



## BIKE LOCKER USAGE CONTINUES TO GROW

**M**embership for the SFRTA/Tri-Rail's Bicycle Locker Program (BLP) has surpassed 50%, as more passengers sign up to take advantage of the free program.

BLP membership is free, with only a \$20 refundable deposit required. Lockers are available on a first-come, first-served basis, but the Cypress Creek Station is currently at capacity with none available at this time.

For more information, log onto [www.tri-rail.com/bikelockers](http://www.tri-rail.com/bikelockers) or contact the Bicycle Locker Program Coordinator at 954-788-7929.



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1-800-TRI-RAIL (874-7245)  
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## SHUTTLE BUSES CARRY RECORD RIDERSHIP IN FY12



**A**lmost 1 million people rode SFRTA-operated shuttle buses during the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2012. In fact, ridership on the free Tri-Rail shuttles more than doubled since 2010. Shuttle buses are a key component to building ridership. One of the most frequently asked questions to the Customer Service Representatives is, "What do I do when I get off the train?"

During the past year, the SFRTA has made a special effort to market the shuttles in order to raise public awareness about them. There have been advertorials in free local publications, direct mail has been sent to employers along the routes, shuttle information has been given an enhanced presence on Tri-Rail's website and staff has participated in "Transportation Days" for some of the region's largest employers.

The SFRTA was recently awarded almost \$4.6 million from the Federal Transit Administration to purchase new hybrid buses to operate on the shuttle routes.

For complete information about the shuttle buses, log onto [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com) or call 1-800-TRI-RAIL (874-7245).

SEPTEMBER 2012

# onboard

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

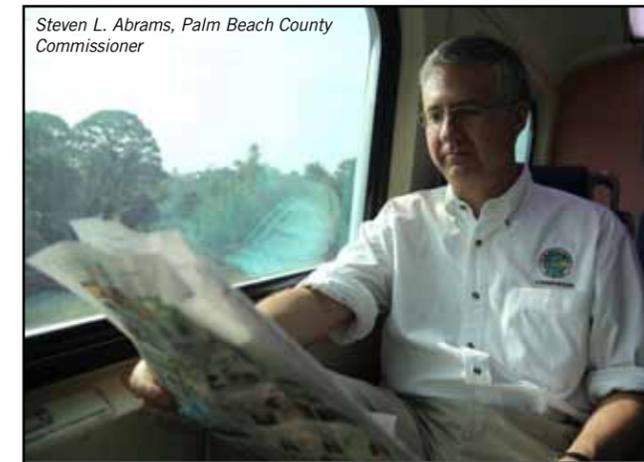
## "COMMUTING COMMISSIONER" ELECTED SFRTA CHAIR

**P**alm Beach County Commissioner Steven L. Abrams doesn't just talk the transportation talk, he walks the walk. Literally, he walks from Tri-Rail's West Palm Beach and Delray Beach stations, to and from his offices at Government Center and the South County Office Complex, respectively, as part of his normal commute.

Commissioner Abrams was elected Chair of the SFRTA Governing Board at its July meeting, making him the first SFRTA Chair to also be a regular commuter on Tri-Rail, operated by the SFRTA. According to the commissioner, "I have a passenger perspective. I know first-hand what Tri-Rail means to the economy of South Florida when I join hundreds of workers, students, and tourists traveling throughout our region each day."

Commissioner Abrams has been a member of the SFRTA Governing Board since August 2010 and has been a passionate defender of the need for public transportation since serving on Boca Raton's Planning and Zoning Board between 1987 and 1989. He was the mayor of Boca Raton from 2001 to 2008 and was named Mayor Emeritus when he stepped down due to term limits. Abrams has represented District 4 on the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners since 2009.

In other SFRTA Governing Board news,



Steven L. Abrams, Palm Beach County Commissioner

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Bruno Barreiro was elected Vice Chair of the board and James Wolfe, Secretary of District IV of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), was appointed to the board by the FDOT Secretary.

## EL PRESIDENTE ELECTO DE LA SFRTA, UN "COMISIONADO USUARIO DEL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO"

**E**l Comisionado del Condado de Palm Beach, Steven L. Abrams, no solo habla de los transportes; predica con el ejemplo. Abrams literalmente

camina desde las estaciones West Palm Beach y Delray Beach de Tri-Rail hacia y desde sus oficinas en el Centro Gubernamental y el Complejo de Oficinas South County, respectivamente, como parte

de su uso habitual del transporte público.

El Comisionado Abrams fue elegido Presidente de la Junta Regente de la SFRTA en la asamblea del mes de julio, lo que lo convirtió en el primer Presidente de la SFRTA que usa regularmente el transporte público de Tri-Rail que opera la SFRTA. Según el comisionado, "tengo el punto de vista del

pasajero. Sé directamente lo que significa Tri-Rail para la economía del Sur de la Florida cuando todos los días me sumo a los cientos de trabajadores, empleados y turistas que viajan por nuestra región."

El Comisionado Abrams ha sido miembro de la Junta Regente de la SFRTA desde agosto de 2010 y ha sido un apasionado defensor de la necesidad respecto del transporte público desde que ejerció funciones en la Comisión de Planeamiento y Zonificación de Boca Ratón entre 1987 y 1989. Fue alcalde de Boca Ratón desde 2001 a 2008 y se le nombró Alcalde Emérito cuando tuvo que dejar el cargo por los límites de plazo de su gestión. Abrams ha representado al Distrito 4 en la Junta de Comisionados del

(Continúa en la siguiente página)

Condado de Palm Beach desde 2009.

En otras noticias de la Junta Regente de la SFRTA, el Comisionado del Condado de Miami-Dade, Bruno Barreiro, fue elegido Vicepresidente de la Junta, y James Wolfe, Secretario del IVº Distrito del Departamento de Transporte de la Florida (FDOT), fue designado para ejercer funciones en la Junta por el Secretario del FDOT.

## “MANM KOMISYON SÈVIS TRANSPÒ” TE ELI PREZIDAN SFRTA

**M**anm Komisyon Konte Palm Beach, Steven L. Abrams, pa sèlman pale sou sijè sèvis transpò, men tou li patisipe nan mach la tou. Sou plan literal, li mache ant estasyon Tri-Rail West Palm Beach ak estasyon Delray Beach, pou fè ale-vini nan biwo li nan Government Center (Sant Gouvènman) ak nan Konplèks Biwo Sid Konte a nan pati deplasman nòmali.

Manm Komisyon Abrams te eli Prezidan Konsèy Administrasyon SFRTA nan reyinyon mwa jiyè li a, pou fè li vin premye Prezidan SFRTA ki se yon vwayajè regilye nan Tri-Rail, ki anba kontwòl SFRTA. Dapre manm komisyon an, “Mwen gen yon lide pasaje. Mwen konnen anvan sa Tri-Rail vle di pou ekonomi South Florida lè chak jou mwen fè yon sèl avèk anpil santèn travayè, elèv, ak touris k ap vwayaje toupatou nan rejyon nou an.”

Manm Komisyon Abrams te yon manm Konsèy Administrasyon SFRTA depi mwa out 2010, epi li se yon defansè pasyone pou bezwen sèvis transpò piblik la menm depi lè li t ap sèvi nan Konsèy Planifikasyon ak Zonaj Boca Raton ant ane 1987 ak 1989. Li te majistra Boca Raton an ane 2001 ak 2008, epi yo te lonmen li Majistra Onorè lè li te kite fonksyon an akòz limit manda a. Abrams te reprezante Distri 4 nan Konsèy Manm Komisyon Konte Palm Beach depi ane 2009.

Nan lòt nouvèl sou Konsèy Administrasyon an, Manm Komisyon Konte Miami-Dade, Bruno Barreiro, te eli Vis-Prezidan konsèy la, epitou Sekretè FDOT te lonmen James Wolfe, Sekretè Distri IV Depatman Transpò Florida (FDOT) nan konsèy la.

## TRANSIT UPDATES

**W**ith school back in session, public transportation systems are back in full swing, with thousands of students returning to the daily commute. The summer did bring changes to all South Florida transit systems, in an effort to provide the best mobility for commuters.

### BROWARD COUNTY TRANSIT (BCT)

In May, BCT introduced its new 595 Express Bus service, with two new routes originating from the BankAtlantic Center in Sunrise. Both routes connect to a Tri-Rail Station, providing service to Downtown Fort Lauderdale and Downtown Miami. Further improvements may include service to Weston and the Miami Civic Center. For more information, call 954-357-8400, or visit [www.broward.org/BCT](http://www.broward.org/BCT).



### MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT (MDT)

MDT had much to celebrate over the summer. Besides adding a new line to its Metrorail system and opening a new Miami International Airport (MIA) Metrorail Station, all Metrobus routes that previously accessed the airport have been re-routed to the new MIA Metrorail Station, including a new Route 297 (replacing Route 97). For more information on these and other MDT service adjustments, call 305-468-5900, or visit [www.miamidade.gov/transit](http://www.miamidade.gov/transit).



### PALM TRAN

As of September 10, Palm Tran's Route 1 was modified to improve 10-minute pick-up times during peak hours and to enhance service on its busiest bus route. In April, overcrowding measures were controlled by introducing articulated buses to increase passenger capacity in the route's service fleet. For Route 1 schedule information and other Palm Tran route changes, call 561-841-4287, or visit [www.palmtran.org](http://www.palmtran.org).



## SURPRISE PERFORMANCE DELIGHTS COMMUTERS

**S**ome Tri-Rail passengers must have thought they were back on the New York subway when members of the Sixth Floor Trio broke out into spontaneous music on a recent commute. Trio members Harrison Hollingsworth, violin; Teddy Abrams, keyboard; and Johnny Teysseir, clarinet, are resident artists with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's Random Acts of Culture (RAC) project.

The goal of the project is to provide unexpected and surprising encounters for the general population in public spaces. The idea is to perform great art – instrumental music, opera, dance and theatre, for example – in locations with heavy pedestrian traffic and “take the audience by surprise.” RACs are performed in cities across the country, which are homes to Knight-Ridder newspapers, including Miami.

## TROPICAL STORM ISAAC: SOUTH FLORIDA'S WAKE UP CALL

**I**n August, we had our first serious storm of the 2012 hurricane season.

Because of the predicted impact of Tropical Storm Isaac, the decision was made to suspend service for two days to prepare the corridor for the storm and to assess the damage after it passed. The SFRTA's focus has always been to provide safe service for our passengers and to keep them informed.

The call center was open on the day of the storm to meet the needs of our passengers. In the first hour alone, a limited staff fielded more than 200 calls. Numerous calls were made and updates were given to the local media. As soon as the worst of the storm was over, members of the operations team inspected the corridor in order to restore service as quickly as possible.

Our contractors responded to our needs. G4S officers were at all of the stations even during the height of the rain and wind. Veolia and Bombardier released two test trains Monday afternoon to evaluate the condition



Tropical Storm Isaac damage at Deerfield Beach Station.

of the corridor. Meridian started the clean-up phase as soon as it was safe, in order to prepare the stations for the resumption of service. Fortunately, most of the damage was limited to landscaping and downed crossing gates.

The fact that we were able to get our trains moving as quickly as we did is a reflection of a dedicated team. It was also the result of weeks of preparation and planning. The SFRTA hopes that you have done the same for your family. If you haven't, what are you waiting for?

**TRI & RAIL** presents  
**South Florida's Kids Got TALENT**

*So you think you can sing?*  
Come and audition on September 29, 2012

Kids 5-17 years of age are invited to audition as we search for the best young singers. Soloists or groups are welcome and only a select few will be chosen to compete in the final show.

To schedule your audition by September 21, call 954-703-7932.

RTA Pella Tropical Parenting TRI & RAIL

For more information, visit [www.tri-rail.com](http://www.tri-rail.com)