

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Between July 21st 2014 and September 11th 2014, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (Broward MPO) published a list of recommended improvements (both funded and unfunded) for public comment.

Notice of this effort was circulated to the MPO's transportation planning partners, including but not limited to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR), and local public works, transportation and/or planning managers. The MPO additionally conducted outreach to the general public through such means as email notifications for those individuals who supplied such.

Public notice was provided through physical posting at eight public library locations in Broward County. Additionally, notice was provided via newspaper circulation by the Sun Sentinel, El Sentinel and the South Florida Times.

General Comments, and Project-Specific Comments for *Affordable Projects* and *Unfunded Needs*, were received from this public outreach process. The comments which were received, and MPO responses for such feedback, are identified below.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Comment 1 - Provide more efficient transportation from Plantation to Downtown Ft. Lauderdale. The current bus system would add two hours to my workday. We need more efficient transportation. I used to ride the shuttle from One University to the Government Center East, and it was very efficient. I now carpool, but mass transit would be better, and would impact more people than the WAVE, etc.

Response 1 - Broward County Transit (BCT) provides bus service on Broward Boulevard from University Drive to downtown Fort Lauderdale (Route 22). BCT intends to upgrade the service on this route by 2016 (see: <http://www.broward.org/BCT/Pages/TransitDevelopmentPlan.aspx>). *Commitment 2040* recommends enhanced bus service and improvements along Broward Boulevard west of University Drive to the Sawgrass Mills Mall. As this project proceeds through the design and implementation process, additional public input will be sought through the Broward MPO public outreach processes.

Comment 2 - Shade structure at bus stops. And if not cost prohibitive, solar mobile device / phone charging, or at least an emergency call box.

Response 2 - Currently, Broward County Transit (BCT) has approximately 5,000 bus stops. Of these, approximately 457 now have some form of a shelter. Over the course of the next year, BCT plans to add 160 new shelters in the following communities: Coral Springs, Fort Lauderdale, Hallandale Beach, Hollywood, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Lauderdale Lakes, Lauderhill, Miramar, North Lauderdale, Pembroke Park, Pembroke Pines, Sunrise and Tamarac. At the completion of the shelter installation program, BCT expects to add another 497 new shelters bringing the total to 1,114 shelters system-wide (*BCT FY 2015-24, 2014 Annual Update dated August 2014*).

Comment 3 - We need to invest in a comprehensive, statewide, elevated (weatherproof and trafficproof) magnetic elevation (least friction, lightest, most efficient) monorail.

Response 3 - Although *Commitment 2040* considers and incorporates relevant statewide plans, the development and implementation of these plans and programs are the responsibility of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT). To-date, there is no current planning effort by FDOT to establish a statewide monorail system.

In the implementation of *Commitment 2040*, the Broward MPO will conduct periodic corridor studies (along major transportation routes) in which monorail may be considered as a potential improvement. As these corridor studies are developed, additional public input will be sought through the Broward MPO public outreach processes.

Comment 4 - This plan is inadequate. The #1 issue is connecting the Sawgrass to I95. 2nd is making Sawg & TPike a full exit - all 8 directions. Little else matters and I don't even live near there but do think about what is best for the community as a whole.

Response 4 - These roadway improvements would be part of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) and funded by FDOT directly. The Sawgrass Expressway Connector/SW 10th Street corridor project is currently included in FDOT's SIS Unfunded Needs Plan which is incorporated into *Commitment 2040* by reference. The Sawgrass Expressway Connector/SW 10th Street corridor is also included as a needed project in the Southeast Florida Regional Freight Plan.

This comment will be forwarded to FDOT.

PROJECT SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Affordable Projects

SR 820/Hollywood/Pines Blvd.

Project would provide upgrade along the corridor to support enhanced bus service between US 27 and SR A1A.

Comment 1 - Enhanced bus service will equitably increase connectivity for folks of all incomes, reduce carbon emissions, increase access to work and leisure amenities, and encourage biking and walking.

Response 1 - Supports project. No response needed.

SR 834/Sample Rd.

Project would provide upgrade along the corridor to support enhanced bus service between SR 869/Sawgrass Expy. and SR A1A.

Comment 1 - Improved headways, dependability and reliability. This is a good project.

Response 1 - Supports project. No response needed.

NE 6th Ave.

Project will reconstruct roadway to include multimodal alternatives between Prospect and SR 870/Commercial Blvd.

Comment 1 - Request to advance this project sooner than 2012. Are the limits of the project as shown on the map? If so the limits should be extended North and South. This is a heavily traveled bicycle and pedestrian area. Please can be seen out at all times of the day. There should be consideration to changing the typical section the roadway on 6th avenue north of Commercial Blvd to include a median. While there are sidewalks, there are no bike lanes or pedestrian friendly features as this road drives through heavily residential and schools. Implementation of traffic calming features also. Request that this project be included in the LRTP and/or TIP. Thank you for the opportunity to respond. Please let me know how I can be of assistance.

Response 1 - This project is planned as a future roadway improvement as current transportation revenues are already committed through to 2019. If additional funding becomes available, the project could be accelerated.

Yes, the limits of the project are as shown on the map: NE 6th Avenue from Prospect Rd. to Commercial Blvd.

The improvement is to be implemented by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), which currently has no existing plans to extend this improvement to either the north or the south. If additional funding becomes available, the Broward MPO will coordinate with FDOT on potential future extensions of the improvement.

As part of the project's design procedure, FDOT will consider the addition of both bicycle lanes and pedestrians amenities. As this project proceeds through the design and implementation process additional public input will be sought through a public outreach process.

SR 817/University Dr.

Project would provide upgrade along the corridor to support enhanced bus service between Golden Glades and north of SR 834/Sample Rd.

Comment 1 - Is a frequent transit link to the Broward College (and FAU) campus part of this?

Response 1 - This upgrade to the University Boulevard corridor is intended to enhance bus service along the corridor; however, as the project is implemented connections and use of community buses or shuttle-type service will be considered to the adjacent educational clusters to the east. As the project develops, additional funding may become available for this type of shuttle service. Continue to monitor the project's web site for further developments and/or request project enhancements, including shuttle services (see: <http://www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/university-drive-mobility-improvements-planning-study>).

NW 136th Ave.

Project will construct turn-lanes between I-595 and NW 2nd St.

Comment 1 - With major development accelerating in the western part of the City of Sunrise, this project is critical to address the increasing traffic in this area - this project should be accelerated.

Response 1 - Any project within *Commitment 2040* can be considered for acceleration if either circumstances in the area change or if additional funding becomes available.

Comment 2 - This has always been an incredibly bad intersection as you bleed one turn lane to two turn lanes to turn east to SR84 and I595 but what happens at the green is the road hogs take the inside through lane then cut over two lanes to make the left turn I595 lane causing the initial lines to brake after accelerating on green, i am surprised more rearenders are not caused everyday, i myself quit using this intersection and now exit in the rear of Sawgrass Corporate Park on SR84 head west to Weston rd then u-turn back to head to my home at Hiatus and SR84.

Response 2 - Generally supportive. No response required.

Comment 3 - By redoing the intersection of NW 136Ave and I-595, it will help the traffic that backs up to NW 136th Ave to the north (close to IKEA), it will also help to make the turn into I-595 safer.

Response 3 - Supports project. No response needed.

Comment 4 - This project is important for traffic flow and vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between areas that are 'disconnected' because of heavy traffic and highway infrastructure in the area. To make the project exemplary, please consider incorporating native landscaping and innovative storm water mitigation, such as incorporated into medians and/or area near curb. Solar lighting.

Response 4 - As the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) considers and implements this future improvement, it will consider all pedestrian, bicycle, landscaping and drainage solutions applicable to the intersection. As this project proceeds through the design and implementation process additional public input will be sought through a public outreach process.

Comment 5 - It appears to me that this intersection works pretty well. The only slight problem I notice is when accessing S.R. 84 or I-595 east-bound from south-bound N.W. 136 Avenue there appears to be a single lane storing vehicles for this movement. It seems there should be a couple lanes and more storage for this movement as there are typically numerous vehicles needing to make this movement at pretty much all times.

Response 5 - As the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) considers and implements this future improvement, it will consider all geometric and traffic flow solutions applicable to the intersection. As this project proceeds through the design and implementation process additional public input will be sought through a public outreach process.

Comment 6 - I am the owner of a trucking company in Sawgrass International Park. First, it would be great if there were more turn lanes going south on 136th and turning left under 595 to go east bound. In addition we would like to have a way when going south on 136th to make a right and get directly on 595 to via left onto I75 south to Miami. Thanks

Response 6 - As the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) considers and implements this future improvement, it will consider all geometric and traffic flow solutions applicable to the intersection. As this project proceeds through the design and implementation process additional public input will be sought through a public outreach process.

SR 7/US441

Project would provide upgrade along the corridor to support enhanced bus service between Golden Glades and Sample Rd.

Comment 1 - Needs to go to county line and coordinate with PBC.

Response 1 - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has completed a study north of Sample Rd., to implement improvements along the corridor into Palm Beach County (see: <http://seftc.org/sr7/index.html>). As part of that study, FDOT coordinated planned improvements with both the Broward MPO and Palm Beach County (including Palm Beach MPO).

Unfunded Needs

Central Broward East/West

Project would construct streetcar extension between downtown Fort Lauderdale and I-595 and bus rapid transit between I-595 and Sawgrass Mills Mall.

Comment 1 - This project is a key component of improving access to higher education opportunities in the region. Suggest working closely with Broward College and Florida Atlantic University to fully integrate proposed improvements with campus facilities.

Response 1 - This project is on the Broward MPO's unfunded 'wish list'. This upgrade to the Central Broward corridor is intended to enhance transit service along the corridor. If additional funding for this project becomes available, the development of project elements will include consideration of connectivity to the adjacent educational clusters. If this project proceeds through the design and implementation process, additional public input will be sought through a public outreach process.

Comment 2 - Implement it sooner.

Response 2 - This project is on the MPO's unfunded 'wish list'. This upgrade to the Central Broward corridor is intended to enhance transit service along the corridor. If additional funding for this project becomes available in the future, the timing of the implementation of project elements will be considered. Should such additional funding become available, *Commitment 2040* can be amended to include the project.

Comment 3 - Implementing this project to include the Sawgrass Corporate Park and the Sawgrass Mills Mall is critical to the acceptance of public transit in Broward County.

Response 3 - The limits of this 'wish list' project includes both the Sawgrass Corporate Park and the Sawgrass Mills Mall.

Davie Rd.

Add 2 lanes (from 4 to 6) between I-595 and Nova Dr.

Comment 1 - Please do this sooner rather than later. This area NEEDS better roads. There are 3 colleges and 5 schools stacked on top of each other right here, and they all start and end about the same time.

Response 1 - This project is on the MPO's unfunded 'wish list'. This improvement is intended to enhance roadway capacity along the corridor. If additional funding becomes available in the future, the development of project elements will include consideration of the needs and the connectivity to the adjacent educational clusters. Should such additional funding become available, *Commitment 2040* can be amended to include the project.

Comment 2 - 2 turn lanes from Davie northbound to the eastbound 595 entrance. This is a ridiculous logjam that could be easily solved without major construction.

Response 2 - If additional funding becomes available, public input will be sought through a public outreach process and this comment will be included.

Coral Hills Dr.

Project will reconstruct roadway to include multimodal alternatives

Comment 1 - The cost of this project is relatively low and could provide great benefit. Request that MPO encourage the City of Coral Springs to fund this project in their CIP or look for sources of funding.

Response 1 - This project is on the MPO's unfunded 'wish list'. Should additional funding for this project become available, *Commitment 2040* can be amended to include the project.

This comment will be forwarded to the City of Coral Springs.

For additional information on the Broward MPO and *Commitment 2040*, visit www.browardmpo.org.