June 13, 2013

Ananth Prasad, P.E., Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

Re: Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization Redesignation

Dear Secretary Prasad:

This letter serves as a formal response to the January 15, 2013 communication to the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) requesting a designation determination of the MPO for each urbanized area or group of contiguous urbanized areas and the MPO voting membership.

Pursuant to federal law MPO’s are required to review their membership and the boundaries every ten years, when the latest decennial census is complete. While the metropolitan planning area has expanded, the Board has determined that the voting structure will remain the same.

- Following this review, the Governor and the MPO agree on the membership and designation or redesignation of the MPO in Broward County.

- The MPO supports the continuation of regional transportation planning coordination activities with Miami-Dade MPO and Palm Beach MPOs through the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC)

Building on the successes under the current process, the Broward MPO has adopted the attached resolution in support of this process to continue as a separate MPO in the southeast Florida region and carry out regional coordination and planning through the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC). Additionally, attached is a letter dated April 22, 2013 by the governing body of SEFTC and attested to by the three Executive Directors of the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach MPO’s.

Sincerely,

Richard Blattner, Chair
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
Vice Mayor, City of Hollywood

RB/m
Attachments (2)
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-3

RESOLUTION OF THE BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) SUPPORTING THE REDESIGNATION OF THE MPO AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND SEPARATE MPO FOR THE BROWARD REGION WITHIN MIAMI URBANIZED AREA AND SUPPORTING THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL TO CONTINUE AS THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COORDINATION MECHANISM

Whereas, Federal law and State statute call for metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) be created to perform transportation planning in urbanized areas designated by the United States Census Bureau; and

Whereas, MPOs were created with the intention of providing a forum for consideration and decision-making for transportation matters at the local level closest to those affected by the decisions and provide for accountability to the affected parties through the appointment of local elected officials of general-purpose local governments; and

Whereas, the Broward MPO was designated for Broward Urbanized Area following the initial creation of MPOs and redesignated following each decennial census by the Governor; and

Whereas, the Broward MPO has carried out the Federal and State requirements for transportation planning as evidenced by consistent satisfactory findings during periodic reviews by Federal and State transportation agencies; and

Whereas, the Broward MPO has coordinated and continues to coordinate transportation activities with MPOs in Palm Beach and Miami-Dade Counties for transportation plans and programs with regional implications; and

Whereas, the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach MPOs created the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC) to facilitate and improve performance of regional transportation planning among the MPOs and modal agencies and operators when the Census Bureau combined the Miami-Dade Urbanized Area, Broward Urbanized Area and Palm Beach Urbanized Area into the Miami Urbanized Area; and

Whereas, SEFTC has prepared a Regional Transportation Plan, a Regional Transportation Improvement Program, and approved regional transportation priorities used in the Transportation Regional Incentive Program, identified regional measures of effectiveness and facilitated coordination of commuter rail studies to provide additional passenger rail services in southeast Florida; and
Whereas, the Broward MPO finds it appropriate to perform transportation planning at the local level in response to concerns and needs of the residents and businesses in Broward County and participates in regional transportation planning activities through SEFTC;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION THAT:

1. The MPO supports the redesignation of the existing MPO for Broward County.
2. The MPO supports the continuation of regional transportation planning activities with Miami-Dade and Palm Beach MPOs through the Southeast Florida Transportation Council.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by **Broward County Mayor Jacobs** who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by **Sunrise Vice Mayor Sofield** and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed. The Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly adopted this 13th day of June, 2013.

**BMPO**

BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By: ________________________________

By: ________________________________

Gregory Stuart, Executive Director

Richard Blattner, Chair

This 13th day of **JUNE** 2013

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE OF AND RELIANCE BY THE BMPO ONLY:**

Alan L. Gabriel, BMPO General Counsel
Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza
Cole & Boniske P.L.
April 22, 2013

Mr. Ananth Prasad, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Re: Redesignation of Southeast Florida MPOs

Dear Secretary Prasad:

In response to the FDOT request for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Redesignation within the Miami Urbanized Area (Miami UZA), the MPOs of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties jointly concurred that the three MPOs be individually redesignated.

This conclusion is based on the complexity of the area regarding composition of the population, growth rate, travel patterns, geographical boundary constraints, socio-cultural factors, land uses, growth rates, and densities. These differences within the three counties necessitate local decision-making.

Even though the three MPOs of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties are compelled to remain separate, this fact has not, and will not, adversely impact strengthening our ongoing and future coordination. As committed to in our “2003 MPO Redesignation Letter”, the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach MPOs have made major strides in regards to regional transportation planning activities.

To address the need of regional coordination in 2008, the three MPOs created the Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC). SEFTC is a formal partnership of the MPOs within the U.S. Census designated Miami UZA. SEFTC was created, under Florida Statutes Chapter 339.175, through an Interlocal Agreement between the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach MPOs to serve as a formal forum for policy coordination and communication to carry out regional initiatives. SEFTC members from the respective MPO Boards meet on a quarterly basis. SEFTC created the following two committees to address and advise them on regional studies, initiatives, and technical issues:

- Regional Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) – composed of staff from the three MPOs, FDOT Districts V and VI, Florida Turnpike Enterprise, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, the four area transit agencies, and the two area Regional Planning Councils. RTTAC meets regularly on a monthly basis.
- RTTAC Modeling Subcommittee - composed of technical members from each of the RTTAC agencies, and meets on a quarterly basis.

The following are highlights of major regional coordination accomplishments under the leadership of the SEFTC:

- Development of the 2030 and 2035 Regional Transportation Plans covering the tri-county region
- Development of regional goals and objectives
- Development of a criteria to determine corridors of regional significance
• Regional project prioritization and selection process
• Project priorities for Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP)
• Development of a Regional Freight Plan
• Regional Transportation Improvement Program
• Development of the single travel demand model Southeast Regional Planning Model (SERPM)
• I-95 Express Lanes and Regional Bus services
• Development of a Regional Concept of Traffic Operations for Managed Lanes
• Universal Fare Card deployment between Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) and Tri-Rail
• HUD Sustainable Grant Consortium membership
• Advancing Passenger Rail service along the Florida East Coast (FEC) corridor
• Coordinated the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The Southeast Florida MPOs remain committed to continue to strengthen these regional coordination activities moving already forward with the following tasks:

• Implementation of the Southeast Florida Regional Activity-based Planning Model (ABM)
• 2040 Regional Transportation Plan
• Development of a Regional Transit System Master Plan
• Creation of a Regional Public Participation Committee
• Regional Performance Measures
• Regional Transit Oriented Development (TOD) initiatives
• Regional Conestion Management Plan
• Regional Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSM&O) Plan

The Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach MPOs are working with one another, along with FDOT, to achieve even greater coordination in the areas of long range planning, project prioritization, air quality, and public involvement. Lastly, we are looking forward to the collaboration through Seven50 initiative with the Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Greg Stuart at (954) 876-0033, Ms. Irma San Roman at (305) 375-4507, or Mr. Nick Uhren at (561) 884-4170.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Gregory Stuart, Executive Director
Broward MPO

Illma San Roman, Interim Director
Miami-Dade MPO

Nick Uhren, Executive Director
Palm Beach MPO

c: Honorable Richard Blattner, Chairman, Broward MPO
Honorable Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman, Miami-Dade MPO
Honorable Susan Haynie, Chairwoman, Palm Beach MPO
Gus Pego, Department of Transportation, District VI Secretary
James Wolfe, Department of Transportation, District IV Secretary
April 23, 2014

The Honorable Richard Blattner, Chairman
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
2600 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, Florida 33022

Dear Chairman Blattner:

This letter is in reference to the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization’s submittal of the reaffirmation of the organization’s planning area boundary and Board membership as a result of the 2010 Census.

Based on the recommendation of the Florida Department of Transportation and in accordance with applicable state and federal law and regulations, I concur with the Board’s reaffirmation of the planning area boundary and Board membership.

I applaud the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization’s contributions to the region’s transportation planning process.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott
Governor

cc: Ms. Rachel Cone, Deputy Chief of Staff, Executive Office of the Governor
    Mr. Ananth Prasad, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation