WALKING AUDITS

As part of the Broward MPO’s Complete Streets Initiative, the MPO recently offered walking audit grants to municipalities interested in improving the transportation environment for all users. Four municipalities were granted walking audits for communities within their respective jurisdictions. Walking audits have already been conducted in the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Coconut Creek, and North Lauderdale, with a final one scheduled in the City of Lauderhill in January 2015.

The purpose of a Broward MPO sponsored Walking Audit is to engage the community by highlighting the current state of a selected corridor that could benefit from a street assessment related to improving and promoting all modes of transportation using Complete Streets concepts. Community members were able to provide direct feedback on a corridor’s pedestrian and bicycling environment and make recommendations for improvement. These findings will be summarized in a final report to aid city staff and officials in addressing the identified concerns.

During these audits, participants split into teams to record information related to the pedestrian experience; afterward they gathered to present the results. The Complete Streets elements, principles and characteristics framed how the participants analyzed the pedestrian environment. Many findings from the Walking Audits centered around maintenance issues related to the walking environment such as bus stops, sidewalks, walking paths, signage, etc. The information gathered will provide an excellent foundation for involved agencies to address concerns raised by the community related to the study areas.

In addition to community volunteers, representatives from the cities, the Broward MPO, FDOT, Department of Health, Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Broward County Transit, FLIPANY, Urban Health Partnerships, Fort Lauderdale Police Department, WalkSafe, American Lung Association, FAU, AARP, among others, have participated in the Audits. Of note, students from Somerset Preparatory School and Silver Lakes Middle School participated in the North Lauderdale Walking Audit, highlighting issues and concerns they confront on a daily basis while attending their respective schools.

For more information on the Walking Audits, you can visit our website at: www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/complete-streets/walking-audits
Message From The Chair

Mahatma Gandhi famously noted that “Action expresses priorities”. The MPO Board has undertaken a wide variety of actions to implement our overarching goal to “move people, create jobs and strengthen communities”.

In addition to the projects included in the Long Range Transportation Plan known as Commitment 2040 and the Transportation Improvement Program, assuring adequate financial capacity is a critical Board mission. Unfortunately, the State and the Broward Region has seen a substantial reduction in Surface Transportation Funding; over the past year, we have looked at a variety of options to address the resulting financial shortfalls. One approach is through legislative advocacy for the restoration and augmentation of these resources.

At its November 13th meeting, the MPO Board prioritized our desired Federal and State legislative actions to generate enhanced transportation funding. The law firm, Holland and Knight serves as the MPO’s “voice” in both Washington and Tallahassee, championing this mission. Some of the MPO’s priorities include reinstating funding for bridges; establishing a freight trust fund; and continuing funding of the Wave streetcar.

To learn more, please visit: www.browardmpo.org/about-us/legislative-priorities

2014 ANNUAL OBLIGATED LIST OF PROJECTS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC

The Annual Obligated List of Projects (AOL) shows what actually happened with Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funding during the preceding fiscal year. The types of projects for which federal funds were obligated include transit, bicycle/pedestrian/greenways, new roadways, road widening, intersection improvements and reconstruction, interchange improvements, Intelligent Transportation Systems, landscaping, transportation enhancements, and safety related projects. The list can be viewed at www.browardmpo.org click on the “Programs” tab and then select “Transportation Improvement Program”. If you have any questions please call 954-876-0042 or 965-876-0033.

SAFE STREETS AWARDS 2015

The Safe Streets Awards are an opportunity to highlight jurisdictions that have led by example in creating better streets for all users. Please help us recognize the exemplary work in Broward County by voting today!

Visit www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/complete-streets/safe-streets-summit/safe-streets-awards to vote.

Draft Public Participation Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

The MPO encourages you to review and provide feedback on the Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) as part of a 45 day comment period. The draft PPP is available on our website at www.browardmpo.org and then clicking on the “Public Involvement” tab.

Comments can also be sent via email to info@browardmpo.org, faxed to 954-876-0062, or mailed to the MPO office at the address shown at the bottom of the last page of this newsletter. We want to hear from you before the comment period ends on February 11, 2015.
EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Annual Construction Career Days

On October 21st and 22nd, the Federal Highway Administration, Florida Transportation Builders’ Association and Florida Department of Transportation sponsored the annual Construction Career Days (CCD) at the Bergeron Rodeo Grounds in Davie. The CCD provides high school and career/training students an opportunity to learn about careers in the highway and bridge construction industry. The event allowed students to interact with industry leaders and participate in hands-on learning labs that explored topics such as concrete making, laying asphalt, bridge design and interview skills. In the photo to the right, MPO staffers Priscila Clawges, Peter Gies and Chris Ryan engage hundreds of high school students in designing Complete Streets using StreetMix that can be used for free at www.streetmix.net.

Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO)

On November 13, 2014, MPO staff participated in the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) Small & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Forum hosted by South Florida Regional Transportation Authority/Tri-Rail. In addition to other activities, the forum provided participants an opportunity to register with agencies to be notified of upcoming business offerings. Fred Taylor, Procurement Officer and Chris Ryan, Public Information Officer encouraged firms to keep in touch with the MPO and monitor the “Doing Business” page of our website, as well as to become familiar with the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which lists all funded projects for the next five years. Stay involved with Fort Lauderdale’s COMTO Chapter at www.comtoftlauderdale.org or contact Loraine Cargill at 954-788-7921.

Safer Streets with the Miami Heat

With the help of Burnie, the Heat’s Mascot, last month the MPO, the Florida Department of Transportation, the City of Lauderdale Lakes, Broward County Transit and other partners hosted a safety event at the intersection of SR 7 and Oakland Park Boulevard. As part of the state’s “Alert Today Alive Tomorrow” campaign targeting counties with the highest pedestrian and bicycle crashes, the goal of the event was to educate people on how to use the bus safely, how to use crosswalks and to remind everyone to look out for pedestrians. Let’s drive, walk and ride safe…

Visit our Complete Streets pages: www.browardmpo.org/projects-studies/complete-streets/broward-complete-streets-initiative-2

Remember to join the conversation about transportation in Broward by following Speak Up Broward below.

STAY CONNECTED. GET INVOLVED.

Follow Us

WEBSITE: www.SpeakUpBroward.org
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/SpeakUpBroward
TWITTER: www.twitter.com/SpeakUp_Broward
LINKEDIN: www.linkedin.com/company/speak-up-broward
YOUTUBE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=p85ym801zl0
INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com/speakupbroward

YOUTUBE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=p85ym801zl0
UPCOMING MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN 2015</th>
<th>FEB 2015</th>
<th>MAR 2015</th>
<th>APR 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPO Executive Committee</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 1st Thursday at 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>MPO Board Retreat</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 2nd Thursday at 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 4th Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Involvement Roundtable (CIR)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 4th Wednesday at 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Coordinating Board (LCB)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets 4th Monday at 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete Streets Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Meets 2nd Monday at 2 p.m.</td>
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All meetings are held in the Broward MPO Board Room, Suite 850, in the Trade Centre South building.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Christopher Ryan at (954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org. If hearing impaired, telephone 1 (800) 273-7545 (TDD).

For more information on upcoming meetings, complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or nondiscrimination; or for special requests under the ADA, please contact: Christopher Ryan, Public Information Officer/Title VI Coordinator at (954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org.

* Dates changed due to holiday or conflict

DID YOU KNOW?

There are numerous benefits when joining a vanpool or carpool.

- Save money on lower auto insurance rates, repairs and gas
- Catch up on emails, texts, a good book, or even take a nap while you ride
- Free use of HOV lanes
- Reduces your carbon footprint - less emissions and waste
- Stress-free way to get to work

Visit www.1800234RIDE.com or call 1-800-234-RIDE to set-up your carpooling profile or find a vanpool near you - all free of charge.