



**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN AND URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX) TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIX RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDORS AND A ROBUST BUS EXPRESS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM.**

**WHEREAS**, the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida (HACCOF) is the State of Florida's largest Haitian American business organization, advocating on behalf of more than 500,000 Haitians and Haitian-Americans in the State and the Chamber's agenda is to support economic and business issues related to community and industry growth, international business, and governmental affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is suffering from severe traffic congestion involving an increasing amount of its roadways and for an increasing amount of time; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the electors of Miami-Dade County approved a one-half percent surtax with the purpose of improving, among other things, mass transit within the County through the People's Transportation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 16, 2016, the MPO Governing Board unanimously approved a policy to set as highest priority for this community the advancement of Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the MPO Transit Solutions Committee has, over the past several months, received and considered input from transportation agencies, elected officials, business community, and the public at large; and

**WHEREAS**, the MPO has endorsed the strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the HACCOF's Board of Directors hosted a presentation from the MPO about the SMART Program and has recommended them for our members and community support; and

**WHEREAS**, the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida is committed to leading the Haitian American business community in the building of Miami's Transportation future through the SMART Plan, a multi-modal implementation strategy necessary to secure funding and bring projects to Miami; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HAITIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF FLORIDA THAT:**

The Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida hereby:

1. Supports the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan; and
2. Urges the Florida Department of Transportation, Miami-Dade County, Metropolitan Planning Organization and Miami-Dade Expressway Authority as well as all other agencies and public and private sector stakeholders to work collaboratively to identify and prioritize capital improvement funds for the development of six Rapid Transit Corridors and a Bus Express Rapid Transit System; and
3. Urges our elected and appointed officials to present a united front in soliciting federal and state support for SMART Plan projects with the greatest and most immediate impact; and
4. Encourages Miami-Dade County to incentivize the development of mixed use transit hubs throughout Miami-Dade County through its land development regulations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF July 2018.



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Delle Joseph, CPA, Chairman