



***Florida International University  
XIX Inter-American Conference of Mayors  
and Local Authorities***

***Citizen Oversight as a Critical Tool in the Approval and Administration of New  
Funding Sources for Transportation and Government Programs***

***Charles Scurr***



***June 18, 2013***



# Overview of the Transportation Trust



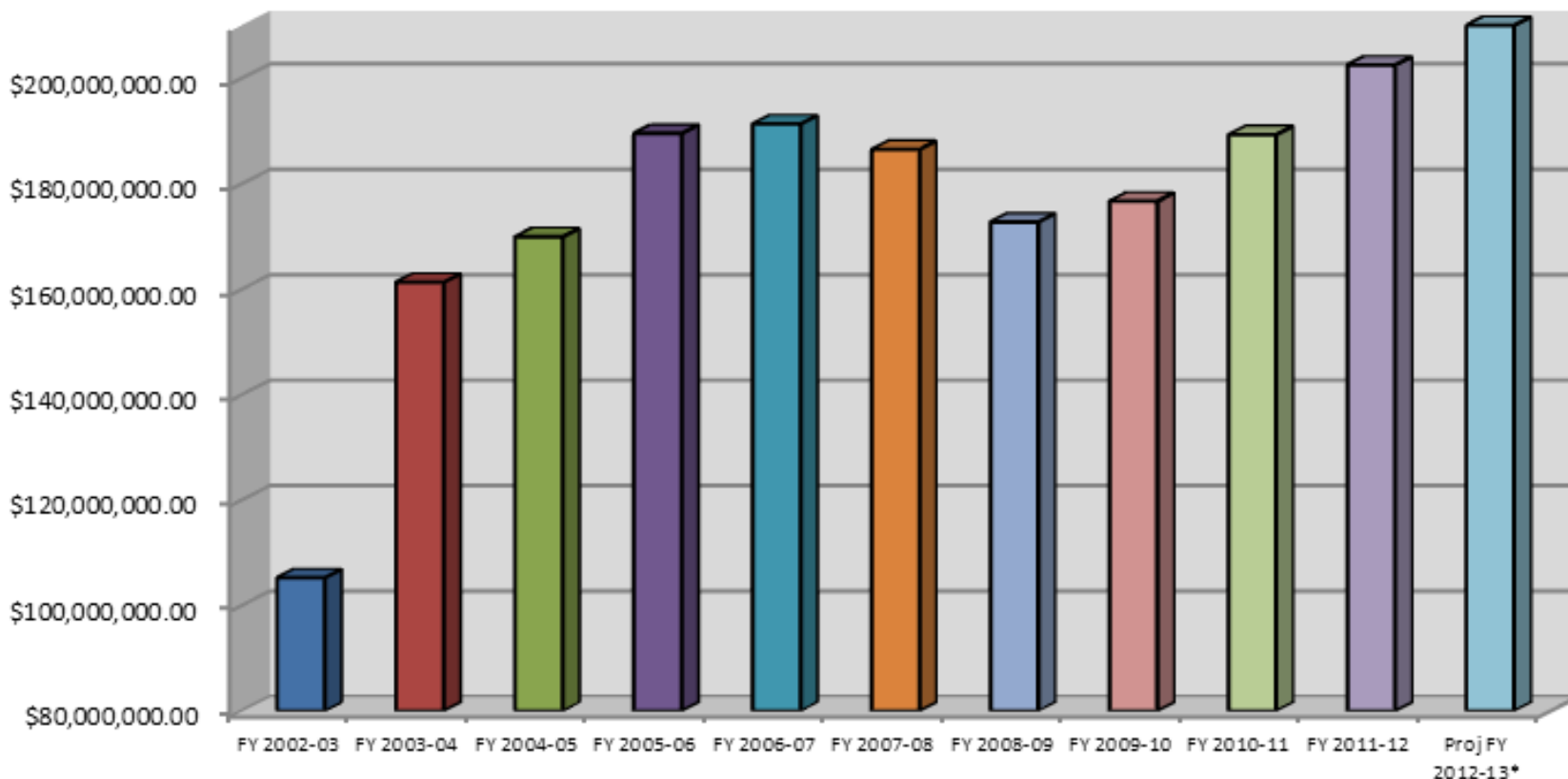
- **On November 5, 2002, Miami-Dade County voters approved a half-penny surtax to implement the People’s Transportation Plan (PTP)**
- **The People’s Transportation Plan (PTP) is a broad based and long term program incorporating roadway and transit improvements**
- **Voters also approved the creation of a Citizens’ Independent Transportation Trust (Transportation Trust), an independent organization comprised of citizens who serve as volunteers with the mission to oversee expenditure of surtax revenue**
- **Mission Statement: To provide the Citizens’ Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) with professional administrative staff support to fulfill its statutory requirements to monitor, audit, oversee and investigate the use of the Surtax proceeds and the implementation of the People’s Transportation Plan (PTP).**

COUNTY	
County Transportation Expansion Question	
Shall the County implement the People’s Transportation Plan including: Plans to build rapid transit lines to West Dade, Kendall, Florida City, Miami Beach and North Dade; expanding bus service; adding 635 buses; improving traffic signalization to reduce traffic backups; improving major and neighborhood roads and highways, including drainage; and funding to municipalities for road and transportation projects by levying a ½ percent sales surtax whose proceeds will be overseen by the Citizen’s Independent Transportation Trust?	
YES	134 
NO	135 



# Transportation Trust Oversight and Administration

## Surtax Collections





# Metrorail - The Orange Line

MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY

- **Completion of the Metrorail Orange Line to Miami International Airport**
  - 2.4 miles
  - \$506 million (\$405 million in PTP Funding; \$101 million FDOT)
- **Construction started in May 2009 and was completed July 2012, on budget and on time**





## Metrorail – New Railcars

- Record Ridership – 1.9 million Metrorail passengers in March
- \$375 million in Surtax funding was approved for the purchase a new state-of-the-art Metrorail fleet: Delivery starting in 2015
- The new Metrorail vehicles will be equipped with the latest technology that will offer transit customers improved reliability and customer service



Rendering of the New Metrorail Vehicles



# Metromover

- Annual ridership on Metromover is approximately 9 million riders per year; double what it was before the PTP was passed
- Surtax funds were used to purchase 29 new Metromover vehicles at a cost of \$69 million
- Metromover fares were eliminated after passage of the PTP improving customer convenience and streamlining operations.
- Workers and visitors in the downtown area enjoy an improved commute on board the sleek new Metromover vehicles that go just about anywhere in the Downtown Miami, Brickell or Omni area



**New Metromover Vehicle**



# Metrobus

- ✓ PTP funds added 596 new buses to the Metrobus fleet at using \$135 million Surtax funds
- ✓ New bus purchases include 60-foot articulated buses, minibuses, 40-foot buses low-floor buses and over-the-road commuter coaches

**60-Foot Articulated Diesel Electric Hybrid Bus**



**40-Foot Diesel Electric Hybrid Low Floor Bus**



**Commuter Coach**



# Municipal Transportation Program

- 23% of Surtax funds are allocated to Miami-Dade County municipalities for transit and roadway improvements.
- The 34 participating municipalities receive about \$46 million dollars annually in Surtax funds.

## Hialeah Transit Service



Coral Gables Trolley





City of Miami Trolley





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YES	134 
NO	135 



# Transportation Trust Oversight and Administration



**Paul J. Schwiep, Esq.**  
Chairman



**Hon. Anna E. Ward, Ph.D.**  
First Vice-Chairperson



**Glenn Downing, CFP®**  
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**Christopher Benjamin, Esq.**



**Hon. Linda Zilber**



**Prakash Kumar**



**Peter L. Forrest**



**Alfred J. Holzman**



**Marilyn Smith**



**Miles E. Moss P.E.**



**Joe Curbelo**



**Hon. James Reeder**



**Charles Scurr, Executive Director**



# 10 Years of Progress

**MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY**

## Transportation Trust Oversight and Administration

The Transportation Trust continues to have an essential role and mission in the financing, oversight and improvement of public transit and transportation in Miami-Dade County



**Oversight Visit During  
Construction of the Orange Line**



**Trust Members at  
Metrorail/Metromover Central  
Control**



**Trust Members Discuss Transportation  
Issues With Hon. Dennis Moss**



**Trust Members Board  
Metromover**



**Oversight Visit of Metrorail  
Operations Center**



**Hon. Linda Zilber and MDT Director Ysela  
Lllort Look at an Affordable Housing Unit  
at Brownsville Transit Village**



# ***Citizen Oversight as a Critical Tool in the Approval and Administration of New Funding Sources for Transportation and Government Programs***

**Bond Issue:** Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond Program

**Election Date:** November 5, 1996

**Ordinance Language:** ordinance authorizing issuance, subject to approval by special election, of not exceeding \$200,000,000 general obligation bonds of Dade county, Florida for purpose of financing capital improvement program for certain parks, beaches, natural areas and recreation facilities; **establishing a citizens' oversight committee**, including membership and powers to administer program; designating entities and projects eligible for funding; providing severability, inclusion in the code, and effective date.



# ***Citizen Oversight as a Critical Tool in the Approval and Administration of New Funding Sources for Transportation and Government Programs***

**Bond Issue:** Building Better Communities  
**Election Date:** November 2, 2004

**Ordinance Language:** ordinance authorizing issuance, subject to approval by special election, of not exceeding (\$2,547,567,000) general obligation bonds of Dade county, Florida to promote public safety by constructing and improving detention centers, justice centers, courthouses, police, fire and lifeguard stations, and new animal care and control facilities, capital improvement program for certain parks, beaches, natural areas and recreation facilities (etc.); **establishing a citizens' oversight committee**, including membership and powers to administer program; designating entities and projects eligible for funding; providing severability, inclusion in the code, and effective date.



# ***Citizen Oversight as a Critical Tool in the Approval and Administration of New Funding Sources for Transportation and Government Programs***

**Bond Issue:** The Children's Trust

**Ballot Language:** County Question No. 13

Charter Amendment: Children's Trust for Children's Health, Safety and Development

Shall the Charter be amended to name **the Independent Special District for Children's Services** "The Children's Trust" with authority to:

- fund improvements to children's health, development and safety;
- promote parental and community responsibility for children;
- levy an annual ad valorem tax not to exceed one-half (1/2) mill to supplement current County expenditures for children services (this levy requires voter renewal in 2008); and
- have membership provided in state law for home rule charter counties?



# ***Citizen Oversight as a Critical Tool in the Approval and Administration of New Funding Sources for Transportation and Government Programs***

**Bond Issue:** Funding Modernization and Construction of Public School Facilities through Issuance of General Obligation Bonds

**Election Date:** November 12, 2012

**Ballot Language:** Shall the School District of Miami-Dade County fund a plan for modernization and construction of public school facilities throughout the district, including educational technology upgrades, by issuing general obligation bonds in an aggregate amount not exceeding \$1,200,000,000

The policy establishes an independent advisory committee comprised of 23 voting members appointed by Board members, the Superintendent and community organizations.



## ***The Question:***

***Is Citizen Oversight an essential and critical tool in the approval and administration of new funding sources for transportation and government programs?***

## ***The Answer:***

***Yes. Citizens' oversight will not only help win voter approval but it will positively add to the administration of the programs.***



# The Transportation Trust

## Useful Links



Transportation Trust Home Page

[www.miamidade.gov/citt](http://www.miamidade.gov/citt)

PTP 5-Year Implementation Plan

[http://www.miamidade.gov/citt/PTP\\_5\\_year\\_plan.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/citt/PTP_5_year_plan.asp)

Strategic Planning Studies

<http://www.miamidade.gov/citt/strategic-financial-studies.asp>

