NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In the late 1980s, with the county’s population growing and moving westward, local officials foresaw the need to create transportation connectivity. At the same time, the area’s vital aviation industry forecast the need to decongest roadways in and around Miami International Airport (MIA), the county’s foremost economic generator. Local officials asked the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to marshal forces to **link the community’s disparate transportation services** and to find a way to **relieve MIA of the burdensome traffic** that was clogging its access roadways and terminal ramps.

PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

In 1995, FDOT’s **Major Investment Study** (MIS)/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the MIC was approved by the Federal Highway Administration, and in 1998 a **Record of Decision** by the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) was granted giving location and design concept approval.

FDOT continues to lead the design and construction of the MIC Program in **partnership** with USDOT, Miami-Dade County, the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority. A consultant management group assists FDOT in the planning, design and implementation of the program. Highway and access roads have been completed. Construction on the Rental Car Center began in August 2007 and opened for business on July 13, 2010.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The MIC Program includes the **Rental Car Center, Miami Central Station, MIA Mover, access roads** and major **highway improvements**, all to be completed by 2013.

FDOT is pursuing private and/or public sector **Joint Development** projects to enhance the MIC’s economic viability. Miami-Dade Transit is developing the **AirportLink** bringing Metrorail service to MIA via the Miami Central Station by April 2012.

The MIC will become the county’s main transportation hub and will link MIA with South Florida’s business and tourist destinations. The Miami Central Station will enable safe and efficient transfers between rail systems, buses, taxis, automobiles and bicycles. Traffic at the airport’s terminals have been reduced by 15 percent as a result of all rental car companies previously found at MIA and several located off-airport shifting operations to the Rental Car Center. Once the consolidated shuttles which run between the terminals at MIA are eliminated once the MIA Mover is operational, traffic at the airport’s terminals will be reduced by an additional 15 percent.

FINANCE

The USDOT has designated the MIC Program as a **Major Project** under the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (**TIFIA**) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (**TEA21**). This has enabled the MIC Program to receive two loans, one for $269 million and another for
$270 million. The Department has repaid its initial $15 million drawdown of the $269 million loan and used that source to fund a portion of the Rental Car Center.

Funding for the MIC Program has been advanced through the TIFIA loans and an internal State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF) loan. Other major funding sources include various state and local sources and private sector fees and charges. The MIA Mover is being funded primarily by Miami-Dade County as its contribution to the program as specified in various agreements with the state and federal government. FDOT has contributed $100 million toward the MIA Mover’s guideway, foundations and station located at the MIC. Joint Development will be privately funded by developers who lease MIC properties that have been set aside for that purpose.

PROJECT STATUS

- **Rental Car Center, FM# 249937-3** – Tunnels and pile caps were completed in February 2007.
- **Miami Central Station, FM# 406800-2** – Construction documents have been completed. Construction is anticipated to commence in May 2011 and will be completed by August 2013.
- **Le Jeune Road Improvements, FM# 250234-2, 250234-4 & 408834-1** – Construction was completed in May 2008.
- **MIC Terminal Access Roadways, FM# 249937-4, FM#249937-2, FM# 249937-6, FM# 249937-7** – Various segments were completed in 2008 with the remaining portions completed in October 2009.
- **MIC-MIA Interchange, FM#408834-1** – This project was completed in May 2008.
- **MIA Mover Station at MIC, FM# 406800-6** – Construction of the superstructure began in February 2008 and substantial completion was achieved in January 2011. The station has been turned over to the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) for final buildout.
- **MIA Mover Connector, MDAD-DBOM** – Design development began in September 2008, and groundbreaking for this project took place March 2, 2009. It is anticipated to be completed and operational by December 2011.
- **Le Jeune Road Landscaping, FM#415240-1** – This was completed in November 2009.

For additional information on the program, please visit [www.micdot.com](http://www.micdot.com) or contact:

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