The official newsletter of the...

broward MPO metropolitan planning organization

## ransportation ransformation

**Connecting Communities Through Transportation Choices** 

## LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE IS UNDERWAY

# COMMITMENT 2040

## move people • create jobs • strengthen communities

The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization is taking steps to update its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP will be referred to as *Commitment 2040* that will build on our transportation assets, identify their shortcomings and recommend actions to invest in transportation improvements that *move people*, *create jobs and strengthen our communities* through the next 25 years.

From now until mid-2014, we will be working with communities within Broward County to develop Commitment 2040. In addition, we will coordinate with the Miami-Dade and Palm Beach MPOs to develop a regional transportation plan. To get involved, please visit our website at www.Commitment2040.org. The website will serve as a hub for you to share your thoughts on what improvements we need to make, as well as provide feedback on how we can make better use of the transportation system we already have.

The Broward MPO will be hosting a series of workshops throughout the development of *Commitment 2040*. We want to bring our questions to you and apply your answers to fulfill our mutual goals and objectives. Please join us at our first workshop this coming spring and continue to visit the website often for the times and locations of future meetings. By staying involved, you will learn about the latest findings and solutions and receive regular updates as the transportation plan develops over the coming months.

Your input will help shape the future of your commute within South Florida. Your ideas will help us build a world-class transportation system that provides choices of which we can be proud. We want to customize *Commitment 2040* to not only help you get home quickly after a long day, or to get your kids to school on time, but also to ensure goods and services are delivered to our local stores and to the global market. With a diverse and robust transportation system, Broward can move people, give its citizens greater access to new job opportunities and **strengthen local** communities by making it easier to connect with one another.

GET INVOLVED AND SIGN UP NOW on our website www.Commitment2040.org or call Paul Flavien, Project Manager at 954-876-0045

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- Central Broward East-West Transit Study
- MPO Education and Outreach
- Did You Know?



Vice Mayor Richard Blattner Chair, Broward MPO City of Hollywood, District 4

Message From The Chair

While I still shake my head at working on the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan, but have gotten used to the idea; now comes along the 2040 LRTP, called Commitment 2040 as you read on the front cover. I used to have a boss who thought long range planning was figuring out where to have lunch, and now we are being asked to think ahead 28 years? It is very hard to imagine what Broward County will look like then. The ebb and flow of Florida's population growth numbers is so dependent on factors beyond our control.

There are some fundamental issues planners and elected officials have to deal with. What will be the effect of climate change? Will coastal communities everywhere be forced to relocate? Will they choose Florida, which has its own sea level rise issues? What about the

national and local economy? Will we still be so dependent on tourism and hospitality? Will our education systems be producing the quality and quantity of skilled workers, that business and industry say they need?

Regardless, MPOs cannot wait until 2039 and a half to begin thinking about their responsibilities to provide safe, reliable cost effective, environmentally friendly transportation systems. The Broward MPO has done a terrific job in changing from a traditional pave-it-here-and-now model to one that includes airports, seaports, mass transit, streetcars, paratransit and bike lanes, in our thinking and planning for the future. It is interesting that we are now learning that the younger generations are not so committed to owning a car, like using public transit, want to live in urban environments, desire lifestyle flexibility, are not expecting to hold a job for life, let alone a long time, and are holding off on marrying and raising families. Change is everything. I think it is important that we identify some in that generation who can assume leadership roles that will help all of us expand our intellectual curiosity and vision and become the planners and MPO members working on the 2050 LRTP. My guess is that they will change everything. I would love to be around to see that.

## **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

On September 9th Executive Director, Greg Stuart spoke at the Greater Fort Lauderdale Realtors "South Florida 20/20" event. Greg participated in a panel discussion about "The Bottom Line".

On September 11th through the 14th, Greg Stuart, Executive Director and Chris Ryan, Public Information Officer/Title VI Coordinator, participated in the 2012 American Metropolitan Planning Organization's Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York. They presented the Complete Streets TOUCH Initiative, **pictured below**.



On October 16th James Cromar, Livability Planner attended the Rail-Volution Conference with the City of Fort Lauderdale modern streetcar, the Wave, team who presented at one of the conference sessions.



On November 1st, Priscila Clawges, Transportation Planner, attended a City of Lauderhill groundbreaking ceremony for the 19th Street Greenway Project. This is an example of a Transportation Enhancement Project, now known as the Transportation Alternatives Program under "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act" (MAP-21). Broward MPO Chair, Richard Blattner and City of Lauderhill Mayor and MPO member Richard Kaplan are shown in the **photo above**.

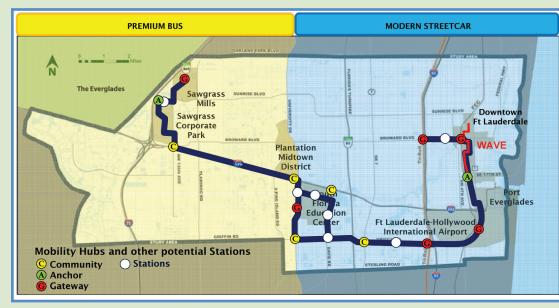
#### **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (CONT.)**

On November 7th, Greg Stuart, Executive Director, and Chris Ryan, Public Information Officer/Title VI Coordinator attended the Broward Complete Streets breakfast meeting held at the Broward Main Library. Greg introduced speakers Mike Delucca, President and CEO of the Broward Regional Health Planning Council and Ryan Snyder, Federal Highways Administration Pedestrian Safety Design instructor and member of the Steering Committee for the National Complete Streets Coalition. Visit *www.BrowardCompleteStreets.org*.

On December 3rd, Greg Stuart, Executive Director spoke at the Downtown Fort Lauderdale 18th Annual Transit Luncheon, hosted by the Transportation Management Association (TMA) Host Committee at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. This luncheon also included keynote speaker Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz.

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz pictured with MPO staffers, Priscila Clawges and James Cromar at the December 3rd TMA Luncheon.





## **CENTRAL BROWARD EAST-WEST TRANSIT STUDY**



The Broward MPO selected the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Central Broward East-West Transit Study at their October meeting. The Board passed a motion approving the Griffin Road alignment with modern streetcar shown here.

This Study is an important project for Broward. With the recent approval of the Wave Modern Streetcar www.wavestreetcar.com in Fort Lauderdale, this project will serve as an extension of the Wave,

providing a regional connection for, and creating the first east-west premium transit line in Broward. The action taken by the Board in October was necessary to move into the next phase of the study which will further define more details including station locations, ridership projections, cost estimates, operating plans and the development of financial and implementation plans as shown in the "Next Step" graphic. You can also visit the project website for more information at www. centralbrowardtransit.org.



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## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

	JAN 2013	FEB 2013	MARCH 2013	APRIL 2013
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meets every 2nd Thur. at 9:30 a.m.	No Meeting	14	14	11
<b>Technical Coordinating</b> <b>Committee (TCC)</b> <i>Meets every 4th Wed. at 2:30 p.m.</i>	23	27	27	24
Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR) Meets every 4th Wed. at 6 p.m.	23	27	27	24
<b>Broward County Coordinating</b> <b>Board (BCCB)</b> Meets 3rd Monday at 2 p.m. when scheduled	28*	No Meeting	18	15

\* Dates changed due to holiday or conflict

All meetings are held in the Broward MPO Board Room, Suite 850, in the Trade Centre South building.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Christopher Ryan at (954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org. If hearing impaired, telephone 1 (800) 273-7545 (TDD).

For more information on upcoming meetings, complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or nondiscrimination; or for special requests under the ADA, please contact: Christopher Ryan, Public Information Officer/Title VI Coordinator at (954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org.

Please note: TCC and CIR meetings have changed for 2013 to the 4th Wednesday of every month, and TCC meetings are now 2:30 p.m. instead of 2:15 p.m.

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## DID YOU KNOW? ONETEXTOR CALL COULD WRECKIT ALL

Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America's roadways. In 2010 alone, over 3,000 people were killed in distracted driving crashes.

No message, no phone call, nothing is worth driving while distracted. Join FDOT and its partners and make the safety pledge.

# Next time you're behind the wheel, just PUT IT DOWN!

For more information please visit www.distraction.gov.