

## News Clip

From: *Miami Today*, Thursday, September 27, 2012

Subject: **The Insider: Bus, Rail Upgrades**

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**BUS, RAIL UPGRADES:** Miami-Dade County Transit is expected to spend more than \$16.6 million to replace 26 diesel buses with new 40-foot diesel-electric hybrid vehicles, according to a request before the County Metropolitan Planning Organization today (9/27). Transit Director **Ysela Llort** is asking the organization to amend the area's 2013-2017 Transportation Improvement Plan to add the bus replacements. Once added to the area and state plans, the county transit agency will seek a \$10 million grant from the US Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration, according to the request. Total bus replacement cost is \$16,666,667, with \$6,666,667 coming from transit system surtax bonds. Meanwhile, a priority for the Florida Department of Transportation's work cycle between 2014 and 2018 is the \$35.92 million plan to add a second railroad track along the Tri-Rail route, near the Miami River between the Miami Intermodal Center at Miami International Airport and the Hialeah Market station. The project would include a new rail bridge over the Miami River. The second track is expected to relieve train delays and add needed space for additional Tri-Rail service, the eventual extension of Amtrak and high-speed rail to the Miami Intermodal Center. The cost includes \$23.8 million for construction, \$7.92 million for right-of-way, \$2.4 million for design and \$1.8 million for other costs.



Ysela Llort