

ADVANCED NOTIFICATION

PROJECT TITLE: South Florida East Coast Corridor Transit Analysis (SFECCTA)
Federal Aid Project No.: FTAX004
FTA Grant No.: FL-90-X372-07
Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach Counties, Florida

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project consists of a Tiered Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) including Transit Feasibility and Alternatives Analysis along an approximately 85-mile long, 203 square-mile study area in the highly urbanized, and traffic congested eastern portions of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties. Tier 1 Analysis consists of a Regional Transit Alternatives Analyses and Tier 2 Analysis will consist of subsequent Sectional Alternatives Analyses (per independent section of the SFECCTA study area).

NEED FOR PROJECT: South Florida is a diverse, dynamic, expanding coastal metropolitan area that is the largest in Florida and the sixth largest in the country. I-95 is the most highly utilized north-south corridor, carrying over 300,000 vehicles daily. On the average, commuters lose 1 ½ weeks in congested traffic annually, a 53% increase since 1990 (Source: Texas Transportation Institute, 2002 Urban Mobility Study). Congestion costs (lost time and added fuel) are estimated at \$2.7 billion a year, and are a critical issue to business and government leaders who are concerned about the economic sustainability of the region. All levels of government recognize the north-south mobility needs in the region, the ability to increase highway capacity is limited, and redevelopment of the eastern urban cores is occurring as people continue to migrate to Southeast Florida. For these reasons, the FEC Railway corridor is being examined to serve the growing international trade, business needs, and commuting population

IMPACTED TRANSIT SERVICE:

Currently, within Miami-Dade County, over thirteen (13) Metrobus routes utilize the proposed corridor, in a north-south direction.

**MDT COMMENTS/
RECOMMENDATION:**

MDT strongly encourages all the necessary studies to develop said corridor. The Miami-Dade County segment is 13.6 miles in length. In 2002, MDT had initiated a consultant selection process for the performance of an Alternative Analysis (AA). However, during this process, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) requested that Miami-Dade join in a regional AA effort along with Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Miami-Dade Transit staff is ready and willing to participate in the FDOT-approved study to evaluate and make recommendations regarding future premium transit options in the Corridor