On June 9, 2021 at the public hearing of the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization (TPO),

1. Mayor Ross moved an amendment to remove Projects #448505-1 and 445652-1 [SR582/Fowler Ave (I-275 to I-75)] from TIP Table 1: List of Priorities Funded for Construction and move it back to TIP Table 2: List of Candidates for Funding. This project is divided into two separate segments and only one segment has received funding for construction while the segment from 50th St to I-75 is still seeking funding. The motion was seconded by both Commissioners Overman and Myers and the amendment passed unanimously, 15-0. With this amendment, Projects #448505-1 and 445652-1 are the fifth ranked priority on the TPO priority list.

2. Commissioner Kemp moved an amendment to revise the description of Projects #431821-3 and 431821-4 [I-275 from North of Martin Luther King Jr Blvd to N of Bearss Ave] on TIP Table 2: List of Candidates for Funding to read as follows:

   Phase 1 construction funded from MLK Jr Blvd to N of Hillsborough Ave, transitioning into/out of Downtown Interchange Safety & Operational Improvements. Phase 2 funding requested from N of Hillsborough Avenue to N of Bearss Ave: construct noise walls.

   The motion was seconded by Commission Overman and passed 11-4; Members Kilton, Ross, Evans and Klug voted No.

3. Commissioner Kemp moved an amendment to revise the prioritization of the Smart Cities project for HART Scheduling Software and rank it at the top of the Smart Cities investment program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Overman and passed unanimously, 15-0.

4. Commissioner Overman moved to direct TPO staff to coordinate with FDOT District 7 staff and all local stakeholders to host a workshop and identify strategies for moving forward the HART CSX right-of-way acquisition study. Specifically, the motion is to develop cost estimates and approximate timelines for implementing passenger rail service along CSX rail lines across the region. This would include identifying eligibility requirements for federal & state financial participation and roles & responsibilities for partners.

   The motion was seconded by Councilman Dingfelder and passed unanimously, 15-0.

5. Mayor Ross moved to approve the FY2021/22-2025/26 Transportation Improvement Program Update and Priority List. The motion was seconded by Mr. Klug and passed 11-4; Members Maniscalco, Citro, Dingfelder and Vaughn voted No.
6. Tampa City Councilman John Dingfelder also suggested limiting the addition of toll lanes to another project at the Westshore Interchange. However, FDOT Secretary David Gwynn cautioned the Board about making changes to the project. According to Mr. Gwynn, FDOT presented the Westshore Interchange project to the federal government with toll lanes as a traffic management strategy. Removal of that strategy could kill the whole project. Councilman Dingfelder’s motion was not supported by the board, on a 4-11 vote.

7. Hillsborough County Commissioner Kimberly Overman proposed to alter plans for additional ramp lanes at the Downtown Interchange, but she withdrew her motion after FDOT Secretary David Gwynn addressed the project’s safety benefits. According to the Secretary, safety issues at the DTI cause 1000 crashes a year.