

# CALENDAR of Events

MPO	BPAC	BCCB	CIR	TCC
<b>September</b>				
Thursday 11 at 9:30 a.m. Room 422	Wednesday 10 at 6:30 p.m. Room 329 F	Monday 15 at 2:00 p.m. Room 422	Tuesday 9 at 6:00 p.m. Rooms 302 & 302A	Monday 22 at 2:00 p.m. Room 302
<b>October</b>				
Thursday 16 at 9:30 a.m. Room 422	Wednesday 8 at 6:30 p.m. Room 329 F	No Meeting	Tuesday 7 at 6:00 p.m. Room 430	Monday 27 at 2:00 p.m. Room 302
<b>November</b>				
Thursday 20 at 9:30 a.m. Room 422	Wednesday 12 at 6:30 p.m. Room 329 F	Monday 17 at 2:00 p.m. Room 422	Tuesday 5 at 6:00 p.m. Room 430	Monday 24 at 2:00 p.m. Room 302
<b>December</b>				
Thursday 11 at 9:30 a.m. Room 422	Wednesday 10 at 6:30 p.m. Room 329 F	No Meeting	Tuesday 2 at 6:00 p.m. Room 430	No Meeting

All meetings are at the Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale and are open to the public.

## Acronyms

AADT Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts	FDOT Florida Department of Transportation
APTA American Public Transit Association	FHWA Federal Highway Administration
BCCB Broward County Coordinating Board	FS Florida Statute
BCT Broward County Transit	FTA Federal Transit Administration
BPAC Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee	FY Fiscal Year
CAAA Clean Air Act Amendment	GIS Geographic Information System
CBD Central Business District	L RTP Long Range Transportation Plan
CMA Congestion Management	MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization
CIR Community Involvement Roundtable	SAFETEA-LU
DCA Department of Community Affairs	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users
DRI Development of Regional Impact Statement	SEFTC Southeast Florida Transportation Council
EIS Environmental Impact Statement	SFRTA South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
EPA Environmental Protection Agency	SIS Strategic Intermodal System
FAA Federal Aviation Authority	TCC Technical Coordinating Committee
FAC Florida Administrative Code	TIP Transportation Improvement Program
FCTD Florida Commission Transportation Disadvantaged	UPRD Urban Planning and Redevelopment Department

For more information visit:

[www.broward.org/mpo](http://www.broward.org/mpo)

For information on how to become a member of the Technical Coordinating Committee or Community Involvement Roundtable, call 954-357-6608.

This publication can be made available in large print, tape cassette, or braille by request.

This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$1,400.00 or \$.467, including postage, per copy to provide information about Broward MPO services and programs.

BROWARD METROPOLITAN  
**MPO**  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

# SHORTCUTS

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ROUNDTABLE FOCUSES ON TRANSIT-RELATED ISSUES



Members of the CIR discussed transit-related issues during their November 5, 2008 meeting at the Broward County Governmental Center.

The Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR) is an advisory committee of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (Broward MPO) that meets monthly, and is comprised of members of the public from various cities, towns and community organizations, that provide insight into local communities. The CIR acts as a voice for public opinion relating to general transportation issues, ultimately helping to form Broward's urban landscape.

During their October 2008 meeting, the CIR determined that at least one meeting per quarter would be devoted to transit related issues, and no other items would be placed on the agenda for discussion. As a result, the first transit-focused roundtable meeting was organized, and took place on November 5, 2008.

Chris Walton, Director of the Broward County Transportation Department, which operates the county's public transportation system, Broward County Transit (BCT), led the presentation, which centered on many important transportation issues, including:

- The Broward MPO will fund 300 new bus shelters.
- A series of community meetings will be planned for the residents of Broward County to get input from the general public with regard to transit-related issues.
- A reduction of 4.3 million dollars in operating budget has forced BCT to scale back service and make cuts in fixed bus routes and community buses.
- 12 hybrid buses have been purchased by BCT.
- Broward County Commission has created a Transit Advisory Committee comprised of transit riders.
- BCT is the first transit system in the U.S. to commit to electric air conditioning on bus.



Mr. Chris Walton, Director of the Broward County Transportation Department, which operates BCT, addressed questions from the CIR.

### In This Issue ...

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For more information on the CIR, please call (954) 357-6608.

## NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWARD MPO

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Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization  
115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 329H  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301



## “TAKING IT TO THE STREETS”

### Florida Atlantic University Hosts Safety Day

Each September, for the past four years, Florida Atlantic University (FAU) has hosted the FAU Safety Fair as part of their annual Safety Month. This campus-wide event was designed to provide students and faculty with information pertinent to safety concerns and issues.

On September 17th, 18th and 19th, a series of events took place, such as FAU Safety Day, held at the Fort Lauderdale Campus, as well as the University-wide Safety Fair, held at the Davie Campus. The Safety Fair hosted a variety of exhibitors promoting topics ranging from fire safety to public transportation. Students and faculty members who attended the Safety Fair were able to visit multiple exhibitions that day, including the Broward MPO. Broward MPO staff members discussed a variety of transportation planning topics that day, most of them relating to safety.

In addition to presenting a full roster of informative events, including the Safety Fair, FAU is developing revised safety policies.



Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary Troopers (Left to right), Joe Cammarata and Robert Pollack lock Ms. Lahoma Scarlette, Public Education Coordinator for the Broward MPO, into a crash simulator. This exhibit allowed the participant to take part in a simulated accident at 10 mph.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Daniel J. Stermer,  
MPO Chair,  
Commissioner,  
City of Weston

One need look at their local newspaper, watch their favorite news channel, or check internet sites to see transportation is a major concern for the residents of Broward County. Even in light of the recent economic downturn and budgetary cutbacks, transportation-related news is on the rise. From increased ridership on our regional transit system as a whole, to regional agencies sharing information with each other and being better informed about what takes place at our community borders, the South Florida transportation infrastructure system continues to effect where we live, work, and play.

In November, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), held its Phase 3 workshop where members of state agencies, such as the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the Broward MPO, Broward County Transit and others, made presentations on regional transportation needs and funding in Broward County. We will have more on the SFRTA workshop in the next issue.

Also in this issue our Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR) had the opportunity to have a one-on-one discussion with Mr. Chris Walton, Director of the Broward County Transportation Department. This was the first meeting of this nature for the CIR, but all involved agreed transportation is such an important issue that these types of meetings are needed in order to have a truly mobile region.

## BROWARD COUNTY TRANSIT PARATRANSIT SERVICES NAMED BEST IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA



Andrea Busada, Manager, Broward County Paratransit Services; Deborah Byrnes, Associate Planner, Broward MPO; and Althia Ellis, Community Transit Officer, Broward County Paratransit Services, smile for the camera as they receive the 2008 Urban Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year award in Orlando.

One of BCT's most valuable programs is their Paratransit, also known as Transportation Options (TOPS). BCT's TOPS received the prestigious 2008 Urban Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year award from the State of Florida by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD). This award, presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Training and Technology Conference, held on August 27, 2008 in Orlando, highlighted BCT's commitment to providing paratransit services in the most efficient and cost-effective method for more than 16,000 customers in Broward County.

Having previously won this award in 1999 and 2003, BCT was extremely pleased because they had completely re-structured the paratransit business model in 2007. The award was a great team effort and the Broward MPO shares in this success!

The CTD contracts with the Broward MPO to serve as the official planning agency for Broward County. The Broward MPO employs an associate planner, Ms. Deborah Byrnes, who oversees the Transit Disadvantaged (TD) Program for the Broward MPO. She prepares agenda items and presentations to the Broward MPO, and also serves as their program manager for the grant. She also serves as staff to the Broward County Coordinating Board for Transportation Disadvantaged Services (BCCB); serving as liaison between the BCCB and the CTD, the Broward MPO and Broward County Transportation Department.

In addition to managing the grant, the Broward MPO is also responsible for the preparation of the grant proposal, overseeing the approval process and administering the grant. For more information about TOPS, call customer service at 954-357-8400 or visit [www.broward.org/bct](http://www.broward.org/bct).

## BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY



Buddy, mascot of the Broward MPO's student outreach program, teaches the children about transportation planning and safety.



After the presentation with Buddy, Broward MPO's Student Outreach Team revisits with each school to go over the homework that was assigned.

In 1997, the Partnership for a Walkable America sponsored the first National Walk Our Children to School Day in Chicago, IL. Now, more than 11 years later, this initiative has grown from an idea to a priority. The reasons for walking grew almost as quickly as the event itself. Whether it was concern for cleaner air, or healthier habits, International Walk to School Day is aimed at bringing forth permanent change to encourage a more walkable America. By 2001, participation doubled, as 20 countries took part in the event, including the United Kingdom, Italy, and China to name a few.

For the 2008-2009 school year, more than 20 schools in Broward County participated in this annual event, and more than 200 events took place in Florida. Students from Cooper City to Pompano Beach responded to the national call to action and either walked or biked to school.

The Broward MPO encourages green initiatives, especially those that promote a healthy lifestyle and provide community benefits, such as reducing traffic congestion.

Now in its sixth year, the Broward MPO provides a student outreach program for Broward County elementary schools which focuses on teaching students about transportation planning and how everyone has a voice in the process.

For more information on International Walk to School Day, or to learn more about the events going on in your community, visit [www.iwalktoschool.org](http://www.iwalktoschool.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?...

Attention all users of I-95 in Miami: 95 Express northbound now collects tolls! Tolls range from 25 cents to \$6.20, depending on the amount of traffic. Registered van pools, buses, motorcycles, three-plus car pools, and hybrid vehicles can use the lanes for free.

For more information on 95 Express, please visit [www.95express.com](http://www.95express.com) or call 1-877-95X-FDOT.



## “TAKING IT TO THE STREETS”



Broward MPO Staff members discussed many important transportation topics at the 2008 DisAbilities Expo at Nova Southeastern University.

### Broward MPO Exhibits at the 29th Annual DisAbilities Expo

On Saturday, October 11th, members of the Broward MPO staff, along with 50 other exhibitors, took part in the 2008 DisAbilities Expo at Nova Southeastern University. The DisAbilities Expo was designed to provide event goers the opportunity to learn about services, resources, products, and information for people with disabilities.

During the event, the Broward MPO exhibit was located in the beautiful University Center Atrium, in addition to other transportation organization exhibits. The event had a wide variety of activities for everyone, from the exhibits, to seminars, sports demonstrations, and entertainment.

The Broward MPO staff collected transportation surveys from close to 30 participants that day.

## L RTP UPDATE

Voice your concerns, ideas, and recommendations for the new 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by visiting us on the web at: [www.broward2035lrtp.com](http://www.broward2035lrtp.com) or by calling us toll-free at: 1-888-880-LRTP (5787). We look forward to hearing from you!