sales surtax are invested in transportation projects. CITT continues to support the development of the SMART Program and its related projects. In February 2023, the Trust amended the Five-Year Implementation Plan of the People's Transportation Plan (PTP) to include planning and design for the South Dade Trail Shared-Use Path Enhancements Project along the South Dade TransitWay. The 20-mile shared-use pathway is intended to provide pedestrian and bicyclist access to current and future bus transit services along the TransitWay, promoting first mile/last mile connections for transit riders, among other improvements. CITT approved \$3 Million of surtax funds for the trail, with FDOT District Six providing an additional \$3 Million for the project.

#### Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources

Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Miami-Dade County. To meet the ambitious targets set out in the Miami-Dade County Climate Action Strategy, the County is investing in transportation related projects including transitioning light vehicle and bus fleets to electric, installing EV charging stations throughout the County, and working to improve public transit to increase ridership.



From Left: TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP, with Miami-Dade County Chief Resiliency Officer, James Murley, and Monroe County Chief Resiliency Officer, Rhonda Haag.



#### Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

#### SR-821/Florida's Turnpike Widening from SR-836/Dolphin Expressway to NW 106<sup>th</sup> Street

This \$245 Million, five-mile long project entails major modifications at the Dolphin Expressway interchange, including the construction of flyover ramps and roadway widening to ten lanes. The project will address congestion, improve safety, ensure a resilient transportation system, enhance the supply chain to promote economic growth, and address future needs, as the state continues to experience rapid growth. It is anticipated to be completed 13 months ahead of the original contract end date. Mainline improvements will undergo safety upgrades, including signing and pavement markings, enhanced drainage and stormwater management, roadway lighting, and upgraded Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure.

#### **RTA** South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA/Tri-Rail)

In May 2023, SFRTA was awarded a \$71.7 Million Federal Transit Administration grant to replace aging passenger railcars as part of a U.S. Department of Transportation program to improve reliability, safety, and accessibility of rail systems. In addition, SFRTA received a signed Tri-Party Agreement with Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway and Brightline. This agreement provided permission to SFRTA personnel to train along the FEC with Tri-Rail equipment in preparation of service to MiamiCentral Station. New LCD monitors and ticket vending machines were also installed along the station platform to provide advance wayfinding and trip planning information for travelers. With Tri-Rail service expansion into MiamiCentral Station, the SFRTA Governing Board utilized the opportunity to redesign Tri-Rail trains. A refreshed train set was completed by the end of 2023.

#### brightline Brightline

#### Orlando Station Grand Opening

In September 2023, Miami-Dade TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP, participated in the inaugural train ride from MiamiCentral to the Brightline Orlando Station, commemorating the service between Miami and Orlando. The train was greeted by more than 500 elected officials, business leaders, community partners, and company leaders. Brightline, the only provider of modern, eco-friendly, higher-speed rail in America, is running 32 trains daily with 16 daily departures from Miami and Orlando.

# **2023 MIAMI-DADE TPO INDUSTRY FORUM**

#### **TPO Hosted Mid-Summer Transportation Forum**

In July 2023, Miami-Dade TPO hosted the 2023 Industry Forum Breakfast, which brought together local and state officials, as well as federal transportation partners and industry representatives. The Forum was highly successful with 250 attendees who participated in mid-summer conversations regarding future transportation and investment needs for the continued growth and economic vitality of the Southeast Florida region.

The morning began with Honorable Esteban Bovo, Jr., Miami-Dade TPO Chairman, and TPO Executive Director Aileen Bouclé, AICP, providing opening remarks that included the importance of a comprehensive transportation system that provides mobility options for the community.

"What's the Real Deal? Bold Conversations on the Future of Mobility" session was moderated by Honorable Joseph M. Corradino, AICP, Village of Pinecrest Mayor, with elected official panelists Honorable Esteban Bovo, Jr., TPO Chairman, Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert III, TPO Vice Chairman, and Honorable Eileen Higgins, TPO Board Member.

Honorable René Garcia, TPO Board Member, introduced Special Guest Speaker Jamie Christian, P.E., Federal Highway Administration Florida Division Administrator, who provided information on transportation infrastructure opportunities on the federal level.

"Intersection of Transportation and Real Estate Development" session was moderated by Gus Cabrera, Latin Builders Association President, with industry panelists Claudia Miro, Freebee Director of Government Affairs, Jose M. Gonzalez, Florida East Coast Industries, LLC Senior Vice President, and Nir Shoshani, NR Investments Principal.

Honorable Kionne L. McGhee, TPO Board Member, introduced Jared W. Perdue, P.E., Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) State Secretary. Secretary Perdue focused on impacts of traffic congestion due to exponential growth throughout the State of Florida and what FDOT is doing to address this issue via the Moving Florida Forward initiative.

"What's Coming Next? New and Emerging Technologies" session was moderated by Christina Crespi, Miami Downtown Development Authority Executive Director, with futurist panelists Crystal Stiles, Florida Power and Light Executive Director DT&M, Matthew Land, Eve Air Mobility Public Policy and Government Relations, and Philip Brady, Skyports Infrastructure Manager.



Honorable René Garcia Miami-Dade TPO Board Member



Honorable Kionne L. McGhee Miami-Dade TPO Board Member



Honorable Esteban Bovo, Jr. Miami-Dade TPO Chairman



Honorable Oliver G. Gilbert III Miami-Dade TPO Vice Chairman



Jared W. Perdue. P.E. FDOT State Secretary



Aileen Bouclé, AICP Miami-Dade TPO Executive Director



Jamie Christian, P.E. FHWA Florida Division Administrator

# **INDUSTRY PEER EXCHANGES**

Miami-Dade TPO hosted and/or participated in the following industry peer exchanges:

#### FHWA Bicyclist Safety Workshop



**FHWA Cool Pavement** 



**SMART Trails Peer Exchange** 







**European Union Study Tour** 



America's Linkage to Japan Exchange





TPO at The Underline Phase 3 Groundbreaking Ceremony



TPO Participates in Inaugural Ride Biscayne-Everglades Greenway Trail



TPO Supports SFRTA \$71.7 Million Federal Grant for Aging Vehicles

# **AWARDS & STAFF SPOTLIGHTS**

Miami-Dade TPO received the following awards and recognition:



Statewide Noteworthy Practice "Community Advisory Committee Outreach" *Miami-Dade TPO* 



In the Company of Women Award "Government Honoree Non-Elected Official" TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP



Statewide Noteworthy Practice "Taste of Transportation" *Miami-Dade TPO* 



National Honorable Mention "Excellence in MPO Coordination & Partnership" *Miami-Dade TPO* 



Latin Builder's Association "Public Administrator of the Year" TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP

Women's Empowerment Network "Outstanding Work Ethic in Government" TPO Executive Director, Aileen Bouclé, AICP

#### STAFF PROMOTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

During 2023, there were various promotions and reclassifications for TPO staff to better align the agency's technical and administrative tasks.



For TPO staff highlights, please scan this QR Code.



#### **TPO STAFF RETIREMENT**

Wilson Fernandez retired after 35 years of public service which was recognized by the TPO Governing Board. Mr. Fernandez worked at TPO for over 22 years and held the position of TPO Program Administrator-Transportation where he oversaw the TPO's technical program. He chaired the Florida Model Task Force (FMTF), Transportation Planning Council (TPC), Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC), and the RTTAC Model Subcommittee.





Miami-Dade TPO has set a policy that assures that no person shall on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, family, or religious status, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any program or activity. It is the policy of the Miami-Dade TPO to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). To request this document in accessible format, please call 305-375-1881. If you are interested in participating in the transportation planning process, please contact TPO at 305-375-4507.

The preparation of this report has been funded in part from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the State Planning and Research Program (Section 505 of Title 23, U.S. Code), and Miami-Dade County, Florida. The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of the USDOT.

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#### #MiamiSMARTProgram

