ON WEDNESDAY, October 19th, community members, Broward MPO staff, partner agencies, and members of the South Florida Congressional Delegation joined together at the C-13 Canal/Lauderdale Lakes Greenway to celebrate the awarding of a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant to the Broward MPO for Complete Streets projects. The cities of Oakland Park and Lauderdale Lakes served as co-hosts.

Featured speakers included U.S. Representatives Alcee Hastings, Mario Diaz Balart, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Frederica Wilson, and Ted Deutch, as well as Lauderdale Lakes Mayor Barrington Russell and Oakland Park Mayor Tim Lonergan.

At the event, members of the Congressional Delegation congratulated the MPO for receiving the TIGER Grant, and stressed the importance of funding bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the Broward region. The elected officials who spoke also emphasized the better bicycle and pedestrian connections between schools, employment centers, and neighborhoods as a result of the TIGER Grant.

The $19.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation will help improve Broward County’s bicycle and pedestrian environment in the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale Lakes, Oakland Park, and Pompano Beach. Projects will include installation of bike lanes, new ADA-compliant sidewalks, pedestrian and vehicular lighting, and improved landscaping.

To learn more about the Broward MPO’s TIGER Grant, please visit: http://browardmpo.org/index.php/current-projects-studies/tiger-grant-2016

Thank you to everyone who participated in our survey about the MPO newsletter! The results showed that the majority of our readers prefer to receive the newsletter electronically. Beginning with our March 2017 issue, this newsletter will only be available electronically, and will be delivered to your email inbox. If you don’t already receive the electronic version of this newsletter, please email ryanc@browardmpo.org to request the electronic version.
As many of you know, on Election Day, Broward County voters failed to pass a proposal to raise the sales tax by one penny to pay for transportation and infrastructure issues. The proposed penny sales tax would have raised an estimated $310 million in the first year, and $12.4 billion over 30 years. These funds would have paid for crucial transportation and infrastructure investments throughout Broward County. We want to thank all of our partners, especially Broward’s 31 municipalities and Broward County Government for their hard work and effort in educating our residents on the sales tax initiative.

Despite this result, the Broward MPO will continue the conversation on funding a transportation system that keeps Broward moving, and assumes safe, convenient options for all residents and visitors in our region. Just as elsewhere in the country, economic development in our county depends on an effective transportation system. According to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), every $1 invested in public transportation generates approximately $4 in economic returns. Expanding alternative transportation options will contribute to the long term health of our community by offering people an alternative to sitting in traffic, and will provide additional options to get around for those who currently lack their own personal vehicle.

While the sales tax effort did not pass, the Broward MPO is committed to working with our partners to ensure the long term financial sustainability of our transportation network. We still have many needs in our region, and we must work to identify funds to pay for these projects. While Commitment 2040, the Broward MPO’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), funded over $2 billion dollars’ worth of transportation projects in its Cost Feasible Scenario, it also identified over $1 billion dollars of unfunded projects. Despite this challenge, we must find a way to move these unfunded projects forward. Through Speak Up Broward and other initiatives, the Broward MPO will be continuing the conversation with our residents on funding the transportation future that we want. Stay tuned.

To learn more about Commitment 2040, visit us at:


• Tuition: $1,195 (includes notebook resources)
• Early bird discount $100 (deadline January 16, 2017)


The Broward MPO approved its Strategic Business Plan on April 9, 2015. One strategic direction goal is to increase funding for transportation improvements. The MPO is working toward this goal by making a special offer to host The Grantsmanship Center’s Competing for Federal Grants training so its partners can participate in the program. Competing for Federal Grants training program highlights:

• Requires a 5-day commitment
• Not for beginner grant writers

The 2014 Dangerous by Design report, published by the National Complete Streets Coalition, highlights safety problems for Broward residents who walk or ride a bicycle. The study noted that the Broward-Miami-Dade region was the fourth most dangerous in the country for cyclists and pedestrians. As part of its efforts to lower bicycle and pedestrian crashes in the region, the Broward MPO has been hard at work carrying out Phase One of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Since the effort kicked off at the beginning of 2016, the team has conducted a complete review of all bicycle and pedestrian crashes over the past five years in the Broward region, identified five crash hot spots, and conducted on-site field visits to survey the bicycle and pedestrian environment. Over the next few months, the advocacy team will work to identify recommendations targeted at promoting institutional change, rather than focusing solely on site specific improvements. Recommendations include the encouragement of quick build demonstration projects, working with local police departments to (re)educate law enforcement officers on bicycle and pedestrian laws, and working with local agencies to update engineering standards that prioritize safe bicycle and pedestrian design.

Coupled with countywide recommendations for fixing unsafe conditions on our streets, these countermeasures provide a holistic approach to increasing safety for people who ride their bicycle and walk in the region. We look forward to providing a final product in the first quarter of 2017.

MESSaGE FROM THE CHAIR

Commissioner Richard Blattner
Chair, Broward MPO
City of Hollywood, District 4

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