



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### Agenda Item

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments: Downtown Interchange Safety & Operations Adjustments, Westshore Interchange Reconstruction Preliminary Phase, and Traffic Congestion Management Technology

### Presenters

Mary Lou Godfrey, FDOT and Connor MacDonald, TPO Staff

### Summary

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) requested this set of 14 amendments to the 2021/22-2025/26 [Transportation Improvement Program](#) to document the addition of state and/or federal funds for regionally significant safety and congestion improvements. The 14 amendments comprise 3 major projects identified in the TPO's TIP Priority List and Long Range Transportation Plan, including the Westshore Interchange, Downtown Interchange, and various Integrated Corridor Management projects.

This TIP Amendment includes funding for a TPO priority listed in the Major Investments for Economic Growth category. The project comprises three turn movements of the Downtown Interchange: the westbound I-4 ramp to I-275 northbound, the westbound lanes of I-4 to I-275 southbound, and the I-275 southbound to I-4 eastbound ramp. The "quick fix" safety and operational improvements are anticipated to significantly improve safety along this Top 20 Vision Zero Corridor by reducing lane weaving and speeding, reducing congestion in vehicles lining up for exits, and making it easier to get to exits. The presentation will address questions about the incorporation of noise walls, landscaping and walk/bike treatments through this segment.

The Westshore Interchange Reconstruction project has been the region's top priority for many years and is currently a priority of the TPO in the Major Investments for Economic Growth category. When the project is complete, the reconstruction will reduce congestion and weaving at the interchange of I-275 and SR60 and enhance the local street network by reconnecting Reo, Occident, and Trask Streets. Complementing the Howard Frankland Bridge reconstruction, this project will ultimately provide on/off connections to the bridge's new express lanes. Today's amendments are a first step toward completing the larger project. This phase of construction includes funding for an intersection reconfiguration at Cypress and LaSalle Streets; turn lane improvements at the intersection of Kennedy Blvd and Memorial Highway and the intersection of Boy Scout Blvd and Lois Ave; seawall and trail construction on the Howard Frankland Bridge causeway; and pavement rehabilitation and the addition of a westbound general purpose lane along Memorial Highway connecting to the Courtney Campbell Causeway and Veterans Expressway. Additional funding will be needed to complete the full reconstruction of the interchange.



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Finally, the amendments also include funding to deploy traffic congestion management technology, known as integrated corridor management (ICM) strategies, along several key corridors, including Florida and Nebraska Avenues from Kennedy Blvd to Bearss Ave, Kennedy Blvd from Memorial Hwy to Ashley Dr, Boy Scout Blvd from the Airport Service Road to Dale Mabry Hwy, MLK Blvd from I-275 to I-4, and Hillsborough Ave from I-275 to I-4. These projects are currently prioritized in the TPO's Smart Cities investment program. Throughout the multi-year construction of both interchanges, these ICM projects intend to make work zones safer, reduce delay along key corridors, and improve travel time reliability through advanced live-monitoring technology. Specifically, the ICM projects will include traffic signal upgrades, new controllers, Bluetooth sensors, roadside units, advanced detection, dynamic message signs, CCTV, and additional fiber-optic connections.

In order for the funds to be transmitted, the TPO Board is being asked to amend the TIP to reflect that FDOT District 7 has been awarded \$257 million in state and/or federal funds.

### **Recommended Action**

Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments.

### **Prepared By**

Connor MacDonald, TPO Staff

### **Attachments**

1. Westshore Interchange Preliminary Phase Concept Diagram
2. Integrated Corridor Management Concept Diagram
3. Downtown Interchange "Safety and Operational Improvements" Concept Diagram
4. Comparative Report
5. [TIP Amendment Webpage](#)