

DRAFT
MEETING MINUTES
BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
Monday, January 27, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
100 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 850
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Members and Alternates Present

Chair Caryl Shuham, Commissioner of Hollywood
Vice Chair Charlotte Mather-Taylor, Area Agency on Aging
Hugh Chen, Private Transportation
Maria Chiari, Florida Department of Children and Families
Marie Dorismond, Alternate, Florida Department of Transportation
Jake McEntyre, System User
Shatara Piedrasanta, Alternate, Community Action Agency
Nancy Scott, Alternate, System User
Milory Senat, Disabled Community
Reginald Shagoury, Alternate, Florida Department of Health
Vera Sharitt, Persons Over 60
Lisa VanVoorhis, Citizen Advocate
Owen Walker, Broward County Elderly and Veterans' Services Division
Shae Williams, Alternate, Children's Services Council

Members and Alternates Absent

Modeline Acreus, Florida Department of Transportation
Torey Alston, Broward County School Board
Barbara Bateman, Florida Department of Health
Sam Cox, Alternate, Persons Over 60
Vish Deonarine, Alternate, Career Source Broward
Hazel Dumervil, Alternate, Private Transportation
Manny Fuentes, Alternate, Broward County Elderly and Veterans' Services Division
Sue Gallagher, Children's Services Council
Alexis Harrison, Alternate, FDOE / Vocational Rehabilitation
Jerome Hill, Agency for Health Care Administration
Lori Mandke, Alternate, Area Agency on Aging
Ruth Masters, Alternate, Broward County School Board
Prudence Mollica, FDOE / Vocational Rehabilitation
Natasha Parks, Alternate, Florida Department of Children and Families
Denise Payne, Alternate, Citizen Advocate
Michelle Ramirez, Career Source Broward
Pauline Spence, Alternate, Disabled Community

MPO Staff

Rebecca Schultz, Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Administrator

Also Present

Nancy Weizman, Paratransit Program Administrator, Broward County Transit (BCT)

REGULAR ITEMS

(All Items Open for Public Comment)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Recognition of Quorum

Chair Shuham called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – October 21, 2024

Motion made by Ms. Piedrasanta, seconded by Ms. Williams, to approve the minutes. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Vice Chair Mather-Taylor, seconded by Ms. VanVoorhis, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

None.

ACTION ITEMS

1. MOTION TO ELECT LCB Vice Chair

Vice Chair Mather-Taylor advised that she was willing to continue to serve as Vice Chair. In a voice vote, Vice Chair Mather-Taylor was unanimously reelected.

2. MOTION TO SELECT LCB Members to Serve on the LCB Review Committee

Vice Chair Mather-Taylor, Ms. Piedrasanta, Ms. Senat, and Ms. VanVoorhis volunteered to serve on the LCB Review Committee.

Motion made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Chen, to approve the four new members of the LCB Review Committee. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Paratransit Update and Transportation Disadvantaged Grant Tracking Report – Paul Strobis, BCT Paratransit Manager

Nancy Weizman, Paratransit Program Administrator for Broward County Transit (BCT), stated that ridership and applications have increased. Income eligibility in Broward County is based on 225% of the federal poverty level, which is the most generous in the entire state of Florida. While most Florida counties require a co-payment for discounted bus passes, Broward County does not.

39 of 40 new vehicles are currently being processed by BCT, who is awaiting chassis for these vehicles. BCT has applied for another 18 vehicles to be funded through the 5310 grant, as well as an additional 61 vehicles through other funding. BCT averages 3500 to 4000 Paratransit trips per day.

Ms. Williams requested clarification of the reason BCT does not require a co-payment for discounted bus passes. Ms. Weizman advised that while she was not present when that decision was made, she felt the better question may be why other Florida counties continue to charge this fee. Broward County recognizes the financial challenges its residents may face.

Vice Chair Mather-Taylor asked if drivers receive additional training when they work on routes that serve riders who may need additional physical assistance. Ms. Weizman replied that all driver training is standardized so passengers receive excellent care and consistent treatment. Mr. Chen added that if any issues are reported, these are passed on to trainers and the driver is scheduled for re-training. All vehicles are equipped with cameras.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Member Comments

Ms. Schultz requested that any members who wish to hear on specific topics of interest at future meetings communicate these to her office.

Chair Shuham noted that in addition to regular shuttle service, the city of Hollywood provides free trips using a provider called Circuit. She asked how these programs interact with the transportation provided through BCT, Paratransit, and other programs, as well as whether or not these types of additional service are accessible. Ms. Schultz stated that she would look into this for the future.

2. Monthly LCB Operating Reports: October through November 2024

3. Planning Related Grant Agreement Tasks Quarterly Progress Report

4. Attendance Roster – Members and Alternates

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Review Committee: April 21, 2025

Regular Business Meeting: May 19, 2025