

## **Westshore Multimodal Center and Strategic Transportation Plan**

The study for the Westshore Multimodal Center is a collaborative effort of the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Florida Department of Transportation District 7 (FDOT), the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA), the City of Tampa, and the Westshore Alliance. Representatives from each of these organizations serve on a management team that has provided direction to the consultant (Atkins) throughout the study. The study is funded through the Hillsborough County MPO, FDOT, and TBARTA.

The Westshore area is a major regional activity center in the Tampa Bay area. A major employment center with anticipated residential growth, the area has been designated for a multimodal transit center to accommodate future enhanced transit. There are numerous issues to consider in locating a multimodal center serving a variety of users. Engineering and planning issues must be taken into consideration. Engineering issues for the multimodal center include; site size, soil types, environmental concerns, etc. Planning for the center has looked at the surrounding area, compatibility, and the anticipated land uses which might result following construction of the center. Additionally, the planning process has looked at what improvements might be necessary for the transportation system in the Westshore business district. The business district is generally defined as Himes Avenue to the east, Kennedy Boulevard on the south, Hillsborough Avenue on the north, and Tampa Bay (including Rocky Point) on the west. Criteria to address in an initial site feasibility study and strategic transportation plan include:

- Location
- Size
- Users
- Circulation/External Roadway Capacity
- Connectivity
- Environmental Considerations
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety and Access
- Parking
- Other Studies