



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MIAMI-DADE - BROWARD - PALM BEACH

Miami-Dade TPO, Broward MPO, and Palm Beach TPA Jointly Host the 2021 Safe Streets Summit Event:

*The eighth annual two-day conference took place virtually on January 28 & 29*



VIRTUAL EVENT, FL (January 28-29, 2021) - The Safe Streets Summit is an annual collaborative event between the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA) to provide a local yet regionally connected approach to prioritizing and implementing Complete Streets throughout southeast Florida. The Summit educates elected officials, transportation officials, technical staff, and community partners on designing and implementing safe and equitable transportation



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facilities for all modes of transportation. This year, the Summit welcomed over 400 registrants in its first time in a virtual format.

Day two of the Safe Streets Summit kicked off a full conference day with an opening session facilitated by Jessica Jennings of the National Association of Counties, Zabe Bent of the National Association of City Transportation Officials, and Beth Osborne of Transportation for America. The theme for the 2021 Safe Streets Summit was "Moving Our Community Forward." The Summit focused on the region's continued collaboration for implementing safe pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities that promote healthy and resilient communities. Engaging plenary sessions covered important topics such as building a stronger transit system, age-friendly, equitable, and livable communities, creative placemaking, and the future of transportation. All the sessions stressed the importance of being equitable in streets, plans, design, and policy, and always integrating the community in design and implementation. Notably, Keynote Speaker Brooks Rainwater of the National League of Cities and Moderator Clinton Forbes of Palm Tran highlighted the importance of collaboration between federal, state, and local transportation leaders and what it takes to build community and political leadership. Rainwater shared with participants three elements that are critical to moving our community forward: regionalism, funding, and culture. He highlighted how many cities are now incorporating a 15-minute city, noting that "everyone living in a city should have access to essential services within a 15-minute walk or bike ride". The conference day also included concurrent break-out sessions that focused on "hot topics" in Complete Streets. Topics ranged from discussions on Vision Zero cities to engineering safe and creative streets during and post the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Summit held its annual Safe Streets Awards ceremony which offers an opportunity to highlight individuals and jurisdictions that have led by example in creating better streets for all users. Conference attendees voted to select the Town of Cutler Bay for the **People's Choice Award** for Best Complete Streets Project for their Protected Bike Lane



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Demonstration Plan (Cutler Bay 211<sup>th</sup> Street). The three MPOs each honored both an individual and a community or agency advancing Complete Streets efforts in their counties. Miami-Dade TPO awarded the Complete Streets Champion Award to Meg Daly of Friends of the Underline, and the Community Award to the City of Miami Beach Transportation and Mobility Department. Broward MPO followed by awarding the Complete Streets Champion Award to Sheila Rose of the City of Coconut Creek and the Community Award to the City of Weston. Palm Beach TPA closed out the ceremony by awarding the Complete Streets Champion Award to Council Member Andy Thomson of the City of Boca Raton and Community Award to the City of Boynton Beach.

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