

**THE STATE ROAD 7/US 441 COLLABORATIVE**  
**STEERING COMMITTEE: *Tamarac Parks & Rec. Building***  
**December 10, 2009 Meeting Summary**

**Welcome:** *Chair:* Commissioner Shomers: Lauderdale Lakes

**Introductions:** *Designees & Collaborative Representatives*

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Tamarac:                 | Commissioner Pam Bushnell              |
| Coral Springs            | Paul Carpenter                         |
| Hollywood                | Leander Hamilton                       |
| Coconut Creek            | Sheila Rose                            |
| Davie                    | Mayor Judy Paul                        |
| Plantation               | Carlos Gonzalez                        |
| West Park                | Vice Mayor Thomas Dorsett (Vice Chair) |
| North Miami              | John O'Brien                           |
| Broward County           | Michael Huneke                         |
| Margate                  | Ben Ziskal                             |
| Miramar                  | Lori Hall                              |
| FDOT District 6          | David Korros                           |
| Broward Planning Council | Pete Schwartz                          |

*Others Present*

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Tamarac                | Frank Zickar          |
| Fort Lauderdale        | Randall Robinson      |
| North Lauderdale       | Tanya Davis-Hernandez |
| SFRPC                  | Larry Allen           |
| City of Margate        | Andrew Pinney         |
| Broward County Transit | John Ramos            |
| Broward County Transit | Barney McCoy          |
| FDOT                   | Lois Bush             |
| FDOT                   | Larry Hymowitz        |
| FDOT                   | Andrew Riddle         |
| FDOT                   | Sharon Cino           |
| FDOT                   | Khalilah Ffrench      |
| Jacobs                 | Jill Quigley          |
| Jacobs                 | Zafar Alikhan         |
| Renaissance Planning   | Karen Kiselewski      |

**Project Manager's Report: *Brian Traylor, SFRPC***

- a. *Discretionary & TCSP Funding Opportunities:* David Korros from FDOT District 6 and Larry Hymowitz from FDOT District 4 described opportunities for LAP Certified (Local Agency Program) local governments to provide FACT SHEETS with potential projects that may be eligible for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) discretionary funding. Contact Larry at [Larry.Hymowitz@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Larry.Hymowitz@dot.state.fl.us) for Broward County and David Korros at [David.Korros@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:David.Korros@dot.state.fl.us) for Miami-Dade County projects. The Collaborative is not eligible to receive funds, so each local government must submit their own fact sheet to FDOT.
  
- b. *State Road 7 Green Corridor Proposal:* The SFRPC continues to seek funding opportunities to invest in alternative fuel infrastructure along the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Corridor. Larry Allen of Council staff manages the Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition for the US Department of Energy and will be preparing an application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration to fund the project.

- c. Common Vision for State Road 7: Update on the transit supportive land use analysis and potential roadway alignments to accommodate transit along the corridor in northern Broward County. The SFRPC has submitted the update to the Broward MPO and continues to coordinate this effort with the larger regional Mobility Study.
- d. Broward 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan: The LRTP has been adopted by the Broward MPO. Several Mobility Hubs have been proposed along the State Road 7 Corridor and within member jurisdictions. The Broward MPO staff will be working with each local government to refine locations and assist with plan development. Premium Transit has been identified for the State Road 7 Corridor, however without alternative funding mechanisms, no light rail exists within the 2035 LRTP.
- e. 10 Years Down the Road: The State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative is in the process of producing a publication to demonstrate to our regional and federal partners the progress made since the group formalized in the year 2000. Each jurisdiction and Ex-Oficio Agency will be allocated space within the publication to provide context, list achievements, and propose opportunities. Brian Traylor will be contacting designees and staff within each Collaborative member local government for content, with final production by the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010.
- f. Collaborative Funding: Each shareholder community that contributes funding to the Collaborative maintains an individual schedule for payment. Funding will be tracked by fiscal year and reported to the Collaborative Steering Committee annually. A letter to each local government will be sent during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010.

**Tamarac Update:** *Frank Zickar, Planning & Zoning Manager*

Update on the City of Tamarac's Commercial Revitalization efforts, Green Initiatives and recent golf course conversions. Frank Zickar presented information regarding the City's site inspection process, amended landscape ordinance and code enforcement priorities. There was additional discussion about the City's Local Green Government status through the Florida Green Building Council. Additional information will be available on the Collaborative's website.

**Mobility in Broward County:**

1. Northern Broward Mobility Study: A series of efforts coordinated by FDOT to address mobility in northern Broward and southern Palm Beach Counties. The Florida Department of Community Affairs required the Common Vision for State Road 7 Study to be completed through the Palm Beach and Broward MPO's and the South Florida and Treasure Coast RPC's. FDOT is working with several consultants and agencies to coordinate additional studies, including work with the Broward MPO, Florida Atlantic University, and others. Lois Bush, Andrew Riddle, and Karen Kisewlweski provided an update on the progress of the larger framework studying mobility across northern Broward and southern Palm Beach Counties. Sheila Rose of Coconut Creek noted that the Collaborative should remain involved in understanding where funds that were allocated to North University Drive are moved.
2. Central Broward East-West Transit: The State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative has been represented on the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which has met several times to review potential alignments and technology options for a transit connection between western and eastern Broward County. The TAG was asked to rank the top 2 alignment options for the connection. Several alignments propose transit infrastructure along State Road 7 and current decisions will directly affect the future of transit along the corridor. Zafar Alikhan and Jill

Quigley from Jacobs Engineering provided an update to the Steering Committee regarding the TAG process and the implications of the proposed alignments for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is the next step in the planning and development process. They noted that the funding for this study was “flexed” from highway dollars and included a series of intended outcomes that alternative alignments to the Locally Preferred Alternative may not meet.

The TAG reviewed several alignments in addition to a variation to the “Locally Preferred Alternative” (LPA) previously approved by the MPO which begins in Sunrise at Sawgrass/Bank Atlantic Center, runs along I-595 to University Drive to access the South Florida Education Center, then across Oakes Road and up State Road 7 to Broward Boulevard, through Downtown Fort Lauderdale and heading south to end at the airport. This variation to the LPA was recommended by the TAG, and an alignment along Oakland Park Boulevard was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>. This option begins at Sawgrass/Bank Atlantic Center, and runs primarily along Oakland Park Boulevard, then down State Road 7 to Broward Boulevard, through Downtown Fort Lauderdale and also heading south to end at the airport.

Discussion from the Steering Committee regarding the alignments included support for an option that focuses on providing access to transit within communities that have demonstrated a need for it and have the potential for economic development and revitalization. It was noted that the I-595 alignment does not serve areas with existing transit demand and the physical characteristics of the roadway prevent safe pedestrian and multi-modal site developments. For the purposes of the Draft EIS, the Collaborative Steering Committee supported the alignment option along Oakland Park Boulevard because of its proximity to existing transit users, potential for promoting redevelopment and neighborhood context with a safer pedestrian environment.

**ACTION: Support Alignment Option 9, along Oakland Park Boulevard for the Central Broward East West Transit plan development process.**

It was noted that the variation to the existing LPA that provides transit access to the South Florida Education Center and connects the Town of Davie’s Transit Oriented Corridor along State Road 7 was a positive aspect to other potential transit alignments, including the TAG recommended alignment.

Discussion regarding the technology choices for transit modes to be studied in the Draft EIS included both Bus-Rapid and Light-Rail Transit (BRT & LRT). Both systems require separate analysis for the EIS process and technology-specific infrastructure along State Road 7 may result from the Central Broward East-West Route. Understanding the high ridership and transit supportive land uses along State Road 7, it was determined by the Steering Committee that LRT technology was appropriate for the Corridor. BRT was accepted as the technology choice for alignments west of State Road 7, and whichever technology is determined most appropriate to the east of State Road 7.

**ACTION: Support Light Rail Transit (LRT) for the portion of the Central Broward East West Transit Alignment on the State Road 7 Corridor, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) for portions west of the Corridor, and the appropriate transit technology as determined for portions east of the Corridor.**

**Next Steering Committee Meeting: Thursday March 11, 2010 2:00pm – 3:30pm**

The Broward MPO meets the same day as the Steering Committee and has volunteered to host the next quarterly meeting, tentatively scheduled in room 430 of the Broward County Government Center.