

EAST/CENTRAL BROWARD TRANSPORTATION EXPOSITION SEPTEMBER 7, 2001

Florida Department of Transportation
District Auditorium
3400 West Commercial Boulevard
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309

Report of Proceedings

PROJECT EXHIBITS

Prior to the opening of the formal meeting, participants reviewed materials and charts that were posted around the room providing information on the different projects which would be presented later in the day. Representatives from each project were available to answer questions and receive comments.

WELCOME, AGENDA REVIEW

Jeff Weidner, Mobility Manager, Office of Modal Development, Florida Department of Transportation opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and explaining that the purpose of the meeting was to bring together all those involved in transportation projects in Broward County so they could share information and work toward coordinating their activities in a positive direction. Mr. Weidner emphasized the fact that although FDOT was hosting this meeting, it was just acting as a catalyst for action. His hope was that if project representatives believe there is value in sharing information, the process would continue as a joint effort supported by all. He then turned the meeting over to the meeting Facilitator, Janice M. Fleischer, Program Manager, South Florida Regional Planning Council Institute for Community Collaboration.

Ms. Fleischer reviewed the Agenda with the participants (Exhibit A), went over group discussion guidelines (Exhibit B). She explained that the Comment cards, which were prepared and available at the Registration table, were for anyone participating or observing the process to leave any comments they had not been able to express during the procedures of the day.

INTRODUCTIONS

All those present were asked to introduce themselves and tell which Project they represented, were affiliated with or had an interest in. A list of participant/attendees is attached as Exhibit C.

PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Projects were then presented by their representatives. After each presentation, participants were invited to ask questions or make comments. Below is a list of the projects presented and the responses received from the participants. If information was provided on websites or contact information it is added below or contained on Exhibit C with the name of the participant.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF PROJECTS:

1. **Chris Novack** - *Port Everglades* (cnovack@broward.org)
 - a. What plans are there to assist tourists in circulating around town?
 - b. How big is the spur?
 - c. A possible amendment to the DRI might be needed.
 - d. What happens to the existing route? Is it still possible?
 - e. Will there be bike lanes?

2. **Jack LaTona** - *Broward Countywide Parking Study* (crefut@bellsouth.net)
 - a. Does the scope include looking at satellite parking?
 - b. What time frame is the study on?
 - c. Are these surface lots or just parking garages?
 - d. People should inform the MPO about other projects.
 - e. Isn't it true that downtown Ft. Lauderdale doesn't require parking?
 - f. Does your scope look at bicycle parking?
 - g. ICE TEA funding might be available.

3. **Fred Schwartz** - *Sistrunk Corridor Plan/Andrews Avenue/3rd Avenue Improvements* (fred.Schwartz@kimley-horn.com and see Peter Partington on Ex. C)
 - a. Are left turns required if you go to a 3/1?
 - b. Andrews and 3rd are county roads, whatever is done there may need to go to the County Commission.
 - c. Any public preference emerging?
 - d. Are there dedicated transit lanes? How will this be accommodated?
 - e. What is the intended speed on these roads?
 - f. Sistrunk is a county road, they are further along with the County on plans with this road (funding and approval).
 - g. Keep in mind pedestrian traffic needed.
 - h. Will there be bike lanes?

4. **Dennis Girisgen** - *NW 7th Avenue/9th Avenue Connector* (DennisG@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us)

Note provided by presenter: *The NW 7/9 Avenue Connector is a transportation project to improve the capacity of the arterials serving the Northwest and Downtown areas of Fort Lauderdale. The improvements would extend from Powerline Road/Sunrise to Broward Boulevard/NW 7 Avenue. This arterial link would consist of either a 6 lane divided or 4 land divided roadway. It is anticipated that local officials will have an opportunity to consider the proposed alternatives by the Fall of 2001. The FHWA and County MPO would subsequently make a decision on funding the project.*

- a. What does the spur accommodate? What is its purpose?
- b. Do you have a feel for the contamination issue?
- c. This is at grade, do you have a cost estimate?
- d. Would it be less expensive if it were a flyover?
- e. This is a county jurisdiction road
- f. Are there any ways to turn on or off this road?
- g. Are adjacent properties asking for access?
- h. Where is the business park?

5. **Mark Horowitz/Dave Marshall** - *Broward County Bicycle Advisory Committee*
(mhorowitz@broward.org)
 - a. Can there be retrofits to increase number of bikes that can be on a bus?
 - b. Has anybody investigated a prototype vehicle that would carry bikes in a different way?
 - c. The technology is available, low floor, allows bike to go right on the bus.
 - d. There is a large contingent of the public that wants wider sidewalks to accommodate bikes. What is the possibility that wider sidewalks is a better way to go then sharing the road?

6. **Joan Luckham** - *Transit Greenways* (ddaftlaud@paradise.net or www.ddaftlaud.com)
 - a. How would it look different on SW 2nd?
 - b. How do you get this started? What is the first thing that is done?
 - c. On a localized level this makes sense. How does it translate into a regional or larger scale?

7. **Lorraine Smith** - *Transit Terminal Improvements*
 - a. Any plans for bays for routes-when will they be finished?
 - b. TMAX stops there.
 - c. Downtown terminal is in almost every plan presented.

8. **Lorraine Smith** - *Water Bus* (lorsmith@broward.org or www.broward.org/bct)
 - a. Can we get schedules?
 - b. What is the seating capacity?
 - c. Buses have trouble pulling up to the canal, what are the linkages?
 - d. How will you show you are not in competition with the existing water taxi?
 - e. Can you bring a bike on?
 - f. What are the expected headways and distances between stops?
 - g. Crossing the New River.

9. **Paul Carpenter** - *Community Bus Service (Listed as "shuttles")* (dfltma@fdn.com)
 - a. Shelters are seen as an "amenity" and it is the wrong word. It seems like an extra and a shelter is really mandatory.
 - b. The City is part of the community bus network, approximately 18 cities participating.
 - c. If you go to a fare system will it affect ridership?
 - d. Would fares be select routes or the entire system?

(Exhibit D)

10. **Cathy Sweetapple** - *Ft. Lauderdale Beach Parking/Transit Shuttles*
(csweetapple@keithandschnars.com)
 - a. Intercept parking facilities; between parking facilities and/or to the Beach attractions.
 - b. Are you looking at alternative fuel vehicles?
 - c. Where are parking facilities going? On both sides of the beach?
 - d. Have you thought about partnering with others in the business to keep consistency in what vehicles will look like?
 - e. Submitting individual funding applications may be a sure way NOT to get funding.

11. **Peter Partington** - *SR 84 Enhancement Area* (peterp@ci.ftlaud.fl.us)
 - a. Does change involve reducing travel lanes?
12. **Julia Cope** - *Broward County Clean Air Cooperative* (j_cope@bellsouth.net)
 - a. Who would be the operator?
13. **Bill Houppermans** - *Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport* (bhouppermans@aepfl.com)
 - a. What is the ratio of pavement to building space?
 - b. Bikes will need to go to the intermodal center.
14. **Doug Coomer** - *I 95 HOV Systems Plan* (doug.comer@kimley-horn.com), contact Jeff Weidner, FDOT, (jeff.weidner@dot.state.fl.us)
 - a. What is the timing of the study?
 - b. Is it only for the Broward corridor?
 - c. Will the study ultimately make recommendations on the best route?
 - d. What is the connection between rail options and HOV lanes?
 - e. Does the river get involved? Can you look at water transportation?
15. **Scott Seeburger** - *I 595 Master Plan* (scott.seeburger@dot.state.fl.us)
16. **Michael Williams** - *Tri-Rail* (williamsm@tri-rail.com)
 - a. Is there light rail on East/West line?
(Exhibit E)
17. **Ossama Al Aschkar** - *Broward County Long Range Transportation Plan* (oalaszkar@broward.org)
 - a. Will the 2025 needs be in place by then?
 - b. Are the transit plans we have heard included in the long range plan?
 - c. What are the costs of transit needs?
 - d. The funding you are anticipating, is it based on what you have gotten historically?
 - e. What was the needs analysis on roads, bikes and pedestrians?
 - f. When is it coming up for a vote?
 - g. This funding scheme doesn't reflect change in direction by the Commission.
 - h. Does it include maintenance?

Additionally, Broward MPO provided a copy of the various projects included in the Long Range Plan. (Exhibit F).

POSSIBLE COLLABORATIVE CHOICES

At the end of the presentations, Ms. Fleischer, the Facilitator, explained a collaborative process she was assisting that might serve as a model for this group if it is decided to continue with future meetings. One advantage to working collaboratively is that funding often becomes available when applied for collectively rather than each project applying individually. A further advantage is that collaborative work offers more likelihood of avoiding duplication of efforts. Exhibit G is a copy of the current organizational structure of the State Road 7/US 441 Collaborative which was offered as an example only. This collaborative is still in its formative stages, but is making great progress.

NEXT STEPS

Prior to closing the meeting, the Facilitator asked the participants what thoughts they had on what events should be pursued next. Responses were:

NEXT STEPS

1. Have another meeting
2. Do it within a month (try Oct. 5,12,19)
3. Provide a list of all participants
4. Someone needs to take responsibility to put together a spreadsheet. (Jeff and Peter will begin)
5. Include Cities of Hollywood and Dania Beach next time.
6. Have the meeting at FDOT again.
7. Friday mornings are good.
8. Purpose is to begin to develop coordination of projects.
9. Stay as a committee of the whole, don't break up yet into smaller groups.

After thanking everyone for participating, Jeff Weidner, adjourned the meeting.