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**EDP SPOTLIGHT**

**OFFICE DEPOT: NEW & IMPROVED!**

**O**ffice Depot has successfully moved their headquarters to Boca Raton and a brand new shuttle bus service provided by the City of Boca Raton was the icing on the cake. The new Arvida Park of Commerce (APOC) West Route is just one of three new shuttle routes that the City of Boca Raton administers through their Transportation Management Initiative. Office Depot employees accounted for almost half of the passengers who rode the APOC West Route in April, May and June 2009, which averaged 2,500 riders a month; illustrating the tremendous role public transportation plays in helping employees and residents get to work and around the city.

“The bus runs great, and taking Tri-Rail helps me save time, gas and money,” said Office Depot’s Lillian Roberson, a long-time Tri-Rail passenger and Employer Discount Program Member.

For years, employees working at the Arvida Park of Commerce Office Park wished that shuttle service was available to take them to the nearby Tri-Rail Boca Raton Station, and with the start of this new service, the City of Boca Raton has come through in a big way.

Congratulations to Office Depot and the City of Boca Raton for demonstrating how public and private partnerships can work together to best serve the community and our entire region.

Maps and schedule information for the APOC West, the APOC East and the Peninsula Corporate Center shuttles can be found at [www.bocatmi.com](http://www.bocatmi.com).

For more information on how you can join Office Depot and the more than 2,500 companies who are helping their employees to save money, log onto [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) or contact a member of Tri-Rail’s EDP Outreach Team at 954-788-7929.



*Thanks to the encouragement and support of the City of Boca Raton and Office Depot staff, including Office Depot’s Vendor Program Specialist Lillian Roberson and Human Resources/Travel Manager Kristi Frias, Tri-Rail and the city’s connecting shuttle services have proven a great success in helping employees with their daily commute!*

JULY/AUGUST 2009

**onboard**



The latest news from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority - a partnership between Broward, Miami-Dade & Palm Beach counties.

**IT’S “EASY” AND IT’S COMING SOON**

**P**assengers who use Tri-Rail to transfer onto Miami-Dade Transit’s Metrorail system may soon see the signs of construction at the Tri-Rail/Metrorail Transfer Station. New access gates are being installed at the transfer point between Tri-Rail and Metrorail, as part of the transition to MDT’s EASY Card system.

Once the gates are installed and the system is activated, there may be some level of financial impact for our passengers; that specific impact is still to be determined. Representatives from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and MDT are in negotiations to determine the cost of these transfer fees and are striving to arrive at numbers that are fair and equitable for passengers, while still providing the necessary funds for MDT operations.

Once the transfer fee is determined, it will have to be approved by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. Due to scheduling, this will most likely not take place until sometime in October, meaning that the transfer fees are likely to go into effect toward the end of the year; however, once the new gates are installed and functioning, passengers will be required to use an EASY card or ticket to enter, as well as exit, Metrorail stations. The SFRTA and MDT will work together to provide you with the appropriate fare media during this transitional period and as the implementation approaches, will be on-hand to answer your questions.

While the logistics for this transition are still unfolding, watch for updates on the website at [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) or feel free to call Customer Service at 1-800-TRI-RAIL (874-7245) for the latest information.

**ES “FÁCIL” (“EASY”) Y VIENE PRONTO**

**L**os pasajeros que utilizan Tri-Rail para transferir al Sistema de Tránsito Metrorail de Miami-Dade, pronto podrán ver los carteles de construcción en la estación de transferencia de Tri-Rail/Metrorail. Nuevas entradas de acceso están siendo instaladas en el punto de transferencia entre Tri-Rail y Metrorail, para facilitar la transición al sistema de tarjeta EASY de MDT.

Una vez que las entradas hayan sido instaladas y el sistema sea activado, podría haber algún nivel de impacto financiero para nuestros pasajeros; la naturaleza específica de ese impacto está aún por ser determinada. Representantes de la

Autoridad de Transporte Regional del Sur de la Florida y MDT se encuentran en negociaciones para determinar el costo de estos honorarios de transferencia y están esforzándose para llegar a cifras que sean justas y equitativas para los pasajeros, mientras que proporcionen al mismo tiempo los fondos necesarios para las operaciones de MDT.

Una vez que se determine el honorario de transferencia, tendrá que ser aprobado por la Junta de Comisionados del Condado de Miami-Dade. Debido a la situación con el cronograma, lo más probable es que esto no tome lugar hasta algún momento en Octubre, significando que los honorarios de transferencia probablemente entrarán en vigencia cerca del fin del año. Sin embargo, cuando las nuevas entradas de acceso estén instaladas y en función, será necesario que todo



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pasajero obtenga una tarjeta u boleto EASY para entrar y salir de las estaciones de Metrorail. La SFRTA y MDT trabajarán juntos para proveerles el boleto adecuado durante este periodo de transición y, mientras se asoma la implementación, estar presente para responderle sus preguntas.

Mientras la secuencia de acontecimientos y la logística necesaria para esta transición aún están en desarrollo, por favor manténgase al tanto de las actualizaciones en [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) o sírvase llamar a Servicio al Cliente al 1-800-TRI-RAIL (874-7245) para obtener la información más reciente.

## LI “EASY” (“FASIL”) EPI L’AP VINTALÈ

Pasaje ki sèvi ak Tri-Rail pou transfere al nan sistèm Metrorail Miami-Dade Transit la gen dwa wè talè siy konstriksyon nan Estasyon Transfè Tri-Rail/Metrorail la. Y’ap enstale nouvo pòt aksè nan pwen transfè ki ant Tri-Rail ak Metrorail la, pou fasilite tranzisyon nan sistèm Kat EASY MDT a.

Lè pòt yo fin enstale epi sistèm nan aktive, gen dwa gen yon sèten enpak finansye pou pasaje nou yo; enpak espesifik sa a poka detèmine. South Florida Regional Transportation Authority [Reprezantan Otorite Tanspò Rejyonal Sid Lafflorid] ak MDT nan negosyasyon pou detèmine kou frè transfè sa yo epi y’ap fè tout sa yo kapab pou rive nan chif ki jis ak ekitab pou pasaje, epi ki an menm tan ap kontinye pote fon ki nesèsè pou fonksyonman MDT.

Lè frè transfè a fin detèmine, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners [Konsèy Komisè Konte Miami-Dade] ap gen pou apwouve l’. Poutèt jan almanak la tabli an, sa siman pap fèt anvan Oktòb, sa ki vle di ke frè transfè yo ap siman vin efektiv nan zòn fen ane a; sepandan, lè nouvo pòt yo fin enstale epi ap fonksyone, n’ap egzije pasaje yo pou yo sèvi ak yon kat oswa yon tikè EASY pou antre, epitou sòti, nan estasyon Metrorail. SFRTA ak MDT pwal travay ansanm pou ba ou mòd peman ki apwopriye a pandan peryòd tranzisyon sa a epi pandan egzekisyon pwojè a ap pwoche, y’ap disponib pou reponn keksyon ou yo.

Pandan orè ak òganizasyon pou tranzisyon sa a ap devlope toujou, tanpri siveye chanjman sou sit wèb la nan [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) oswa pa ezite rele Sèvis Kliyantèl la nan 1-800-TRI-RAIL (874-7245) pou dènye enfòmasyon yo.

## CHANGES TO OUR NEWSLETTER SAVES DOUBLE THE GREEN

This combined July/August issue of *Onboard* reflects changes that have been made that will enable the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority to provide passengers with the information they need, while delivering it in a way that saves double the green—money and the environment.

Our *Onboard* newsletter has won statewide and national awards for design and content; however, at a time when everyone is looking to save money, making changes to the glossy, four-color version of the newsletter has proved to be a valuable cost-saving measure.

Another change that will take effect in October is that we will stop using snail mail to distribute the newsletter. This will allow for us to save money on postage and be more environmentally friendly. While we will still continue to distribute copies of *Onboard* at our stations and onboard our trains, people who currently receive their *Onboard* in the mail will now instead have an “E-Newsletter” version of the *Onboard* delivered straight to their inbox!

To register your e-mail address to receive the *Onboard* electronically, please e-mail [newsletter@sfrrta.fl.gov](mailto:newsletter@sfrrta.fl.gov) and type “E-Newsletter” in the subject field.

This is just one more step in the SFRTA’s ongoing effort to be fiscally and environmentally responsible and we thank you for your continued support.



## THE SFRTA CELEBRATES “DUMP THE PUMP” IN CLASSIC STYLE

Members of the Florida Youth Orchestra serenaded passengers at the Boca Raton Station with music by Ludwig van Beethoven and Johann Pachelbel to celebrate the 4th annual “Dump the Pump” day. The young violinists and cellists, ages six to 19, took the train from the Boca Raton Station to the Hollywood Station over a two-week period to study at the “String Fling” summer music camp. The Florida Youth Orchestra was founded in 1988 by one of South Florida’s best-loved weathermen, the late Bob Weaver. The group performs at various venues throughout South Florida, and has appeared on local and national television and radio broadcasts.

“Dump the Pump” day is an annual effort sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association. The day is set aside to encourage people to save money while helping the environment by taking public transportation, or by walking, bicycling or vanpooling instead of driving a single-occupancy vehicle. This year, more than 125 transit agencies from across the country participated in the promotion.

For more information about “Dump the Pump” and the chance to win a full year of free public transportation, log onto [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) and access the “Dump the Pump” banner from the Home Page. For more information about the Florida Youth Orchestra, log onto [www.floridayouthorchestra.org](http://www.floridayouthorchestra.org).

## SENATORS RECEIVE WARM WELCOME FROM TRI-RAIL

State Senators Paula Dockery and Nan Rich were warmly greeted by Senator Dave Aronberg, Tri-Rail commuters and South Florida Regional Transportation Authority Governing Board Members on their recent Tri-Rail excursion. Arranged by Senator Dockery, the trip allowed them to sample the system and to converse with passengers along the way.

“As a strong proponent of rail as a viable alternative means of transportation, I looked forward to riding Tri-Rail in an effort to call attention to the importance of existing rail projects in Florida. In the past three months, I have received more than 1,000 e-mails from Tri-Rail commuters who would be negatively affected by service reductions that could take place if a dedicated funding source is not approved,” said Senator Dockery. “I was excited to see the daily operations firsthand and to hear from commuters who rely on Tri-Rail for their transportation needs.”

Palm Beach County Commissioner Jeff Koons, chair of the SFRTA Governing Board, was delighted to have the opportunity to introduce Senator Dockery to the Tri-Rail



experience. “We applaud the senator for hearing our passengers’ concerns and, in turn, coming to South Florida to show her support,” said Commissioner Koons. “Senator Dockery has always been a friend of commuter rail, and we are extremely fortunate to have her encouragement, experience and knowledge as we move forward in our quest for dedicated funding.”

Commuter rail proponents, State Senator Nan Rich (left) and State Senator Paula Dockery (right), recently joined representatives from the SFRTA/Tri-Rail, Amtrak, Veolia Transportation and Bombardier for a tour of the Tri-Rail system.

## NEW COMMUTER EXPRESS ROUTE SERVICING MARTIN & PALM BEACH COUNTIES

For years, Tri-Rail passengers have expressed much interest in extending train and bus service north of Palm Beach and, for now, one of these wishes has come true. Public transportation is taking another step forward toward “regionalism,” as the Route 95 Commuter Express bus service launched Monday, August 24. The Florida Department of Transportation, in cooperation with Palm Beach and Martin counties, as well as Palm Tran, is proud to introduce this new bus service connecting Palm Beach and Martin counties. Thanks to this new express route, passengers will be able to catch a Palm Tran bus from Halpatiooke Regional Park in Stuart, traveling south on Interstate 95 with limited stops, and ending at the West Palm Beach Intermodal Transit Center. Once at the intermodal center, passengers can access Tri-Rail to continue their travels southbound, or connect with Amtrak, Greyhound or any of the other Palm Tran routes servicing the center.

For more information on the Route 95 Commuter Express Service, visit [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) and access the “Commuter Express” banner from the Home Page.

