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## Next stop: Fresh produce at Metrorail, Metromover stations - Farmer's Markets have arrived at three Metrorail and Metromover stations in the city of Miami.

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Miami-Dade commuters using the Metrorail will no longer have to go out of their way to grab a healthy lunch.

While farmer's markets throughout the county are usually held on Saturday and Sunday mornings, those going to work will now have the option to shop on their break or while waiting for the bus.

Miami-Dade Transit is sponsoring three different farmer's markets to benefit the United Way, and all are located underneath the Metrorail and Metromover stations. The markets began on Feb. 23 and are being held at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center on Tuesdays, the Adrienne Arsht Center Metromover station on Wednesdays and the Civic Center Metrorail station on Thursdays and Fridays. All markets run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Local vendors will be selling items such as orchids, fresh fruits and veggies, honey from local beekeepers and even bread and pastries.

Reginald Black, a Kendall resident, commutes everyday to the Hilton hotel where he works. He stopped by the Adrienne Arsht Center market on Feb. 29 to have a look. He said there are certain things at the market that he would prefer to buy there instead of at a supermarket.

"I would buy the fruits and vegetables from here," said Black. "My favorite item was the homemade honey. I was educated from the vendors about how natural it is. It hasn't been touched by man."

Yesi Silvera and her mother Elvis Silvera, are local beekeepers from Kendall who make their own honey. They even offer mango honey. She said having the markets by the transit stations has helped with business.

"Business has so far been good," said the younger Silvera. "It's effective to have it here, it attracts more customers."

Nicolas Zerrato, a resident of Wynwood, was taking the bus to South Beach where he works when he saw the market. He said having the vendors there makes the station feel safer.

"It really changes the atmosphere," Zerrato said. "I sometimes dread this station because I don't feel safe. Having the market here brings life to it, and attracts people who work around here."

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Zerrato also says the rustic feel of the market causes him to reminisce about his home country of Columbia.

Black agrees.

"I've seen all nationalities of people just in the few minutes I've been here," Black said.

Kim Pate, a Kendall resident who works at Brown Mackie College, said she usually drives to work, but with her car in the shop, she picked the right day for public transportation.

"I saw it and thought it was beautiful," said Pate as she handed over money to buy an orchid from a vendor. "I saw it earlier and asked what time they closed. I decided to come on my break."

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