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## Ceremony to mark opening of SCAT Cattlemen Intermodal Transfer Station

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 19, will mark the opening of the Cattlemen Intermodal Transfer Station for Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT). The 1:30 p.m. event will be held at the modern facility, located at Cattlemen Road and Bahia Vista Street in Sarasota. Buses will start using the transfer station on Monday, Jan. 23.

Officials of the county, the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration will speak at the event.

One of four SCAT transfer facilities, the station has six bays that can accommodate SCAT's regular 29- and 35-foot buses, as well as its new 40-foot Express buses. The station includes a separate area for the smaller paratransit buses, in the event that all six bays are full.

Two of the bus bays are expanded for larger commuter multimodal access, such as intercity service provided by Greyhound Lines Inc. Current plans are for Greyhound to coordinate with SCAT to use the station, particularly because of its proximity to Interstate 75.

The transfer facility has a covered platform for bus service patrons, restroom facilities, an area for bus operators and supervisors and a station manager office. Electronic signage will direct riders to their buses. Ticket vending and cameras to enhance security of SCAT patrons and staff will be installed.

The facility is expected to be certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The \$2.2 million construction management contract, awarded in April 2011, was funded by a Florida Department of Transportation intermodal grant and two grants from the Federal Transit Administration, including one funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Halfacre Construction Company of Sarasota was the contractor. FleischmanGarcia, which has an office in Sarasota, was the architectural firm.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

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