**Memorandum**

TO: RTTAC-MS

FROM: SERPM 8 Model Update Team

DATE: September 27, 2017

RE: Public Transit Route Inclusion Criteria

This memo describes the criteria by which transit routes are screened to determine whether they should be included in the SERPM 8 transit networks. Transit routes included in previous versions of the SERPM are recommended for inclusion. These routes are first described followed by the recommended criteria for including additional routes in the 2015 and future year networks for SERPM 8.

Transit routes included in previous SERPM versions

We recommend that the SERPM 8 transit networks include all services, operators, and routes that have been represented in previous versions of SERPM. These services include:

* Tri-Rail and Tri-Rail shuttles
* Intercounty I-95 Express services operated by BCT and MDT
* Palm Tran fixed route services
* BCT fixed route and community bus services
* MDT fixed route bus services (Metrobus)
* MDT Metrorail
* MDT Metromover and MIA PeopleMover

The fixed route transit service operators in the regions (SFRTA, Palm Tran, BCT, and MDT) produce monthly ridership reports. Routes included in the monthly ridership reports are all included in SERPM and these reports provide critical historical and current ridership data for model validation and calibration.

Transit route criteria for inclusion in SERPM 8

For services not included in previous SERPM versions, we recommend that a transit service be included in the SERPM 8 base (2015) and/or future-year networks if it meets any of the following criteria:

That the service is:

* A rail line; or
* A fixed-route transit service directly operated by the four transit agencies listed above; or
* The dominant fixed route transit service in a downtown area

If the transit route does not meet any of the above criteria, it would still be included if it meets all of the following criteria:

That the service:

* Is a bus, trolley, or shuttle route with at least 500 boardings per average weekday;
* Has readily-available data on average weekday ridership counts along with transfer (to key connecting bus and rail routes) information;
* Is a fixed-route service;
* Has fixed stops or connects directly with rail station(s);
* Has publicly available fare information;
* Has a geographic coverage that can be modeled effectively in SERPM 8 given its TAZ structure and highway network fidelity meaning that the service should not operate within a highly-localized area [for example, directional route service distance less than 2 miles];
* Has readily available information on end to end travel times and service frequencies; and
* Operates every weekday at consistent service levels during the day.

Recommendations

Based on the discussion above, the SERPM 8 model update team recommends developing the 2015 transit network to include downtown West Palm Beach trolley routes (as they operated in 2015) in addition to the transit services that were included in SERPM 7 2010 transit network. For developing the 2045 network, the team recommends using the route inclusion criteria identified in this memo vis-à-vis the services/modes that will be considered in the 2045 LRTP updates.