

South Florida Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Pilot Project

Summary Sheet

On March 5, 2013, the Broward MPO was awarded a grant by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in the amount of \$300,000 to incorporate climate change issues into transportation decision making and to build upon the existing vulnerability assessments prepared by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact. The Project Study Area covers Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. The Project will develop tools to integrate climate change adaptation goals into the transportation decision-making process and provide a model of climate change adaptation for other public transportation providers.

Agency partners include the Broward, Palm Beach and Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organizations in addition to Broward, Palm Beach, Miami-Dade (the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact) and Monroe Counties, the Southeast Florida Transportation Council, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils and the Florida Department of Transportation, Districts IV and VI.

The Broward MPO is administering the South Florida Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Pilot Project on behalf of its partners in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact area. On July 11, 2013, the Broward MPO Board authorized the MPO Chair and the Executive Director to Enter into an Agreement with Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc. for the Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Pilot Project.

In developing the grant proposal, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization and its partners were guided by four basic goals:

- Build upon the existing vulnerability assessment prepared by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact,
- Minimize the impacts of extreme weather events and sea level rise on the regional transportation network,
- Build tools to integrate climate change adaptation goals into the transportation decision making process, and
- Provide a model of climate change adaptation for other public transportation providers.

Currently, climate change impacts are not fully considered in transportation decision making, largely due to a lack of tools to measure and quantify these impacts. Policy makers and elected officials need technical support and screening tools to make smart and informed decisions about transportation infrastructure investments when adopting Long Range Transportation Plans and approving annual Transportation Improvement Program spending plans.

The completion date for the Pilot Project is September 30, 2014.