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## PALM BEACH METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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### **Summary Points of the January 15, 2015 MPO Board Rolling Retreat**

*PDF versions of all backups are available for review at:*

[http://www.palmbeachmpo.org/committees/pdf/2015\\_MPO\\_Board/2015\\_JAN\\_15\\_MPO\\_Agenda\\_&\\_Backup-Retreat.pdf](http://www.palmbeachmpo.org/committees/pdf/2015_MPO_Board/2015_JAN_15_MPO_Agenda_&_Backup-Retreat.pdf)

#### **PARTNERS**

The Palm Beach MPO partnered with SFRTA, Palm Tran, the City of West Palm Beach, the City of Boca Raton, the City of Delray Beach and the City of Lake Worth to provide the first ever rolling retreat for Board members and other participants.

#### **1. Arrival at West Palm Beach Intermodal Center**

Participants arrived at the West Palm Beach Intermodal Center at 9:30 a.m. and were given a backpack containing the agenda package, notepad and pen, rain poncho, Tri-Rail pass and audio headsets for enhanced hearing while various speakers made their presentations on the train, bus, trolleys and walking tours. Mr. Uhren, Palm Beach MPO executive director, highlighted the history of the intermodal center, its function as a mass transit hub, and the various modes of transportation provided at the center.

##### **A. Travel to Boca Raton Station on Tri-Rail**

Mr. William Cross, SFRTA director of planning and capital development, gave an overview of the Regional Tri-Rail System and Key SFRTA Projects and Initiatives.

##### **B. Arvida Park of Commerce Commuter Shuttle or El Rio Trail / I-95 at Spanish River Blvd. Interchange**

Participants chose from one of two short excursions.

1. Commuter Shuttle – Ms. Joy Puerta, transportation analyst for the City of Boca Raton discussed the development of routes, ridership and destinations served. She also highlighted other transit connections and transit infrastructure and technology needs at the Tri-Rail station.
2. El Rio Trail / I-95 Interchange – Mr. Rasem Awwad, transportation planning engineer for the City of Boca Raton, discussed the trail's history, funding, usage and connection to Tri-Rail. Mr. Ron Wallace, FDOT project manager, highlighted construction activity and the project schedule for the I-95 /Spanish River Interchange.

##### **C. Travel to Delray Beach Station on Tri-Rail**

Mr. Randal Krejcarek, environmental services director for the City of Delray Beach, discussed the City's trolley services.

##### **D. Walking tour of Downtown Delray Beach**

Mr. Randal Krejcarek, environmental services director for the City of Delray Beach and Mr. Jeff Costello, CRA director highlighted publicly and privately funded

projects, AAF/FEC railroad crossing issues, and walkable street infrastructure along the Atlantic Ave. corridor.

**E. Bus ride to WPB Intermodal Center via Boynton Beach, Lake Worth on US1**

Palm Beach County assistant county administrator Ms. Shannon LaRocque and Palm Tran assistant director Mr. Charles Frazier provided an overview of the fixed route system including Operations & Maintenance funding obstacles, transit-oriented development patterns, infrastructure and transit amenity needs.

Mayor Palm Triolo and Mr. Michael Bornstein, city manager for the City of Lake Worth spoke on the growing commercial development investments within the City, infrastructure needs, Tri-Rail station area development opportunities, the Boutwell Road corridor and the Lake Worth Park of Commerce, and a feasibility analysis to connect the Intracoastal Waterway to inland water bodies via the WPB Canal.

**F. Arrive at WPB Intermodal Center**

Participants disembarked the Palm Tran bus at the West Palm Beach Intermodal Center.

**G. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. in the 12<sup>th</sup> Floor McEaddy Conference Room of the Palm Beach County Governmental Center in West Palm Beach. The public is always welcome to attend and learn how their transportation tax dollars are put to use.