



Chairman's Message



Over the course of the year, we have made great progress in advancing several of our rapid transit corridor projects – particularly the Northeast and South corridors.

Early this year, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) began offering service to and from MiamiCentral Station in Downtown Miami, marking the beginning of Tri-Rail commuter service along the Northeast Corridor. The Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) played a crucial role in its development and continues to work with its transportation partners to fully develop this corridor.

The Northeast Corridor – one of six rapid transit corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program and the original People's Transportation Plan (PTP) – is poised to receive more than \$263 million in funding as part of the federal FY 24-25 budget.

We are also seeing the advancement of the South Corridor, with stations along the South Dade TransitWay scheduled to reach completion in early 2025, and with the construction of a South Dade Transit Operations Center that will support the all new battery-electric buses that will operate along the South Corridor – all funded by Surtax dollars.

Many residents have attended our Full Trust meetings, and written to us, to voice their support for the North Corridor. In May, the CITT echoed their support by passing a Resolution that urges Miami-Dade County, the Florida Department of Transportation and its partners to take all necessary actions to accelerate the implementation of elevated heavy rail transit along the North Corridor.

The CITT continues to increase its community engagement efforts with its CITT Ambassador Program, Mobility Matters podcast, and a series of PTP presentations to municipalities and local organizations. If your organization is interested in learning more about the CITT and all the projects being funded by your Surtax dollars, visit our website at www.miamidade.gov/citt or call 305-375-1357.

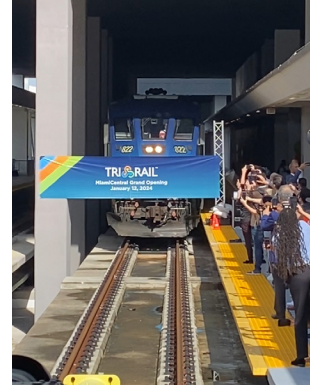
Robert Wolfarth, Chair
Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust

Tri-Rail Arrives at MiamiCentral Station

After several years of planning, early this year, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), which runs Tri-Rail, arrived at MiamiCentral Station, providing commuter service to and from Downtown Miami.

From the beginning, the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) played a crucial role in its development – first by working with the necessary agencies to bring the project to reality, and later allocating nearly \$14 million in Surtax funds for the project. It also closely monitored its progress to ensure delivery of the project.

"This new service will provide not only an affordable alternative to driving to Downtown Miami, but it will also create opportunities for economic growth via the rise of Transit Oriented Communities like the ones we now see surrounding the MiamiCentral Station," said CITT Chair Robert Wolfarth.



The MiamiCentral Station is also an important and critical component of the Northeast Corridor, which is one of six rapid transit corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Program and the original People's Transportation Plan (PTP).

The CITT remains steadfast in its commitment to drive forward transit projects in the PTP and the SMART Program. For more information on Tri-Rail service, visit www.tri-rail.com/stations/miami-central.

Miami-Dade County Breaks Ground on the Dadeland South Intermodal Station

In the spring of 2024, the Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works broke ground on the Dadeland South Intermodal Station. This project will expand the current Dadeland South Metrorail Station, providing a better facility for transit riders and those who bike or walk to the station.

As part of the upgrades, the new intermodal station will offer many benefits that include:

- A seamless connection and reduced transfer time from Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service on the South Corridor on to our Metrorail system
- New canopies to better protect transit riders from weather elements
- Easier and safer access in the drop-off and pick-up area
- Bicycle amenities and an at-grade bike path connecting The Underline and the South Dade Trail (adjacent to the TransitWay).



Photo Credit: DTPW



In support of this project, the CITT voted in favor of allocating \$81 million in Surtax dollars to fund the construction of improvements that are part of the Dadeland South Intermodal Station.

"This project will greatly enhance the riding experience, as it will offer a seamless connection between multiple transit modes and first/last-mile solutions via connections to bicycle and pedestrian trails," said CITT Chair Robert Wolfarth.

Municipalities and Community Organizations Receive CITT and PTP Updates



This summer, the CITT kicked off a series of presentations to increase awareness of Surtax-funded projects and engage more with our community.

“It’s important for our local residents to see what is being done with their Surtax dollars,” said CITT Chair Robert Wolfarth. “This is one of the many ways in which we are reaching out to our community to let them know of the work that is being done with their half-penny, and to learn from our residents what they see as transportation priorities in their community.”

If your organization is interested in learning more about the CITT and PTP-funded projects and wish to schedule a presentation, call 305-375-1357.



Transportation Trust Members

Robert Wolfarth, Chairperson

Mary Street, Esq., First Vice-Chairperson

Honorable Peggy Bell, Second Vice-Chairperson

Omar K. Bradford, Esq.

Kenneth M. Kilpatrick

Meg Daly

David G. Marin

Ojuezari Harvey

Miguel Murphy

Dr. Harry Hoffman, PhD

Robert Ruano

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Javier A. Betancourt, Executive Director

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Miami-Dade County Begins Construction of a New Transit Operations Center

Photo Credit: DTPW

This summer, the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works began construction of the South Dade Transit Operations Center.



Located near the Homestead Air Reserve Base, this modern transit facility will house and maintain a new fleet of 100 zero-emissions 60-foot articulated battery-electric buses. The buses will provide service along the new South TransitWay stations, currently under construction. Both the buses and facility are being funded with Surtax dollars.

“This new facility, funded by the People’s Transportation Plan Surtax dollars, will play a crucial role in better serving the transit needs of south Miami-Dade – one of the fastest-growing areas of our county. It will help our county government to better meet the increasing demand for reliable and efficient public transportation, connecting more people to jobs, education, and essential services,” said CITT Chair Robert Wolfarth.

The project is scheduled to be completed in Summer 2026 with portions opening as soon as Summer 2025.

The CITT Adds Four New Trust Members



Kenneth M. Kilpatrick



David G. Marin



Miguel Murphy



Harry Hoffman

The CITT recently welcomed four new Trust Members: Kenneth M. Kilpatrick, who was appointed by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities to represent municipal interests; David G. Marin, who was appointed by Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rene Garcia to represent District 13; Miguel Murphy, who was appointed by Miami-Dade Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, to represent District 1; and Dr. Harry Hoffman, PhD, who was appointed by Miami-Dade County Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez to represent District 11 on the CITT.

Kenneth M. Kilpatrick is a respected community leader whose civic engagement includes leadership roles in prominent organizations, such as The Alternative Programs, Inc., the Brownsville Civic Neighborhood Association, and the Model City Community Advisory Committee.

David G. Marin is a seasoned public policy and community relations professional with over 20 years of experience driving legislative and public policy initiatives. As the Director of Policy for Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rene Garcia, District 13, Marin oversees critical policy goals and legislative reviews for the office.

Miguel Murphy is the Executive Director of Student Engagement and Community Partnerships at Miami Dade College, where he has worked with students and student groups for more than two decades in recruitment, orientation, training and planning. Murphy also has served as an Adjunct Professor at the college’s School of Global Business, Trade and Transportation.

Harry Hoffman is a seasoned business and academic leader with more than 34 years of experience across various industries, including finance, education, and government. He has held significant roles at institutions such as Citicorp, the University of Miami, and Miami Dade College, where he served as the Homestead Campus President and was instrumental in developing numerous academic programs and community initiatives.

For more information on the People’s Transportation Plan and the Transportation Trust, visit miamidade.gov/citt.

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