

Broward Commuter Rail South Newsletter Update



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

Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study
Financial Management #: 452240-1

STAY INFORMED and GET INVOLVED:
www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com



The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Broward County Transit have been evaluating alternatives for implementing commuter rail along the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway from Aventura in Miami-Dade County into Broward County since January 2021. This evaluation is a direct result of a previous study known as the 'Coastal Link' that evaluated 85 miles of commuter rail in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties. On August 25, 2022, the Broward County Commission adopted a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for Broward Commuter Rail South (BCR South) to extend commuter rail service on the FEC Railway corridor from the passenger station in the City of Aventura north to the City of Fort Lauderdale, a distance of 11.5 miles. Stations are recommended in the City of Hollywood, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, and South Fort Lauderdale. The South Fort Lauderdale station provides access to downtown Fort Lauderdale, Broward Health Medical Center, the Broward County Convention Center, Port Everglades, and the Beaches. Please note this project is independent and south of the New River in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward County Commission directed staff to pursue grant funding from federal and state government sources to support the project, and to coordinate with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and other organizations as appropriate in seeking such grant funding.

On December 2, 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced that the BCR South project was accepted into the Project Development (PD) phase. Entry into Project Development makes the project eligible for federal funding through the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program of FTA and allows funds expended by Broward County Transit to count towards the local match requirements of a future federal grant. On February 9, 2023, the Broward MPO voted to amend the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to include BCR South as a Priority I project within the fiscally constrained portion of the plan, with PD funding programmed and approved in 2022 by both Broward County and FDOT.

Miami-Dade County is also studying the implementation of commuter rail service in the FEC corridor from Downtown Miami to the Brightline Station in Aventura, known as the Northeast Corridor. The Northeast Corridor is in the Project Development phase with the Federal Transit Administration making it eligible to compete for federal funding.

STATIONS

Commuter rail stations are similar to SunRail stations in Central Florida and typically include:

- Platform (~500 feet long)
- Canopy
- Bus Bays
- Ticket Vending Machines (TVM)
- Schedule Information and Boards
- Wayfinding Signs & Audio
- Benches, Bike Racks, and Garbage Cans
- Security Cameras
- Protection Railings
- Stairs and ADA Ramps
- Parking

Pedestrian access bridges will be evaluated.

BCR South stations are proposed at:

- Hollywood (Dual Side Platforms)
- Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (Center Platform)
- South Fort Lauderdale (Side Platform)

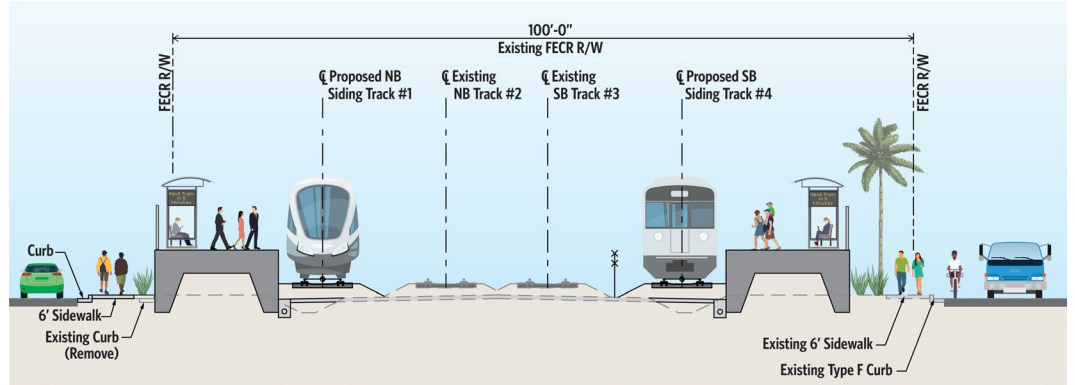
The South Fort Lauderdale station provides access to downtown Fort Lauderdale, Broward Health Medical Center, the Broward County Convention Center, Port Everglades, and the Beaches.



Existing Commuter Rail Station



Existing Intercity Passenger Rail Station

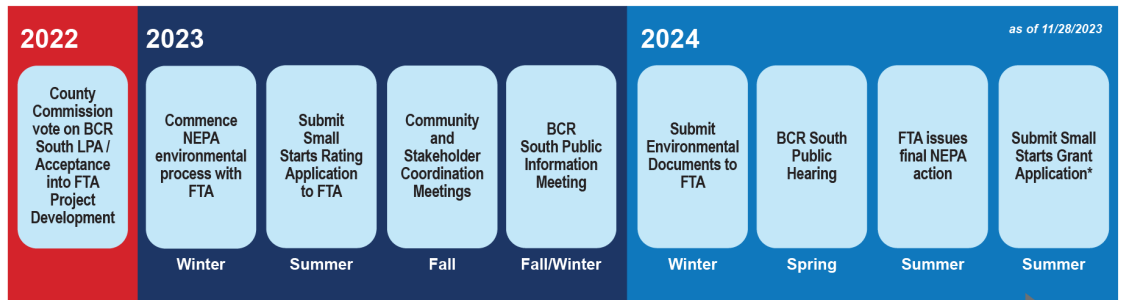


Example of Dual Side Platform Station Typical Section

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / SCHEDULE

The study has had extensive public participation since inception and that engagement will continue throughout the PD phase. A Public Information Meeting is anticipated to be held in late 2023 to present station locations and the associated benefits and impacts to the public. In addition to the Public Information Meeting, meetings will be held with the cities of Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale and other stakeholders including civic and business associations.

The schedule graphic to the right shows the major milestone activities for the remainder of the project. If you are interested in having the project team present to your business or homeowner group, please contact the Project Manager at the information shown below.



Public Involvement

Public involvement and engagement will continue throughout the life of the study to ensure the corridor residents, businesses, the traveling public, and other interested parties have meaningful participation in the process.

*It is anticipated that federal funding and construction could begin as early as 2025 with a successful grant submission.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phil Schwab, P.E.
FDOT Project Manager
954-777-4524

Jie Bian
Broward County Transit Project Manager
954-357-8532

Email: BCRSouth@broward.org

Project Website:

www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, or family status.

Creole and Spanish translations are available upon request for all public documents.