



Date: November 5, 2013

To: Chairperson and Members
Transportation Planning Council (TPC)

From: *Zainab Salim*
Zainab Salim, Clerk
MPO

Subject: **Tri-Rail Coastal Link Project**

Agenda Item IV.B

It is requested that the Transportation Planning Council (TPC) recommend advancement of the Tri-Rail Coastal Link (TRCL)¹ project into the next study phase.

An interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the TRCL project was executed in May 2013 between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), the Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Southeast Florida Transportation Council (SEFTC), the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils. The TRCL MOU identifies that the MPOs in the region provide concurrence to advance the project at major milestones. Concurrence from the three MPOs is being sought in order to request the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) approval to enter the 2-year Project Development (PD) phase under federal guidelines. During the PD phase, the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) will be defined and proposed for inclusion in each MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). A financial plan will also be developed in cooperation with the regional agencies, local government, and stakeholders.

In addition, a project status update will be provided to the TPC including its refined service plan and anticipated project benefits and costs. This update and resolution request is being presented to the Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach MPOs.

¹ The Tri-Rail Coastal Link project was formerly known as the South Florida East Coast Corridor Transit Analysis Study.

TPC RESOLUTION #

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ADVANCEMENT OF THE TRI-RAIL
COASTAL LINK SERVICE INTO THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE**

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement creating and establishing the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Miami Urbanized Area requires that the MPO provide a structure to evaluate the adequacy of the transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Planning Council (TPC) has been established and charged with the responsibility and duty of fulfilling the aforementioned functions; and

WHEREAS, the TPC has reviewed the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service study results, made a part hereof, and finds it consistent with the goals and objectives of the Transportation Plan for the Miami Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the Florida East Coast Industries, Inc. (FECI) is expected to implement, in 2015, "All Aboard Florida" (AAF), a new inter-city rail passenger service between Miami and Orlando with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach where it currently provides vital freight rail services in Southeast Florida; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) operates the Tri-Rail commuter rail service in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties on the CSX rail corridor; and

WHEREAS, an eight-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service was executed which establishes the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Partnership including FDOT, SFRTA, Miami-Dade MPO, Broward MPO, Palm Beach MPO, Southeast Florida Transportation Council, and the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service MOU requires the project obtain concurrence from the Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach MPOs at major project milestones; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts an integrated complementary system of transit services will be provided for existing and future travel markets along the densely developed FEC corridor,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COUNCIL
OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE MIAMI URBANIZED AREA:**

SECTION 1. That Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service is hereby recommended to the MPO Governing Board for advancement into the Project Development Phase.

SECTION 2. That FDOT submits the request to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), on behalf of the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Partnership, for the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service to enter into the Project Development Phase.

SECTION 3. That FDOT completes the Project Development Phase within two (2) years upon approval, consistent with federal guidelines under MAP-21.

SECTION 4. That FDOT returns to the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach MPO Governing Boards for the selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA), which will include details as to project financing, during the Project Development Phase as per the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Service MOU.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was moved by . The motion was seconded by , and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Irma San Roman, Chairperson	-	Bill Johnson	-
Eric Carpenter	-	Stephen Johnson	-
Hon. Joe Corradino	-	Ysela Llor	-
William L. Cross	-	Jack Osterholt	-
Carlos Cruz-Casas	-	Jack Osterholt	-
Harold Desdunes	-	Jay Marder	-
Dr. Emilio T. Gonzalez	-	Debora Rivera	-
Jorge E. Hernandez	-	Javier Rodriguez	-
Alina T. Hudak	-	Vivian G. Villaamil	-

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and approved this 12th day of November, 2013.

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
M.P.O.**

By _____
Zainab Salim, Clerk
MPO