A PTP Corridor

On November 5, 2002 Miami-Dade County voters approved the People’s Transportation Plan (PTP) by a margin of 2 to 1. The plan is funded by a one-half cent sales tax increase solely dedicated to transportation. The plan included the development of rapid transit projects in a number of corridors and the expansion of the MDT bus fleet from 700 buses to almost 1,200 buses.

The South Miami-Dade Corridor Alternative Analysis (South Link) is one of the corridors that were included in the PTP. This study is looking at the appropriate level of future improvements to be developed along the US 1 corridor between Dadeland South and Florida City.

South Miami-Dade
Transit Corridor
Alternative Analysis
March 2005, Vol. 1

The South Miami-Dade Corridor Alternative Analysis
The Miami-Dade MPO in cooperation with Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) has initiated a study of transportation improvements along the US 1 corridor stretching between the Dadeland South Metrorail station and Florida City. The study will focus on rapid transit alternatives and enhancements to the existing system from improved transit services to extension of rail service throughout the entire corridor.

Potential Improvements:
- More transit service
- Different operating plans
- Signal progression on the busway
- Community circulators
- Grade separation of the parts of the busway
- Improved passenger amenities
- New transit stations
- Phasing of Metrorail extensions.

Study Phasing:
The study is completing the issue identification phase and is beginning to develop transit alternatives for the corridor. This phase of the study will include a substantial amount of local citizen’s input to develop locally initiated alternatives. Once alternatives are developed the longest portion of the study will include the evaluation of the alternatives.

The results of the analysis will be presented at three interactive public meetings. Comments regarding the alternatives will be collected and presented to the MPO Board. Based upon the recommendations of the citizens and other groups that have had the opportunity to review the Alternative Analysis, the MPO Board will select the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and the appropriate implementation plan.

Further work to advance any portion of the project may be conducted, such as the development of Environmental Impact Statements through close coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), meeting all of the requirements of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

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Status of Busway Extension

In 1998, the Florida Department of Transportation acquired the FEC Corridor, which is parallel and adjacent to the west side of US 1, the South Dixie Highway. A two lane busway has been under development between Dadeland South Metrorail station and SW 344th Street in Florida City. Phase 1 of the project, which extends from Dadeland South to SW 112th Street, is operational and was completed in 1997. MDT operates Routes 1, 3113 Busway Local, 34 (Busway Flyer), 38 (Busway Max), 52, 65, 252 (Coral Reef Max), 267 (Sag Bay Max). The completed portion of the busway has 15 stops between Dadeland South and SW 200th St.

In addition to the completed portion of the busway, the adjacent map shows the other 3 segments of the busway that are under construction or under design:

- **Dadeland South to SW 112th Ave:** Operational since 1997.
- **SW 112th Avenue to SW 232nd Street:** Operational in April 2005.
- **SW 232nd Street to SW 264th Street:** Operational in April 2005.
- **SW 264th Street to SW 344th Street:** Nearing design completion. Preparing for construction. The busway should be completed in its entirety by 2007.

South Corridor Growth

Miami-Dade County’s population is projected to grow by 43% by the year 2030. During this same period the southern third of the County is projected to grow by 61% and the South Link Corridor, which is already urbanized, is projected to grow by 65% by 2030. The 61% growth in population in South Dade is projected to be accompanied by a 37% increase in employment. Today, South Dade has 28% of the County’s population and 25% of the jobs. By 2030 South Dade is projected to have 31% of the County’s population and 25% of the jobs. This situation will continue to require more and more people to drive out of the area to go to work, worsening daily commutes.

Opportunities for Public Involvement

The Study Team is planning a wide range of opportunities for the citizens of South Miami-Dade County to participate in the development of this alternative analysis.

- A project web page will be maintained within the MPO Website. The page will always have a “Contact Us” button to allow citizens to send ideas, suggestions and complaints.
- Frequent visits to neighborhood shopping centers, movie theaters and other gathering places to solicit comments and to keep the public informed about the study.
- Presentations at various City Commission and Community Council Meetings in the Corridor. (Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Homestead, Florida City Community Councils 12, 14, and 15)
- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be established. This will be an appointed Committee made up of 19 members. The CAC members will be representing their neighborhoods and the interests of their community as appointed by their mayor, council or county commissioner. These monthly meetings will be open to the public. All of the meetings will be held in the corridor. The CAC schedule will be in the next newsletter and will be posted on the website.
- Three public meetings will be held within the corridor. The purpose of these meetings will be to review the findings of the study and to make your comments to the MPO Board along with your own recommendations about the future of transit in the corridor.

Schedule of Public Meetings

**Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC)**

- **Monday, March 14, 2005, 7 pm**
  - First Citizen’s Advisory Committee Meeting
  - South Dade Government Center
  - 2nd Floor Conference Room 203
  - 10710 SW 211th Street

**Community Meetings**

- **Monday, March 21, 2005, 7 pm**
  - West Perrine Community House-Chamber South 900 Perrine Avenue

- **Wednesday, March 23, 2005, 7 pm**
  - Miami-Dade College-Homestead Campus
  - Building A, Room 114, Community Room
  - 500 College Terrace
  - Near intersection of Campbell Drive (312th Street) and City of Homestead Avenue

- **Tuesday, April 5, 2005, 7 pm**
  - Coral Reef Senior High School
  - Media Center
  - 10101 SW 152 Street (Coral Reef Drive)

**These public meetings are being held to ensure full South Dade participation. The CAC will receive input from all community meetings to provide project consensus. The community meetings are set up geographically for the convenience of residents to attend and make recommendations on the South Miami-Dade Transit Corridor. The meetings are open to all residents and stakeholders. Please attend and provide your input.**

Get Involved! (mail to contacts on back)

What are the major transportation problems that you deal with on a daily basis?

__________________________________________________________

On a daily basis, where do you commute to and from, and how far do you drive one-way to work?

__________________________________________________________

Do you have any transportation ideas that you would like to recommend to the study team? If so, please describe them.

__________________________________________________________

If you would like to be placed on the mailing list, please provide your name and address.

__________________________________________________________