



Planning Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (PTAC)

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

November 17, 2010
10:30 a.m.

South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
Boardroom
800 NW 33rd Street
Pompano Beach, Florida 33064
www.sfrta.fl.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL JOSEPH QUINTY AT (954) 788-7928

Members

Maria Batista, Miami-Dade Transit
Michael Busha, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
William Cross, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
Carolyn Dekle, South Florida Regional Planning Council
Jose Luis Mesa, Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization
Barney McCoy, Broward County Transit
Gustavo Schmidt, Florida Department of Transportation, District IV
Phil Steinmiller, Florida Department of Transportation, District VI
Greg Stuart, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
Fred Stubbs, Palm Tran
Jeff Weidner, FDOT, District IV
Randy Whitfield, Chairman, Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization

Directions to SFRTA: I-95 to Copans Road. Go west on Copans to North Andrews Avenue Ext. and turn right. Go straight to Center Port Circle, which is NW 33rd Street, and turn right. SFRTA's offices are in the building to the right. The SFRTA offices are also accessible by taking the train to the Pompano Beach Station. The SFRTA building is southeast of the station. Parking is available across the street from SFRTA's offices, at the Pompano Beach Station.

PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2010

The meeting will convene at 10:30 a.m., and will be held in the Boardroom of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, Administrative Offices, 800 NW 33rd Street, Suite 100, Pompano Beach, FL 33064.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL – Additions, Deletions, Revisions

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC – Persons wishing to address the Committee are requested to complete an “Appearance Card” and will be limited to three (3) minutes. Please see the Minutes Clerk prior to the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Those matters included under the Consent Agenda are self-explanatory and are not expected to require review or discussion. Items will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired by any PTAC Member, however, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.
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C1 – MOTION TO APPROVE: Minutes of PTAC Meeting of October 13, 2010

REGULAR AGENDA

Those matters included under the Regular Agenda differ from the Consent Agenda in that items will be voted on individually. In addition, presentations will be made on each motion, if so desired.
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No Items

INFORMATION / PRESENTATION ITEMS

Action not required, provided for information purposes only.
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I1 – INFORMATION: Tri-Rail Parking Management Study

I2 – INFORMATION: Tri-Rail Station Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Plan

I3 – INFORMATION: Broward County Transit (BCT) FY 2011 Transit Development Plan (TDP) Annual Update

I4 – INFORMATION: A New Era of Transportation Choices: Linking Transportation, Land Use, and Sustainability (Video Speech by Gordon Price)

OTHER BUSINESS:

PTAC MEMBER COMMENTS

MEETING ATTENDANCE SUMMARY – Enclosed

NEXT MEETING DATE – December 15

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, must at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, provide a written request directed to the Executive Office at 800 NW 33rd Street, Suite 100, Pompano Beach, Florida, or telephone (954) 942-RAIL (7245) for assistance; if hearing impaired, telephone (800) 273-7545 (TTY) for assistance.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Directors for the South Florida Regional Transportation with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons wishing to address the Board are requested to complete an “Appearance Card” and will be limited to three (3) minutes. Please see the Minutes Clerk prior to the meeting.

MINUTES
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC) MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2010

The Planning Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) meeting was held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 in the Boardroom of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), Administrative Offices located at 800 NW 33rd Street, Suite 100, Pompano Beach, Florida 33064.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Mr. William Cross, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)
Mr. Wilson Fernandez, Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Mr. Paul Flavien, Broward MPO
Ms. Amie Goddeau, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 4
Ms. Christine Heshmati, South Florida Regional Planning Council (RPC)
Mr. Tom Keane, FDOT District 4
Mr. Joseph Quinty, SFRTA
Mr. Jonathan Roberson, Broward County Transit (BCT)
Mr. Greg Stuart, Broward MPO
Mr. Fred Stubbs, Palm Tran
Mr. Randy Whitfield, Palm Beach MPO, Chairman

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Stephen Anderson, SFRTA
Ms. Loraine Cargill, SFRTA
Mr. Carlos Cruz-Casas, Kimley-Horn
Mr. John Lafferty, PB Americas
Ms. Elaine Magnum, SFRTA
Mr. Dan Mazza, SFRTA
Ms. Lynda Mifsud, Jacobs
Ms. Claudra Russell
Mr. Scott Seeburger, FDOT District 4
Ms. Myrna Valdez, Gannett Fleming
Ms. Eric Zahn, SFRTA
Mr. Enrique Zelaya, Broward County Planning

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The Chair requested the roll call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL – Additions, Deletions, Revisions

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Keane to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greg Stuart. The motion was called to a vote and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC – None

CONSENT AGENDA
Those matters included under the Consent Agenda are self-explanatory and are not expected to require review or discussion. Items will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. If discussion is desired by any Committee Member, however, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

C1 – MOTION TO APPROVE: Minutes of Planning Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of June 16, 2010.

Mr. Stuart made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jonathan Roberson. The motion was called to a vote and carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA
Those matters included under the Regular Agenda differ from the Consent Agenda in that items will be voted on individually. In addition, presentations will be made on each motion, if so desired.

R1. - MOTION TO ELECT: Chair and Vice-Chair of the Planning Technical Advisory Committee

Mr. Joseph Quinty introduced the item, stating that committee by-laws call for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair on a fiscal year basis. The floor was then opened for nominations. There was some discussion of whether the by-laws called for SFRTA staff to always serve as Vice-Chair. Mr. Quinty said that he has never seen that stated in the by-laws, but it has generally been the practice during the time he’s worked for SFRTA. Mr. Stuart made a motion to elect Mr. Joseph Quinty as Vice Chair of PTAC and the motion was seconded by Ms. Amie Goddeau. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously. This was followed by Mr. Wilson Fernandez making a motion to elect Mr. Randy Whitfield as Chair of PTAC. The motion was seconded by Ms. Christine Heshmati. The motion was called to a vote and carried unanimously.

R2. - MOTION TO ENDORSE: South Florida East Coast Corridor (SFECC) Transit Analysis Study
Locally-Preferred Systems Alternative

Chairman Whitfield noted that committee members had likely seen this item presented in various other venues. He commented that in September the SEFTC endorsed a Regional Rail alternative with the inclusion of Metrorail, but that the Miami-Dade MPO TPC recently endorsed the standard Regional Rail (DMU or push-pull) alternative without consideration of Metrorail. Noting that the Miami-Dade committee had recommended against the inclusion of Metrorail technology, Mr. Whitfield suggested that

the PTAC do the same. Mr. Wilson Fernandez then made a motion to endorse the Regional Rail (DMU or push-pull) alternative. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heshmati. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

Mr. Quinty asked Mr. Seeburger if any new issues or challenges had arisen during the presentations across the region. Mr. Seeburger stated that finding an acceptable crossing of the New River in downtown Fort Lauderdale continues to be a technical challenge. He also noted that the project's lack of user benefit figures at this point is an issue in Miami-Dade. He also commented that although there is strong support thus far among elected officials for rail, there are a few who think BRT and a busway in the corridor should be the preferred alternative. Mr. Seeburger said that the FEC Railway's strong opposition to a busway in their corridor is basically a fatal flaw for that alternative. He also noted that Secretary level FDOT staff will attend the upcoming project presentations to the Broward MPO and Miami-Dade MPO.

INFORMATION / PRESENTATION ITEMS
Action not required, provided for information purposes only.

11. - INFORMATION: Miami River-Miami Intermodal Center Capacity Improvement (MR-MICCI)

Ms. Loraine Cargill of SFRTA and Mr. John Lafferty of Parsons Brinckerhoff combined to give a presentation on the MR-MICCI project. Ms. Cargill started by stating that 1.25 miles of single track remains in the vicinity of the Miami River. She said that this causes an operational bottleneck and this project seeks to add capacity to this segment of the South Florida Rail Corridor (SFRC). She noted that the timing is critical because the MIC will be opening in coming years and there are additional planned services such as Amtrak and high-speed rail that are also proposed to terminate at the MIC. Ms. Cargill said that the Miami River also presents challenges, as it is still a navigable waterway at this location.

Mr. Lafferty provided further details on the river and the existing single track rail bridge. He stated that the existing bridge is a Scherzer rolling lift bridge that was constructed in the 1920's. He said that the bridge is an eligible structure, but not on the National Historic Register. He noted that there are limited bridge openings and an on-call bridge tender. Mr. Lafferty also said that the navigable section of Miami River extends approximately 1,000 feet upstream of the SFRC. This causes potential clearance issues, but a precedent has been set by the Airport Link Metrorail Extension, which is building a new fixed bridge with 40-foot vertical clearance just east of the SFRC. He also noted that the proposed alignment for MDX's SR 112 Interconnector Project, which will provide a future direct connection between SR 836 and SR 112, crosses the Miami River just west of SFRC.

Mr. Lafferty then discussed current project tasks and future schedule. He stated that ETDM coordination with FDOT Districts 6 and 4 has begun, with the project entering the ETDM programming screen in the coming weeks. He also said that this work will help determine the environmental class of action required and which federal agency will serve as the lead. Mr. Lafferty explained that we are now in the first of two project phases. The current phase includes surveying and geotechnical work, bridge inspection, and data collection for other projects located in the study area. Ms. Cargill added that this first phase is expected to be completed in January. Ms. Goddeau offered FDOT assistance in conducting the bridge inspection. Mr. Fernandez asked if this project is part of the Jacksonville to Miami Amtrak application. Ms. Goddeau replied that Miami River area capacity improvements were not included in the Amtrak application. Mr. William Cross stated that SFRTA has agreed to fund this study through the

environmental phase. He added that there are no funds currently programmed for the full PD&E study, which would be expected to take approximately two years.

12. - INFORMATION: Tri-Rail Northern Layover Facility Study

Ms. Lynda Mifsud of Jacobs Engineering gave a detailed presentation on SFRTA's study that is examining a new layover and light maintenance facility at the northern end of Tri-Rail's service area. Ms. Mifsud stated that the current layover and light maintenance facility in West Palm Beach has many shortcomings. She noted that it has two tracks, is 55' wide, and can now store an extra train set due to recent fence expansion. However, its layout includes stub end tracks, which presents challenges for maneuvering trains, especially in the event of breakdowns. She commented that the configuration and capacity of the current facility will present more challenges when additional Tri-Rail rolling stock arrives in the coming years and also serves as an impediment for future Tri-Rail expansion. Ms. Mifsud said that tasks performed thus far include review of past studies, interviews with SFRTA staff and their maintenance contractor, analysis of current service plans, and analysis of service plans proposed as part of the FDOT South Florida East Coast Corridor Study's integrated regional rail alternative. She explained that completion of these tasks has resulted in key recommendations. These recommendations are that a new layover & light maintenance facility is needed and that major/heavy maintenance functions should remain at the Hialeah Yard. Ms. Mifsud stated that a new facility would require a 6 to 10 acre site and have a cost of approximately \$12 to \$14 million. A list of essential and desirable facility elements has also been developed. Ms. Mifsud noted that a current task is the examination of vacant and available sites in the study area that would meet these space requirements. She clarified that the study is not yet going through the detailed environment process yet, but rather is a planning level needs and location analysis. She also explained that issues such as land use, environmental justice, and right-of-way availability will be among the criteria used in the upcoming analysis of individual potential sites. Ms. Mifsud also said that extensive coordination with FDOT and FTA would take place once sites and other project specifics are identified.

Mr. Roberson asked if any NIMBY issues have arisen yet. Ms. Mifsud clarified that no formal public outreach has taken place yet. Mr. Quinty added that SFRTA now gets frequent complaints from residents living very close to the existing West Palm Beach layover facility. He also noted that meetings with municipal staff would take place before going to the general public, once the wide range of potential sites is narrowed down. Ms. Goddeau suggested that the FEC's current rail yard in West Palm Beach be considered, especially since integrated SFRC/FEC passenger services are being proposed by the SFECC study.

OTHER BUSINESS: Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) Annual Conference

Chairman Whitfield reminded PTAC members of the materials in their agenda packet regarding the upcoming FPTA Annual Conference in Miami, scheduled for October 17 – 19, 2010.

PTAC MEMBER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 pm.

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)
MEETING: NOVEMBER 17, 2010

INFORMATION ITEM REPORT

Information Item Presentation

TRI-RAIL PARKING MANAGEMENT STUDY

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND:

In an effort to explore methods to effectively manage parking at Tri-Rail park-and-ride lots, the SFRTA has sought to evaluate parking management techniques and potential pay parking operations at Tri-Rail station park-and-ride lots. The goal of the Tri-Rail Parking Management Study is to evaluate the feasibility of implementing parking management techniques in an effort to more efficiently manage Tri-Rail park-and-ride lots and to assess potential impacts on ridership.

Since the last presentation to PTAC on May 19, 2010, which presented study findings and recommendations, the SFRTA has adopted and implemented some of the short-term parking strategies that were identified as part of this study at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport at Dania Beach Station. At the November 17 PTAC meeting, SFRTA Planning staff will present a brief overview of the study findings and recommendations, the latest actions taken by the SFRTA Governing Board and staff, and the anticipated parking management needs at the Miami Intermodal Center.

EXHIBITS ATTACHED: None

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)
MEETING: NOVEMBER 17, 2010

INFORMATION ITEM REPORT

Information Item

Presentation

TRI-RAIL STATION BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS PLAN

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND:

The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) assists the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) with planning, design, and development issues related to Tri-Rail stations, as TCRPC has specialized skills in these areas. SFRTA has contracted TCRPC to research how to support bicycle and pedestrian access to the Tri-Rail stations.

The result of TCRPC's research was a Tri-Rail Station Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Plan for Palm Beach County. The goal of the project was to identify bicycle routes and pedestrian routes to and from Tri-Rail stations to local destinations, develop conceptual bicycle route and pedestrian route signage programs, and suggest locations for bicycle route signage and pedestrian route signage. This was done in consultation with Palm Beach County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator.

TCRPC will present an overview of the plan, plan components, and initial findings. SFRTA looks forward to the committee's input on the work completed to date and continued coordination with key partners on this issue.

EXHIBITS ATTACHED: None

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
 PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)
 MEETING: NOVEMBER 17, 2010

INFORMATION ITEM REPORT

Information Item Presentation

BROWARD COUNTY TRANSIT
FY 2011 TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) ANNUAL UPDATE

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND:

The Broward County Transit FY 2011 TDP Annual Update was adopted by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on August 31, 2010. The Broward County Transit FY 2011 TDP Annual Update provides the following updates on Broward County Transit (BCT) programs for FY 2010 and planned implementation programs for FY 2011-20:

- BCT Accomplishments and Implementation Discrepancies for FY 2010;
- Revisions to the BCT Implementation Program for FY 2011-20;
- Revised TDP Financial Plans for FY 2011-20.

Per the updated 2007 TDP Rule (Section 341.052, F.S.), BCT is required to provide an Annual Update in the years between each major five-year TDP effort. The Broward County FY 2011 TDP Annual Update is the second of four required annual updates to the Broward County FY 2009-18 TDP.

In 1990, the Florida Legislature established a State Public Transit Block Grant Program to be administered by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The program provides BCT funding assistance on an annual basis for fixed-route bus service operating costs. Each transit agency in Florida that receives Block Grant funding is required by FDOT to prepare a TDP every five years. The TDP is a short-range (ten year horizon) transit plan that addresses operational and capital improvements for BCT's system and is updated annually. This requirement is intended to ensure that the provision of public transportation services is consistent with the travel needs and mobility goals of the local communities that are served by the transit system.

Upon official approval by the BCC and FDOT, BCT is programmed to receive over \$8,364,003 in annual State Public Transit Block Grant funds in FY 2011, which are allocated by FDOT specifically for assistance with BCT's operating and maintenance costs. These funds require a 50/50 match (met by funding which Broward County provides) and are available to offset operating expenses incurred by the County in providing fixed-route and community bus service.

The Broward County Transit FY 2011 TDP Annual Update document is located on BCT's webpage at: <http://www.broward.org/BCT/Documents/BCTFY2011.pdf>

EXHIBITS ATTACHED: None

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)
MEETING: NOVEMBER 17, 2010

INFORMATION ITEM REPORT

Information Item

Presentation

A NEW ERA OF TRANSPORTATION CHOICES: LINKING TRANSPORTATION,
LAND USE, AND SUSTAINABILITY (VIDEO SPEECH BY GORDON PRICE)

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND:

At the 2010 American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Rail Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, a rousing and thought provoking keynote speech was given by Gordon Price. Mr. Price is the Director of the City Program at Simon Fraser University and a former member of Vancouver's City Council. SFRTA has obtained permission from APTA to air Mr. Price's speech at the PTAC meeting on November 17, 2010.

The following is the official description of Mr. Price's speech:

For the last half century, we've built auto-dependent urban and suburban regions: the Age of Motordom. As we move into the post-Motordom era — an age of transportation choices — it helps to look back to an earlier period when we built our cities around streetcars. Shaped profoundly by the streetcar and trolley, Vancouver rejected freeways and pioneered a form of development that is being adopted around the world. This presentation will illustrate Vancouver's rail-based growth, compare it with other cities, and speculate on the impacts that increased transportation choices will have on cities and regions.

EXHIBITS ATTACHED: None

