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Gregory Stuart: Innovative transportation solutions needed

By Gregory Stuart

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Broward's multiple transportation providers have a big job ahead to provide livable communities with transportation choices.

Currently, most of our residents have little choice in how they get around. County Commissioner and Broward MPO Board Member Marty Kiar is right to share the plight of a resident who spends three hours each way traveling to/from her eight-hour job.

The July 28 article, "Crowding and delays snarl buses," by [Brittany Wallman](#) describes a serious shortfall in our ability to provide adequate transportation choices. [Broward County](#) Transit is doing the right thing to strive for a better system, but the truth is they aren't adequately funded and probably never were.

Small annual influxes of funds to the budget are a good start, but together we can do more. Also the editorial, "Another small step forward for South Florida," drew our attention to the Hollywood/Pines study by the Broward MPO and myriad transportation issues that affect livability, convenience and safety in our auto-centric area.

The Sun Sentinel is right to applaud these small steps, but even more relevant is their call for "more focused and determined efforts toward achieving the infrastructure transformation that all of South Florida so desperately needs." Corridor by corridor — budget year by budget year — these efforts all add up to an improved transportation system.

As we prepare our countywide multimodal transportation plan (known as Commitment 2040), we need to focus our attention on filling our true transportation needs, not only what we can afford today. That's why the Broward MPO, in cooperation with our multiple transportation partners, launched a call to action initiative — Speak Up Broward. Broward is still growing and our economy is starting to rebound. But time is running short.

We need innovative solutions and public support to meet this challenge today to ensure a growing economy where people can get to their jobs and enjoy their life in Broward.

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