May 5, 2017

The Honorable Esteban J. Bovo, Jr., Chairman
Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Governing Board
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 920
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Chairman Bovo,

Resolution on the SMART (Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit Plan)

On Friday, April 21st, 2017, The Miami-Dade Beacon Council’s Board of Directors adopted the enclosed resolution which supports the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan, unanimously adopted by the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The SMART Plan identifies six rapid transit corridors and an express bus network that directly support the mobility of our future population and employment growth.

The Miami-Dade Beacon Council recognizes and commends the Miami-Dade MPO Governing Board for their leadership and unity in prioritizing a mass transit plan for the citizens of Miami-Dade County. This a truly remarkable action where for the first time in decades the Miami-Dade MPO has amended the Long Range Transportation Plan to fully fund all six transit corridors to initiate project development for a comprehensive transit system.

This collaborative action by the Miami-Dade MPO Governing Board exemplifies a comprehensive approach to transportation and has placed us on a path of success to address congestion and transportation needs. As a community, we stand unified with the Miami-Dade MPO and urge all our transportation partners to continue working collaboratively to identify and prioritize capital improvement funds for the development of the six rapid transit corridors and express bus networks.

We ask that you take into account our support of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Sheldon T. Anderson
Interim President & CEO

CC: Mr. Jaret L. Davis, Chairman of The Miami-Dade Beacon Council
THE MIAMI-DADE BEACON COUNCIL, INC.
RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION
ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING THE MIAMI-DADE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION'S STRATEGIC MIAMI AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) PLAN

The undersigned Secretary, Chairman, and President of The Miami-Dade Beacon Council, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation ("The Beacon Council"), do hereby certify that the following resolution was duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of The Beacon Council, duly called and held in Miami, Florida on April 21, 2017, in which meeting a quorum was present and acting throughout.

WHEREAS, in 2002, the electors of Miami-Dade County approved the imposition of a one-half percent surtax with the purpose of improving, among other things, mass transit within the County through the People's Transportation Plan (PTP); and

WHEREAS, the PTP includes rapid transit corridors to be developed throughout Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), through its Transit Solutions Committee, received and considered input from transportation partner agencies, elected officials, and the public at large to designate six rapid transit corridors as a high priority; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2016, the Miami-Dade MPO Governing Board unanimously approved a policy to set as “highest priority” for this community the advancement of Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2016, the Miami-Dade MPO Governing Board reviewed and unanimously endorsed the SMART Plan; and

WHEREAS, the SMART Plan intends to advance six of the rapid transit corridors, along with a network system of bus enhanced rapid transit service, and further approves the advancement of all six corridors to the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) phase, which will finalize the technology and cost estimate for each corridor and enable each project to move to final design and construction; and
WHEREAS, these projects are of tremendous importance and benefit to the community and will be transformative in its impact on public transportation; and

WHEREAS, The Miami-Dade beacon Council supports building transportation infrastructure as a necessary investment to support and promote the County’s continued economic growth and its ability to attract and retain jobs in our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT: The Miami-Dade Beacon Council is in full support of the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit Plan – the SMART plan.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Resolution effective as of April 21, 2017.

THE MIAMI-DADE BEACON COUNCIL

Dan Mackler
Secretary

Jaret Davis
Chair

Sheldon Anderson
Interim President & CEO