



BROWARD COMMUTER RAIL (BCR)
 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), DISTRICT 4
 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA • FPID: 448942-1

**Broward MPO TAC and
 CAC Updates
 9/22/2021**



- **Broward Commuter Rail(BCR) Background and Overview**
- **Most Discussed Items**
 - **Station Planning and Screening**
 - **New River Crossing Analysis**
- **Next Steps**

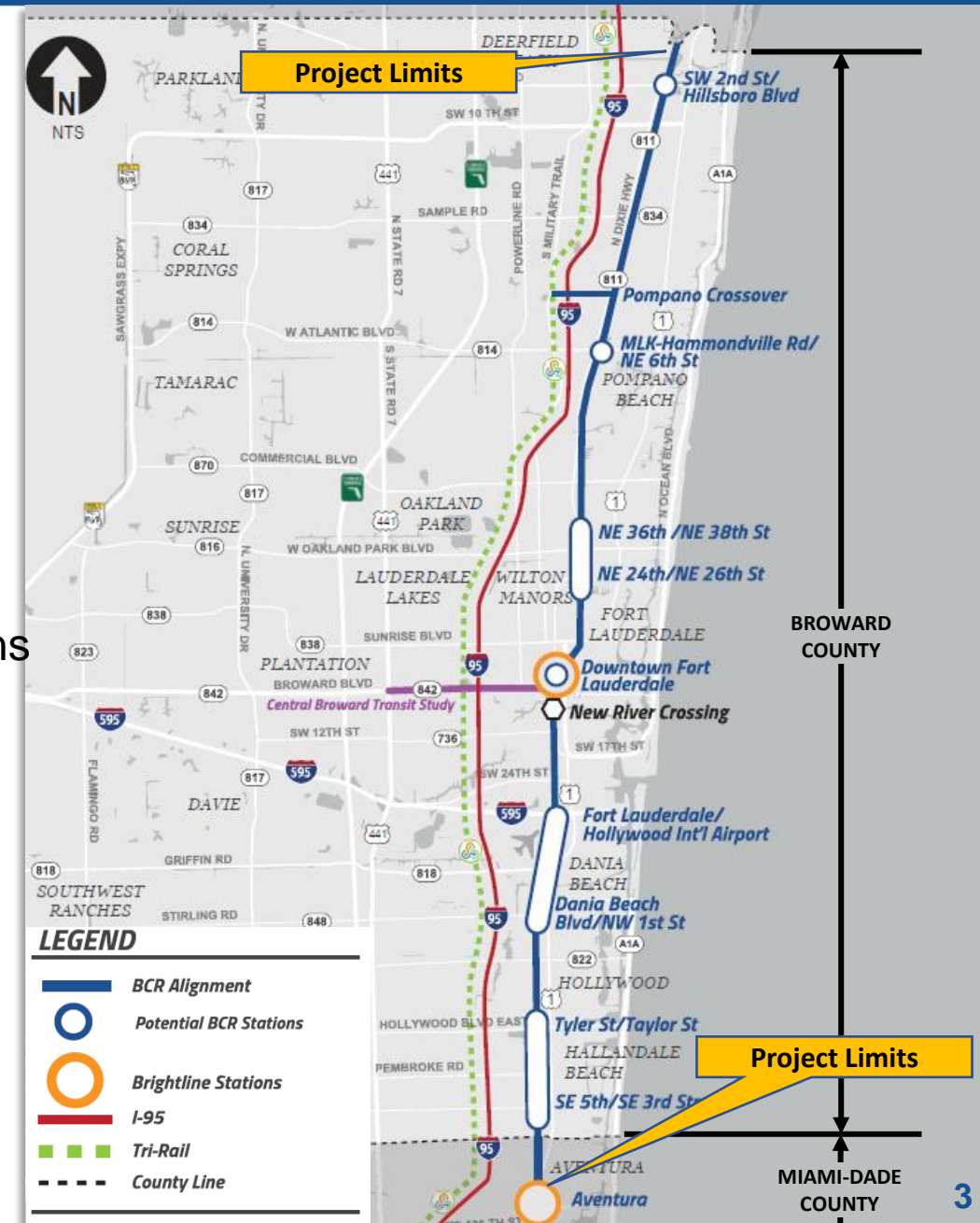


• FDOT

- Managing the PD&E Study (FTA Lead Agency, USCG Co-operating Agency)
- Environmental analysis of Commuter Rail on FEC Railroad
- Operational analysis of Commuter Rail on FEC Railroad
- Aventura to Deerfield Beach including Pompano Crossover
- **Technical Recommendations for Station Locations**
- **Alternatives Analysis for the New River Crossing**
- East/west traffic analysis for crossings and stations
- Incorporate the necessary rail, signaling, safety, communications as well as passenger stations and amenities
- Maintain eligibility for federal funding
- Public engagement & stakeholder coordination

• Broward County

- Stakeholder outreach and station locations
- Track access, design/construction and O&M agreements
- Identify local share of capital costs and annual O&M funds
- **Draft financial plan**





ECONOMIC & RESIDENTIAL GROWTH

- ❑ Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
 - Increased business investment
 - Attract additional jobs
 - Affordable housing incentives
 - Sustainable land use
- ❑ Mixed land uses to support the increase in residential and business development

ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

- ❑ Increased mobility and transportation choices
- ❑ Greater convenience and safety
- ❑ Greater access to employment, education, and essential services



MOBILITY OPTIONS FOR THE PUBLIC

- ❑ Increase mobility and transportation choices
- ❑ Reduce travel times and automobile dependence
- ❑ Save money on gas, parking, and car maintenance/repairs
- ❑ Avoid the stress of road traffic



ENVIRONMENTAL

- ❑ Cleaner air by reducing traffic congestion (reduced vehicle emissions)
- ❑ Less wear and tear on our highways



COMMUTER RAIL BENEFITS EMPLOYERS

- ❑ Potential cost savings on subsidized parking
- ❑ Access to a wider pool of talent
- ❑ Dependable and reliable transit service may boost and enhance productivity

- ❑ Study is being conducted in coordination with many parties that have an interest in the FEC railroad corridor
- ❑ Shared-use corridor with FEC freight trains and intercity (Brightline) passenger trains
- ❑ Florida East Coast Railway, L.L.C. owns the FECR right of way and operates freight service
- ❑ Brightline operates inter-city passenger rail trains via a passenger easement in the corridor



- Study balances the needs of marine, freight and passenger rail traffic, and the community for best overall benefit
- PD&E Study will identify a Build or a No-Build Alternative early next year
- Optimizing alternatives to improve safety, reduce impacts, enhance surrounding project area, and recommend a cost feasible project
- Solicit stakeholder input to inform a technical recommendation and build support for the project
- Maintain eligibility and competitiveness for Federal Funds

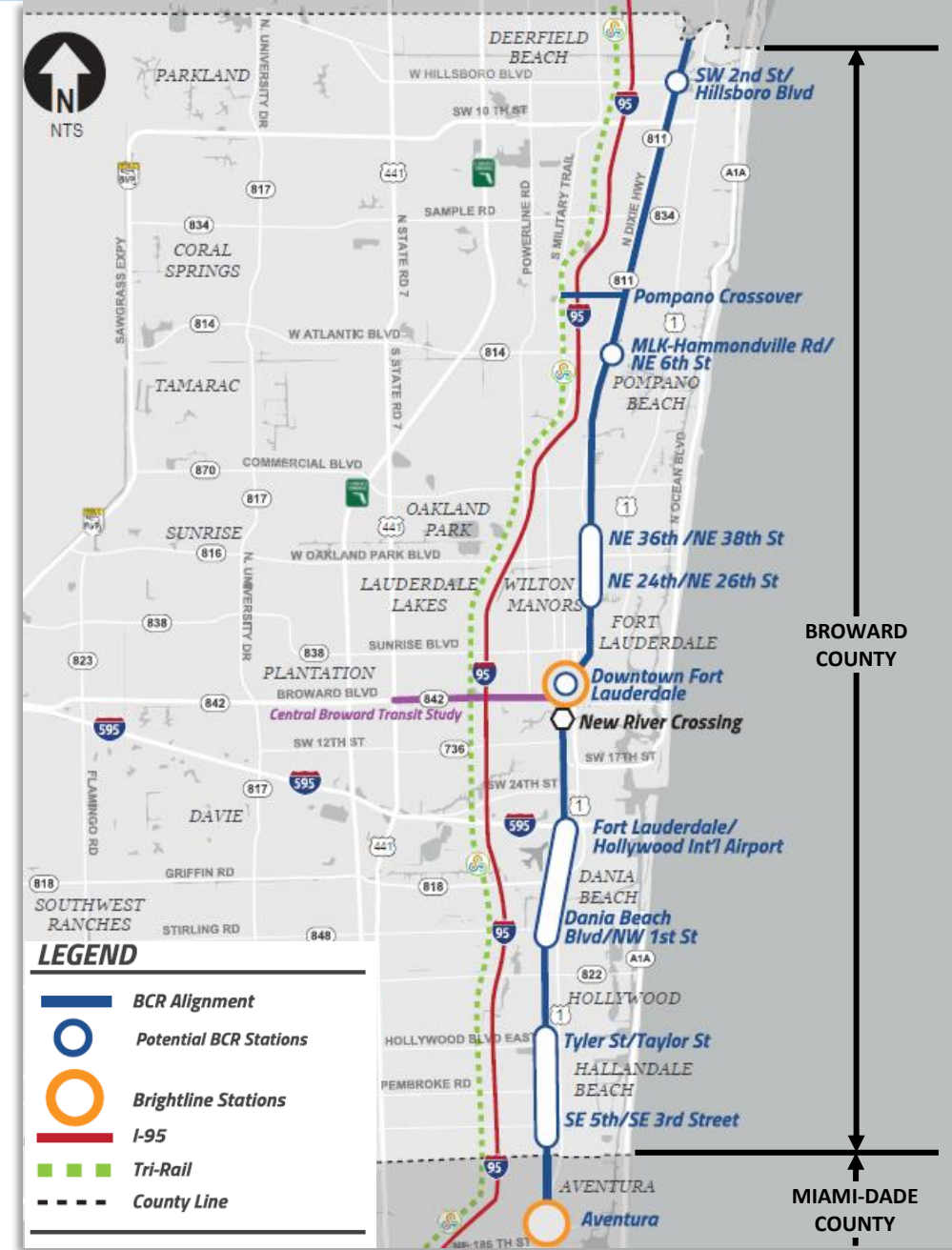


- Elected Official/Agency Meeting
 - 56 attendees, which included 11 elected officials and 2 CBS reporters
 - Topics of Concern included Pompano Crossover Connection, Timeframe for New River Crossing Alternative Analysis and aesthetics and details of stations/platforms
- Public Kick-off Meetings
 - 304 attendees (Virtual #1=161, In-person= Meeting #2=63, Virtual #2=80)
 - Over 100 questions raised
 - Most common topics include:
 - Station Technical Recommendations at Oakland/Wilton Manor area
 - Potential Train Operations for the different counties
 - Timeline for implementing improvements and potential for phasing the project in segments
 - Cost Estimates and ROW impacts at the New River Crossing
 - Financial commitments from the communities where the stations will be located

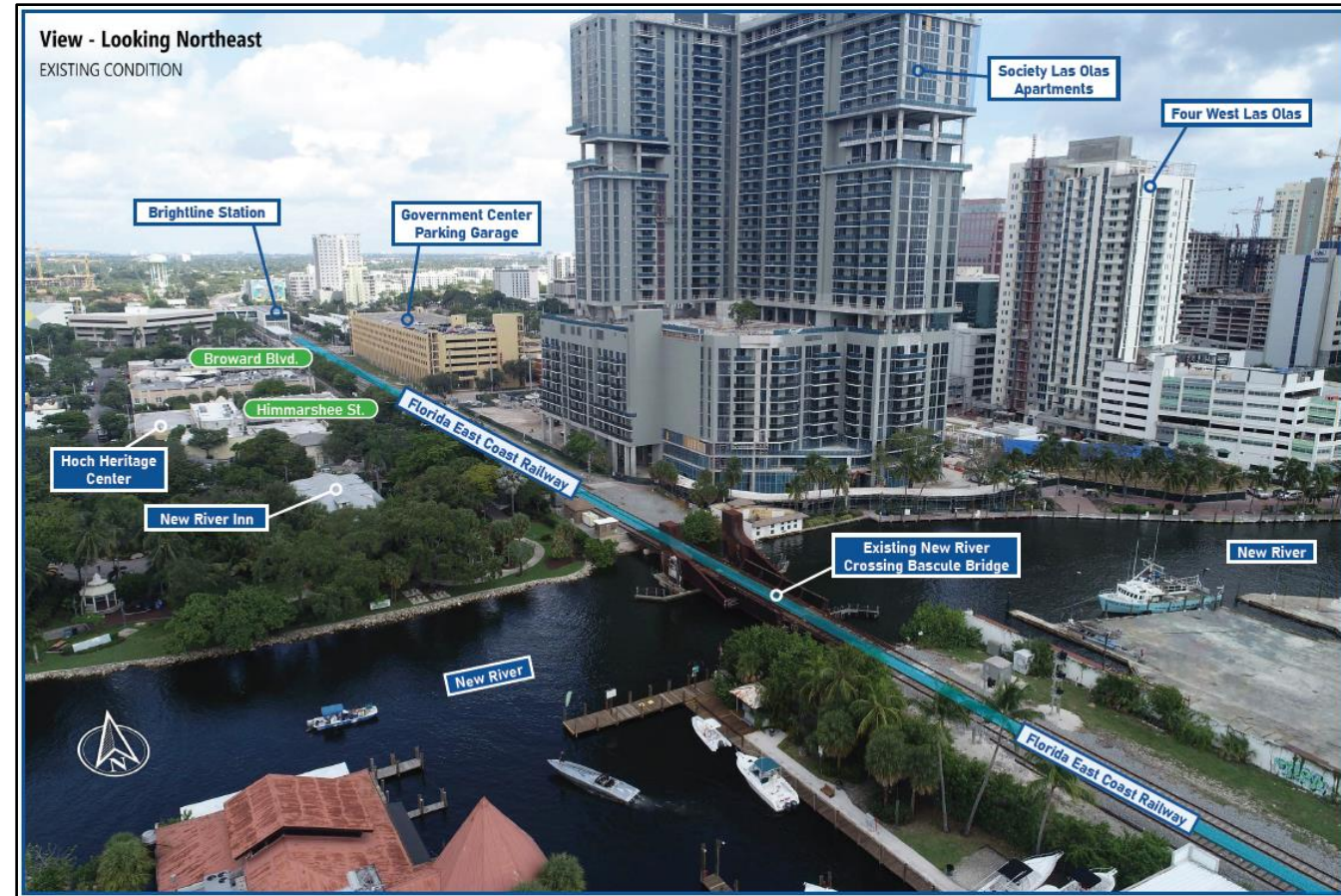


Preliminary Station Screening History

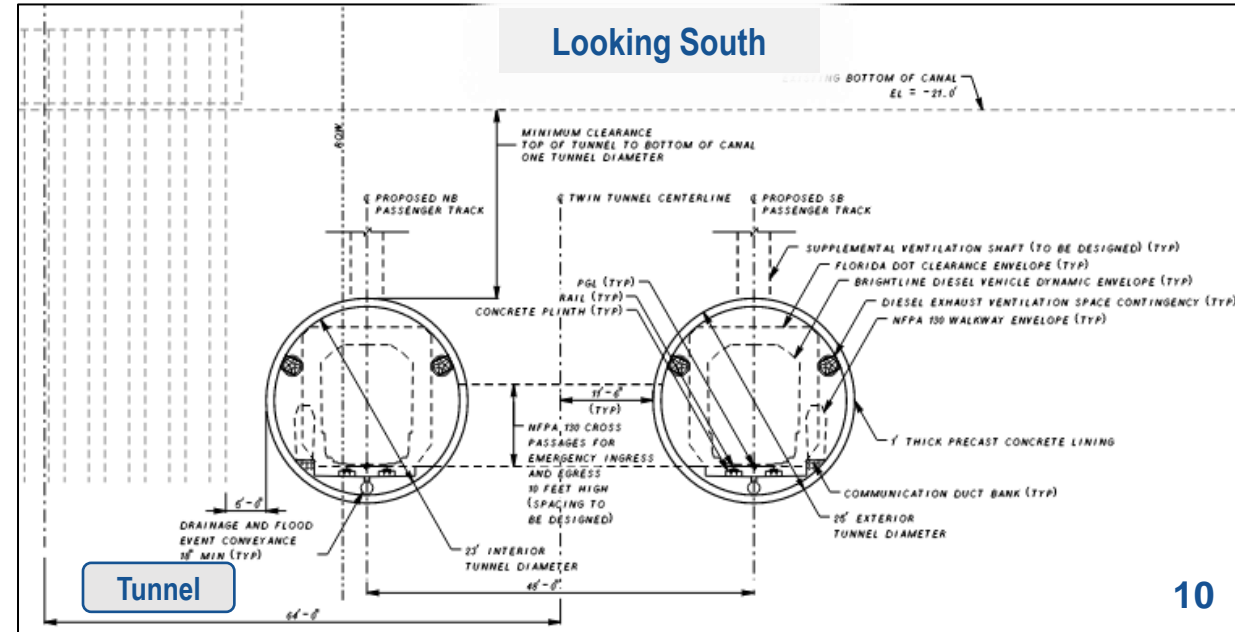
- ❑ Over 16 years of station planning in the corridor
- ❑ Stations refined from nearly 100 potential station areas to 26 potential stations in tri-county area
- ❑ Extensive coordination with municipalities and stakeholders in Broward County to:
 - Further screen the 9 potential BCR locations and
 - Recommend 6 to advance through PD&E
- ❑ Evaluate area within a half mile radius of the station or a 10-minute walk
 - Existing land use around the station TODAY- access and overall character
 - Economic development potential around the station in the FUTURE
 - Plans and policies for mobility and transit-oriented design
 - Development opportunities and policy performance
 - Transit connectivity



- Feasibility Study Completed in 2020
- Extensive Stakeholder and Agency Coordination
- Considerations
 - Maintain maritime, freight and passenger operations
 - Existing freight bascule bridge to remain
 - Accommodate planned Premium Transit on Broward Boulevard
 - Connect to Brightline station downtown
 - Improve connectivity downtown
 - Avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to historical resources, neighborhoods and right of way
- Four Crossing Alternatives Under Evaluation from Feasibility Study*
 - Low-Level Bascule Bridge: \$250 – \$375 Million
 - Mid-Level Bascule Bridge: \$460 – \$690 Million
 - High-Level Fixed Bridge: \$470 – \$700 Million
 - Tunnel: \$2.5 – \$3.8 Billion



*Note: Preliminary cost estimates are reasonable high-level ranges at the current stage of this PD&E Study. Refined cost estimates will be continually updated throughout the life of the project.



- Continue Coordination with FECR, Brightline, USCG, City, County and other stakeholders
- Conduct New River Crossing Charette(s) - (Fall 2021)
- Complete Draft Alternative Analysis - (Fall 2021)
- Public Alternatives Workshop - (December 2021)
- Development of Draft Financial Plan (Winter/Spring 2022)
- Broward County Commission vote on LPA (Early 2022)
- MPO Endorsement of LPA (Spring 2022)
- Enter FTA Project Development (Spring 2022)
- Conduct Public Hearing (August 2022)
- Design Phase (2022/2023)

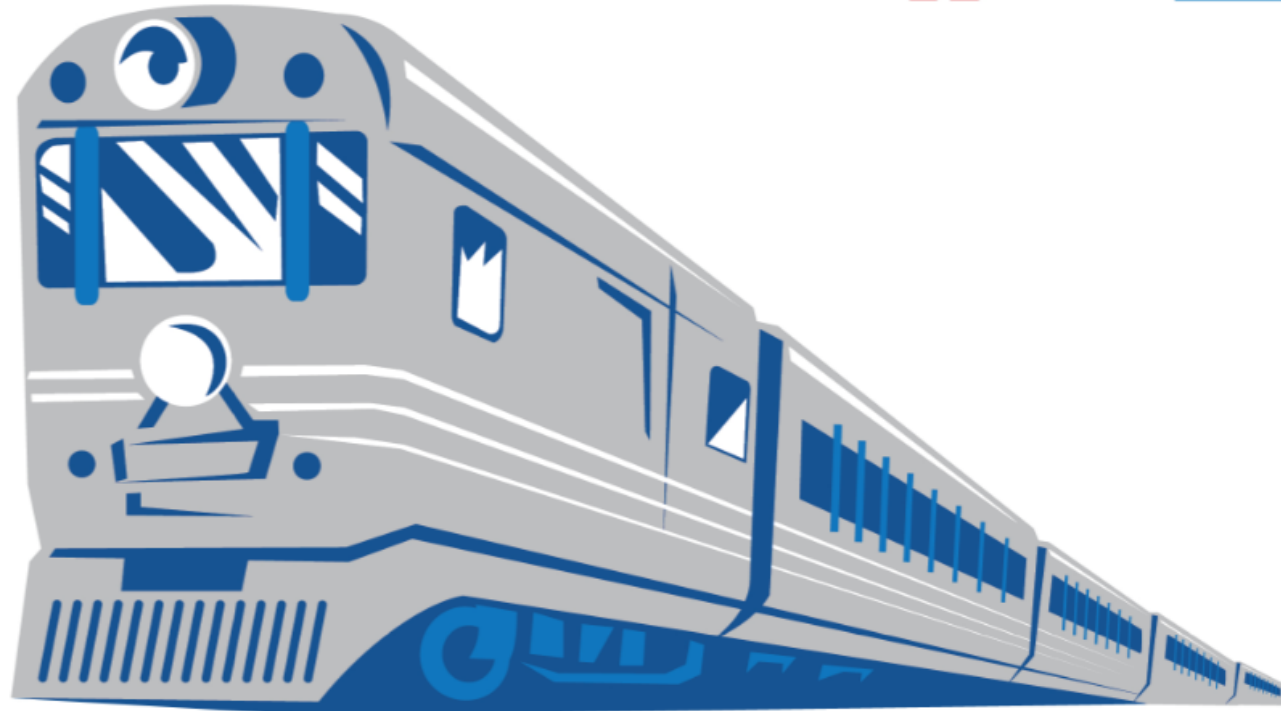




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Questions

