

## Miami Intermodal Center Update

**T**raveled through Miami International Airport recently? Relief is in sight for MIA travelers with the progress of the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) Program.

Envisioned to serve as Miami Dade County's main transportation hub, the MIC will link Miami International Airport with South Florida's business and tourist destinations. The program includes the Rental Car Center (RCC), Miami Central Station (MCS), MIA Mover (elevated light rail), access roads and major highway improvements. The projects and facilities hope to achieve two main objectives: to connect and decongest.

Expected to be operational by 2012, the MIC will connect airline, bus and rail travelers with a centralized rental car facility. The Miami Central Station will provide choices and connections for transportation customers between: Amtrak and regional rail systems; Greyhound and city buses; and shuttles and taxis. The Rental Car Center will be built adjacent to the MCS. When completed in 2010, the

RCC will relieve the airport of the burdensome traffic that was clogging its access roadways and terminal ramps. Traffic at the airport's terminals will be reduced by 30 percent when all rental car companies previously found at MIA and several operating off-airport shift operations to the Rental Car Center.

The construction of the \$526 million Metro rail line, running from Earlington Heights station to the Miami Intermodal Center was recently announced by Miami Dade County.

"The citizens of Miami-Dade County will enjoy new world class transportation facilities offering easy, safe connections to just about every form of ground transportation available in South Florida, upon completion of the MIC Program," according to Gary Donn, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) director of transportation support & MIC program manager.

"This will be the beginning of a truly regional ground transportation network." ■



MIAMI INTERMODAL CENTER

