Virtual Meeting of the Policy Committee
Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 8:30 AM

The County Center and Plan Hillsborough offices continue to be closed to the public in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All participation at this meeting will be virtual, and no actions will be taken.

This meeting may be viewed on Hillsborough Television (HTV) by visiting Spectrum: 637, Frontier: 22 or live stream from Hillsborough County’s Live YouTube Channel or the County website’s Live Meetings link, also found in the County Newsroom.

The agenda packet, presentations, and any supplemental materials are posted on the MPO’s online meeting calendar.

Public comment opportunities:
To speak during the meeting - No later than 30 minutes before the meeting, please sign up here or phone 813-756-0371 for assistance. Provide the phone number you will call in from, so that we can recognize your call in the queue. You will receive an auto-reply confirming we received your request, along with instructions.

Comments may also be given up to 5pm the day before the meeting:
• by leaving a voice message at (813) 756-0371
• by e-mail to mpo@plancom.org
• by visiting the event posted on the MPO Facebook page.

Advance comments will be provided in full to the board members and verbally summarized during the meeting by MPO staff.

Agenda: Workshop on MPO Non-Discrimination Plan
I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance
II. Roll Call of Committee Members & Welcome of Other MPO Board Members (Clerk)
III. Review of Minutes: February 10, 2021 – As no action will be taken today, members are asked to individually identify any corrections needed.
IV. Public Comment – 3 minutes per speaker, please
V. Discussion Items
   a. MPO Non-Discrimination Plan Purpose, Update Process, & Historical Background (Joshua Barber, MPO Staff)
b. Demographics and Community Engagement  (Dayna Lazarus, MPO Staff)

c. Discussion of Next Steps  (Beth Alden, MPO Director)

VI. Old & New Business

VII. Adjournment

The full agenda packet is available on the MPO’s website, www.planhillsborough.org, or by calling (813) 272-5940.

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MPO Policy Meeting of Wednesday, February 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

The Chairman, Commissioner Pat Kemp called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m., led the pledge of allegiance. The regular monthly meeting was held in-person and virtual via Webex.

The following members were present in person:

Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Charles Klug and Joe Waggoner.

The following members were present virtually:

Commissioner Mariella Smith, Commissioner Kimberly Overman and Councilman Guido Maniscalco.

MPO Board Members Councilman Joseph Citro and Derek Doughty were present in person and Jessica Vaughn was present virtually.

A quorum was met in person.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 26, 2020 and September 22, 2020 and January 13, 2021

Chair Commissioner Cohen sought a motion to approve the May 26, 2020, September 22, 2020 and January 13, 2021 minutes. Councilman Maniscalco so moved; it was seconded by Councilman Citro. Roll Call Vote 7-0. Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josephine Amato, Director for Safe Bus for Us, provided names of children that were killed walking to school. Ms. Amato provided data and facts that school buses for children is an immediate need for lifesaving intervention.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of Officers

Cameron Clark, MPO Attorney, accepted nominations for the Chair of the Policy Committee. Commissioner Harry Cohen and Commissioner Mariella Smith nominated Commissioner Pat Kemp. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Pat Kemp was elected Chair of the Policy Committee.

Cameron Clark, MPO Attorney, accepted nominations for the Vice Chair of the Policy Committee. Commissioner Harry Cohen and Commissioner Pat Kemp nominated Councilman Guido Maniscalco. There were no other nominations. Councilman Guido Maniscalco was elected Vice Chair of the Policy Committee.
Discussion Items

A. School Siting Coordination in South Hillsborough County

Amber Dickerson, School District of Hillsborough County, Growth Management, presented the outline of the school siting traffic infrastructure issues, evaluate the critical need for school sites and assess the consequences of no school sites. Ms. Dickerson reviewed the proposed construction projects and project revenues for construction and maintenance. There are six potential school sites in Hillsborough county which are Rhodine Road, Waterset, Wes Property, Bishop Road, Cypress Ridge Road and Berry Bay Farms. The school district was unable to purchase land or build schools required to support residential growth. There was a lack of transportation infrastructure funding and the school district was legally prohibited from funding transportation infrastructure. The consequences of no transportation infrastructure to support school sites are the impact fees increased, no school sites for propshare mitigation and overcrowding at all school levels. The short-term solution is the school district exemption or waiver from non-contiguous transportation improvements and the long-term solution is to form a public school siting taskforce to address streamlining the siting process and address transportation needs.

Commissioner Smith noted the MPO or Policy has no role to take action or able recommendations to this topic. The County Commissioners and School District need to have a discussion to what to do in the short term and change the process so the school district can be a partner in the planning process. Commissioner Smith commented on the potential school sites and proposed solutions. Commissioner Overman has concerns about how to solve this problem. Commissioner Overman noted the MPO does the research that brings forward what we need to do so they need to bring forward the clear goals of planning. Commissioner Kemp finds that it is inappropriate that this presentation has landed at the policy committee because they do not have the jurisdiction. Commissioner Kemp also pointed out these roads are not on the TIP. Beth Alden clarified the MPO does not have a rule of the siting of schools. The MPO is continuously addressed if the MPO can help with transportation around school siting so this topic is only informational and if we want to continue forward with the Transportation Improvement Program. Commissioner Cohen believes it would be inappropriate not to support the safety of our students. Jessica Vaughn inquired about the task force and how members were nominated and requested access to the power point. Amber Dickerson made a few clarifications and believes there should be open conversations between the government and staff. Cameron Clark commented on the court opinion mentioned by Commissioner Smith and schools are exempt from paying impact fees.

B. Hillsborough County School Route Safely Improvements

Josh Bellotti, Hillsborough County Public Works, presented the school routes safety improvements. The goal is to support routes to schools for all school transportation users. This program is identified in the County’s 2020 and 2021 Surtax plans. The SRTS Program Development Team consists of the Hillsborough County Public Works and Transportation Consultants. The SRTS Advisory Committee consists of school staff, HC Public Schools, Sheriff’s Office, Crossing Guards, PTA representatives, sidewalk stompers and CUTR. They have identified area and routes for the Leto High, Pierce Middle and Alexander Elementary and determined primary walking routes used by students. The proposed improvements are pedestrian facilities, speed management, maintenance, traffic signal timing modifications, additional signs and school fencing. Mr. Bellotti presented the infrastructure proposed improvements phases. The improvements categorized into 3 different phases. Phase one can be implemented quickly, Phase two include improvements that can be constructed before a major improvement and Phase three include improvements that will bring the SRTS projects to completion.
C. Transportation System Performance at Current funding Levels

Beth Alden, MPO Director, presented the transportation system performance at current funding levels by reviewing the trend investment and sales tax scenario for the good repair and resilience, vision zero, smart cities and real choices. The existing funding for Federal and State Sources are FDOT, Metropolitan & Regional Programs, FTA Formula Funds and Statewide Fuel Taxes collected for local governments. The existing funding for local sources are Local Option Fuel Taxes (LOFT), Local Option Sales Tax, Mobility Fees, Transit Funding and County Revenues for Transportation. Ms. Alden reviewed the unlevied funding that were found by our consultants and these assumptions were categorized by source, rationale and growth rates along with a summary of total revenues for FY 2020-2045.

Commissioner Kemp commented on the driver's license fee, vehicle registration fee and tolls. Joe Waggoner inquired about unlevied funding. Commissioner Overman noted that is helpful to include some planning and research the MPO is doing and have them part of the task force and talking to our legislatures.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

There was no old or new business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.
Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item:
Non-Discrimination Plan Purpose, Update Process, & Historical Background

Presenter:
Joshua Barber, MPO Staff

Summary:
Under federal law, the MPO is required to prepare a plan to address Title VI of the Civil Rights Act every 3 years to ensure nondiscrimination in the provision and execution of MPO activities. The Hillsborough MPO Title VI & Nondiscrimination Plan was adopted by the MPO Board in 2018, and an updated Title VI & Nondiscrimination Plan will need to be adopted in 2021.

This update will be guided by the Resolution on Racial Discrimination adopted by the MPO in August, which states that as “racial discrimination has been evident in transportation planning, transportation planning is one of those systems that must change.” This update will therefore include an examination of how planning has contributed to racial inequities in our area.

This update also presents an opportunity to expand the Nondiscrimination Plan to address the work of the Hillsborough City-County Planning Commission. This proactive step by the Planning Commission will better ensure nondiscrimination in the provision and execution of land use and community planning activities, in coordination with transportation, and further the advancement of equitable processes and outcomes. The resulting plan will thus be a Plan Hillsborough Non-Discrimination Plan.

At this meeting, staff will provide a presentation on the steps to be taken to collaboratively review, update, and expand the Title VI and Nondiscrimination Plan to better achieve equitable outcomes and processes throughout the Hillsborough MPO’s and City-County Planning Commission’s work.

As directed with last summer’s resolution, one step is to examine the history of discrimination in urban planning in Hillsborough County and its local jurisdictions. As a government agency, it is important to for us to acknowledge the specific and intentional ways that racist urban planning policies and decisions altered and shaped our County – specifically for Black people and other communities of color.

In addition to acknowledgement, an important component of the process for addressing these legacies is providing a public process and place to discuss this history, and how it relates to current challenges our community faces. Furthermore, we must, as an agency have a vision for how to overcome this legacy and its impacts through an ongoing conversation with our community.

The presentation topics will include Tampa’s White Municipal Party, early zoning and comprehensive plans, urban renewal, and highway construction.
**Recommended Action:**
For information and discussion

**Prepared By:**
Joshua Barber, MPO Staff

**Attachments:**
Presentation slides
2021 Title VI, Nondiscrimination, and Equity Plan

March 2021 Committees
Project Background

• Hillsborough MPO *Title VI and Nondiscrimination Plan* adopted by MPO in March 2018
  • Must be updated every 3 years; next update due in 2021
  • Demonstrates our compliance with Federal Civil Rights Legislation
  • Advances equitable processes, programs, and policies for entire agency.

• Nondiscrimination Plan covers:
  • Identifying underserved communities and where they are located
  • How we engage those communities in our work
  • How we evaluate the equity outcomes of our plans
  • How we integrated Title VI/Nondiscrimination in our primary program areas
  • Title VI complaint process, procedures, and staff liaison
  • Recommendations

• 2021 Plan will be expanded to include The Hillsborough City-County Planning Commission
• Support MPO’s Resolution on Racial Equity
What groups are covered?

Federal law requires agencies receiving federal funds to ensure nondiscrimination in the provision of agency activities. We should and must ensure nondiscrimination the basis of:

• **Race, ethnicity, color, or national origin**
• **Income**
• **Ability**
• **Sex, gender, and sexual orientation**
• **Age**
• **English proficiency**
• **Family Status**
• **Religion**
Scope of Work

• Task 1. Define Equity
• Task 2. History of Inequities from Planning Policy in our Community
• Task 3. Identify Communities of Concern
• Task 4. Review Existing Equity Work
• Task 5. Community Engagement
• Task 6. Recommendations
• Task 7. Writing the 2021 Nondiscrimination Plan
A History of Discriminatory Planning in Hillsborough County

A brief summary of some key political parties, policies, and displacement patterns from 1900 - 1964
How did Planning get us Here? (1900 – 1964)

- Local, State, National Law and Politics
- Public and Private Housing
- Comprehensive Planning and Zoning
- Urban Renewal
- Highway Construction
Disclaimer and Content Warning

• Quotes and images from historical documents use language and depictions which are bigoted, inappropriate, and insensitive by today’s standards.
Local, State and National Politics

- End of Reconstruction – 1876
- Florida State Poll Tax – 1889 - 1936
- Establishment of “Separate but equal” – *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896
- Florida State Democratic Party declared only whites could hold party membership – 1902

Streetcar Segregation in Tampa (1904)
Tampa’s White Municipal Party

- **1908** - Tampa’s “White Municipal Party” established
- **1910** - Tampa had a whites-only primaries
- **1931** – whites-only primaries state-wide, and WMP only recognized political party in City of Tampa
- **1910 – 1956** – Every Tampa Mayor was WMP member
  - Donald B. Mckay; Horace C. Gordon; Charles H. Brown; Perry G. Wall; Thomas N. Henderson; Robert E. Lee Chancey; Curtis Hixon

Party Goal: “...prevent the future operation of the Negro vote as a balance of power in municipal elections.”
A Study of Negro Life in Tampa (1927)

• “Except for the area in Ybor City where the Cubans, irrespective of color, live intermixed, there is a general separation of the white and negro races.

• “The problem of health is inevitably a part of housing, sanitation, recreation, hospitalization, employment, wages and hours.”

• “For a colored population of 23,000, Tampa provides a Branch Library and a salaried playground supervisor. The City of Tampa provides no public park for Negroes: it provides no playgrounds, except unequipped school grounds: it provides no public pool or beach. The private recreation and amusements are of such a nature that the Negro public received no benefit therefrom. The Commercial recreation and amusement is of such a nature and so poorly supervised, that is perchance is more harmful than beneficial.”
Public and Private Housing

• Deed restrictions
• Public housing projects
• Homeowners Loan Corporation (1933)
Comprehensive Planning and Zoning
Tampa Major Street Plan (1941)

• Demographics: 29% Latin descent; 21% Black

• “Within the past two years since the completion of Boulevard Homes – the colored housing project – on Spruce Street in the former West Tampa section – many of the colored population have been migrating thereto. These several colored areas act as directives in considering the growth and development of the city.”

• First proposed routing of Interstate 275 beside Central Avenue, which states that such a project, “…would do much towards clearing up a blighted slum north of Cass Street on both sides of Central Ave.”
Tampa Zoning Plan (1942)

• What is zoning?

• on slums: “There are several other, but smaller areas, occupied now by colored people that should be eliminated and moved to other areas.”

• “With the establishment of North Boulevard Homes in West Tampa, a new locality was opened for the colored population. That development should be expanded either by public or private enterprise. Those colored residents now in Hyde Park area should be shifted to the West Tampa site. The whole “Scrub” area should be rehabilitated by the construction of a new housing development there – either publicly or privately financed. Other small areas occupied by colored people should be eliminated and those residents be transferred to other areas.”
Tampa Comprehensive Plan (1945)

- Parks and Recreation – reflects segregation
- On the Scrub, “...an economic barrier to the most healthful, wholesome development of the city...the “Scrub” is a cancerous infection ripe for a major operation to transform it into something economically sounds and worthwhile from a civic standpoint.”
- “As a source of crimes, immorality, delinquency and other evil influences the “Scrub” is an unnecessary and excess burden of expense to the taxpayers.”
"All the non-white dwelling units of the city are located south of the Atlantic Coast Line track east and west of Collins Street. The greatest concentration of negroes is east of Collins Street. In these areas dilapidation and substandard housing prevails."

"Altho some constructive thought has been given to park and recreation facilities for negroes nothing constructive has yet been accomplished."
Urban Renewal

- 1949 Federal Housing Act funded “slum” clearance throughout country
  - Federal loans used to purchase, condemn, and clear “blighted” areas – land was sold to developers to pay off the loan.
  - Expectation of public subsidized housing
- Four Urban Renewal projects in Hillsborough County:
  - The Scrub/Maryland Avenue (Tampa)
  - Riverfront (Tampa)
  - Ybor City (Tampa)
  - Plant City
The Scrub/Maryland Avenue (1962)

- 60 acres with 376 families
- NAACP and Robert Saunders statement,

“it is clear that the development of a program of improvement for this City has not been done for minority groups and not with Negroes. It is clear that if this program continues as it is now progressing, Negroes in Tampa will be relegated to a continuous pattern of racially segregated housing for the next fifty to one hundred years.”

Source: Good and Bad Housing – Tampa Housing Authority (1951)
Riverfront (1963)

- **1961 Survey:**
  - 10 white families
  - 670 Black families (97 owner occupied)
  - 176 businesses and 6 institutions

- **Land sold to:**
  - University of Tampa
  - City of Tampa
  - Private developers

- **City assurances to Federal Government on subsidized public housing**
Ybor City (1964)

- ~900 buildings identified – 708 demolished and 193 rehabilitated
- Redevelopment expectations never materialized
  - Hillsborough Community College (50+ acres)
  - County Sheriff’s Operation Center
- Major loss of residents, coupled with displacement from I-4 construction
Highway Construction

• 1956 Federal Aid Highway Act
  • I-275 (formerly I-75)
  • I-4

• South Crosstown Expressway
Master Highway Transportation Plan (1957)
Outcomes by late 1960s

• Destruction of major Black and Latin neighborhoods
  • Dobyville
  • Roberts City
  • The Scrub
  • Ybor City
• Displacement for economic development and highway construction
• Further segregated neighborhoods
  • East Tampa
  • North Boulevard and West Tampa
  • Progress Village
• Exclusion from housing market and wealth generation
• Exclusion from political office and planning efforts
Board & Committee Agenda Item

**Agenda Item:**
Non-Discrimination Plan – Demographics and Community Engagement

**Presenter:**
Dayna Lazarus, MPO Staff

**Summary:**
A public engagement program was developed to collect data on accessibility issues in underserved communities and to guide recommendations in the Nondiscrimination Plan 2021 update. Engagement began in November of 2020 and is winding down through March 2021. Dayna will go over the methods used to achieve public input from underserved communities, as well as some mapping techniques and maps of underserved communities that were created for the plan and the outreach.

**Recommended Action:**
None

**Prepared By:**
Dayna Lazarus, Community Planner II

**Attachments:**
PowerPoint presentation
Mapping Underserved Communities

Mapping methods for the Nondiscrimination Plan 2021 Update:
• Dot Density Method
• Threshold Method
Race and Ethnicity
Today in
Hillsborough County
Disparate Outcomes

- **Poverty:** 10.6% of white people live in poverty vs. 21.0% of Hispanic people and 24.3% of Black people
- **Home Ownership** - white (73.3%) versus Black (40.8%)
- **Transportation to Work:** 1.8% of white people walk/take transit to work vs. 4.8% of Black people
## Hillsborough County Percentiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block Group Percentile</th>
<th>White Alone</th>
<th>Black Alone</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th Percentile – <strong>VERY LOW</strong></td>
<td>25.70 %</td>
<td>1.44 %</td>
<td>11.40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40th Percentile – <strong>LOW</strong></td>
<td>44.10 %</td>
<td>5.13 %</td>
<td>18.99 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>60th Percentile – <strong>MEDIUM</strong></td>
<td>60.70 %</td>
<td>12.28 %</td>
<td>26.91 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>80th Percentile – <strong>HIGH</strong></td>
<td>75.56 %</td>
<td>26.29 %</td>
<td>42.65 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100th Percentile – <strong>VERY HIGH</strong></td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>96.74 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intersection Maps
Community Engagement

Methods of engagement for the Nondiscrimination Plan 2021 Update:

• Survey
• Field Outreach
• Storytelling Forum
• Focus Groups
Background

Purpose of Engagement Component:
1. Generating recommendations in the 2021 Nondiscrimination Plan
2. Building relationships for long-term engagement

Outreach focused on underserved communities:
- Racial/Ethnic minorities
- Low-Income persons
- Persons with disabilities
- + more

Community leadership is a key component of equity.
Three Engagement Phases

I. Early Engagement (2 months)
   Who should be at the table?
   Who is already engaged?
   a. Contact Lists
   b. Website
   c. Branding

II. Active Engagement (5 months)
   a. Survey
   b. Field Outreach
   c. Storytelling Forum Event
   d. Focus Groups

III. Ongoing Engagement (ongoing)
   Build trust and relationships by:
   a. Carrying out the recommendations.
   b. Bringing the finished Plan back to the community to show them where their input was considered.
Survey

**Purpose:** To collect contacts and quantitative data on accessibility issues and on opinions/experiences with direct and systemic discrimination from underserved communities.

Data trends used to guide focus group and forum questions where we can dig deeper into challenges and solutions.

**Method**

1. Virtual Survey (in English)
   a. Email to contacts from Early Engagement
   b. Social media posts

2. Paper Survey (in English + Spanish)
   a. Used in field outreach
   b. Postage-paid envelope drop-offs
Field Outreach

**Purpose:** To verbally administer surveys with members of underserved communities and ensure oversampling.

**Method**

1. Produced **materials** (flyer and survey)
2. Using GIS **maps**, identified EJ block groups
3. Identified popular community **hot spots**
4. Went into the **field** – Knocked doors and stood at hot spots 3 days/week, 5 hours/day, 7 weeks

**Staff:** One lead, one local member of community, one fluent in Spanish

**Goal:** 50 surveys, or one per staff member per day
Field Outreach

Why do field outreach this way?

1. We must **meet people where they’re at**.
2. We can oversample members of EJ communities.
3. Data shows that face-to-face is best way to engage and form new relationships.
4. Regular people don’t always go to interest group meetings.
5. During Covid-19, interest group meetings infrequent; moved online.
Storytelling Forum

**Purpose:** To provide an opportunity to everyone in Hillsborough County to offer their stories/experiences and ideas for solutions.

Stories put a face to a problem, give people practice speaking their truth, and provide “heart” data to decision-makers.

**Method**

- Leveraged community partnerships.
- Utilized Virtual (Zoom) platform.
- Kicked off the meeting with a presentation on the history of discriminatory planning.
- Facilitated storytelling discussion with attendees.
Focus Groups

**Purpose:** To dig deeper into accessibility challenges faced by State- and Federally-protected communities, discuss solutions and identify recommendations.

**Method**
- Recruiting people who did the survey and meet certain criteria (range of ages, disabilities, genders, races/ethnicities).
- Hosting 5 virtual focus groups:
  1. **Black | African/American** (3/3/21)
  2. LGBTQ (3/4/21)
  3. **People with Disabilities** (3/9/21)
  4. **Low-Income** (3/10/21)
  5. **Latinx | Hispanic** (3/11/21)
Example Recommendations

**Agencywide** (E.g. Hiring, Engagement, Coordination)
- Continue to expand engagement with traditionally underserved or underrepresented communities.
- Coordinate community planning efforts across transportation, housing, land use, community health, and other planning areas.
- Ensure that community characteristics and history are surveyed for every plan or project.

**MPO** (E.g. Long-Range Plan, Committees, Prioritization)
- Use Environmental Justice areas to prioritize TIP projects.
- Explore a participatory budgeting process for TIP and UPWP projects.
- Continue to explore demographic based seats on committees.
- Continue to develop methods of evaluating environmental justice impacts of projects and plans.

**Planning Commission** (E.g. Comprehensive Plans, Project Studies)
- Explore opportunities to prevent displacement from gentrification.
- Identify opportunities for improving access to housing, parks and recreation, and other comprehensive planning areas.
Questions and Comments

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