

South
Florida
Regional
Planning
Council



September 15, 2009

The Honorable Daniel J. Stermer, Chair
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 329H
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Chair Stermer:

Since the completion of the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative Charrettes in 2006 and 2007, several jurisdictions have moved forward with the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) on the recommendations to increase density and intensify land uses along the corridor. This process has encouraged a mix of uses in order to facilitate a transit supportive environment along the redeveloping corridor. As of September 2009, over 4,079 acres have been amended in the Broward County Future Land Use Map from areas of general commercial or industrial to mixed use regional and local activity centers or transit oriented corridor land use designations (RAC, LAC, & TOC). Over half of the jurisdictions have completed the amendment process, with several others undertaking the initiative now or are planning to do so in the near future. Two Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's) are under way for the Lauderhill City Center Redevelopment of the Lauderhill Mall as well as the Coconut Creek Main Street Development, focusing on green and sustainable infill development.

These land use changes, together with the two Seminole Casinos along the corridor, plans for the Gospel Complex for Education and Preservation, and the recently constructed Cricket Stadium in Lauderhill, are evidence that the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Corridor is quickly developing into a transit supportive corridor. They encourage the infrastructure for economic revitalization through transit investments. Most major intersections along the corridor, including Sample Road, Atlantic Blvd., Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise Blvd., Broward Blvd., I-595/SR 84, Pembroke Road, Hallandale Beach Blvd., and County Line Road have intensified land uses and identified the potential for east-west transit connections. The Collaborative communities understand the need for a comprehensive and integrated transit network and the SFRPC is working with cities, including Lauderdale Lakes on their plans for Transit Hubs, consistent with the locations identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Several local governments have also moved forward to revise their land development regulations in order to implement the design standards and urban forms indicative of a successful a transit-oriented corridor. Margate and Coconut Creek have adopted new codes with a focus on the pedestrian environment and promoting sustainable and walkable redevelopment patterns. The Town of Davie is in the process of adopting a new form-based code for its 904 acre TOC, and Miramar will be following its' land use plan amendment process with revisions to their code in the near future.

The State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative has consistently demonstrated a commitment to transit along the corridor in an effort to stimulate economic development and increase livability throughout corridor communities. The existing transit Route 18 along State Road 7/U.S. 441 has the highest ridership in Broward County, and is comparable to the number of daily commutes on Tri-Rail. The community input throughout the design process expressed support for light rail along State Road 7/U.S. 441 and the jurisdictions along the corridor have been doing their part to accommodate the necessary land uses and design standards to make that vision a reality.

3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021
Broward (954) 985-4416, State (800) 985-4416
FAX (954) 985-4417, email: sfadmin@sfrpc.com, website: www.sfrpc.com

The Honorable Daniel J. Stermer

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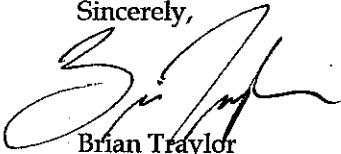
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At the July, 2009 meeting of the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative, the Steering Committee unanimously passed resolution 09-6 supporting the direction and focus toward transit in the development of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. Together with the South Florida Regional Planning Council staff, the State Road 7 Collaborative will continue to work with our local, regional, state and federal partners to focus investments on revitalizing corridor communities through transit infrastructure and smart growth planning strategies.

Deputy Vice Mayor David Shomers, an alternate for District 3 of the Broward MPO, was recently elected chair of the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative at the September 2009 quarterly Steering Committee meeting in Coconut Creek. He, along with State Representative Hazel Rogers, presented checks to designees from Lauderdale Lakes, Lauderhill and Margate for the completion of the \$500,000 State Road 7 Collaborative Bus Shelter Grant. The Collaborative has supported the design and construction of several bus shelters for the cities along the corridor and will continue to work with the MPO and Broward County Transit on future opportunities for investments in transit supportive infrastructure.

Please visit the State Road 7/U.S. 441 Collaborative website (www.sfrpc.com/sr7.htm) for resources on the redevelopment of the corridor, charette plans and updates on the Steering Committee meetings. The SFRPC and the Collaborative appreciate the support of the MPO, and look forward to continuing to work together collectively as we move forward. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require additional assistance.

Sincerely,



Brian Traylor
Senior Planner
State Road 7 Collaborative Project Manager

BT/kc

cc: Gregory Stuart, Executive Director
Mario Aispuro, Senior Planner

Enclosure