

## Miami-Dade County Close-out Report Executive Summary

### Context/Focus

Rail~Volution worked with Laura Cantwell, Associate State Director for Advocacy, to identify the following context and focus for this Roundtable:

**Context:** Multiple transit options and modes are available in Miami-Dade County (Metrorail, Metromover, Metrobus, Brightline, among others) but it isn't always easy to navigate across these modes. Moreover, train and bus stops are not all user friendly – some do not have accessible sidewalks or shade. With the high population of older adults and ongoing influx of new residents to the area, it's important to identify and address barriers so that people can truly access the myriad options available to them.

**Focus:** The Miami-Dade County MOVE Roundtable will focus on the question, *How can we help older adults use more transportation options?* Through our conversation series, we'll look at a variety of system- and user- improvements that allow people to feel confident in choosing and using transit to get them where they want and need to go.

### Purpose/format

Miami-Dade County is one of four MOVE Roundtable sites sponsored by AARP. The MOVE Roundtable took place in May-June 2022 and focused on how to help older adults use more transportation options. Eleven people in Miami-Dade County participated, representing older adults, healthcare and public health, transit, trails & green space, and city and county government.

During the Roundtable program, this group improved its understanding about the complexity of transit and transit systems, how and where to direct advocacy efforts most effectively, ways to help older adults know how to use transit (both experiential training and wayfinding/signage), and how to connect with local transit and transit advocacy leaders. This group will be merged into Miami-Dade Age-Friendly Initiative's transportation subgroup and will continue to work together under that mantle to help older adults use more transportation options. Their first joint meeting is slated for mid-July 2022 with an in-person convening to occur during the Rail~Volution Miami conference from October 30-November 2, 2022.

### Initial Outcomes

At the conclusion of the Roundtable, participants walked away with:

- A deepened understanding of the complexities of the transportation system, including jurisdiction-specific funding and bus stop ownership
- Connections to the Miami-Dade Transit Office of Innovation and local transit advocacy organization, Transit Alliance of Miami
- An interest in continuing to work together on transit issues related to older adults
  - The Miami Age Friendly Initiative offered to integrate the MOVE Roundtable members into its transportation group and provide ongoing support and structure for this work
- An interest in supporting the implementation of the Better Bus Network, an effort championed by the Transit Alliance of Miami but delayed due to operator shortage

- An interest in working with elected officials to get them to take a bus ride to personally experience the system as a rider and inform their decision-making and priorities.

**Next steps:**

The group determined that their next steps would be:

- Janiece Davis will send a Doodle poll during 1<sup>st</sup> week of July to schedule a meeting in mid-July with Roundtable and AFI.
- Grace Perdomo will engage Roundtable members in supporting implementation of the Better Bus Network.
- The Roundtable would like to ask elected officials (transit decision-makers) to ride the bus so they have first-hand experience navigating life as a transit user.
  - This idea will be carried forward to explore further as part of the AFI group.
- Roundtable members will schedule an in-person convening in conjunction with the Rail~Volution Miami conference on October 30-November 2, 2022.