The official newsletter of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization

Connecting Communities Through Transportation Choices

The Broward MPO, in conjunction with multiple agency partners, is conducting the University Drive Mobility Improvements Planning Study, one of a series of transportation planning studies in Broward County aiming to define the future of the transportation network. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) consisting of representatives from the thirteen municipalities along the corridor, Broward County, and various transportation agencies was created to serve as the community’s voice throughout the study by helping to identify solutions and provide overall guidance.

University Drive is one of the County’s most critical north-south transportation routes and faces many challenges, including heavy traffic congestion, limited convenient transit options, and a lack of safe and continuous sidewalks and bicycle facilities. This study explores a number of transportation improvement options for all users of the road to manage traffic congestion, increase travel options, and improve quality of life through a safer, more convenient, and comfortable transportation system.

We are seeking your input on possible transportation options for University Drive. Please visit www.UniversityDriveImprovements.org and take our interactive survey to tell us your thoughts.

The survey lets you choose your priorities for the area, explains each of the options in a graphic manner, and evaluates how each of the options performs for each of your priorities. Those who complete the survey by July 15th will be entered into a drawing to win a free tablet!

DID YOU KNOW?

Those who text while driving are 23 times more likely to cause severe property damage, suffer serious injury, or die.

Don’t text and drive, it’s the law.

ChOOSE AN OPTION, PLAN THE FUTURE

The Broward MPO, in conjunction with multiple agency partners, is conducting the University Drive Mobility Improvements Planning Study, one of a series of transportation planning studies in Broward County aiming to define the future of the transportation network. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) consisting of representatives from the thirteen municipalities along the corridor, Broward County, and various transportation agencies was created to serve as the community’s voice throughout the study by helping to identify solutions and provide overall guidance.

University Drive is one of the County’s most critical north-south transportation routes and faces many challenges, including heavy traffic congestion, limited convenient transit options, and a lack of safe and continuous sidewalks and bicycle facilities. This study explores a number of transportation improvement options for all users of the road to manage traffic congestion, increase travel options, and improve quality of life through a safer, more convenient, and comfortable transportation system.

We are seeking your input on possible transportation options for University Drive. Please visit www.UniversityDriveImprovements.org and take our interactive survey to tell us your thoughts. The survey lets you choose your priorities for the area, explains each of the options in a graphic manner, and evaluates how each of the options performs for each of your priorities. Those who complete the survey by July 15th will be entered into a drawing to win a free tablet!
Message From The Chair

When contemplating the achievements of the Broward MPO since its creation in July 1977, Bob Dylan’s song, “The Times They Are A-Changin’” seems quite apropos. Just as he wrote of reacting to unfolding situations, the MPO has adjusted over the years to changes occurring at the local, state and federal levels. In August 2010, the MPO separated from its host agency, Broward County Board of County Commissioners, and became an independent agency in order to better react to evolving local needs, grant opportunities and federal and state requirements. Over time we have received increased funding from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration as well as various grant resources; and, as noted in the last edition of this newsletter, the MPO has recently begun to collect a Membership Fee to engage lobbyists to be a persistent face in front of various committees that approve projects and allocate funds.

Between the initial creation of the MPO and 2010, the County’s population increased by over 800,000. More people equates to more traffic on the roadways; thus, the MPO has continued to focus upon improving transportation facilities of all types in an effort to reduce automobile trips and promote walkable communities. As noted in the article below, our draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) proposes a wide variety of projects, including those that enhance bike and pedestrian safety and increase the use of transit facilities. For example, a high priority is the development of a Universal Fare card. The MPO is establishing a pilot program in coordination with the various Miami-Dade Transit agencies, FDOT and Broward County Transit which would allow a rider to use one card to pay for the fare for the various transit facilities. Another important project the MPO is partnering in is the Tri-Rail Coastal Link, an 85-mile commuter rail service on the FEC railroad from downtown Miami to Jupiter. This commuter service is estimated to have 20 to 25 stations linking 28 municipalities.

I encourage you to continue to participate in the transportation planning process through our Speak Up Broward initiative and to view and understand your long range transportation plan: Commitment 2040. For more information, please visit www.Commitment2040.org.

We are excited about the future… “the times are a changing” indeed.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The MPO has just released a draft of the 2014/15 – 2018/19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is a list of federal, state and locally funded transportation projects, including transit, roadways, bridges, aviation, seaport, rail and commuter rail, bicycle facilities, pedestrian provisions, and enhancement projects like landscaping and greenways.

Three meetings are scheduled where the public will have opportunities to provide comment on the proposed projects; these public meetings will be held in the Broward MPO Board Room, located in the Trade Centre South Building, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 850, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309:

• Technical Coordinating Committee on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.
• Community Involvement Roundtable on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.
• Broward MPO Board on Thursday, July 10, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. (Final Action Taken)

The public is encouraged to review and provide comment on the TIP; comments will be accepted until July 10, 2014. The proposed TIP can be viewed at the Broward MPO office, at the eight Regional Broward County Libraries (for a list of library addresses call 954-876-0033 or visit the website); and on the Broward MPO website at: www.browardMPO.org, under the “Programs” tab and Transportation Improvement Program. Scan the QR code on your smart phone to go to the TIP website.

DBE PROGRAM AND GOAL - REQUESTING PUBLIC COMMENTS!

The Broward MPO is requesting public comment on its 2014 Federal Transit Administration’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program and Goal in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 26. The proposed 2014 overall goal is 8.0 percent (8%). The program, goal, and methodology may be viewed at the Broward MPO office during normal business hours or at the Broward MPO’s web site www.browardMPO.org on the “Doing Business” or “Equal Opportunity” pages. Comments may be directed to the attention of Gregory Stewart, Broward MPO Executive Director. Please email at (954) 876-0036, by mail at the address below, by fax at 954-876-0062 or by email at ryanc@browardmpo.org.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

LET’S GO BIKING!

In April, 10 officials from the Broward and Palm Beach MPOs traveled to Washington, DC, to meet with officials from the US Dept. of Transportation. The topic was an application for federal grant funding through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program to assist with railroad safety infrastructure costs to potentially qualify as Quiet Zones, reducing the number of required train horns along the FEC corridor after an anticipated increase in rail traffic.

TIGER GRANT FUNDING

On April 10, officials from the Broward and Palm Beach MPOs traveled to Washington, DC, to meet with officials from the US Dept. of Transportation. The topic was an application for federal grant funding through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program to assist with railroad safety infrastructure costs to potentially qualify as Quiet Zones, reducing the number of required train horns along the FEC corridor after an anticipated increase in rail traffic.

DBE PROGRAM AND GOAL - REQUESTING PUBLIC COMMENTS!

The Broward MPO is requesting public comment on its 2014 Federal Transit Administration’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program and Goal in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 26. The proposed 2014 overall goal is 8.0 percent (8%). The program, goal, and methodology may be viewed at the Broward MPO office during normal business hours or at the Broward MPO’s web site www.browardMPO.org on the “Doing Business” or “Equal Opportunity” pages. Comments may be directed to the attention of Gregory Stewart, Broward MPO Executive Director. Please email at (954) 876-0036, by mail at the address below, by fax at 954-876-0062 or by email at ryanc@browardmpo.org.

Remember to join the conversation about transportation in Broward by following Speak Up Broward below.

Follow Us

WEB SITE: www.SpeakUpBroward.org
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/SpeakUpBroward
TWITTER: www.twitter.com/SpeakUp_Broward
LINKEDIN: www.linkedin.com/company/speak-up-broward
YOUTUBE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=p85ym801zl0
INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com/speakupbroward

STAY CONNECTED. GET INVOLVED.