South Corridor Rapid Transit Project

Miami, Florida Small Starts Project Development Information Prepared October 2018

The Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) proposes to implement bus rapid transit (BRT) along the existing 20-mile South Dade busway from the Dadeland South Metrorail Station to SW 344th Street in Florida City. DTPW plans to upgrade the busway to a more full-featured BRT facility by constructing 16 new substantial stations, implementing signal preemption for buses, and installing crossing gate arms at street crossings. The Project's capital cost estimate is \$291 million. The sponsor expects to seek \$97 million in Small Starts funds.

Although the corridor currently has a dedicated busway, the busway has many street crossings and buses' travel speeds are declining due to delays at intersections. Also, the busway immediately parallels U.S. Highway 1 for much of its length, which presents traffic safety concerns. The Project's upgrades to the busway are expected to improve safety, operating efficiency, travel times and passenger comfort. DTPW anticipates that the Project will improve access to the Metrorail for the corridor's downtown commuters, as well as to major destinations in the corridor.

DTPW completed the environmental review process with receipt of a Categorical Exclusion for busway upgrades in July 2017. The locally preferred alternative was selected and adopted into the region's fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in August 2018. DTPW anticipates receipt of a Small Starts Grant Agreement by early 2020, and the start of revenue service in 2022.

