

For Immediate Release
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FTA AWARDS SFRTA \$4.5 MILLION GRANT FOR BUS LIVABILITY PROGRAM

The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)/Tri-Rail was awarded \$4,556,000 in a United States Department of Transportation (DOT)/Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Bus Livability Grant on October 17, 2011. The amount of the grant is for the full funding requested. The FTA Bus Livability Program is awarded to public transportation providers to finance capital projects to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities. Through Bus Livability Program grants, FTA invests in projects that fulfill the six livability principles that serve as the foundation for the DOT-HUD-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

These livability principles include providing more transportation choices, promoting equitable and affordable housing, enhancing economic competitiveness, supporting existing communities, coordinating policies and leveraging investment, and valuing communities and neighborhoods

The SFRTA/Tri-Rail project encompasses the procurement of five large and 15 small alternative fuel shuttle buses to replace the current contractor-owned fleet. The Tri-Rail free shuttle bus network links Tri-Rail with airports, hospitals, colleges and universities, and other major employment centers and destinations throughout the South Florida region. The grant will cover 80 percent of the project's capital costs allowing SFRTA/Tri-Rail to realize significant annual operational cost savings, while providing an eco-friendly transportation alternative for Tri-Rail passengers.

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