

RESOLUTION NO. 2123

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLAND SUPPORTING THE MIAMI-DADE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION'S ("TPO") TRANSIT EXPANSION THROUGH THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT ("SMART") PLAN, PRIORITIZING THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR AND URGING THE TPO AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO PURSUE CREATIVE FUNDING SOLUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE SMART PLAN.

WHEREAS, benefits of public transportation include reduced travel time, reduced traffic congestion, enhanced safety, improved access for workers and commuters, and the promotion of economic growth; and

WHEREAS, public transportation provides significant environmental benefits and has been cited as the best way to lower a household's carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical need to expand existing transit service to enhance mobility and economic needs of Miami-Dade County ("County"); and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization ("TPO"), through its Transit Solutions Committee, received and considered input from transportation partner agencies, elected officials, and the public at large in order to designate six (6) rapid transit corridors as high priorities; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2016, the TPO's Governing Board unanimously approved a policy to set as the "highest priority" for the County the advancement of six (6) Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2016, the TPO's Governing Board reviewed and unanimously endorsed the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit ("SMART") Plan; and

WHEREAS, the SMART Plan intends to advance six (6) of the rapid transit corridors, along with a network system of bus enhanced rapid transit service, and further approves the advancement of all six (6) corridors to the Project Development and Environment phase, which will finalize the technology and cost estimates for each corridor and enable each project to move to final design and construction; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Corridor, connecting Aventura to Downtown Miami, has been calculated to be the least expensive rapid transit corridor to implement; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities located in Northeast Dade do not have mass transit alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, supports the Northeast Corridor as a priority to provide alternatives to their residents, businesses and commuters to link up to the various stops along the way; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands urges the TPO and the County to prioritize and advance the SMART Plan as project corridors receive funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The Town Council of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands supports the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization's transit expansion through the SMART plan, prioritizing the Northeast Corridor Rail rapid transit corridor.

Section 3. The Town Council of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands urges the MPO and the County to pursue creative funding solutions.

Section 4. The Town Council of the Town of Bay Harbor Islands urges the TPO and the County to prioritize and advance the SMART Plan as project corridors receive funding.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 19 day of April, 2017.

ATTEST:



Marlene M. Siegel
Town Clerk



Mayor Jordan W. Leonard

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Town Attorney