# ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15



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(954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

It is our pleasure to present to you the first annual report of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Much has been accomplished in the five years since becoming structurally independent and we are excited to share some of our successes with you.

The MPO continues to identify new sources of funding. We have received almost \$4 million in additional grant funding for our planning efforts. Our Complete Streets program has increased ten-fold. Over the next five years, \$100 million of bike and sidewalk connections will be constructed. The annual operating budget has increased from \$2.5 million to over \$13 million which puts us on par with other MPOs around the country, such as Chicago, San Diego, and Denver.



The MPO continued a grassroots effort, Speak Up Broward, which uses new and innovative approaches to increase public involvement in the transportation planning process. As a direct result of the feedback from thousands of our neighbors, we tailored our multimodal regional plan to reflect their needs and concerns in a "plain speak" document.

The MPO has emerged as a regional leader. The development of the 2040 Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan, an effort vital to our regional economy, was spearheaded by our organization. Our staff coordinated the efforts of our regional partners when we led the Climate Change Pilot Project. We have worked closely with All Aboard Florida, a privately owned and operated passenger rail line, to ensure the highest level of safety and convenience for our population. Accomplishments like these have earned us national recognition. Transportation for America named the Broward MPO one of the most innovative MPOs in the nation.

Our success is ultimately driven by our goal to move people, create jobs and strengthen communities.

> Grea Stuart **Executive Director**

### INTRODUCTION

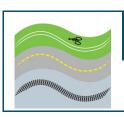
The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a federally mandated transportation policy -making board made up of elected officials representing all 31 Broward municipalities, Broward County Public Schools and Broward County Government, representing Broward County Transit and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA/Tri-Rail). The MPO is responsible

**m•p•o** | *M(etropolitan) P(lanning)*  $O(rganization) \mid n$ . A federally mandated and federally funded transportation policy-making organization in the United States that is made up of representatives from local government and governmental transportation authorities.

for the planning and funding of transportation projects within our region, and strives to create a transportation system that is safe, efficient and equitable for the citizens of Broward.

The Broward MPO knows where it's going. On January 8, 2015, the MPO Board held an allday retreat to set the direction of the MPO for the next five years. More than 25 Board members participated in the event, where they discussed current trends and future needs. The retreat resulted in a consensus on seven (7) strategic directions that would form the framework for the MPO's first Strategic Business Plan. Having been formally adopted on April 9, 2015, the MPO's Strategic Business Plan helps focus the efforts of the MPO by laying out a series of achievable goals and objectives. Accomplishing these goals ensures that the MPO remains headed in the proper direction, and that the overall vision laid out by Broward's leadership and the public comes closer to fruition.

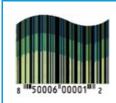
In order to identify which of the strategic directions is being addressed by our various projects and initiatives, we've developed a series of icons that will be used throughout this annual report. Since projects tend to address more than one strategic direction, multiple icons may be present. On the next page, you will find a list of the strategic directions and goals as well as their associated icons. They have been grouped to represent our overarching goal to move people, create jobs and strengthen communities.



### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

MULTIMODAL **IMPROVEMENTS**  Goal 1: Establish Vision for Multimodal Systems.

Goal 2: Improve Safety for all Modes.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

**TECHNOLOGY** 

Goal 1: Expand Use of New Technologies to Improve Efficiency and Servicedelivery.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

REVENUE/FUNDING

Goal 1: Increase Funding for Transportation Improvements.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  Goal 1: Expand Taxable Base.

Goal 2: Expand Role in the Movement of Goods.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

LEADERSHIP/ **PARTNERSHIPS**  Goal 1: Strengthen and Expand Strategic Partnerships.

Goal 2: Hold Agencies Receiving Federal Funding Accountable.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

EDUCATION/ **DEVELOPMENT** 

- Goal 1: Increase Awareness of the Vision, Mission and Products of the MPO.
- Goal 2: Strengthen Board Decisionmaking Capacities.
- Goal 3: Strengthen MPO Staff Technical Capacities.

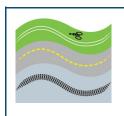


#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

CONTINGENCY **PLANNING** 

Goal 1: Improve Regional Emergency Services.

# OVE PEOPLE



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS

Goal 1: Establish Vision for Multimodal Systems.

Goal 2: Improve Safety for all Modes.

### LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs) establish a vision for what an MPO hopes to accomplish within the next twenty years or more. Our LRTP, known as Commitment 2040, was adopted by the MPO Board in December of 2014. This plan differs from past LRTPs in a number of ways.

Commitment 2040 takes a more realistic approach to funding transit service improvements.

 $\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{p} \mid L(ong) \ R(ange) \ T(ransportation)$  $P(lan) \mid n$ . A document resulting from regional or statewide collaboration and consensus on a region or state's transportation system, and serving as the defining vision for the region's or state's transportation systems and services.

Because Broward lacks an additional revenue source to fund annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for new premium transit service, these types of projects are not included in the financially feasible 2040 LRTP. Only capital projects to improve existing transit service along specified corridors are identified. Another feature

of Commitment 2040 is its use of "plain speak." By avoiding technical terms and planning jargon, we've managed to create a document that is both easy to read and accessible to members of the public.

Finally, Commitment 2040 set a unique framework for the Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program, which will assist municipalities in implementing local mobility projects such as sidewalks, bike facilities, bus shelters, traffic signalization and other transportation improvements. This new Program will replace the Transportation Alternatives Program and streamline the application and approval processes. Up to \$27 million per year of MPO funding will be allocated to projects submitted under the Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program.

For more information on Commitment 2040, please visit our website at: www.browardmpo.org/ commitment-2040



### TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

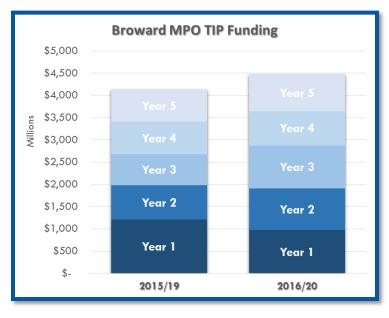


The Broward MPO's TIP is a prioritized program of transportation projects and initiatives to be funded in the next 5 years, and reflects the goals, objectives and investment priorities

established in Commitment 2040. The TIP is financially balanced, and allocates federal, state and local funds for use in the implementation of the highest-priority transportation projects in the near term of the LRTP. The TIP addresses both local and

 $\mathbf{t} \cdot \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{p} \mid T(ransportation) I(mprovement)$  $P(lan) \mid n$ . A document prepared by a metropolitan planning organization that lists projects to be funded with FHWA/FTA/State/Local funds for the next one- to five-year period.

regional concerns and is developed through the input and involvement of our communities and the Broward MPO's planning partners such as the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Broward County Transit (BCT), the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) and Broward municipalities.



The Broward MPO's TIP includes various types of projects and initiatives organized in the following sections: Roadways and Bike/ Ped, Transit, Rail, Airport, Seaport and Transportation Disadvantaged.

The Broward MPO has made great progress every year in programming additional projects. A good example is the comparison of last year's adopted 2015-2019 TIP, which programmed \$4.1 billion of projects and initiatives, with the upcoming TIP, which has

\$4.5 billion dollars programmed. This translates into an additional 400 million dollars for local, regional, and state projects.

The TIP with project details, as well as the interactive TIP, can be found on our website at: www.browardmpo.org/programs/transportation-improvement-program

# MOVE PEOPLE

### COMPLETE STREETS INITIATIVE



Incorporating bicycle and pedestrian needs into the Broward MPO's planning vision has been a cornerstone of our efforts to plan a transportation system that provides multimodal options for all of Broward's residents. Through the Broward MPO's Mobility Program, over \$100 million in bicycle and pedestrian improvements (including sidewalks, multi-

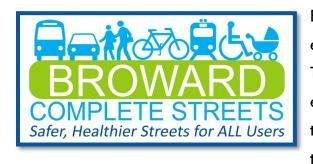
**com•plete•streets** *n*. Designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicvcle to work.

use paths, bicycle lanes, etc.) have been programmed for funding over the next five years (2014-2019). This includes approximately 90 miles of bicycle facilities and 35 miles of pedestrian facilities spanning 12 cities throughout Broward. On February 3, 2015, the Broward MPO, along with its transportation partners, held a groundbreaking ceremony to kick off the construction of Phase I of the Mobility Program.



Elected officials and municipal staff kick off over \$100 million of programmed and funded Complete Streets projects.

# MOVE PEOPLE



Bicycle and pedestrian facilities represent only two elements which may be needed to "complete a street." To further our Mobility Program's Complete Streets efforts, the Broward MPO developed the necessary tools to help local jurisdictions implement Complete Streets in their communities. To date, the MPO has encouraged the

adoption of Complete Streets guidelines, policies, resolutions, and/or action plans in twelve municipalities and Broward County Government.

Further, the Broward MPO has initiated two Complete Streets demonstration projects which will showcase an urban and suburban Complete Streets corridor design and treatment. The urban corridor (Hollywood Blvd.) will utilize Complete Streets to spur economic development by transforming an underutilized thoroughfare into a more walkable and bikeable main street with

wider sidewalks, buffered bicycle lanes, on street parking, and native landscaping. The suburban corridor (Sunset Strip) will enhance a residential neighborhood with high transit ridership, but no multimodal amenities. This project will repurpose a

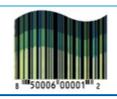


Rendering of the Complete Streets Demonstration Project on Hollywood Blvd.

travel lane to accommodate buffered bike lanes and wider sidewalks to improve the first/last mile connections to transit.

For more information on Complete Streets, please visit our website at: <a href="www.browardmpo.org/">www.browardmpo.org/</a> projects-studies/complete-streets/broward-complete-streets-initiative-2

# OVE PEOPLE



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

**TECHNOLOGY** 

Goal 1: Expand Use of New Technologies to Improve Efficiency and Servicedelivery.

### REGIONAL TSM&O AND INTEGRATED CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT



With fewer funds available to build our way out of congestion, improving our current roadways

has become critical. Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) improves mobility for all roadway users by utilizing the latest technology to provide real-time active management and operation of the existing transportation system.

Some TSM&O strategies include traffic signal coor-

 $\mathbf{t \cdot s \cdot m \cdot and \cdot o} \mid T(ransportation)$ S(ystem) M(anagement) and O(perations) | n. A program based on measuring performance, actively managing the transportation network, and delivering a safe and convenient experience to the public.

dination, electronic toll collection and variable message signs. The Broward MPO, along with other regional MPOs, FDOT and transportation providers, is an active member of a regional TSM&O Committee tasked with identifying sources of operation & maintenance funds needed for a robust Active Arterial Management (AAM) program in South Florida.

Further expanding our TSM&O efforts, on February 26, 2015, the Broward MPO was awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$180,000 to develop a high-level Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) system requirements report and an implementation plan for designing, constructing, integrating, operating and maintaining ICM system components. These will be used to improve the multimodal transportation system along the I-95 corridor in Broward. FDOT will support the Broward MPO by providing in-kind services in the amount of \$50,000. ICM involves the coordinated management of freeway, arterial, transit, and parking systems within a corridor rather than the traditional approach of managing an individual facility. This integration will enhance the ability to reroute traffic to alternative arterials or modes when there are congestion events (e.g., crashes, railroad grade crossings, special events).



### INTERACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND

### TRANSPORTATION MODEL PEER REVIEW ( C)



The Broward MPO uses technology in other ways to improve the dissemination of information to the public and to improve the transportation planning process. Two such ways are through the interactive TIP and the Transportation Model Peer Review.

The Broward MPO's Interactive TIP tool was created to allow users to search for transportation improvement projects to determine funding, phasing and other project details. To improve the user-friendliness of the current interface, the Broward MPO is taking advantage of new technologies to upgrade the existing tool. Once the upgrade is complete, the Interactive TIP tool will be easier to use, incorporate more robust mapping functions and include more resources for TIP analysis, including Title VI. Most importantly, this new version will improve the communication of the TIP information to the public and the MPO's transportation planning partners. To access the TIP tool, please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.browardmpo.org/programs/transportation-">www.browardmpo.org/programs/transportation-</a>

#### improvement-program

In order to simulate Broward's transportation network's operating future, the MPO utilizes a computerized transportation model known as the Southeast Florida Regional Planning Model (SERPM). To ensure that this model provides the most accurate output, the Broward MPO, in cooperation with its neighboring MPOs in Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Counties and the Florida Department of Transportation, coordinated a peer review of SERPM. The peer review was conducted on April 28, 2015 at the Broward MPO's offices. The expert panel of peers included representatives from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Baltimore Metropolitan Planning Council and the University of California. SERPM model improvement recommendations included model performance testing and data collection activities. Implementation of these improvements has begun and will result in a better tool to help South Florida planners improve the multimodal transportation system.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

REVENUE/FUNDING

Goal 1: Increase Funding for Transportation Improvements.

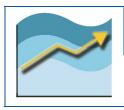
### ADVOCACY TO INCREASE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



In order to ensure that we have the best and safest transportation system, the Broward MPO plays an important role in the identification of funding opportunities. Advocacy efforts in Tallahassee and Washington are important to bring more transportation funding to Broward. Currently, each member agency on the Broward MPO Board provides a local contribution of funds for advocacy purposes. With these funds, the law firm of Holland & Knight provides state and federal advocacy services for the Broward MPO. Holland & Knight's advocacy efforts have helped the MPO better position itself to receive much needed grant funding for the future Wave Modern Streetcar in downtown Fort Lauderdale, regional multimodal freight infrastructure and potential Complete Streets sidewalk and bicycle facilities throughout Broward.

Outside our traditional funding and advocacy efforts, the Broward MPO's recent grant awards include:

- \$1.5 million for Speak Up Broward, our first comprehensive public outreach campaign.
- \$1.5 million for the University Drive Mobility Improvements Study, to identify transportation projects which improve safety, reduce congestion and provide transportation alternatives to the automobile.
- \$300,000 for the South Florida Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Pilot Project, to develop an approach for analyzing climate change-related risks to the regionally significant transportation system.
- \$180,000 for an Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Study, to improve the multimodal transportation system along the I-95 corridor in Broward.



### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 

Goal 1: Expand Taxable Base.

Goal 2: Expand Role in the Movement of Goods.

### SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL FREIGHT PLAN



As southeast Florida looks to the future, it is of the utmost importance that we recognize the tremendous economic potential of the freight industry. It is estimated that the freight industry accounts for approximately 278,000 jobs with an average salary of \$69,000 per year and an overall \$55 billion impact on southeast Florida's economy.

The Broward MPO and its partners are championing the planned growth of the freight industry in the region with the overall objective of making southeast Florida a globally competitive logistic hub. To this end, the Broward MPO led its partner agencies in the development of Cargo 2040, the Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan. Cargo 2040 highlights key trends, developments and initiatives that are shaping our freight system, creating opportunities to grow and expand our economy. The Plan identifies and prioritizes our freight system needs, including seaport, rail, air, and highway projects, taking into consideration the most current master plans and capital improvement plans. This Plan also includes a hot spot analysis that helped identify short term operational improvements along critical freight corridors, including arterials functioning as critical access points to our warehouse/distribution and industrial areas. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.browardmpo.org/userfiles/files/DRAFT%20SFRFP%">www.browardmpo.org/userfiles/files/DRAFT%20SFRFP%</a> 20Report.pdf

### CORRIDOR STUDIES

The Broward MPO conducts corridor studies to determine near- and long-term transportation needs along Broward's most heavily travelled corridors. Through the studies, the MPO is able to address transportation needs in the context of land use, economic development and environmental concerns. The primary intent of the corridor studies is to reduce single occupancy vehicle (SOV) travel, and to develop and implement strategies other than road widening to improve safety and mobility for multiple modes of transportation (transit, bicycles, walking, community shuttles and automobiles).

Corridors are selected for study based on congestion levels and on the potential for enhanced transit options. The most recent corridor studies are:

Hollywood / Pines Corridor Project – The first combined congestion management process/livability planning project. Over \$30 million of improvements are currently in progress along the corridor. For more information, please visit: <u>www.hollywoodpinescorridorproject.com</u>





University Drive Mobility Improvements Planning Study – The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provided funding for the Alternatives Analysis on University Drive. Recommendations include the application of Complete Streets projects in areas where there are safety issues and high levels of pedestrian activity. For more information, please visit: <u>www.UniversityDriveImprovements.org</u>

State Road 7 Multimodal Improvements Corridor Study — SR 7 has the highest levels of transit ridership in Broward. This corridor study began in 2015 and will identify projects which improve safety, mobility and livability along this important transportation corridor. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.lmproveSR7.org">www.lmproveSR7.org</a>



## MOBILITY HUBS

Mobility Hubs are transit access points with frequent transit service, high development potential, and critical points for transfers within the transit system. Well designed Mobility Hubs provide pedestrian and bicycle connections to transit, provide secure and comfortable places to wait for transit, and provide safe and easy transfers between routes. The Broward MPO works with partner agencies and local governments to identify locations for and to design and implement Mobility Hubs throughout Broward.

Broward's first Mobility Hub will be in downtown Fort Lauderdale near the intersection of Broward **Boulevard and Andrews** Avenue, The MPO is funding the streetscape improvements that will connect various



Downtown Fort Lauderdale Mobility Hub rendering.

transportation choices at

the downtown Mobility Hub, including:

- **Broward Central Terminal for Broward County Transit**
- Sun Trolley
- Shuttle connections to the Broward Tri-Rail station
- All-Aboard Florida intercity passenger rail between Downtown Miami and Orlando
- The Wave Streetcar
- Future Tri-Rail Coastal Link passenger rail service

Future Mobility Hubs are in the works in several locations around the Broward region. For more information, please visit: <a href="www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/mobility-hubs">www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/mobility-hubs</a>

### WAVE STREETCAR PROJECT

Investing in fixed transportation facilities such as a rail-based streetcar system conveys to potential passengers, investors, and visitors that a permanent commitment has been made to provide transportation to the area. This contributes to economic development and job creation for communities. Recognizing these positive impacts, the MPO approved funding for Broward's first streetcar, known as the Wave.

The Wave Modern Streetcar is a proposed 2.7-mile transit system in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The Streetcar system will have 10 passenger stations, 5 streetcar vehicles and an operation and vehicle maintenance storage facility. The Wave route will connect existing activity centers, such as Fort Lauderdale City Hall, the Broward County Government Center, Las Olas Boulevard, the Broward County Court House and Broward General Hospital, plus shops, restaurants, and the residential and office buildings in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The Streetcar will provide connections to the existing county bus and trolley service and will have links to the future Tri-Rail Coastal Link and the proposed All Aboard Florida regional passenger rail service.

The Wave is an unprecedented partnership between federal, state, county, and city governments as well as the business community. The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) is the project sponsor and is responsible for the design and construction of the Wave Streetcar. Broward County will own the system, once it is complete, and Broward County Transit will operate the streetcars.



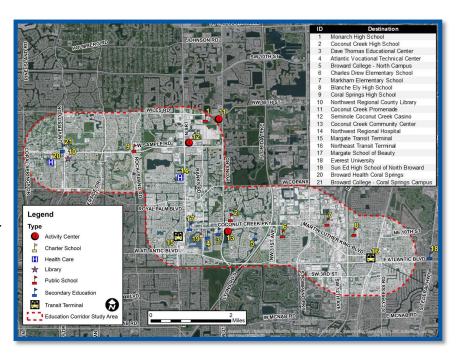
A rendering of The WAVE Modern Streetcar in Fort Lauderdale which will break ground in 2016 and be operational in 2018.

The MPO is working with the project's partners to examine future extensions to the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, Port Everglades and the Broward Convention Center, and, in the long-term, to Tri-Rail Stations and the South Florida Education Center. For more information on the Wave Streetcar project, please visit: <u>www.wavestreetcar.com</u>

### EDUCATION CORRIDOR



A good transportation system provides quality transportation options for individuals to access jobs, education and health care facilities. To improve the quality of transportation options available to Broward residents, the MPO is leading a study to improve access to the educational facilities amongst four Broward municipalities (see map on right): Pompano Beach, Margate, Coconut Creek and Coral Springs.



The Study will consider the various transit services in the area including Broward County Transit (BCT), local community buses and Tri-Rail Shuttles. The Study will also examine how school schedules (primary, secondary and postsecondary) interact with the current transit service. Our team will use creative strategies to enhance or redesign the existing system into one that provides the most convenient access (with the fewest transfers) between the educational facilities, local business community and neighboring residential communities. The goal is to develop a viable transit and shuttle/circulator concept plan that will focus on improvements that can be implemented in the near- (1-5 years) and mid-term (6-10 years) horizons.

#### Did You Know?

Every \$1 invested in public transportation generates \$4 in economic return.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

LEADERSHIP/PARTNERSHIPS

Goal 1: Strengthen and Expand Strategic Partnerships.

Goal 2: Hold Agencies Receiving Federal Funding Accountable.

### SPEAK UP BROWARD TO SPEAK UP BROWARD







Public outreach and feedback is essential to planning a transportation system which serves the

needs of Broward's communities. Speak Up Broward, the MPO's first grassroots public outreach campaign, promotes awareness about regional transportation planning projects, engages communities in the planning process, and solicits feedback to help provide Broward residents with a safe, convenient, and efficient transportation system.

Since its launch in September 2013, Speak Up Broward has successfully



From Left to Right: Rep. Lois Frankel, County Commissioner Barbara Sharief, Moderator Jade Alexander, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz and MPO Board Chair Richard Blattner participated in the Speak Up Broward

engaged residents and stakeholders in the planning process. Some of the successes include:

#### **Quick Facts**

As of June 2015, the MPO had:

- 35,000 visitors to the Speak Up Broward website.
- 6.500 followers on our social media.
- 54 Speakers Bureau presentations.
- 11 Program for Empowering People (PEP) events.

Reaching over 45,000 people during four televised eTownHall events, including over 16,000 combined television viewers and phone-in participants. Some of the featured speakers on these eTownhalls included Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Congresswoman Lois Frankel, MPO Board Chairman Richard Blattner, and Chris Wren, Executive Director of the Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority.



The Program for Empowering People (PEP), under which several mini-grants were awarded to select partner organizations to conduct outreach to specific audiences, including traditionally under-represented communities and neighborhoods. Speak Up Broward enlisted seven partner

organizations including Lighthouse of Broward, the iCenter Foundation, Stand Among Friends, and Covenant Keepers Community Development to help spread the word about the importance of transportation and solicit feedback on how the MPO could better engage with under-served communities. Over 700 people were reached at 11 events across Broward.

The Speakers Bureau program, which recruited and trained "transportation ambassadors" who helped identify and educate organizations and individuals throughout Broward about

the benefits of a multimodal transportation system. The Speakers Bureau program recruited 50 participants to give presentations to various community organizations and stakeholders across Broward.

We continue to spread the word with... over **6,500** followers in our Social Media presence. You

Through the concentrated engagement and outreach of Speak

Up Broward, a "Path Forward" report was developed with recommendations and strategies for moving forward. Some of those recommendations include: finding a dedicated funding source for transportation improvements, identifying a governance structure that promotes accountability, better management of traffic lights and implementing traffic light signalization, and the expansion of public transit options throughout Broward.

Capitalizing on the successful grassroots public outreach efforts, a second phase of Speak Up Broward will kick off in the summer of 2015. For more information about Speak Up Broward, please visit: <u>www.SpeakUpBroward.org</u>.

### QUIET ZONES 🔀



The Broward MPO has responded to residents' concerns about the frequency of train horns negatively affecting their quality of life by designing and fully funding a "quiet zone" on the eastern rail corridor known as the FEC. In order to create the quiet zone, we formed a unique public-private partnership with All Aboard Florida (AAF), a private intercity commuter rail company. This partnership allowed the Broward MPO to maximize its \$4.2 million investment to not only provide a quiet zone but to provide vital pedestrian connections. The county-wide quiet zone will be in effect by the time AAF begins operations in 2017.

> qui•et•zone n. A quiet zone is a section of rail where the train engineer will not sound the horn as the train approaches intersections. Train horns may still be sounded at the conductor's discretion for emergency situations.

For more information on quiet zones, please visit: <a href="https://www.browardmpo.org/projects-">www.browardmpo.org/projects-</a> studies/quiet-zones



Future county-wide quiet zone.

### ADVISORY BOARDS & PARTNERSHIPS 🔀



In addition to public input, the Broward MPO relies on the recommendations of its advisory boards to make the best transportation policy and funding decisions for Broward communities. Several advisory boards, described below, have been established to provide different perspectives on various transportation issues.

The **Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)** is comprised of engineers, planners, and other professionals who represent Broward's local governments and transportation agencies. One of the many functions of the TCC is to provide the technical perspective on proposed MPO plans and programs. Most recently, the TCC has been working closely with the Broward MPO on the development of the Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program.

The Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR) members represent a broad cross section of Broward's population. They provide the local community's perspective on proposed MPO plans and programs. The Florida Department of Health, the Urban League, the Rotary Club and United Way are recent additions to the CIR. These new partnerships help increase awareness of the MPO as well as make the CIR a more effective vehicle for public involvement.

The Local Coordinating Board (LCB) for Transportation Disadvantaged identifies local service gaps and provides information and direction on the coordination of services for the transportation disadvantaged. The LCB has facilitated several programs to increase awareness of transportation disadvantaged issues, including workshops on the Americans with Disabilities Act, a Paratransit Safety Workshop, and American Cancer Society transportation services.

The Complete Streets Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) engages both traditional and "non--traditional" groups, such as AARP, and other non-profit agencies. The TAC serves as a forum for exchanging new ideas related to complete street designs. More importantly, it is responsible for guiding the Broward MPO's Complete Streets initiative.

The Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) serves as a formal forum for policy coordination and communication of regional initiatives agreed upon by the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach MPOs. Recent activities include the finalization of the 2040 Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan (Cargo 2040) and the formation of a Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) Subcommittee.



#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

- Goal 1: Increase Awareness of the Vision, Mission and Products of the MPO.
- Goal 2: Strengthen Board Decision-making Capacities.
- Goal 3: Strengthen MPO Staff Technical Capacities.

The Southeast Florida Region has one of the highest bicycle and pedestrian injury and fatality rates in the nation. The Broward MPO is leading the effort to address these critical safety issues as noted in the following efforts.

**place•ma•king** *n*. A multi-faceted approach to capitalizing on a local community's assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well being.

### SAFE STREETS SUMMITS





The MPO hosts annual Safe Streets Summits to educate public officials, technical staff and other individuals on the importance of designing safe transportation facilities for all modes of

transportation. Safe Streets Summits highlight the benefits of Complete Streets and the importance of bicycling as a mode of transportation. Featured topics relate to the health, safety, and economic opportunities associated with designing streets for all users. Guidance on how to identify projects and move them forward to the implementation/construction phase is also provided at the Summits. Further, Safe Streets Summits showcase the importance of transit in Complete Streets design by focusing on elements of placemaking, stakeholder "buy-in," and leveraging funding opportunities to maximize all available resources for Complete Streets projects. Speakers offer strategies for encouraging buy-in on Complete Streets projects and also outline implementation opportunities for such projects. The next annual Safe Streets Summit

will be held in Deerfield Beach.

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.browardmpo.org/">www.browardmpo.org/</a> services/complete-streets/safestreets-summit



### WALKING AUDITS



The Broward MPO conducts Walking Audits to highlight corridors and areas that could benefit from Complete Streets treatments which improve safety and promote all modes of transportation. To date, the Broward MPO has conducted four walking audits in the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Coconut Creek, North Lauderdale, and Lauderhill. These audits have proven to be a great success in engaging the community and stakeholders.



Broward MPO staff and partners conducting a Walking Audit.

### LET'S GO BIKING EVENTS



To promote bike safety and the health benefits of active transportation, the MPO organizes annual Let's Go Biking Events. Cyclists of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate. In addition to a bike ride, other fun activities include helmet fittings, healthy eating demonstrations and bicycle giveaways.



In 2014, the annual event was held in the City of Sunrise, with Mayor Mike Ryan leading the pack along the New River Greenway. As part of the helmet giveaway, certified bike helmet fitters were on hand to properly fit and adjust over 50 helmets

for participants, which they were then allowed to keep.

The 2015 Let's Go Biking event was held in the City of Coconut Creek. The City Commission of Coconut Creek, along with Coconut Creek's Police Department and Community Emergency Response Team, Broward County Parks, South Florida Commuter Services, Broward B-Cycle, and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) made this event a success. This year, over 150 people participated in interactive bike safety activities, 103 bicyclists joined the bike ride and over 100 professionally fitted helmets were given away. For more information on these events, please visit: www.browardmpo.org/letsgobiking

### TRAC & RIDES EDUCATION PROGRAM 🔀 🧲









Superintendent Runcie and a Broward Schools teacher participating in a TRAC & RIDES module.

In coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FWHA), the MPO holds training sessions for Broward's middle and high school teachers. The purpose of the training is to raise awareness and interest in engineering professions. The TRAC (Transportation and Civil Engineering) program is designed to provide educators with hands-on training experience in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, also known as STEM. The TRAC initiative, and its elementary school counterpart, Roadways Into Developing Elementary Students (RIDES), were developed at a national level by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and is offered in all states by way of their respective Departments of Transportation. As reflected in the 2015 Broward MPO Strategic Business Plan, educational outreach and involve-

ment with regard to STEM-oriented curricula are essential for the continuation of the transportation and engineering industries. For more information on this program, please visit: mmsd.transportation.org/trac rides/

> $\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{a} \mid F(ederal) \ H(igh) W(ay) \ A(ministration)$ n. A branch of the US Department of Transportation that administers financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, roads, and bridges.



Goal 1: Improve Regional Emergency Services.

#### SOUTH FLORIDA CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION

### PILOT PROJECT



South Florida is already facing the impacts of climate change and extreme weather. In October 2012, a combination of severe weather and seasonal high tides caused severe beach erosion and washed out a segment of State Road A1A in Fort Lauderdale.

On March 5, 2013, the MPO was awarded a \$300,000 federal grant to examine approaches to "conduct climate change and extreme weather vulnerability assessments of transportation infrastructure and to analyze



Superstorm Sandy washes out A1A in Fort Lauderdale. (Photo by Art Seitz)

options for adapting and improving resiliency." With this grant award, the Broward MPO administered the South Florida Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Pilot Project on behalf of its regional partners in southeast Florida. The Project Study Area covered Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties.

Three climate change-related stresses were examined: sea level rise inundation, storm surge flooding, and heavy precipitation induced flooding. Only regional roadway and passenger rail facilities were considered as part of the analysis. An approach for analyzing climate changerelated risks to the regionally significant transportation system that can be replicated and updated over time was developed.

While the Climate Change Pilot Project focused on regionally significant facilities, the Broward MPO recognized that local facilities are equally important. As such, the MPO funded a second phase of the climate change study to evaluate local roads and transportation assets within Broward. This second phase should be completed in April 2016. For more information, please visit: www.browardmpo.org/planning/adapting-to-climate-change

# **FINANCES**

This annual report highlights key projects and efforts as structured around the Broward MPO's first Strategic Business Plan. Although this document is static, we are continuously implementing the goals and objectives of the Strategic Business Plan and invite you to follow us through social

 $\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{p} \bullet \mathbf{w} \bullet \mathbf{p} \mid U(nified) P(lanning)$ W(ork) P(rogram) | n. Multimodal transportation planning activities of an MPO within a financially constrained budget.

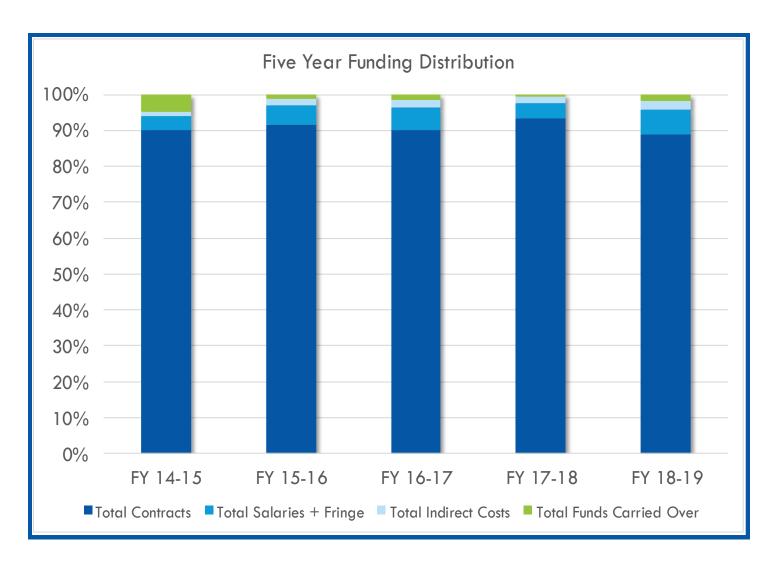
media or at www.BrowardMPO.org. This is where you will find the latest information on all of our projects as well as our meeting calendar.

The five year budget table below and graph to the right show the funding allocations for the MPO's resources. This high level summary is a combination of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and federally allocated funds. Our budget reflects a balance of resources to make the best use of limited funding to move people, create jobs and strengthen communities. For more information on the UPWP, please visit:

www.browardmpo.org/programs/unified-planning-work-program

### **Budget Snapshot: Five Year Forecast of Funding**

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 1 <i>7</i> -18	FY 18-19
Total Funds Allocated	\$41,158,941	\$39,090,416	\$37,633,267	\$54,625,399	\$36,348,195
Total Funds Car- ried Over	\$3,436,493	\$2,082,310	\$545 <b>,</b> 655	\$565,672	\$404,209
Total Funds Available	\$44,595,433	\$41,172,726	\$38,178,922	\$55,191,071	\$36,752,404
Total Contracts	\$40,242,189	\$37,686,000	\$34,439,750	\$51,471,750	\$32,621,750
Total Salaries + Fringe	\$1,707,475	\$2,209,835	\$2,320,326	\$2,436,343	\$2,558,160
Total Indirect Costs	\$563,459	\$731,237	\$853,174	\$878,769	\$905,132
Total Funds Spent	\$42,513,123	\$40,627,071	\$37,613,250	\$54,786,862	\$36,085,042
Total Funds Carried Over	\$2,082,310	\$545,655	\$565,672	\$404,209	\$667,362



# MPO STAFF

**Gregory Stuart Executive Director** 

Alan Gabriel General Counsel

Michael Ronskavitz **Deputy Director** 

Paul Calvaresi **Regional Transportation Planner** 

Priscila J. Clawges Transportation Disadvantaged Program Manager/Transportation Planner

> **James Cromar** Director of Planning

> Carl Ema **Boards Coordinator**

#### Roxana Ene

Transportation Improvement Program Coordinator/Project Manager

#### Paul Flavien

Regional Transportation Planner

Tracy Flavien Chief Financial Officer

#### Ricardo S. Gutierrez

Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator/ **Regional Transportation Planner** 

#### Peter Gies

Regional Transportation Planner

Daniel Knickelbein Regional Transportation Planner

#### Christopher Ryan

Public Information Officer/ Title VI Coordinator/DBE Liaison

#### Buffy C. Sanders II **Regional Transportation Planner**

Kathy Singer **Executive Assistant** 

### Francis Tettey

Accounting & Finance Manager

#### **Anthea Thomas**

**Public Involvement Specialist** 

Lydia Waring **Procurement Officer** 

### Broward MPO Executive Committee & Board Members



Mayor Tim Ryan Broward County SFRTA



Commissioner
Bruce Roberts
2nd Vice Chair
Fort Lauderdale



Commissioner Richard Blattner Chairman Hollywood



Councilmember Bryan Caletka Vice Chairman Davie



Commissioner Sandy Johnson Small Cities Lighthouse Point

Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere Coconut Creek

Commissioner Lisa Mallozzi
Cooper City

Vice Mayor Larry Vignola Coral Springs

Commissioner Walter Duke
Dania Beach

Commissioner Richard Rosenzweig

Deerfield Beach

Vice Mayor Romney Rogers Fort Lauderdale

> Mayor Joy Cooper Hallandale Beach

Commissioner Troy Link
Hillsboro Beach

Commissioner Mark Brown Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

Vice Mayor Beverly Williams
Lauderdale Lakes

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan Lauderhill

Mayor Joanne Simone
Margate

Vice Mayor Yvette Colbourne
Miramar

Vice Mayor Jerry Graziose North Lauderdale

Commissioner Shari McCartney
Oakland Park

Commissioner David Rosenof Parkland

Broward APO

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Mayor Ashira Mohammed
Pembroke Park

Mayor Frank C. Ortis
Pembroke Pines

Councilman Ron Jacobs *Plantation* 

Vice Mayor Charlotte Burrie Pompano Beach

Councilman Gregory Sollitto Sea Ranch Lakes Vice Mayor Freddy Fisikelli Southwest Ranches

Commissioner Lawrence A. Sofield
Sunrise

Commissioner Debra Placko

Vacant Village of Lazy Lake

Mayor Eric H. Jones, Jr. West Park

Commissioner Toby Feuer Weston

Vice Mayor Tom Green Wilton Manors

School Board Member Patricia Good School Board of Broward County

Commissioner Barbara Sharief
Broward County Board of
County Commissioners

Commissioner Lois Wexler Broward County Board of County Commissioners

Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness Broward County Board of County Commissioners

100 West Cypress Creek Road Suite 850 Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33309 954-876-0033

www.BrowardMPO.org