Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee
Monday, January 3, 2022, 1:30 pm

All voting members are asked to attend in person, in compliance with Florida’s Government in the Sunshine Law. Please RSVP for this meeting. An accurate head-count will allow us to plan facilities. People attending in person are required to wear a mask while inside the County Center building consistent with CDC guidance. Some voting members may participate via web conference due to the ongoing national and local states of emergency re: COVID-19.

Audience members, presenters, and any others are asked to participate remotely, to minimize the potential for transmitting illness.

Remote participation:

- To view presentations and participate your computer, tablet or smartphone:
  - https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8329670713859839502
- Register in advance to receive your personalized link, which can be saved to your calendar.
- Dial in LISTEN-ONLY MODE: (415) 655-0052 Access Code 627-820-044
- Presentations, full agenda packet, and supplemental materials posted here, or phone us at 813-756-0371 for a printed copy.
- Please mute yourself after joining the conference to minimize background noise.
- Technical support during the meeting: Priya Nagaraj (813) 310-9709.

Rules of engagement:
Professional courtesy and respect for others at this meeting are expected, and failure may result in dismissal from the meeting. For more information on expectations for participation, please see the TPO’s Social Networking & Media Policy.

Call to Order

Agenda

I. Call to Order & Introductions

II. Public Comment - 3 minutes per speaker, please

III. Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2021

IV. Action Items

   A. Safe Access to Parks Pilot Study
      (Lisa Silva, TPO Staff and Kathrin Tellez, Fehr & Peers)

   B. Hillsborough County Request for Additional Seat on the TAC
      (Gena Torres, TPO Staff)
C. Election of Officer  
(Gena Torres, TPO Staff)

D. Attendance Review and Declaration of Vacant Seats  
(Gena Torres, TPO Staff)

V. Status Reports
A. City of Tampa Neighborhood Commercial District Plans  
(Frank Hall, City of Tampa)
B. Storm Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Study - Operational Strategies  
(Allison Yeh, TPO Staff and Karen Kiselewski, Cambridge Systematics)

VI. Old Business & New Business
A. Announcement: Solicitation of Projects for New TIP  
(Johnny Wong, TPO Staff)

VII. Adjournment

VIII. Addendum
A. TPO Meeting Summary and Committee Reports
B. FDOT Work Program - Revised HTPO Project Highlights
C. FDOT Project Fact Sheet – North 62nd Street (CSX Intermodal Entrance to north of East Columbus Drive)
D. FDOT Project Fact Sheet – US 41 (Kracker Ave to south of Causeway)

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

The TPO does not discriminate in any of its programs or services. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Learn more about our commitment to non-discrimination.

Persons needing interpreter services or accommodations for a disability in order to participate in this meeting, free of charge, are encouraged to contact Joshua Barber, (813) 576-2313 or barberj@plancom.org, three business days in advance of the meeting. If you are only able to speak Spanish, please call the Spanish helpline at (813) 272-5940 or (813) 273-3774 and dial 1.

Se recomienda a las personas que necesiten servicios de interpretación o adaptaciones por una discapacidad para participar en esta reunión, o ayuda para leer o interpretar los temas de esta agenda, sin costo alguno, que se pongan en contacto con Joshua Barber, (813) 576-2313 o barberj@plancom.org, tres días hábiles antes de la reunión. Si sólo habla español, por favor llame a la línea de ayuda en español al (813) 272-5940 o (813) 273-3774 ext. 1.

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If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
Hold for Minutes
Board & Committee Agenda Item

**Agenda Item:**
Safe Access to Parks Pilot Study

**Presenter:**
Lisa Silva, TPO staff or Kathrin Tellez, Fehr & Peers

**Summary:**
The Safe Access to Parks Pilot Study (formerly Park Speed Zone Pilot Study) developed a process to implement safety countermeasures with a focus on speed management that can be replicated at parks throughout the county. The study looked at the surrounding context and the ability to safely access three different types of parks - local, regional, and linear – so that the findings can then be applied to similar parks elsewhere in Hillsborough County. Building on the 2019 Speed Management Action Plan, a toolbox of safety countermeasures was developed. The project scope included the following tasks:

1. Identify parks to include in the pilot project
2. Conduct a detailed existing conditions assessment of each park location
3. Solicit public feedback
4. Develop a toolbox of safety countermeasures
5. Apply countermeasures to each park location (Fix-It Ideas)

The final report documents, the public feedback process and results, the application of Fix-It countermeasures, and those countermeasures recommended for each park location. All project materials are available on [the project webpage](#).

**Recommended Action:**
Recommend approval of the Safe Access to Parks Fix-It Ideas Reports.

**Prepared By:**
Lisa K. Silva, AICP. PLA, TPO Staff

**Attachments:**
1. [Link to slide presentation](#)
2. [Link to project website](#) with Safe Access to Parks Fix-It Ideas Reports for Copeland, Sulphur Springs, and UTBT
Board & Committee Agenda Item

**Agenda Item:**
Hillsborough County Request for an Additional Seat on the TAC

**Presenter:**
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

**Summary:**
Hillsborough County has undergone several organizational and personnel changes since last appointing members to the TPO’s Technical Advisory Committee. A new department has been formed, the Community and Infrastructure Planning Department, to be a strategic implementation group that intermediates between long-range planning and capital programming.

To offer full representation and expertise, the request is that in addition to current representation from Development Services (responsible for permitting) and Public Works (capital programming), **that a seat be created for a representative from Community and Infrastructure Planning** (strategic implementation).

Changes to the TPO bylaws requires two readings. If the TAC members agree to the requested change, the item would be reviewed by the Board at their January meeting and action taken at the February TPO Board meeting. The new TAC member would be eligible to participate fully at the March 7, 2022 TAC meeting.

**Recommended Action:**
Approve the request for an additional seat on the TAC and forward to the TPO Board for their consideration.

**Prepared By:**
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

**Attachments:**
- Request from Hillsborough County for Additional TAC Seat
- Draft Bylaws amendment with highlighted revisions
Subject: FW: TPO TAC Committee Membership

From: Patrick, John <PatrickJ@HillsboroughCounty.ORG>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 1:04 PM
To: Beth Alden <aldenb@plancom.org>
Cc: Lyons, John <LyonsJ@HillsboroughCounty.ORG>; Horwedel, Gregory <HorwedelG@hillsboroughcounty.org>; Bellotti, Joshua <BellottiJ@hillsboroughcounty.org>; Caper, Sarah <CaperS@hillsboroughcounty.org>

Subject: TPO TAC Committee Membership

Beth: As you know there has been several organizational and personal changes in the County since we last appointed members to the TPO’s TAC. The County has formed a department called the Community and Infrastructure Planning Department. This department was formed to be a strategic implementation group that intermediates between the long-range planning and the capital programming. We would like to request an additional seat of the committee, not only because of the size of our jurisdiction, but also because of the criticality of transportation/mobility from planning to implementation. The TPO plays a critical role in this process and we would like to provide you with full representation and expertise ranging from Development Services (responsible for permitting), Public Works (capital programming), and Community and Infrastructure Planning (strategic implementation). Based on the above we would like to request the following changes to County’s TAC membership. I know there has been some concern about participation from the County during this COVID time. We think with these changes you would get our participations at the TAC.

Development Services
- Mike Williams
- Rick Perez (alt)

Public Works Administration
- Leland Dicus
- John Patrick Marcelo Tavernari (alt)

Community and Infrastructure Planning (NEW)
- Sarah Caper
- Richard Ranck (alt)

If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thanks,

John Patrick
Division Director, Strategic Infrastructure Planning
Community and Infrastructure Planning Department

P: (813) 276-8428
M: (813) 539-3397
E: patrickj@hcflgov.net
W: HCFLGov.net
for violations of standards of conduct, defined as conduct inconsistent with Florida Senate Administrative Policies and Procedures. At a minimum, committee member attendance will be reviewed annually. In the case of members representing an organization on a committee as specified in the committee membership list, the individual’s membership may also be rescinded by the nominating organization, by letter to the Chair.

4.2.3 Officers of Standing Committees: The committee shall hold an organizational meeting each year for the purpose of electing a committee chair (unless designated by the TPO), a committee vice-chair, and, at the discretion of the committee chair, an officer-at-large. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the members. Except as otherwise provided in these By-laws, officers shall serve a term of one year starting with the next meeting. The powers and duties of the committee chair shall be to preside at all meetings; to express the position of the committee as determined by vote or consensus of the committee; and to ensure that all actions of the committee are taken in accordance with the bylaws and applicable law. The committee vice chair shall have these same powers and responsibilities in the absence of the committee chair. The officer-at-large shall, during the absence of both the committee chair and the committee vice-chair or their inability to act, have these same duties and responsibilities, and in addition shall perform other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the committee chair.

4.2.4 Conduct of Committee Meetings: Sections 5 through 9, excluding Section 8.1, of these TPO By-laws shall be used for the conduct of all TPO committee meetings.

4.2.5 Standing Committee Sub-Committees: A TPO standing committee or the TPO may establish such sub-committees to a standing committee as deemed necessary to investigate and report on specific subject areas within the scope of the standing committee. Such sub-committees shall be of limited duration and shall dissolve at such time as designated at the time of establishment or upon completion of the task(s) specified at the time of establishment. These TPO By-laws shall be used for the conduct of such sub-committees meetings in the same manner as the TPO committees.

4.2.6 TPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC): Established pursuant to Section 339.175, Florida Statutes, the TAC shall be responsible for considering safe access to schools in the review of transportation project priorities, long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs and shall advise the TPO on such matters. In addition, the TAC shall be responsible for assisting in the development of transportation planning work programs; coordinating transportation planning and programming; review of all transportation studies, reports, plans and/or programs, and making
recommendations to the TPO that are pertinent to the subject documents based upon the technical sufficiency, accuracy, and completeness of and the needs as determined by the studies, plans and/or programs. The TAC shall coordinate its actions with the School Board of Hillsborough County and other local programs and organizations within Hillsborough County that participate in school safety activities and shall also coordinate its actions with the appropriate representatives of the Florida Department of Transportation.

TAC Membership: The TAC shall be composed of technically qualified representatives for the purpose of planning, programming and engineering of the transportation system within the Hillsborough County Transportation Planning Organization area boundary.

The membership shall be composed of: two (2) members from Hillsborough County, two (2) members from City of Tampa, two (2) members from the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, one (1) member from the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority, one (1) member from the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority, one (1) member from Environmental Protection Commission, one (1) member from the Tampa Port Authority, one (1) member from City of Temple Terrace, one (1) member from the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, one (1) member from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, one (1) member from City of Plant City, one (1) member from the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority, one (1) member from the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority, one (1) member from the Tampa Historic Streetcar, Inc., one (1) member from the Department of Health-Hillsborough and one (1) member from the Florida Trucking Association.

Terms of Membership: Members shall serve terms of indefinite length at the pleasure of their respective nominating organizations and the TPO.

4.2.7 TPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC): The CAC shall be responsible for providing information and overall community values and needs into the transportation planning program of the TPO; evaluating and proposing solutions from a citizen’s perspective concerning alternative transportation proposals and critical issues; providing knowledge gained through the CAC into local citizen group discussions and meetings; and establishing comprehension and promoting credibility for the TPO Program.

CAC Membership: The CAC shall be composed of appointed citizens (transportation agency staff are not eligible) who together shall represent a broad spectrum of social and economic backgrounds and who have an interest in the development of an efficient, safe and cost-
Board & Committee Agenda Item

**Agenda Item**
Election of Officers

**Presenter**
Gena Torres, TPO staff

**Summary**

The TPO By-Laws require that officers are to be elected each year. There are no term limits for officers, therefore they can be re-elected and serve indefinitely. The By-Laws state:

*Officers of Standing Committees: The committee shall hold an organizational meeting each year for the purpose of electing a committee chair, a committee vice-chair, and, at the discretion of the committee chair, an officer-at-large. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the members.*

The current TAC officers are:

- Chairman: Jeff Sims
- Vice Chair: Mike Williams
- Officer-at-large: Jay Collins

Members can nominate themselves or any other member. No second is needed, and each nomination is voted on individually until one member receives a majority of votes for an officer’s position.

**Recommended Action**
Hold Election of Officers

**Prepared By**
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

**Attachments**
None
Board & Committee Agenda Item

**Agenda Item:**
Attendance Review and Declaration of Vacant Seats

**Presenter:**
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

**Summary:**
The TPO By-Laws require that “at a minimum, committee member attendance will be reviewed annually.” The TPO may review and consider rescinding the appointment of any member of any committee who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings. Members who have exceeded three absences are contacted to determine their intentions regarding committee membership.

If a seat has been unoccupied for an extended period, then the committee may declare it vacant so that it will not be counted in determining a quorum. However, if the appointing entity appoints someone to fill the vacancy in the future, then the seat will be considered filled and count towards a quorum.

**Recommended Action:**
As deemed appropriate after discussion.

**Prepared By:**
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

**Attachments:**
2021 Attendance Report
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**2021 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE**

**IN PERSON:**
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**VIRTUAL:**
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**MEMBERSHIP LESS VACANCIES:**
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**NEEDED FOR QUORUM:**
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**QUORUM ACHIEVED:**
- NO
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- NO
- YES

**LEGEND:**
- Y - In Attendance
- N - Not in Attendance
Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item
City of Tampa Neighborhood Commercial District Plans

Presenter
Frank Hall, City of Tampa Planning Department

Summary
The City of Tampa Planning Department launched an initiative to develop plans to enhance and preserve the quality of the City’s neighborhood commercial districts. Working closely with neighborhood community groups, the planning team set out to build upon and strengthen each district’s unique identity with a focus on the ‘neighborhood commercial corridors’ that exist around the City.

The program started with two neighborhood districts, the Main Street Commercial District located in West Tampa and the Palma Ceia Commercial District located in South Tampa. Today’s presentation will highlight the results of the study and next steps for implementation.

Recommended Action
None. For informational purposes only.

Prepared By
Gena Torres, TPO Staff

Attachments
None.
Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item:
Storm Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Study – Operational Strategies

Presenter:
Allison Yeh, TPO Staff and Karen Kiselewski, Cambridge Systematics

Summary:
A critical component of transportation agencies’ policy and program decision-making is system resilience to disruption. The TPO’s Storm Evacuation Forecast & Shelter-in-Place Scenarios Study will supplement the ongoing work of Emergency Management in the County and Cities by providing a high-level analysis of Hillsborough’s evacuation practices today. The study will evaluate best practices in evacuation regionally and nationally, assess potential evacuation enhancement options in Hillsborough County, and develop a set of recommendations and next steps for the TPO and other agencies to consider supporting emergency evacuations in Hillsborough County.

The overall goal of this study is to assess and identify potential strategies to improve evacuation procedures without undertaking expensive road widening projects. The objectives are to enhance the transportation experience to meet evacuation needs safely, efficiently, and effectively for all affected people. This includes evaluating how and where people evacuate, whether by car, transit or on foot to a shelter or out of the county.

The project team will provide a status update on the project and initial issues identified: congestion during evacuations, transportation evacuation operations, event related communications, and behaviors affecting evacuation and sheltering. Hurricane evacuation hotspot locations and potential operational strategies will be discussed, and feedback sought from the committee.

Recommended Action:
None; for information only

Prepared By:
Allison Yeh, AICP, LEED GA

Attachments:
None
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Application

Application Cycle Opens: December 6, 2021
Application Cycle Closes: March 4, 2022

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is pleased to announce that the application cycle for the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) is now open and will remain open until March 4, 2022.

General Information:
The purpose of this competitive program is to improve regionally significant transportation facilities in “regional transportation areas.” State funds are available throughout Florida to provide incentives for local governments and the private sector to help pay for critically needed projects that benefit regional travel and commerce.

Program Requirements:
Requirements can be found in 339.2819 F.S.
- Projects must be prioritized and listed on the Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance’s (SCTPA) TRIP Priority Project List.
- FDOT will provide 50% of eligible project costs, and the county shall provide the balance.
- Projects to be funded with Transportation Regional Incentive Program funds, shall at a minimum:
  - Serve national, statewide, or regional functions and function as part of an integrated regional transportation system.
  - Be identified in the capital improvements element of a comprehensive plan that has been determined to be in compliance with part II of chapter 163, after July 1, 2005.
  - Be consistent with the Strategic Intermodal System Plan developed under s. 339.64.
  - Have a commitment for local, regional, or private financial matching funds as a percentage of the overall project cost.
Support economic development and the movement of goods in rural areas of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656(7).

Improve connectivity between military installations and the Strategic Highway Network or the Strategic Rail Corridor Network.

Refer to the TRIP application for additional information, and references.

**How to Apply:**

TRIP applications are available in the FDOT Grant Application Portal (FLGAP) located at https://www.flgap.com/ Each application package must include the following:

- Completed, signed, TRIP Application
- Location Map
- Detailed Cost Estimate
- Detailed Scope of Services
- CIP Page
- Proposed Project Schedule

Completed applications should be forwarded to your MPO for prioritization, no later than March 4, 2022. If you need assistance creating a log-in or accessing the FLGAP, contact Suzanne Monk at (813) 975-6721.

The key to a successful application is to provide enough information to allow the Department to evaluate the project based on clearly demonstrated need for the requested improvement(s). We look forward to receiving your application(s). Questions regarding this Notice of Funding Opportunity should be directed Suzanne Monk at (813) 975-6721.

Thanks,

**Suzanne Monk, FCCM**

Government Liaison
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-975-6721
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program (TA) Application
Application Cycle Opens: December 6, 2021
Application Cycle Closes: March 4, 2022

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is pleased to announce that the application cycle for the Transportation Alternative Set-Aside program (TA Set-Aside) is now open and will remain open until March 4, 2022.

General Information:
The TA Set-Aside program provides funding for programs and projects consistent with details described under 23 U.S.C. 133(h)(3), including 1) Transportation Alternatives, 2) Recreational Trails Program, 3) Safe Routes to School Program, and 4) planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.

Program Requirements:
Requirements can be found in Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Guidance and Procedures
- The department requires that locally administered infrastructure projects must be implemented by a Local Agency Program (LAP) certified agency; this includes phases of work leading to construction, or activities specifically identified in the definition of “construction” in Title 23 of the United States Code, Section 101(a)(4).
- To be eligible for funding under the TA Set-Aside Program, projects must fall under at least one of the ten categories outlined in the Table B: Eligible Project Categories in the FDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Guidance and Procedures.

Refer to the TA Set-Aside application for additional information, and references.

How to Apply:
TA Set-Aside applications are available in the FDOT Grant Application Portal (FLGAP) located at
Each application package must include the following:

- Completed, signed, TA Set-Aside Application
- Detailed Engineer’s Estimate
- Detailed Scope of Services
- Project Location Map
- Certification of Implementing Agency

Completed applications should be forwarded to your MPO for prioritization, no later than March 4, 2022.

The key to a successful application is to provide enough information to allow the Department to evaluate the project based on clearly demonstrated need for the requested improvement(s). We look forward to receiving your application(s). Questions regarding this Notice of Funding Opportunity should be directed Suzanne Monk at (813) 975-6721.

Thanks,

Suzanne Monk, FCCM
Government Liaison
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-975-6721
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Application  
(SU Funds)  
Application Cycle Opens: December 6, 2021  
Application Cycle Closes: March 4, 2022

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is pleased to announce that the application cycle for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU Funds) is now open and will remain open until March 4, 2022.

General Information:  
The Surface Transportation Block Grant program provides flexible funding that may be used by FDOT and Local Agencies for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals.

Program Requirements:  
Requirements can be found in 23 USC 133 and FAST ACT § 1109

- Projects must be prioritized on MPO Major Projects Priority Lists
- Can be used on state and local facilities

Refer to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU Funds) application for additional information, and references.

How to Apply:  
Applications are available in the FDOT Grant Application Portal (FLGAP) located at https://www.flgap.com/ Each application package must include the following:

- Completed, signed, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (SU funds)
- Detailed Engineer’s Estimate
- Project Location Map

Completed applications should be forwarded to your MPO for prioritization, no later than March 4,
2022. If you need assistance creating a log-in or accessing the FLGAP, contact Suzanne Monk at (813) 975-6721.

The key to a successful application is to provide enough information to allow the Department to evaluate the project based on clearly demonstrated need for the requested improvement(s). We look forward to receiving your application(s). Questions regarding this Notice of Funding Opportunity should be directed Suzanne Monk at (813) 975-6721.

Thanks,

Suzanne Monk, FCCM
Government Liaison
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-975-6721
HILLSBOROUGH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
HYBRID MEETING, DECEMBER 06, 2021
DRAFT MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman, Commissioner Cohen, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and led the pledge of allegiance. The regular monthly meeting was held in-person and virtual via WebEx.

II. ROLL CALL (Gail Reese, TPO Staff)

The following members were present in person: Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Commissioner Kimberly Overman, Commissioner Gwen Myers, Councilman Guido Maniscalco, Councilman Joseph Citro, Councilman John Dingfelder, Mayor Andrew Ross, Commissioner Nate Kilton, Gina Evans, HART Board Member Melanie Williams, Planning Commissioner Cody Powell

The following members were present virtually: Commissioner Mariella Smith, Bob Frey, Charles Klug

The following members were absent/excused: School Board Member Jessica Vaughn

A quorum was met in person.

Some members are participating virtually because of medical reasons and the local declaration of emergency.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 10, 2021

Chair Cohen sought a motion to approve the November 10, 2021 minutes. Councilman Maniscalco so moved, seconded by Commissioner Myers. Voice vote: motion carries unanimously.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Vision Zero Hero 2021 (Beth Alden, TPO Director) award presentation to Lena Young Green followed by a reading of Ms. Young Green’s nomination, a brief acceptance speech from Ms. Young Green, and a group photo with the TPO Board.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Rick Fernandez – 2906 North Elmore Avenue in Tampa Heights. Serves as Vice Chair of the CAC, speaking today as an individual citizen. Written comments are included in reference. Noted that the Board approved operational and safety improvements in May for the Downtown Interchange project. Part of the plan was to add a lane to the flyover ramp from the south bound I-275 to east bound I-4. Understood that this lane addition would be accomplished within the existing infrastructure and interstate footprint. On November 17, 2021, accidentally learned that FDOT plans a major construction project with a new footprint to accommodate the additional lane and outward movement of the barrier wall, twelve feet, more or less, to accommodate the new
infrastructure. This intrusion will track from just south of Floribraska to Scott Street along the
eastern border of Tampa Heights. Did not see this coming and believes he would have noticed.
The wall movement and construction vision would break ground one block from his front door.
Does not believe the Board knew this is what FDOT intended when plans were approved in May.
Does not believe there has been a meeting of the minds between the Board and FDOT and the
neighborhood. Believes that FDOT has negligently or intentionally withheld material facts. The
action of the Board in May is suspect and open to criticism. Now that we all know and the Board is
held accountable, the ask is to bring FDOT back for a full vetting of the DTI plans. Tampa Heights
has asked for details, there are few; there are more questions than answers such as start and
finish dates, road closures, vibration damage analysis, work schedules, property value impacts,
construction takings, mitigation plans, and actual notification to property owners. Would like the
Board to ask these questions and stop or revise the plan as called for. The people, many of you are
elected to represent, are counting on you to have their backs and this is the first step in that
process.

Bill Roberts – 14711 Clarendon Drive. Wanted to thank the Board for their efforts over the past
year as we come to the close of the year. Noted that he has been around a number of years as
have many of the Board members. Noted that we are planning for the future that will affect
generations to come. Appreciates the efforts and the time taken to receive citizen input is greatly
appreciated. Wishes the Board all the best for the holiday season.

Mauricio Rosas – Would like to talk about land use, sidewalks, and policy change. It is no surprise
that we do not have a well-functioning mass transit system. This organization, in it’s different
capacities, fails to put together and act on urban design grids. Noted that Secretary Gwynn has
repeatedly said that FDOT is willing to partner on land use with this body to help in planning for a
more robust transit system. If we don’t change current behavior, the same meetings will continue
to be had over and over without accomplishing much in reducing the number of cars on the road.
Sidewalks; recently, federal money was used in south county to widen roads. State law was not
followed that says we must have sidewalks within a two-mile radius of all schools. Asked why kids
are still walking on the road at dangerous intersections near I-275. Lastly, policy change
communication. This Board makes decisions based on slide presentations and inuendoes of
projects, we are not seeing the whole picture before a vote is determined. What is meant by this is
how many of the Board knew that part of the barrier wall in the Tampa Heights area would be
moved before voting for the project. And if you voted for the project knowing there would be
some expansion within the right-of-way versus the existing structure, the least FDOT can do is
notify the residents along the area at least 30 days before construction begins. People need to be
notified before they buy or sell their houses. Asking this Board to be more detailed oriented. We
cannot continue to allow this expansion without doing anything to reduce the number of cars on
the road. That is what he wants the Board to own up to; reducing the number of cars on the road,
communication, and sidewalks.

Adam Fritz – Lives in Tampa Heights on Central Avenue. Thanked the Board for allowing him to
make comments on the Downtown Interchange plan. Believes it is imperative for FDOT to be
transparent and honest with the community, given their history with TBX. Extra care should be
taken with any FDOT project that is coming in contact with historic neighborhoods. Because this is a design/build project, that transparency has not been forthcoming. The message has been that they will not be outside of their footprint. To most, this has been welcome news. It has now been discovered that this may be true for FDOT definitions but not what will happen in reality to this design/build. FDOT has said that they will take a minimum of twelve feet to the west side of I-275 into our neighborhood in the current design/build structure. There may be more, there may be other things we don’t know. This design/build is the path of least resistance and will not deliver a sure thing. This is troubling. His home is on Central Avenue; it is a historical home, the original home of the Robles family built in 1876. For twelve years, we have worked tirelessly in the neighborhood and on our own home to make it better and a contribution to the neighborhood. The back of our house faces Elmore Avenue within two-hundred feet of the I-275 structural well. His house is not listed in FDOT’s structures of concern nor are other historical homes on Central Avenue. This illustrates that FDOT has not done an adequate job of context of a sensitive area and all the potential impacts. Impacts to decreased property value; impacts to the tax base and revitalizing historic neighborhoods of Tampa; damages to property, especially historic structures due to construction vibration; what and when is testing and monitoring; what are the mitigation plans of some of the impacts that have not been addressed. Asking for more time to understand the plan and the impacts to the neighborhood and the City of Tampa overall. We are asking for opportunity to come up with more creative solutions that would stay inside the built footprint. Asked for a pause to this project to get a better understanding of the detrimental impacts before it is too late.

Michael Spokas – Lives in the Tampa Heights historic district at 210 East Ross Avenue. Expressed concern for the historic, four-unit building at 1902 Lamar that FDOT wants to demolish. There is no reason this property needs to be torn down. It is not in the footprint of the interstate and is a historic structure in the historic district. It’s not beyond repair, anything is salvageable. It needs someone who wants to save it. The property cannot, currently be moved. It should be allowed to be rehanded in its current location like the Tampa Heights Community Center at Palm and Lamar. The units could be rented as affordable housing. This could solve three problems: saving a historical structure, help with the affordable housing issue in Tampa, and keeping more debris out of our landfills.

Andrea Martin – not online for comment

VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS & ADVANCE COMMENTS** (Davida Franklin, TPO Staff)

A. Planning Commissioner Cody Powell (advanced recognition prior to Consent Agenda) – Noted the presentation on the FLiP and FLiP Jr. program at the end of the November meeting. Some of the Board members were not in attendance for this presentation. Encouraged everyone to rewatch the presentation when they have a moment to do so. The programs are fantastic and bring the community’s children into our world. Believes it is critical for elected officials to engage with the children and to inspire them to engage with local government. Local government is the only form of government that can affect change rapidly. Noted the quote from the opening slide of the
presentation. Encouraged the Board members to take the time to participate in the FLiP and/or FLiP Jr. programs in the future. He has participated and expressed it is special to see the kids get excited.

B. Chair Cohen noted that the Board is going to be hearing from FDOT at the January meeting regarding the concerns that have been raised about the Downtown Interchange project. Noted that Board members will have an opportunity to talk about that after the Committee report.

C. BPAC – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff (November 10, 2021 meeting)
   • Approved the following Action Items:
     o Memorandum of Agreement for Bike/Ped Counters with FDOT.
     o Comments on FDOT RRR Studies
       ▪ The Committee heard a report on two resurfacing projects on Dale Mabry and Park Road. Plant City Staff provided comments in support of maintaining the 6 lanes currently on Park Road but also supported on-road bike facilities.
     o 2022 Meeting Calendar.
   • Heard Status Reports on:
     o FDOT 56th Street/ 50th Street Corridor Planning Study
     o City of Tampa neighborhood Commercial District Plans
     o Tampa Downtown Partnership Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts
     o US Bicycle Route 15 through Hillsborough County
       ▪ This bike route has been identified by the Adventure Cycling Association, which is seeking to engage communities along the proposed route including Hillsborough County and Plant City Staff of the proposal.

D. LRC – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff (November 17, 2021 meeting)
   • Approved the following Action Items:
     o Brightline SEIS Historic Resource Review comments
     o 2022 Meeting Calendar
     o USF To Green ARTery Trail Study – with the suggestion the draft study and alignments be reviewed by the Hillsborough County School District for feedback before finalization.
   • Heard Status Report on
     o FDOT 56th Street/ 50th Street Corridor Planning Study
     o Tampa Downtown Partnership Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

E. Public Comments Received Through Email & Social Media – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff
   • Did not receive any emails or social media posts pertaining to today’s action items.
   • Did receive comments about the Transportation Improvement Program that funded the Downtown Interchange in October.
   • Copies of emails, letters, and social media comments have been forwarded via email to all TPO Board members on December 6, 2021 and December 7, 2021. Social media comments included at the end of the minutes.
F. **FDOT COMMENT:** Secretary Gwynn (speaking in response to Public Comment) – requested to speak about three issues that have been brought up as topics of discussion. FDOT will be speaking and discussing these topics at the January 2022 TPO Board meeting.

- Downtown Interchange and the walls that are going to need to be moved.
  - Noted words heard in public comment: dishonest, deceptive, non-collaborative.
  - Over the last five years, tasked his team to be completely transparent, collaborative, and be open and honest with the public about everything they do.
  - Just because people say things repeatedly does not make them true.
  - FDOT has not shown anything to the public that did not show the walls not being moved.
  - The wall movement was called out in graphics in public meetings.
  - FDOT did not say they were going to stay within the existing structural footprint but within the right-of-way footprint.
  - Committed five years ago that FDOT would take a hard look at the concepts being considered. Looked at and developed four plans. Came up with one that they feel is very collaborative. It takes out express lanes north of I-4 and does not take any additional right-of-way in Tampa Heights but utilize existing right-of-way as best possible to mitigate safety concerns within the interchange. Trying to mitigate the ~1000 annual crashes in that section.
  - It is not perfect and not everyone likes it. Made every effort to mitigate the impact on the Tampa Heights community. Have invested tens of millions of dollars into infrastructure improvements in Tampa Heights.
    - FDOT submitted a RAISE grant for $25 million for the federal government to provide improvements in the Tampa Heights area. The federal government gave $18 million and FDOT provided the additional $7 million.
    - Fought for and provided $68 million to extend the streetcar into Tampa Heights. That was before the local match. Made the streetcar free to make the federal funding more attractive.
  - Have shortlisted teams to move forward, will continue to work with the community, does not believe the comments made were true.

- Coming to the TPO Board in January 2022 to look at Robles Park solutions.
  - Will be bringing ideas for the Robles Park challenges.
  - There is no opportunity for federal or state funds for noise walls as the area does not meet the federal requirements for a noise wall. The state funds require the federal guidelines be followed. The only funding that may be possible are local funds and that is not recommended. FDOT will not stand in the way if that option is selected but, it is not a recommendation.
  - Will be bringing possible solutions utilizing state funds to the January meeting. Privacy wall, landscaping opportunities, trellis walls and other things that would be good solutions.
  - Understands it’s frustrating and doesn’t always make sense but, they have to follow the rules in place for federal and state funds.

- The home scheduled for demolition: 1902 Lamar
  - Not being demolished due to the SCIS. It is an unsound structure and a public nuisance based on police calls at the property.
o Have tried to find an investor that would move the home and rehab it. Have not found anybody willing to make that investment.
o Several problems including black mold, structurally not sound, unable to tour second floor, wood structure with stucco on the exterior.
o Was purchased in 2015 from a willing seller. The structural inspection at that time showed that these conditions were there in 2015. It may have gotten worse since then. But, at the time, it was not structurally sound.
o Because of the stucco on wood, it could collapse if it was moved. Would likely need to remove the stucco first which makes it unstable.
o Gave the local association sixty days to find their own investor. FDOT has been looking for years.
o Continuing to let it sit there and deteriorate is not a good solution. Doesn’t like tearing down any structure. But, unless someone is willing to work with FDOT on moving the structure and doing rehab, there isn’t another choice.

• Does not want to fall into the contentious and negative relationship from the past. Have tried to be very collaborative with the public. Knows it’s not perfect and people don’t like what we are doing. We have to find compromise. We have made a lot of progress and does not want to rehash things already decided. We need to move forward. Will continue to find ways to work with the public. Does not want to wind up back five years.

Discussion:

Commissioner Cohen: Knows we will get more into this in January. There is a full agenda today. Asked for brief comments at this time.

Commissioner Overman: Thanked Secretary Gwynn for answering some of the questions brought up in communications, social media, and public comment. The work to reconfigure underpasses on Chelsea and Osborne has already begun. There is an opportunity for FDOT to work with the community on underpass design and artwork associated. Noted that this relationship has not been developing in a positive way. Seminole Heights and Tampa Heights are very artistic communities. Other overpasses and underpasses have worked with the community in which they were changed. Asking that same effort be made and to report on how that is being done in the January report. Also asked for clarification on the noise wall and other solutions for Robles Park with dollar amounts. This will give the community an idea of a realistic decision on what they would like to see in that effort.

Commissioner Kemp: 1902 Lamar, has dealt with this in Seminole Heights. Was told they were unable to be helped. Some of the properties were moved and rehabbed. Asked if the land that the structure is sitting on could be made available to leave the home there and have it rehabbed.

Commissioner Myers: Asked if Secretary Gwynn would be willing to hold another community engagement meeting. The residents are saying that they didn’t know what was going on and were not informed. Have another meeting with the residents clarifying everything that was said today and come back next month with that information.

Secretary Gwynn: Would be glad to continue to work with the community. Had a recent meeting giving people the opportunity to come and talk. Would hope that the organizers from both sides would promote a meeting as an opportunity for constructive conversation. A good way to start would
be with the leaders of the community, come and sit down and talk and then try to expand that out. We are open to conversations. About the artwork, that is in the hands of the City of Tampa. The city is doing the public outreach for that. Happy to work with the city but that is the role the City of Tampa wanted. As far as the home, we are willing to look at solutions. The community association has been asked to come back to FDOT within sixty days if they can find someone who has a plan, and they will look at it.

**Commissioner Myers:** Asked to be notified of a community meeting as she would like to attend in support as a Commissioner and there may be other Commissioners and Board Members who would like to attend that meeting. Agrees that nothing will be accomplished if people are showing up to go back and forth. We can accomplish great things when we come together and discuss things in unity.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** Mentioned earlier that this is the 80th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Agrees with Secretary Gwynn and hopes the TPO Board and FDOT do not end up in another “war”. Believes that the Secretary and his team have done a great job in the last five years of changing the attitude and relationship between the community and the district DOT. Does recall a comment when he originally came on the MPO/TPO that the interchange would not go beyond the existing footprint. Noted that the problem may be the definition of what is the footprint. Noted that the clarification may be that the right-of-way footprint is not changing but the actual structure will need to go out. Believes this may be an unintentional miscommunication and can be resolved with additional communication as suggested by Commissioner Myers.

**Councilman Maniscalco:** Believes that our generation and everyone here needs to pay attention to historic preservation. In the last half century, all that has been done is tearing down. Noted a conversation he had with an older gentlemen about historical structures and designs in the community; the gentlemen laughed and said that there was no historic preservation. Old buildings were torn down for parking lots, highways, and other things. Noted a LIFE magazine from 1963, article headlines with Erasing Our History about a structure being torn down from the 1930's. On his walk to County Center from City Hall today, noticed all the parking lots. Those used to be hotels and other structures that were brick structures made to last for centuries built by craftspeople. It is up to us to preserve what we can. When he was first elected, he asked the Mayor about the Jackson House. There was no interest at the time. It was in much better shape then. May have waited too long, hopes it is still restorable. It’s demolition by neglect. In the age where people are making a fortune in real estate, hopes someone will step up for this structure and develop it into affordable housing. Noted Burn’s Steak House, apartments next door, the Burn’s organization gutted it and are renovating the building.

**Secretary Gwynn:** Clarified that the structure is a wooden structure with stucco on the outside and not brick or block. If it was, it would be easier to move. The stucco will fall off. Most companies spoken to said they would take the stucco off before moving the structure.

**Commissioner Kemp:** Noted that FDOT has not spoken that the construction would be in the current footprint, it will be in the current right-of-way. Noted that this has always been fundamental to the conversation. There is no way to add additional lanes to the current structure. Said that this has been her focus since they have been looking at this for three or four years. Does not want misconceptions about the information presented.
Commissioner Cohen: The comments by the Board are thoughtful. Good that Secretary Gwynn is amenable to Commissioner Myers’ suggestion for a community meeting to create some dialog. People have mentioned Pearl Harbor today. He has been struck by the coverage of the passing of Senator Bob Dole. It has been about his unique ability to bring people together over the years. He did this across party lines and across divisions to get things done. The spirit of collaboration and cooperation that we want to see goes back to that time. Not everyone can get what they want but we can find common ground and compromise. We will be getting into the details of these projects at our next meeting to make sure there are no misunderstandings. Commissioner Kemp’s point was important. The issue of right-of-way versus current envelope was significant in coming to these solutions. The original proposals involved huge takings in the community that are no longer on the table. We will come back with this item in the new year.

G. CONSENT AGENDA
A. Committee Appointments
• TDCB – Alexcia Wiggins, nominated by Hillsborough County Public Schools
• BPAC – Christopher Fellerhoff, nominated by Hillsborough County and Richard Rank, as alternate
B. Memorandum of Agreement for Bike Ped Counters with FDOT (Wade Reynolds, TPO Staff)
• The TPO is partnering with the Downtown Partnership for a pilot project to count Pedestrians and Cyclists using FDOT owned equipment.
• Memorandum of Agreement allows for the use of the equipment for a three-week period of time in February for the first series of counts.
• These counts are expected to be completed on an annual basis.
• First set of automated, real counts done

Memorandum of Agreement for Bike Ped Counters with FDOT: TPO Board December 07, 2021

Discussion:

Chair Cohen sought a motion to approve the Committee Appointments and the Memorandum of Agreement for the Bike Ped Counters with FDOT. Commissioner Overman so moved, seconded by Commissioner Myers. Voice vote: motion carries unanimously.

H. ACTION ITEMS
• 2022 Board Officers and Committee Assignments (Cameron Clark, TPO Attorney)
  o Nominations can be made until there are no more. Votes will be taken on nominations received. Seconds are not required.
  o Asked for nominations for TPO Chair.
    ▪ Commissioner Kemp nominates Commissioner Cohen. No other nominations.
      Commissioner Myers requested to close the nominations for TPO Chair. Commissioner Cohen is TPO Chair for 2022.

Discussion:
Commissioner Cohen – Thanked the Board. Noted that under term limits, the Chair is limited to two terms, this will be his last term as Chair.

- Asked for nominations for Vice Chair.
  - Commissioner Cohen nominates Commissioner Kemp. No other nominations. Commissioner Kemp is Vice Chair.
  - Policy Committee; recommends an odd number. Asked if the Chair would like the members of the Policy Committee to be reviewed. Commissioner Cohen recommended that everyone participate in the Policy Committee. Noted that Mr. Waggoner is a member and is retiring soon. We need to make sure to replace him. Mr. Clark noted that the current membership of the Policy Committee is Commissioner Kemp, Councilman Maniscalco, Commissioner Smith, Director Waggoner, and Commissioner Cohen with alternates of Commissioner Overman, Director Anderson and Mr. Klug. It would be advisable to have one more member appointed and if that member is an alternate, appoint an additional alternate. Commissioner Overman volunteered to move to a regular member if possible and ask for someone to take her place as an alternate. Commissioner Myers and Councilman Dingfelder volunteered to be an alternate. Councilman Dingfelder deferred to Commissioner Myers. Policy Committee membership will be Commissioner Kemp, Councilman Maniscalco, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Cohen, and Commissioner Overman with alternates being Commissioner Myers, Director Anderson, and Mr. Klug.
  - TMA Leadership Group current members are Councilman Dingfelder, Commissioner Overman and Commissioner Kemp with backups of Director Anderson and Director Lopano. Councilman Dingfelder no longer wishes to serve on that group. Councilman Citro would like to serve on the group. No objection. The TMA Leadership Group is Commissioner Overman, Commissioner Kemp, and Councilman Citro with backups being Director Anderson and Director Lopano.
  - Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Chair is presently Commissioner Smith who no longer wishes to serve in that capacity. Commissioner Myers would like to serve as the TDCB Chair. She is appointed with no objections.
  - Livable Roadways Chair is currently Councilman Citro who would like to continue serving as the Chair. He is appointed the LRC Chair with no objections.
  - MPO Board Alternate since the MPO Board Chair is automatically appointed to that council. The alternate is presently Director Anderson or Mr. Klug. No objections to that going forward.

- **2022 Meeting Calendar** (Beth Alden, TPO Director)
  - Proposed 2022 calendar of meetings for the TPO.
  - In the Agenda Packet, will send out calendar appointments.
  - Continuing with 2\textsuperscript{nd} Wednesday of the month. There are a couple of spots that will vary based on the County Commission meetings.

*Calendar is attached to the [December 7, 2021 TPO Board Agenda Packet](#).*

I. **STATUS REPORTS**
Commissioner Cohen noted that the Ybor Multimodal Developments report would be moved to the end of the Status Reports as the City Council members may not wish to participate as this is coming before the City of Tampa.

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Update (Joshua Barber, TPO Staff)

- Review program introduction.
  - Disadvantaged are disabled, elderly, people at risk, and others that have no other means of accessing transportation.
  - Program provides transportation of last resort.
  - Trust Fund funded from vehicle registration fees and gasoline sales taxes.
  - BOCC is the administrator and the Sunshine Line is the operator.
  - Sunshine Line primarily provides trips through distribution of HART bus passes to those near a HART fixed route and that are able to ride the bus. They provide door-to-door for those outside of HART’s service area or individuals physically unable to use the fixed route system.
  - Eligibility is determined by state regulations and service area needs.

- Review of Transportation Coordinator Evaluation. Process consists of three parts.
  - Performance evaluation: safety, on-time performance, cost-per-trip, complaints, etc.
  - Survey of bus pass and door-to-door customers.
  - Workbook provided by the commission that covers regulatory areas such as insurance.
  - The CTC for this year covered the impacts from COVID-19: closing of aging service sites, suspension of group trips, and cancelling of non-essential medical trips. Sunshine Line found creative ways to respond internally and for the county including meal delivery services, providing transportation home from quarantine and isolation sites, providing transportation to vaccine sites, and they provided additional training for drivers and staff. At no time did Sunshine Line stop essential services.

- Annual Public Workshop – required
  - Discussed new technologies and options and challenges.
  - Several discussions on a number of topics.

- Every five years, the LCB and TPO Board recommend a CTC to the Commission for the Disadvantaged. The TPO Board recommended that the BOCC continue for the county. No procurement process was required. Incredibly happy for the county to continue in this capacity. Consistency and certainty are absolutely necessary for the individuals that rely on these services to meet their needs.

- Review of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP)
  - Within 180 days of the CTC designation, the Local Coordinating Board is required to adopt a brand new TDSP. This occurred at the October LCB meeting.
  - Provides consistency review of other plans, service areas including major employment areas, trip generators, demographic breakdown of the county, and the inventory of available transportation services.
  - Staff sent surveys to service providers across the county and received 29 responses from a variety of organizations. Over 20 of the respondents served over 100 clients at any given time. This outreach was inline with public outreach efforts. After the survey, phone conversations were held with 10 agencies.
Transportation for employment was one of the biggest needs. Cross county trips are still a major need.

Heard from service providers who were not aware of all the transportation services their clients may be eligible for across the county.

Future projections show an increase in TD population which may be higher due to increase in population and people becoming disabled due to COVID-19.

Identified barriers to coordination. The largest barrier is lack of funding for the transportation network across the county including non-vehicle areas of pedestrian modes across the network. Lower vehicle ownership and usage and a lack of awareness about transportation options across the county were also identified.

- Noted major projects that were wrapped up this year.
- Shared quotes from the evaluation this year.
- Thanked Commissioner Smith for her leadership over the last year and is looking forward to having Commissioner Myers as the leader this coming year.

**Presentation:** [Transportation Disadvantaged Program Update](#)

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Myers:** Her honor to serve on this board in the coming year.

**Commissioner Cohen:** Thank Commissioner Smith for her service. He was also the Chair of that Board for a number of years as well as Councilman Viera was too. The services provided by Hillsborough County go very much appreciated by a lot of people in our community. Commissioner Myers, we wish you well on this assignment.

**Commissioner Smith:** Has been a pleasure and an honor to serve on this Board. The staff has been fantastic. Mr. Barber has been a passionate advocate for the transportation disadvantaged and the wide range that includes from economically disadvantaged to physically disadvantaged. It has been a wonder, informative, and personally enriching Board to serve on.

**B. Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act Overview** (Beth Alden, TPO Director)

- There are a lot of slides that give details on the new federal law that provide a number of new grant opportunities both for planning and for infrastructure. Will be hitting the highlights. If a deeper dive is needed, the slides are provided and you can contact Beth Alden.

- **Highlights**
  - Almost doubling the amount of federal funding for transportation over a five-year period. Subject to annual budget decisions.
  - Gas tax no longer fully funds the highway trust fund, general revenue being used to supplement. Discussion on how to move forward with the declining gas tax revenue.
  - There are a lot of new grants in the new federal bill. Will likely take some time for Federal Highway/ Federal Transit to roll out the rules.
  - For Florida
Formula funding, we get a share based on population. Florida has been at a disadvantage for some time due to 2000 census numbers being used. Asked for 2020 numbers. Compromised on using the 2010 numbers.

i. Raising the numbers overall – all categories are up 25% - 30%, more or less.

ii. Programs that the TPO gets directly involved with include

1. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program: our Board makes decisions and has direct authority over about $15 to $20 million a year under this program. Goes from the Federal to the State. It is then divided up between DOT and MPOs. The MPOs is based on population. Going up around 30% in the Service Transportation Block Grant Program. That means around $5 million additional dollars per year that could be allocated to the projects on the TPO priority list.

2. Transportation Planning: this funds the planning studies in our Unified Planning Work Program. Going up a little bit with additional strings including coordination with other regional MPOs. This is being done through the Suncoast Transportation Planning Alliance.

3. New Formula Grant Program, Carbon Reduction program: can be spent on any projects that reduce carbon emissions. Money comes to the states and is divided up between the DOT and MPOs. Estimating about $26 million to the MPOs in Florida. Our share may be around $1 million.

4. New Formula Grant Program, promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation. Not distributed to the MPOs, MPOs can compete for these grants. Work that has been done incorporating resilience into the LRTP may give the TPO a leg up when competing for these grants.

Existing Competitive Grants

i. Have been very lucky with the RAISE grants. Historically disadvantaged communities shall receive no less than 1% for projects and no less than 5% shall be for planning. This is going to be very competitive.

ii. FTA Low and No Emission Bus Program

iii. Intercity Passenger Rail Grants: have changed from a state of good repair to a more general intercity rail to bring world-class rail service to areas outside the northeast and mid-Atlantic. Up to 5% can be set aside for corridor planning.

New Competitive Grant Programs – the TPO role with these, a few are planning related. The rest are to support infrastructure so the lead applicant would be local government or FDOT

i. Freight Related Projects

ii. Bridge Investment Program

iii. SMART Program

iv. Grants for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

v. Congestion Relief Program, this is a new opportunity to fund outreach programs.

vi. Healthy Streets Program

vii. Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment

viii. Railroad Crossing elimination Program
ix. Corridor Identification and Development Program – part of the intercity rail
x. Safe Streets and Roads for All – supporting Vision Zero action plans

- New Pilot Programs
  i. National Motor Vehicle Per-Mile User Fee – as opposed to depending on the gas tax revenue.
  ii. Wildlife Crossing Safety
  iii. Prioritization Process – supporting data-driven approaches to setting priorities
  iv. Reconnecting Communities – look at Boulevard conversion or other ways to reconnect communities
  v. Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection – aimed at toll revenues

Presentation: [Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act Overview](#)

Discussion:

**Commissioner Overman:** Appreciates Ms. Alden trying to simplify what is a very complex bill. Asked if, in Ms. Alden’s opinion, many of the programs highlighted still require some level of local participation in either the grant or the competitive bid applications, is that still accurate. That is the case for much of our federal partnership funding now.

**Beth Alden:** In general, with the highway projects, the split is 80% federal and 20% local/state. In Florida, FDOT has been able to offer a soft match with toll credits. Have made that available to a lot of local governments. Have not heard yet from FDOT if they would be able to do that with all of the new programs being created. On the transit side, on the major capital projects, it is about 50% federal and 50% local/state.

**Commissioner Overman:** The rest comes from local funds, assuming we have some. Would like to have a robust planning conversation about the fiscal planning that the communities have to consider when we look at developing transportation plans. Make that available to those people managing budgets.

**Planning Commissioner Powell:** Noted that one of the items was funded with the gas tax. Questioned what will happen when gas tax goes away and everything is rolling out to EV.

**Beth Alden:** That is a question that has caused consternation for a number of years and it’s not getting any better. Gas tax revenue is continuing to decline. Most likely opportunity is to monitor how many miles a vehicle is driven to come up with a VMT fee.

**Commissioner Cohen:** Reminds him of when tax revenues from land lines started going away.

**Commissioner Kemp:** Noted that there is a false belief that 50% to 100% of our roads are paid for by gas taxes. 50% of all of it has been taken out of federal revenue already due to reductions in gas use. We have more vehicles that use less gas and the tax hasn’t been raised in a long time federally, in the state, or locally. We are paying for our roads which have gotten quite expensive with general revenue.

**Commissioner Cohen:** We have a lot to talk about with this. This is not the end of the conversation but the beginning. More will be discussed at the TMA workshop.
C. Ybor Multimodal Developments (Lisa Silva, TPO Staff and Graham Tyrrell, Kettler)

Prior to presentation, Chair Cohen invited Tampa City of Tampa representatives to adjourn at this time.

- Ms. Silva is the Livable Roadways Liaison. The LRC was approached to provide comments on the Historic Resources Impacts. The Brightline Rail project from Orlando to Tampa had a study in 2010. When modified, a supplemental impact statement is needed.
  - In 2010, the line was anticipated to go to the old Marion Center. It is now proposed to exit around 14th and 15th Street and go down Nuccio Parkway to the Union Station and Amtrak area.
  - Combined and mapped all the Historic Resources and identified additional locations. Sent comments as well.
  - At this stage, we were asked to provide Historical Resources. LRC went further and added equity and ADA compliance comments. Added historic architecture comments. Letter that was prepared and sent is in the December Agenda Packet.
  - Noted connecting neighborhood projects and improvements currently going on or planned in the area. Pointed out that there are not good ways to get from Union Station area to the other transit centers and that there are other at-grade challenges.
  - Do not want to design something that is going to prevent future opportunities.

- Gas Worx Overview – Kettler is partnered with Darryl Shaw.
  - Went over Kettler experience and specialization in large, multiuse developments
  - Gas Worx Vision – Connecting Neighborhoods and Bike and Pedestrian Friendly Streets are the highlights and focus in this presentation.
  - Area is between Historic Ybor, Channel District, and Encore – includes the old Tampa Bay Apartments and traditionally underutilized space that created a gap between Ybor and Channel District.
  - Striving to re-establish the Urban Street Grid from when the area was originally platted out. The connectivity started to breakdown in the 1960’s.
  - Site is ~40 acres of land and ~15 different development parcels. The area is separated by the CSX tracks and Nuccio Parkway. Idea is to create an urban, walkable district with mixed use development.
  - Goal is to breakdown some of the barriers existing in the area. There is the potential for rail to exist in this corridor. Make the streets pedestrian and bike friendly.
  - Location is a natural convergence in the transit opportunities. Would like to develop a new streetcar stop and are anticipating a great need with people living and working in the area. Looking at transit-oriented development with higher density.
  - They are prioritizing bike and trail connections including connecting some of the existing elements in the area. Looking at creating a multiuse trail from Riverwalk to Ybor City using the CSX track area to create this opportunity.
  - Reviewed rendered images with the vision and showed the blending from Downtown into Ybor City with shifting architecture through Gas Worx.

Presentation: Ybor Multimodal Developments

Discussion:
Commissioner Kemp: Questioned the use of the CSX tracks and a multiuse trail and if that would be taking out the tracks instead of having the availability of the track.

Graham Tyrrell: No, the trail would be adjacent to the rail and using an abandoned spur.

Commissioner Kemp: Right now, there is an Amtrak train that runs from Union Station to Orlando once a day. Has been a proponent of increasing that schedule to make it a more viable option. Asked if there are any plans regarding Amtrak.

Graham Tyrrell: No, this development is focused on the building. Brightline is something they are aware of and they have talked about the use of the corridor. Not really involved in that and the same is true for Amtrak.

Councilman Dingfelder: Inquired about the Brightline part of the presentation and whether there would be a stop in Plant City or Lakeland.

Lisa Silva: The materials that have been shared with staff said the potential stop in Lakeland had been removed from the update.

Councilman Dingfelder: Asked if any development shows where the potential baseball stadium may be in the plan of the area of Gas Worx and/or future transportation plans that the City of Tampa has.

Lisa Silva: Showed a map that the City of Tampa shared showing the potential stadium site and infrastructure improvements including 14th and 15th Streets, the Green Spine, and the Nuccio Cycle Track. Pointed out the relationship between the stadium site, Gas Worx, the proposed Brightline section, and the existing streetcar line.

Graham Tyrrell: That is a good summary. The stadium is outside of the Gas Worx area.

Councilman Dingfelder: Asked if any of the renderings showed the baseball stadium in relation to the projects.

Graham Tyrrell: That has not been depicted in the Gas Worx drawings.

Councilman Dingfelder: In regard to the CSX spur, once the flour mill is gone, there will be no need for the spur. Questioned if that land will be purchased from CSX or what is known about that land.

Graham Tyrrell: Unsure of the details on that as he is not with SPP. We understand that they have some plans that are being worked on for that area of the spur.

Commissioner Overman: Noted that there are a lot of unanswered questions. The Downtown Interchange is going to drop a significant amount of traffic onto 14th and 15th. The city is trying to develop some mitigating strategies for that. We are talking about rail and possible commuter rail options on Friday. Much of this is very preliminary. The good news is that we are having the
conversation. Happy to see these ideas. It is clearly early on. It looks like there is an opportunity to connect people in all the scenarios. We are not at a point where we can make any decisions at this point. The city is working on their potential needs. There is a lot of planning that needs to be done. Looking forward to having those conversations as we look toward having mobility in the center core of the city.

Commissioner Cohen: This is the beginning of the conversation. Looking forward to having the discussions. This is the skeleton that shows how things connect together. As we look into the coming year, that is going to be our major challenge, how do we connect everything. How do we connect the neighborhoods, how do we move toward using some of these new funds available, these new developments coming on board, how do we make those give us transit and transportation alternatives that we’ve not had in the past? Noted that one of the speakers talked about getting cars off the road, this is really the only way to do it. If these things could all come together, they could create a very efficient system that would give our community a lot more alternatives than it has had in the past.

J. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance and Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Joint Meeting and Workshop on Rail: Friday, December 10, 2021, FDOT District 7 office, 9:30 AM – Noon. In-person and virtual.

- Commissioner Overman noted that the TMA members have business and they should plan to attend on Friday.

K. OLD & NEW BUSINESS –

- Commissioner Cohen: Noted that the two members who wanted to speak about Pearl Harbor are no longer here. Earlier this year, he had the chance to visit Pearl Harbor. Stated that it is a very moving experience and a great moment to pause and give thanks, this time of the year, for all the freedoms we enjoy and to the generation that we owe those freedoms to; for all those that fought so hard in the 1940’s to keep us free. Expressed holiday and new year wishes to everyone.

- Next meeting December 11, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.

L. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 12:03 PM

The recording of this meeting may be viewed on YouTube: Meeting Recording

Social Media

- Twitter
Roc King (in response to the Vision Zero Walk of Silence)
“Looking good Ms. Torres and child.”

Facebook

Rick Fernandez (posted on board meeting event page)
TPO Board and Staff:

For reasons set forth below, I am requesting the TPO Board revisit FDOT's proposal for DTI Operational & Safety Improvements. This is a copy paste of my Facebook post published December 5, 2021. Many of you were tagged on this post:

"Good morning my #TampaHeights family. History is repeating itself in the continuing #stopTBX saga.

Subject of the day: Barrier Wall Movements along the eastern and southeastern borders of Tampa Heights.

To recap: our neighborhood has been in an abusive relationship with the Florida Department of Transportation since the 1960's. The latest installment of this cycle began in 2015. It was in May of that year we first learned of FDOT's plan to pave over a large segment of our historic neighborhood in service of the project then branded as Tampa Bay Express (TBX).

As the abused party in this relationship, we rose up. TBX eventually collapsed in 2016 under its own weight. Not because elected officials had our backs. They definitely did not (with one or two notable exceptions). No, it collapsed because of pesky details, hidden away in plan documents and glossed over by FDOT talking heads. Details finally explained, to great effect, using Legos. Thanks again to Caitlin Johnston and her team. You did us all a great service. Much of what Caitlin wrote in 2016 could be written again today with regard to these barrier walls: https://bit.ly/3ornMav

The Howard Franklin Bridge debacle ended some FDOT careers and embarrassed local politicians, many of whom were shown to be asleep at the switch when they should have been cross-examining FDOT's agents.

Today we are faced with a similar situation related to FDOT's proposed "Downtown Interchange Operational and Safety Improvements". This time the issue is barrier wall movement along the west side (Tampa Heights' eastern and southeastern borders) of the I-275 corridor from Floribraska Ave. to Scott Street.

FDOT plans to move this barrier structure approximately 12 feet (details from FDOT are murky) further into the neighborhood. Neighborhood impacts can only be imagined at
this point since FDOT has failed to deliver specifics on road closures, vibration, dust, heavy equipment, start/finish dates, reduced property values, etc.

The current version of FDOT’s vision for the DTI Operational Improvements first came to my attention in May 2019 during a presentation to the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (which I co-chair). At no time during that presentation or at any time since has FDOT mentioned the need to move this barrier structure.

I first learned of this plan while meeting with FDOT agents on November 17, 2021. The wall movements were mentioned in passing, as a given, just before I choked on my coffee.

Full disclosure: the proposed new wall construction/intrusion would begin approximately two blocks south of my property on Elmore Avenue. It won’t directly impact my home, but I do expect collateral impacts. My neighbors to the south face a more troubling scenario.

Our TPO (f/k/a MPO) has approved FDOT’s proposed operational improvements for the DTI. However, I do not believe they knew of this intended wall movement or the damage it would visit upon Tampa Heights.

I have asked TPO staff to place this matter on our CAC Agenda for January 2022 and intend to ask the TPO Board to revisit the DTI Operational Improvements proposal. This time with full disclosure from FDOT.

Perhaps it’s again time to break out the Lego set."

Rick Fernandez
2906 N Elmore Ave
Tampa, FL 33602"

12/1
Micky Stuckey (in response to a TPO job post)
“The job is no longer available. The job description you are trying to view is no longer available.”

12/2
Micky Stuckey (in response to a TPO response about a job post)
“Hillsborough TPO sorry don’t have 4 Master Degrees, only 26 years in Transit.”

Matthew Suarez
#TampaHeights and Rick Fernandez, The following correspondence has been issued to Florida Department of Transportation District 7 Secretary David Gwynn regarding the 1902
N. Lamar Ave. matter. Appropriate individuals from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have been copied for accountability purposes. Both the correspondence issued to Secretary Gwynn & its exhibits have been attached to this post.
Link to Final Section 106 Effects Analysis Case Study Report Update - July 2020 Document: http://tampainterstatestudy.com/.../TIS_106CaseStudyRept...
Table 4-4 can be found on page 90 (PDF page 98) of the Document.
#TransitNotTolls #blvdTampa #StopTBX #TransitNow #PeopleFirst Transit Now Tampa Bay Sunshine Citizens Patricia Kemp Harry Cohen Mariella Smith Gwen Myers Kimberly Overman Stephen Benson Guido Maniscalco Bill Carlson Joseph Citro Orlando Gudes National Trust for Historic Preservation Hillsborough TPO

Citizen Issued Concern_Violation of Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) 2017-2020 Commitments

Secretary Gwynn,

Please note - should the Florida Department of Transportation and its District 7 Office proceed with demolishing 1902 N. Lamar Ave, this Tuesday, November 30, 2021, both parties will be in violation of their commitments under the Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) 2017-2020.

Basis for the above violation is presented in the exhibit attachment titled: Exhibit 01_TIS-SEIS 2017-2020 1902 Lamar Not to Be Subjected to a Direct Adverse Effect via Preferred Alternative (Option E)

Basis for the intent of the Florida Department of Transportation and its District 7 Office to proceed with 1902 N. Lamar Ave. demolition is presented in the exhibit attachment titled: Exhibit 02_TIS-SEIS 2017-2020 1902 N. Lamar Ave_ Demolition Intent

Document used to generate Exhibit 01 is cited below:

Database used to generate Exhibit 02 is cited below:
https://aca.tampagov.net/CitizenAccess/Welcome.aspx?TabName=Home&TabList=Home

We will look forward to your response regarding this concern.
The Preferred Alternative (Option E) would result in No Adverse Effect to these historic properties as highlighted in yellow in Table 4-2.

Language from Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) 2017-2020 - Final Section 106 Effects Analysis Case Study Report Update – July 2020 (the Document) identifying that yellow highlighted columns in Tables found within the Document relate to results associated with Preferred Alternative (Option E).

Preferred Alternative (Option E) as identified within the Document.

Table 4-4 from the Document identifying that the contributing structure at 1902 Lamar would not be subjected to a direct adverse effect via Preferred Alternative (Option E).

(Return to Minutes)
I. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Chairman, Commissioner Cohen, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and led the pledge of allegiance. The regular monthly meeting was held in-person and virtual via WebEx.

II. **ROLL CALL** (Gail Reese, TPO Staff)

The following members were present in person: Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Commissioner Kimberly Overman, Commissioner Gwen Myers, Councilman Guido Maniscalco, Councilman Joseph Citro, Councilman John Dingfelder, Mayor Andrew Ross, Commissioner Nate Kilton, Gina Evans, HART Board Member Melanie Williams, Planning Commissioner Cody Powell

The following members were present virtually: Commissioner Mariella Smith, Bob Frey, Charles Klug

The following members were absent/excused: School Board Member Jessica Vaughn

A quorum was met in person.

Some members are participating virtually because of medical reasons and the local declaration of emergency.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – November 10, 2021

Chair Cohen sought a motion to approve the November 10, 2021 minutes. Councilman Maniscalco so moved, seconded by Commissioner Myers. Voice vote: motion carries unanimously.

IV. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – Vision Zero Hero 2021 (Beth Alden, TPO Director) award presentation to Lena Young Green followed by a reading of Ms. Young Green’s nomination, a brief acceptance speech from Ms. Young Green, and a group photo with the TPO Board.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT** –

**Rick Fernandez** – 2906 North Elmore Avenue in Tampa Heights. Serves as Vice Chair of the CAC, speaking today as an individual citizen. Written comments are included in reference. Noted that the Board approved operational and safety improvements in May for the Downtown Interchange project. Part of the plan was to add a lane to the flyover ramp from the south bound I-275 to east bound I-4. Understood that this lane addition would be accomplished within the existing infrastructure and interstate footprint. On November 17, 2021, accidentally learned that FDOT plans a major construction project with a new footprint to accommodate the additional lane and outward movement of the barrier wall, twelve feet, more or less, to accommodate the new
infrastructure. This intrusion will track from just south of Floribraska to Scott Street along the eastern border of Tampa Heights. Did not see this coming and believes he would have noticed. The wall movement and construction vision would break ground one block from his front door. Does not believe the Board knew this is what FDOT intended when plans were approved in May. Does not believe there has been a meeting of the minds between the Board and FDOT and the neighborhood. Believes that FDOT has negligently or intentionally withheld material facts. The action of the Board in May is suspect and open to criticism. Now that we all know and the Board is held accountable, the ask is to bring FDOT back for a full vetting of the DTI plans. Tampa Heights has asked for details, there are few; there are more questions than answers such as start and finish dates, road closures, vibration damage analysis, work schedules, property value impacts, construction takings, mitigation plans, and actual notification to property owners. Would like the Board to ask these questions and stop or revise the plan as called for. The people, many of you are elected to represent, are counting on you to have their backs and this is the first step in that process.

Bill Roberts – 14711 Clarendon Drive. Wanted to thank the Board for their efforts over the past year as we come to the close of the year. Noted that he has been around a number of years as have many of the Board members. Noted that we are planning for the future that will affect generations to come. Appreciates the efforts and the time taken to receive citizen input is greatly appreciated. Wishes the Board all the best for the holiday season.

Mauricio Rosas – Would like to talk about land use, sidewalks, and policy change. It is no surprise that we do not have a well-functioning mass transit system. This organization, in it’s different capacities, fails to put together and act on urban design grids. Noted that Secretary Gwynn has repeatedly said that FDOT is willing to partner on land use with this body to help in planning for a more robust transit system. If we don’t change current behavior, the same meetings will continue to be had over and over without accomplishing much in reducing the number of cars on the road. Sidewalks; recently, federal money was used in south county to widen roads. State law was not followed that says we must have sidewalks within a two-mile radius of all schools. Asked why kids are still walking on the road at dangerous intersections near I-275. Lastly, policy change communication. This Board makes decisions based on slide presentations and inuendoes of projects, we are not seeing the whole picture before a vote is determined. What is meant by this is how many of the Board knew that part of the barrier wall in the Tampa Heights area would be moved before voting for the project. And if you voted for the project knowing there would be some expansion within the right-of-way versus the existing structure, the least FDOT can do is notify the residents along the area at least 30 days before construction begins. People need to be notified before they buy or sell their houses. Asking this Board to be more detailed oriented. We cannot continue to allow this expansion without doing anything to reduce the number of cars on the road. That is what he wants the Board to own up to; reducing the number of cars on the road, communication, and sidewalks.

Adam Fritz – Lives in Tampa Heights on Central Avenue. Thanked the Board for allowing him to make comments on the Downtown Interchange plan. Believes it is imperative for FDOT to be transparent and honest with the community, given their history with TBX. Extra care should be
taken with any FDOT project that is coming in contact with historic neighborhoods. Because this is a design/ build project, that transparency has not been forthcoming. The message has been that they will not be outside of their footprint. To most, this has been welcome news. It has now been discovered that this may be true for FDOT definitions but not what will happen in reality to this design/ build. FDOT has said that they will take a minimum of twelve feet to the west side of I-275 into our neighborhood in the current design/ build structure. There may be more, there may be other things we don’t know. This design/ build is the path of least resistance and will not deliver a sure thing. This is troubling. His home is on Central Avenue; it is a historical home, the original home of the Robles family build in 1876. For twelve years, we have worked tirelessly in the neighborhood and on our own home to make it better and a contribution to the neighborhood. The back of our house faces Elmore Avenue within two-hundred feet of the I-275 structural well. His house is not listed in FDOT’s structures of concern nor are other historical homes on Central Avenue. This illustrates that FDOT has not done an adequate job of context of a sensitive area and all the potential impacts. Impacts to decreased property value; impacts to the tax base and revitalizing historic neighborhoods of Tampa; damages to property, especially historic structures due to construction vibration; what and when is testing and monitoring; what are the mitigation plans of some of the impacts that have not been addressed. Asking for more time to understand the plan and the impacts to the neighborhood and the City of Tampa overall. We are asking for opportunity to come up with more creative solutions that would stay inside the built footprint. Asked for a pause to this project to get a better understanding of the detrimental impacts before it is too late.

Michael Spokas – Lives in the Tampa Heights historic district at 210 East Ross Avenue. Expressed concern for the historic, four-unit building at 1902 Lamar that FDOT wants to demolish. There is no reason this property needs to be torn down. It is not in the footprint of the interstate and is a historic structure in the historic district. It’s not beyond repair, anything is salvageable. It needs someone who wants to save it. The property cannot, currently be moved. It should be allowed to be rehabbed in it’s current location like the Tampa Heights Community Center at Palm and Lamar. The units could be rented as affordable housing. This could solve three problems: saving a historical structure, help with the affordable housing issue in Tampa, and keeping more debris out of our landfills.

Andrea Martin – not online for comment

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS & ADVANCE COMMENTS (Davida Franklin, TPO Staff)

A. Planning Commissioner Cody Powell (advanced recognition prior to Consent Agenda) – Noted the presentation on the FLiP and FLiP Jr. program at the end of the November meeting. Some of the Board members were not in attendance for this presentation. Encouraged everyone to rewatch the presentation when they have a moment to do so. The programs are fantastic and bring the community’s children into our world. Believes it is critical for elected officials to engage with the children and to inspire them to engage with local government. Local government is the only form of government that can affect change rapidly. Noted the quote from the opening slide of the
Encouraged the Board members to take the time to participate in the FLiP and/or FLiP Jr. programs in the future. He has participated and expressed it is special to see the kids get excited.

B. Chair Cohen noted that the Board is going to be hearing from FDOT at the January meeting regarding the concerns that have been raised about the Downtown Interchange project. Noted that Board members will have an opportunity to talk about that after the Committee report.

C. BPAC – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff (November 10, 2021 meeting)

- Approved the following Action Items:
  - Memorandum of Agreement for Bike/Ped Counters with FDOT.
  - Comments on FDOT RRR Studies
    - The Committee heard a report on two resurfacing projects on Dale Mabry and Park Road. Plant City Staff provided comments in support of maintaining the 6 lanes currently on Park Road but also supported on-road bike facilities.
  - 2022 Meeting Calendar.

- Heard Status Reports on:
  - FDOT 56th Street/ 50th Street Corridor Planning Study
  - City of Tampa neighborhood Commercial District Plans
  - Tampa Downtown Partnership Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts
  - US Bicycle Route 15 through Hillsborough County
    - This bike route has been identified by the Adventure Cycling Association, which is seeking to engage communities along the proposed route including Hillsborough County and Plant City Staff of the proposal.

D. LRC – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff (November 17, 2021 meeting)

- Approved the following Action Items:
  - Brightline SEIS Historic Resource Review comments
  - 2022 Meeting Calendar
  - USF To Green ARTery Trail Study – with the suggestion the draft study and alignments be reviewed by the Hillsborough County School District for feedback before finalization.

- Heard Status Report on
  - FDOT 56th Street/ 50th Street Corridor Planning Study
  - Tampa Downtown Partnership Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

E. Public Comments Received Through Email & Social Media – Davida Franklin, TPO Staff

- Did not receive any emails or social media posts pertaining to today’s action items.
- Did receive comments about the Transportation Improvement Program that funded the Downtown Interchange in October.
- Copies of emails, letters, and social media comments have been forwarded via email to all TPO Board members on December 6, 2021 and December 7, 2021. Social media comments included at the end of the minutes.
F. **FDOT COMMENT:** Secretary Gwynn (speaking in response to Public Comment) – requested to speak about three issues that have been brought up as topics of discussion. FDOT will be speaking and discussing these topics at the January 2022 TPO Board meeting.

- **Downtown Interchange and the walls that are going to need to be moved.**
  - Noted words heard in public comment: dishonest, deceptive, non-collaborative.
  - Over the last five years, tasked his team to be completely transparent, collaborative, and be open and honest with the public about everything they do.
  - Just because people say things repeatedly does not make them true.
  - FDOT has not shown anything to the public that did not show the walls not being moved.
  - The wall movement was called out in graphics in public meetings.
  - FDOT did not say they were going to stay within the existing structural footprint but within the right-of-way footprint.
  - Committed five years ago that FDOT would take a hard look at the concepts being considered. Looked at and developed four plans. Came up with one that they feel is very collaborative. It takes out express lanes north of I-4 and does not take any additional right-of-way in Tampa Heights but utilize existing right-of-way as best possible to mitigate safety concerns within the interchange. Trying to mitigate the ~1000 annual crashes in that section.
  - It is not perfect and not everyone likes it. Made every effort to mitigate the impact on the Tampa Heights community. Have invested tens of millions of dollars into infrastructure improvements in Tampa Heights.
    - FDOT submitted a RAISE grant for $25 million for the federal government to provide improvements in the Tampa Heights area. The federal government gave $18 million and FDOT provided the additional $7 million.
    - Fought for and provided $68 million to extend the streetcar into Tampa Heights. That was before the local match. Made the streetcar free to make the federal funding more attractive.
  - Have shortlisted teams to move forward, will continue to work with the community, does not believe the comments made were true.

- **Coming to the TPO Board in January 2022 to look at Robles Park solutions.**
  - Will be bringing ideas for the Robles Park challenges.
  - There is no opportunity for federal or state funds for noise walls as the area does not meet the federal requirements for a noise wall. The state funds require the federal guidelines be followed. The only funding that may be possible are local funds and that is not recommended. FDOT will not stand in the way if that option is selected but, it is not a recommendation.
  - Will be bringing possible solutions utilizing state funds to the January meeting. Privacy wall, landscaping opportunities, trellis walls and other things that would be good solutions.
  - Understands it’s frustrating and doesn’t always make sense but, they have to follow the rules in place for federal and state funds.

- **The home scheduled for demolition: 1902 Lamar**
  - Not being demolished due to the SCIS. It is an unsound structure and a public nuisance based on police calls at the property.
• Have tried to find an investor that would move the home and rehab it. Have not found anybody willing to make that investment.
• Several problems including black mold, structurally not sound, unable to tour second floor, wood structure with stucco on the exterior.
• Was purchased in 2015 from a willing seller. The structural inspection at that time showed that these conditions were there in 2015. It may have gotten worse since then. But, at the time, it was not structurally sound.
• Because of the stucco on wood, it could collapse if it was moved. Would likely need to remove the stucco first which makes it unstable.
• Gave the local association sixty days to find their own investor. FDOT has been looking for years.
• Continuing to let it sit there and deteriorate is not a good solution. Doesn’t like tearing down any structure. But, unless someone is willing to work with FDOT on moving the structure and doing rehab, there isn’t another choice.
• Does not want to fall into the contentious and negative relationship from the past. Have tried to be very collaborative with the public. Knows it’s not perfect and people don’t like what we are doing. We have to find compromise. We have made a lot of progress and does not want to rehash things already decided. We need to move forward. Will continue to find ways to work with the public. Does not want to wind up back five years.

Discussion:

Commissioner Cohen: Knows we will get more into this in January. There is a full agenda today. Asked for brief comments at this time.

Commissioner Overman: Thanked Secretary Gwynn for answering some of the questions brought up in communications, social media, and public comment. The work to reconfigure underpasses on Chelsea and Osborne has already begun. There is an opportunity for FDOT to work with the community on underpass design and artwork associated. Noted that this relationship has not been developing in a positive way. Seminole Heights and Tampa Heights are very artistic communities. Other overpasses and underpasses have worked with the community in which they were changed. Asking that same effort be made and to report on how that is being done in the January report. Also asked for clarification on the noise wall and other solutions for Robles Park with dollar amounts. This will give the community an idea of a realistic decision on what they would like to see in that effort.

Commissioner Kemp: 1902 Lamar, has dealt with this in Seminole Heights. Was told they were unable to be helped. Some of the properties were moved and rehabbed. Asked if the land that the structure is sitting on could be made available to leave the home there and have it rehabbed.

Commissioner Myers: Asked if Secretary Gwynn would be willing to hold another community engagement meeting. The residents are saying that they didn’t know what was going on and were not informed. Have another meeting with the residents clarifying everything that was said today and come back next month with that information.

Secretary Gwynn: Would be glad to continue to work with the community. Had a recent meeting giving people the opportunity to come and talk. Would hope that the organizers from both sides would promote a meeting as an opportunity for constructive conversation. A good way to start would
be with the leaders of the community, come and sit down and talk and then try to expand that out. We are open to conversations. About the artwork, that is in the hands of the City of Tampa. The city is doing the public outreach for that. Happy to work with the city but that is the role the City of Tampa wanted. As far as the home, we are willing to look at solutions. The community association has been asked to come back to FDOT within sixty days if they can find someone who has a plan, and they will look at it.

**Commissioner Myers:** Asked to be notified of a community meeting as she would like to attend in support as a Commissioner and there may be other Commissioners and Board Members who would like to attend that meeting. Agrees that nothing will be accomplished if people are showing up to go back and forth. We can accomplish great things when we come together and discuss things in unity.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** Mentioned earlier that this is the 80th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Agrees with Secretary Gwynn and hopes the TPO Board and FDOT do not end up in another “war”. Believes that the Secretary and his team have done a great job in the last five years of changing the attitude and relationship between the community and the district DOT. Does recall a comment when he originally came on the MPO/TPO that the interchange would not go beyond the existing footprint. Noted that the problem may be the definition of what is the footprint. Noted that the clarification may be that the right-of-way footprint is not changing but the actual structure will need to go out. Believes this may be an unintentional miscommunication and can be resolved with additional communication as suggested by Commissioner Myers.

**Councilman Maniscalco:** Believes that our generation and everyone here needs to pay attention to historic preservation. In the last half century, all that has been done is tearing down. Noted a conversation he had with an older gentlemen about historical structures and designs in the community; the gentlemen laughed and said that there was no historic preservation. Old buildings were torn down for parking lots, highways, and other things. Noted a LIFE magazine from 1963, article headlines with Erasing Our History about a structure being torn down from the 1930’s. On his walk to County Center from City Hall today, noticed all the parking lots. Those used to be hotels and other structures that were brick structures made to last for centuries built by craftspeople. It is up to us to preserve what we can. When he was first elected, he asked the Mayor about the Jackson House. There was no interest at the time. It was in much better shape then. May have waited too long, hopes it is still restorable. It’s demolition by neglect. In the age where people are making a fortune in real estate, hopes someone will step up for this structure and develop it into affordable housing. Noted Burn’s Steak House, apartments next door, the Burn’s organization gutted it and are renovating the building.

**Secretary Gwynn:** Clarified that the structure is a wooden structure with stucco on the outside and not brick or block. If it was, it would be easier to move. The stucco will fall off. Most companies spoken to said they would take the stucco off before moving the structure.

**Commissioner Kemp:** Noted that FDOT has not spoken that the construction would be in the current footprint, it will be in the current right-of-way. Noted that this has always been fundamental to the conversation. There is no way to add additional lanes to the current structure. Said that this has been her focus since they have been looking at this for three or four years. Does not want misconceptions about the information presented.
Commissioner Cohen: The comments by the Board are thoughtful. Good that Secretary Gwynn is amenable to Commissioner Myers’ suggestion for a community meeting to create some dialog. People have mentioned Pearl Harbor today. He has been struck by the coverage of the passing of Senator Bob Dole. It has been about his unique ability to bring people together over the years. He did this across party lines and across divisions to get things done. The spirit of collaboration and cooperation that we want to see goes back to that time. Not everyone can get what they want but we can find common ground and compromise. We will be getting into the details of these projects at our next meeting to make sure there are no misunderstandings. Commissioner Kemp’s point was important. The issue of right-of-way versus current envelope was significant in coming to these solutions. The original proposals involved huge takings in the community that are no longer on the table. We will come back with this item in the new year.

G. CONSENT AGENDA
A. Committee Appointments
   - TDCB – Alexcia Wiggins, nominated by Hillsborough County Public Schools
   - BPAC – Christopher Fellerhoff, nominated by Hillsborough County and Richard Rank, as alternate
B. Memorandum of Agreement for Bike Ped Counters with FDOT (Wade Reynolds, TPO Staff)
   - The TPO is partnering with the Downtown Partnership for a pilot project to count Pedestrians and Cyclists using FDOT owned equipment.
   - Memorandum of Agreement allows for the use of the equipment for a three-week period of time in February for the first series of counts.
   - These counts are expected to be completed on an annual basis.
   - First set of automated, real counts done

Memorandum of Agreement for Bike Ped Counters with FDOT: TPO Board December 07, 2021

Discussion:
Chair Cohen sought a motion to approve the Committee Appointments and the Memorandum of Agreement for the Bike Ped Counters with FDOT. Commissioner Overman so moved, seconded by Commissioner Myers. Voice vote: motion carries unanimously.

H. ACTION ITEMS
   - 2022 Board Officers and Committee Assignments (Cameron Clark, TPO Attorney)
     o Nominations can be made until there are no more. Votes will be taken on nominations received. Seconds are not required.
     o Asked for nominations for TPO Chair.
       ▪ Commissioner Kemp nominates Commissioner Cohen. No other nominations.
       ▪ Commissioner Myers requested to close the nominations for TPO Chair. Commissioner Cohen is TPO Chair for 2022.

Discussion:
Commissioner Cohen – Thanked the Board. Noted that under term limits, the Chair is limited to two terms, this will be his last term as Chair.

- Asked for nominations for Vice Chair.
  - Commissioner Cohen nominates Commissioner Kemp. No other nominations. Commissioner Kemp is Vice Chair.
  - Policy Committee; recommends an odd number. Asked if the Chair would like the members of the Policy Committee to be reviewed. Commissioner Cohen recommended that everyone participate in the Policy Committee. Noted that Mr. Waggoner is a member and is retiring soon. We need to make sure to replace him. Mr. Clark noted that the current membership of the Policy Committee is Commissioner Kemp, Councilman Maniscalco, Commissioner Smith, Director Waggoner, and Commissioner Cohen with alternates of Commissioner Overman, Director Anderson and Mr. Klug. It would be advisable to have one more member appointed and if that member is an alternate, appoint an additional alternate. Commissioner Overman volunteered to move to a regular member if possible and ask for someone to take her place as an alternate. Commissioner Myers and Councilman Dingerfelder volunteered to be an alternate. Councilman Dingerfelder deferred to Commissioner Myers. Policy Committee membership will be Commissioner Kemp, Councilman Maniscalco, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Cohen, and Commissioner Overman with alternates being Commissioner Myers, Director Anderson, and Mr. Klug.
  - TMA Leadership Group current members are Councilman Dingfelder, Commissioner Overman and Commissioner Kemp with backups of Director Anderson and Director Lopano. Councilman Dingfelder no longer wishes to serve on that group. Councilman Citro would like to serve on the group. No objection. The TMA Leadership Group is Commissioner Overman, Commissioner Kemp, and Councilman Citro with backups being Director Anderson and Director Lopano.
  - Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Chair is presently Commissioner Smith who no longer wishes to serve in that capacity. Commissioner Myers would like to serve as the TDCB Chair. She is appointed with no objections.
  - Livable Roadways Chair is currently Councilman Citro who would like to continue serving as the Chair. He is appointed the LRC Chair with no objections.
  - MPO Board Alternate since the MPO Board Chair is automatically appointed to that council. The alternate is presently Director Anderson or Mr. Klug. No objections to that going forward.

- **2022 Meeting Calendar** (Beth Alden, TPO Director)
  - Proposed 2022 calendar of meetings for the TPO.
  - In the Agenda Packet, will send out calendar appointments.
  - Continuing with 2nd Wednesday of the month. There are a couple of spots that will vary based on the County Commission meetings.

Calendar is attached to the [December 7, 2021 TPO Board Agenda Packet](December 7, 2021 TPO Board Agenda Packet).

I. **STATUS REPORTS**
Commissioner Cohen noted that the Ybor Multimodal Developments report would be moved to the end of the Status Reports as the City Council members may not wish to participate as this is coming before the City of Tampa.

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Update (Joshua Barber, TPO Staff)
   - Review program introduction.
     - Disadvantaged are disabled, elderly, people at risk, and others that have no other means of accessing transportation.
     - Program provides transportation of last resort.
     - Trust Fund funded from vehicle registration fees and gasoline sales taxes.
     - BOCC is the administrator and the Sunshine Line is the operator.
     - Sunshine Line primarily provides trips through distribution of HART bus passes to those near a HART fixed route and that are able to ride the bus. They provide door-to-door for those outside of HART’s service area or individuals physically unable to use the fixed route system.
     - Eligibility is determined by state regulations and service area needs.
   - Review of Transportation Coordinator Evaluation. Process consists of three parts.
     - Performance evaluation: safety, on-time performance, cost-per-trip, complaints, etc.
     - Survey of bus pass and door-to-door customers.
     - Workbook provided by the commission that covers regulatory areas such as insurance.
     - The CTC for this year covered the impacts from COVID-19: closing of aging service sites, suspension of group trips, and cancelling of non-essential medical trips. Sunshine Line found creative ways to respond internally and for the county including meal delivery services, providing transportation home from quarantine and isolation sites, providing transportation to vaccine sites, and they provided additional training for drivers and staff. At no time did Sunshine Line stop essential services.
   - Annual Public Workshop – required
     - Discussed new technologies and options and challenges.
     - Several discussions on a number of topics.
   - Every five years, the LCB and TPO Board recommend a CTC to the Commission for the Disadvantaged. The TPO Board recommended that the BOCC continue for the county. No procurement process was required. Incredibly happy for the county to continue in this capacity. Consistency and certainty are absolutely necessary for the individuals that rely on these services to meet their needs.
   - Review of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP)
     - Within 180 days of the CTC designation, the Local Coordinating Board is required to adopt a brand new TDSP. This occurred at the October LCB meeting.
     - Provides consistency review of other plans, service areas including major employment areas, trip generators, demographic breakdown of the county, and the inventory of available transportation services.
     - Staff sent surveys to service providers across the county and received 29 responses from a variety of organizations. Over 20 of the respondents served over 100 clients at any given time. This outreach was inline with public outreach efforts. After the survey, phone conversations were held with 10 agencies.
o Transportation for employment was one of the biggest needs. Cross county trips are still a major need.
o Heard from service providers who were not aware of all the transportation services their clients may be eligible for across the county.
o Future projections show an increase in TD population which may be higher due to increase in population and people becoming disabled due to COVID-19.
o Identified barriers to coordination. The largest barrier is lack of funding for the transportation network across the county including non-vehicle areas of pedestrian modes across the network. Lower vehicle ownership and usage and a lack of awareness about transportation options across the county were also identified.

- Noted major projects that were wrapped up this year.
- Shared quotes from the evaluation this year.
- Thanked Commissioner Smith for her leadership over the last year and is looking forward to having Commissioner Myers as the leader this coming year.

Presentation: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Update

Discussion:

Commissioner Myers: Her honor to serve on this board in the coming year.

Commissioner Cohen: Thank Commissioner Smith for her service. He was also the Chair of that Board for a number of years as well as Councilman Viera was too. The services provided by Hillsborough County go very much appreciated by a lot of people in our community. Commissioner Myers, we wish you well on this assignment.

Commissioner Smith: Has been a pleasure and an honor to serve on this Board. The staff has been fantastic. Mr. Barber has been a passionate advocate for the transportation disadvantaged and the wide range that includes from economically disadvantaged to physically disadvantaged. It has been a wonder, informative, and personally enriching Board to serve on.

B. Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act Overview (Beth Alden, TPO Director)

- There are a lot of slides that give details on the new federal law that provide a number of new grant opportunities both for planning and for infrastructure. Will be hitting the highlights. If a deeper dive is needed, the slides are provided and you can contact Beth Alden.
- Highlights
  - Almost doubling the amount of federal funding for transportation over a five-year period. Subject to annual budget decisions.
  - Gas tax no longer fully funds the highway trust fund, general revenue being used to supplement. Discussion on how to move forward with the declining gas tax revenue.
  - There are a lot of new grants in the new federal bill. Will likely take some time for Federal Highway/ Federal Transit to roll out the rules.
  - For Florida
Formula funding, we get a share based on population. Florida has been at a disadvantage for some time due to 2000 census numbers being used. Asked for 2020 numbers. Compromised on using the 2010 numbers.

i. Raising the numbers overall – all categories are up 25% - 30%, more or less.

ii. Programs that the TPO gets directly involved with include

1. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program: our Board makes decisions and has direct authority over about $15 to $20 million a year under this program. Goes from the Federal to the State. It is then divided up between DOT and MPOs. The MPOs is based on population. Going up around 30% in the Service Transportation Block Grant Program. That means around $5 million additional dollars per year that could be allocated to the projects on the TPO priority list.

2. Transportation Planning: this funds the planning studies in our Unified Planning Work Program. Going up a little bit with additional strings including coordination with other regional MPOs. This is being done through the Suncoast Transportation Planning Alliance.

3. New Formula Grant Program, Carbon Reduction program: can be spent on any projects that reduce carbon emissions. Money comes to the states and is divided up between the DOT and MPOs. Estimating about $26 million to the MPOs in Florida. Our share may be around $1 million.

4. New Formula Grant Program, promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation. Not distributed to the MPOs, MPOs can compete for these grants. Work that has been done incorporating resilience into the LRTP may give the TPO a leg up when competing for these grants.

Existing Competitive Grants

i. Have been very lucky with the RAISE grants. Historically disadvantaged communities shall receive no less than 1% for projects and no less than 5% shall be for planning. This is going to be very competitive.

ii. FTA Low and No Emission Bus Program

iii. Intercity Passenger Rail Grants: have changed from a state of good repair to a more general intercity rail to bring world-class rail service to areas outside the northeast and mid-Atlantic. Up to 5% can be set aside for corridor planning.

New Competitive Grant Programs – the TPO role with these, a few are planning related. The rest are to support infrastructure so the lead applicant would be local government or FDOT

i. Freight Related Projects

ii. Bridge Investment Program

iii. SMART Program

iv. Grants for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

v. Congestion Relief Program, this is a new opportunity to fund outreach programs.

vi. Healthy Streets Program

vii. Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment

viii. Railroad Crossing elimination Program
ix. Corridor Identification and Development Program – part of the intercity rail
x. Safe Streets and Roads for All – supporting Vision Zero action plans

- New Pilot Programs
  i. National Motor Vehicle Per-Mile User Fee – as opposed to depending on the gas tax revenue.
  ii. Wildlife Crossing Safety
  iii. Prioritization Process – supporting data-driven approaches to setting priorities
  iv. Reconnecting Communities – look at Boulevard conversion or other ways to reconnect communities
  v. Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection – aimed at toll revenues

Presentation: Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act Overview

Discussion:

Commissioner Overman: Appreciates Ms. Alden trying to simplify what is a very complex bill. Asked if, in Ms. Alden’s opinion, many of the programs highlighted still require some level of local participation in either the grant or the competitive bid applications, is that still accurate. That is the case for much of our federal partnership funding now.

Beth Alden: In general, with the highway projects, the split is 80% federal and 20% local/state. In Florida, FDOT has been able to offer a soft match with toll credits. Have made that available to a lot of local governments. Have not heard yet from FDOT if they would be able to do that with all of the new programs being created. On the transit side, on the major capital projects, it is about 50% federal and 50% local/state.

Commissioner Overman: The rest comes from local funds, assuming we have some. Would like to have a robust planning conversation about the fiscal planning that the communities have to consider when we look at developing transportation plans. Make that available to those people managing budgets.

Planning Commissioner Powell: Noted that one of the items was funded with the gas tax. Questioned what will happen when gas tax goes away and everything is rolling out to EV.

Beth Alden: That is a question that has caused consternation for a number of years and it’s not getting any better. Gas tax revenue is continuing to decline. Most likely opportunity is to monitor how many miles a vehicle is driven to come up with a VMT fee.

Commissioner Cohen: Reminds him of when tax revenues from land lines started going away.

Commissioner Kemp: Noted that there is a false belief that 50% to 100% of our roads are paid for by gas taxes. 50% of all of it has been taken out of federal revenue already due to reductions in gas use. We have more vehicles that use less gas and the tax hasn’t been raised in a long time federally, in the state, or locally. We are paying for our roads which have gotten quite expensive with general revenue.

Commissioner Cohen: We have a lot to talk about with this. This is not the end of the conversation but the beginning. More will be discussed at the TMA workshop.
C. Ybor Multimodal Developments (Lisa Silva, TPO Staff and Graham Tyrrell, Kettler)

Prior to presentation, Chair Cohen invited Tampa City of Tampa representatives to adjourn at this time.

- Ms. Silva is the Livable Roadways Liaison. The LRC was approached to provide comments on the Historic Resources Impacts. The Brightline Rail project from Orlando to Tampa had a study in 2010. When modified, a supplemental impact statement is needed.
  - In 2010, the line was anticipated to go to the old Marion Center. It is now proposed to exit around 14th and 15th Street and go down Nuccio Parkway to the Union Station and Amtrak area.
  - Combined and mapped all the Historic Resources and identified additional locations. Sent comments as well.
  - At this stage, we were asked to provide Historical Resources. LRC went further and added equity and ADA compliance comments. Added historic architecture comments. Letter that was prepared and sent is in the December Agenda Packet.
  - Noted connecting neighborhood projects and improvements currently going on or planned in the area. Pointed out that there are not good ways to get from Union Station area to the other transit centers and that there are other at-grade challenges.
  - Do not want to design something that is going to prevent future opportunities.

- Gas Worx Overview – Kettler is partnered with Darryl Shaw.
  - Went over Kettler experience and specialization in large, multiuse developments
  - Gas Worx Vision – Connecting Neighborhoods and Bike and Pedestrian Friendly Streets are the highlights and focus in this presentation.
  - Area is between Historic Ybor, Channel District, and Encore – includes the old Tampa Bay Apartments and traditionally underutilized space that created a gap between Ybor and Channel District.
  - Striving to re-establish the Urban Street Grid from when the area was originally platted out. The connectivity started to breakdown in the 1960’s.
  - Site is ~40 acres of land and ~15 different development parcels. The area is separated by the CSX tracks and Nuccio Parkway. Idea is to create an urban, walkable district with mixed use development.
  - Goal is to breakdown some of the barriers existing in the area. There is the potential for rail to exist in this corridor. Make the streets pedestrian and bike friendly.
  - Location is a natural convergence in the transit opportunities. Would like to develop a new streetcar stop and are anticipating a great need with people living and working in the area. Looking at transit-oriented development with higher density.
  - They are prioritizing bike and trail connections including connecting some of the existing elements in the area. Looking at creating a multiuse trail from Riverwalk to Ybor City using the CSX track area to create this opportunity.
  - Reviewed rendered images with the vision and showed the blending from Downtown into Ybor City with shifting architecture through Gas Worx.

Presentation: Ybor Multimodal Developments

Discussion:
**Commissioner Kemp:** Questioned the use of the CSX tracks and a multiuse trail and if that would be taking out the tracks instead of having the availability of the track.

**Graham Tyrrell:** No, the trail would be adjacent to the rail and using an abandoned spur.

**Commissioner Kemp:** Right now, there is an Amtrak train that runs from Union Station to Orlando once a day. Has been a proponent of increasing that schedule to make it a more viable option. Asked if there are any plans regarding Amtrak.

**Graham Tyrrell:** No, this development is focused on the building. Brightline is something they are aware of and they have talked about the use of the corridor. Not really involved in that and the same is true for Amtrak.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** Inquired about the Brightline part of the presentation and whether there would be a stop in Plant City or Lakeland.

**Lisa Silva:** The materials that have been shared with staff said the potential stop in Lakeland had been removed from the update.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** Asked if any development shows where the potential baseball stadium may be in the plan of the area of Gas Worx and/or future transportation plans that the City of Tampa has.

**Lisa Silva:** Showed a map that the City of Tampa shared showing the potential stadium site and infrastructure improvements including 14th and 15th Streets, the Green Spine, and the Nuccio Cycle Track. Pointed out the relationship between the stadium site, Gas Worx, the proposed Brightline section, and the existing streetcar line.

**Graham Tyrrell:** That is a good summary. The stadium is outside of the Gas Worx area.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** Asked if any of the renderings showed the baseball stadium in relation to the projects.

**Graham Tyrrell:** That has not been depicted in the Gas Worx drawings.

**Councilman Dingfelder:** In regard to the CSX spur, once the flour mill is gone, there will be no need for the spur. Questioned if that land will be purchased from CSX or what is known about that land.

**Graham Tyrrell:** Unsure of the details on that as he is not with SPP. We understand that they have some plans that are being worked on for that area of the spur.

**Commissioner Overman:** Noted that there are a lot of unanswered questions. The Downtown Interchange is going to drop a significant amount of traffic onto 14th and 15th. The city is trying to develop some mitigating strategies for that. We are talking about rail and possible commuter rail options on Friday. Much of this is very preliminary. The good news is that we are having the
conversation. Happy to see these ideas. It is clearly early on. It looks like there is an opportunity to connect people in all the scenarios. We are not at a point where we can make any decisions at this point. The city is working on their potential needs. There is a lot of planning that needs to be done. Looking forward to having those conversations as we look toward having mobility in the center core of the city.

**Commissioner Cohen:** This is the beginning of the conversation. Looking forward to having the discussions. This is the skeleton that shows how things connect together. As we look into the coming year, that is going to be our major challenge, how do we connect everything. How do we connect the neighborhoods, how do we move toward using some of these new funds available, these new developments coming on board, how do we make those give us transit and transportation alternatives that we’ve not had in the past? Noted that one of the speakers talked about getting cars off the road, this is really the only way to do it. If these things could all come together, they could create a very efficient system that would give our community a lot more alternatives than it has had in the past.

**J. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

- Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance and Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Joint Meeting and Workshop on Rail: Friday, December 10, 2021, FDOT District 7 office, 9:30 AM – Noon. In-person and virtual.

- Commissioner Overman noted that the TMA members have business and they should plan to attend on Friday.

**K. OLD & NEW BUSINESS –**

- **Commissioner Cohen:** Noted that the two members who wanted to speak about Pearl Harbor are no longer here. Earlier this year, he had the chance to visit Pearl Harbor. Stated that it is a very moving experience and a great moment to pause and give thanks, this time of the year, for all the freedoms we enjoy and to the generation that we owe those freedoms to; for all those that fought so hard in the 1940’s to keep us free. Expressed holiday and new year wishes to everyone.

- Next meeting December 11, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.

**L. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 12:03 PM

The recording of this meeting may be viewed on YouTube: [Meeting Recording](#)

**Social Media**

- Twitter
Roc King (in response to the Vision Zero Walk of Silence)
“Looking good Ms. Torres and child.”

Facebook
Rick Fernandez (posted on board meeting event page)
TPO Board and Staff:

For reasons set forth below, I am requesting the TPO Board revisit FDOT’s proposal for DTI Operational & Safety Improvements. This is a copy paste of my Facebook post published December 5, 2021. Many of you were tagged on this post:

"Good morning my #TampaHeights family. History is repeating itself in the continuing #stopTBX saga.

Subject of the day: Barrier Wall Movements along the eastern and southeastern borders of Tampa Heights.

To recap: our neighborhood has been in an abusive relationship with the Florida Department of Transportation since the 1960’s. The latest installment of this cycle began in 2015. It was in May of that year we first learned of FDOT’s plan to pave over a large segment of our historic neighborhood in service of the project then branded as Tampa Bay Express (TBX).

As the abused party in this relationship, we rose up. TBX eventually collapsed in 2016 under its own weight. Not because elected officials had our backs. They definitely did not (with one or two notable exceptions). No, it collapsed because of pesky details, hidden away in plan documents and glossed over by FDOT talking heads. Details finally explained, to great effect, using Legos. Thanks again to Caitlin Johnston and her team. You did us all a great service. Much of what Caitlin wrote in 2016 could be written again today with regard to these barrier walls: https://bit.ly/3ornMav

The Howard Franklin Bridge debacle ended some FDOT careers and embarrassed local politicians, many of whom were shown to be asleep at the switch when they should have been cross-examining FDOT’s agents.

Today we are faced with a similar situation related to FDOT’s proposed “Downtown Interchange Operational and Safety Improvements”. This time the issue is barrier wall movement along the west side (Tampa Heights’ eastern and southeastern borders) of the I-275 corridor from Floribraska Ave. to Scott Street.

FDOT plans to move this barrier structure approximately 12 feet (details from FDOT are murky) further into the neighborhood. Neighborhood impacts can only be imagined at
this point since FDOT has failed to deliver specifics on road closures, vibration, dust, heavy equipment, start/finish dates, reduced property values, etc.

The current version of FDOT's vision for the DTI Operational Improvements first came to my attention in May 2019 during a presentation to the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (which I co-chair). At no time during that presentation or at any time since has FDOT mentioned the need to move this barrier structure.

I first learned of this plan while meeting with FDOT agents on November 17, 2021. The wall movements were mentioned in passing, as a given, just before I choked on my coffee.

Full disclosure: the proposed new wall construction/intrusion would begin approximately two blocks south of my property on Elmore Avenue. It won't directly impact my home, but I do expect collateral impacts. My neighbors to the south face a more troubling scenario.

Our TPO (f/k/a MPO) has approved FDOT's proposed operational improvements for the DTI. However, I do not believe they knew of this intended wall movement or the damage it would visit upon Tampa Heights.

I have asked TPO staff to place this matter on our CAC Agenda for January 2022 and intend to ask the TPO Board to revisit the DTI Operational Improvements proposal. This time with full disclosure from FDOT.

Perhaps it’s again time to break out the Lego set."

Rick Fernandez
2906 N Elmore Ave
Tampa, FL 33602”

- 12/1
  Micky Stuckey (in response to a TPO job post)
  “The job is no longer available. The job description you are trying to view is no longer available.”

- 12/2
  Micky Stuckey (in response to a TPO response about a job post)
  “Hillsborough TPO sorry don’t have 4 Master Degrees, only 26 years in Transit.”

Matthew Suarez

#TampaHeights and Rick Fernandez, The following correspondence has been issued to Florida Department of Transportation District 7 Secretary David Gwynn regarding the 1902
N. Lamar Ave. matter. Appropriate individuals from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have been copied for accountability purposes. Both the correspondence issued to Secretary Gwynn & its exhibits have been attached to this post.

Link to Final Section 106 Effects Analysis Case Study Report Update - July 2020 Document:
http://tampainterstatestudy.com/.../TIS_106CaseStudyRepta...

Table 4-4 can be found on page 90 (PDF page 98) of the Document.

#TransitNotTolls #blvdTampa #StopTBX #TransitNow #PeopleFirst Transit Now Tampa Bay Sunshine Citizens Patricia Kemp Harry Cohen Mariella Smith Gwen Myers Kimberly Overman Stephen Benson Guido Maniscalco Bill Carlson Joseph Citro Orlando Gudes National Trust for Historic Preservation Hillsborough TPO
The Preferred Alternative (Option E) would result in No Adverse Effect to these historic properties as highlighted in yellow in Table 4-2.

Preferred Alternative (Option E) as identified within the Document.

Table 4-4 from the Document identifying that the contributing structure at 1902 Lamar would not be subjected to a direct adverse effect via Preferred Alternative (Option E).
Committee Reports

Meeting of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) on December 8

The BPAC approved action items:

- USF to Green ARTery Trail Study – Members noted the low cost of the neighborhood Greenway concept and its proximity to Communities of Concern.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Safety, Operations, Lighting, and Railroad Crossing Projects – Members noted the proximity of the I-75 project to current improvements taking place on Morris Bridge Road and proposed a connection at this location to the proposed Bypass Canal Trail.
- Safe Access to Parks Pilot Study – Members noted a needed connection from the Upper Tampa Bay Trail to a nearby HART facility and asked when the toolkit would be available.

The BPAC heard a status report on the Ybor Multimodal Development. Members inquired about coordination with Brightline, timing and cost of the development, and the multimodal options envisioned on and off road. Members also discussed changes on Nuccio Parkway and connections to Channelside and Water Street.

Meeting of the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TD) on December 10

The TDCB approved action items:

- USF to Green ARTery Trail Study
- Transportation Disadvantaged Legislative Awareness Day and Message
- Sunrise Community Coordination Contract

The TDCB heard status reports on:

- City of Tampa Neighborhood Commercial District Plans
- Sunshine Line Update
- TDSP Follow-up

Meeting of the Livable Roadways Committee (LRC) on December 15

The LRC approved action items:

- Safe Access to Parks Pilot Study

The LRC heard status reports on:

- City of Tampa Neighborhood Commercial District Plans
Meeting of the Technical Advisory and Citizens Advisory Committee on December 15

The Citizen and Technical Advisory Committees held a joint meeting on December 15th.

TPO Chair, Commission Cohen provided inspiring words about the coming year and emphasized the critical role the committees play in guiding the TPO Board.

A quorum of both committees was present, allowing for the approval of all outstanding meeting minutes.

There were no questions regarding TPO Attorney Cameron Clark’s clear and concise refresher on Government in the Sunshine and Public Records Law.

Several items were presented for action.

**The USF to Green Artery Trail Study** was approved by both committees. Questions arose on the public input received and on how to demonstrate a higher score on the trails ability to improve access to transit. One outstanding vote expressed by a CAC member was to draw attention to the proposed design on Yukon showing a shared lane with motor vehicles – that a shared lane should have a speed limit no greater than 20mph, not the 30-35mph as shown.

**The nine TIP amendments** were discussed at length. There was concern that the highway safety improvements might not fit into the spirit of the Vision Zero category due to the addition of auxiliary lanes versus focusing on speed management. Some members agreed these lanes would serve the purpose of eliminating weaving movements, another would prefer the consideration of ramp metering as a solution. There was also questions regarding the need for right or way and if any properties were being proposed for taking. The amendment to add pedestrian crossing treatments on South Dale Mabry was generally supported by both committees with a caveat that full signalized crossings be considered and that the crossing design takes into consideration bicycles as well as pedestrian movements. The TAC approved the TIP amendments unanimously; on an 8–1 vote, the CAC approved the amendments except for the auxiliary lanes on I-4 and I-75, and with the proviso that the pedestrian crossings on S. Dale Mabry be designed to also accommodate bicyclists.

**The 2021 State of the System Report** received praise from both committees as it tells a clear story of the trends in our transportation systems. In comparison to the previous report from 2019, it was requested to include similar information from that report on the Smart Cities performance measure of percent of population affected by high vehicular emissions. In particular, the proximity of the population, calling out communities of concern, to high-volume roadway, and how that exposure leads to health concerns. The TAC voted to approve the report, with the understanding these details will be added to an updated State of the System Report. The CAC requested to table their approval until the January CAC meeting and expect to see those details included before taking a vote.

**The 2022 Meeting Calendar** was approved unanimously by both the CAC and TAC.
The two I-75 segments are part of the TIP Amendments that Connor is presenting to the committees this month and TPO Board in January.

**FPID: 445317 1: I-75 (SR 93) From South of Tampa Bypass Canal To South of Fowler Ave**
Add auxiliary lane NB I-75 From south of Tampa Bypass Canal To south of Fowler Avenue. Widen bridges over Tampa Bypass Canal, Harney Road and US 301
Purpose - Improve safety and operations between I-4 and Fowler Interchange by reducing merging and diverging maneuvers.
ICM Technologies: Still scoping - TBD

**FPID: 445317 2: I-75 (SR 93) From South of Tampa Bypass Canal To South of Fowler Ave**
Add auxiliary lane SB I-75 From south of Tampa Bypass Canal To south of Fowler Avenue. Widen bridges over Tampa Bypass Canal, Harney Road and US 301
Purpose - Improve safety and operations between I-4 and Fowler Interchange by reducing merging and diverging maneuvers.
ICM Technologies: Still scoping - TBD

Hope this helps. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Suzanne Monk, FCCM

Government Liaison
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-975-6721
Thanks Suzanne!

The two I-75 segments—are those funded to implement the current PD&E study? What can you tell us about the scope of the improvements?

Good morning, Beth. I wanted to reach out and provide you the Final Hillsborough TPO Project Highlights document. Please note that the projects listed in green have been added or advanced.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Suzanne Monk, FCCM

Government Liaison
Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-975-6721
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<th>P</th>
<th>FPN</th>
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<td>TRAFFIC Ops IMPROVEMENT</td>
<td>ADITITION</td>
<td>Added CST added to FY24 (HPF for High Friction Surface Treatment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>447762-1</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>SR 60 FROM BEN T DAVIS BEACH EASTERN ENTRANCE TO E OF ROCKY POINT DR</td>
<td>TRAFFIC Ops IMPROVEMENT</td>
<td>ADITITION</td>
<td>Added CST added to FY24 (HPF for HFST &amp; Two Cantilever Signs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>445552-1</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>DAME MBRY HIGHWAY FM N OF HILLSBOROUGH AVE TO S OF VILLAGE/FLETCHER AVE</td>
<td>LIGHTING</td>
<td>DELETIONS</td>
<td>FY23 Design Dropped, work was done on 44784-2 in June of 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>448026-1</td>
<td>Aviation</td>
<td>TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - REPLACE AIRSIDE C SHUTTLE CARS AND SYSTEM</td>
<td>AVIATION CAPACITY PROJECT</td>
<td>ADDITION</td>
<td>Added CST added to FY23</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>449132-1</td>
<td>ROW, CST</td>
<td>US 92/SR 600/HILLSBOROUGH AVE AT S 12TH STREET</td>
<td>TRAFFIC SIGNALS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Added ROW in FY24, CONST in FY26</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>44900-4</td>
<td>Rail</td>
<td>SR 60 AT RAIL CROSSING 624752-8 E OF CLARENCE GORDON JR RD</td>
<td>RAIL SAFETY PROJECT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rail added to FY23</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>416856-2</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>SR 60/3/KENNEDY BLVD AT WILLOW AVE RR CROSSING</td>
<td>RAILROAD CROSSING</td>
<td>ADVANCES</td>
<td>Advanced from FY25 to FY23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
North 62nd Street
From CSX Intermodal Entrance to North of East Columbus Drive
Financial Project ID 433071-2-52-01

Project Description:
The Florida Department of Transportation is developing plans to reconstruct a 0.403 mile segment of N. 62nd Street in Hillsborough County. Other improvements will include: addition of twelve-foot shared use path on the west side of the roadway, upgraded ADA features to meet current standards, and drainage improvements including a stormwater management pond. Improvements to the intersections of N. 62nd Street/E. Broadway Avenue and N. 62nd Street/E. Columbus Drive will include larger turn radii for trucks.

Project Location:
This project is located along N. 62nd Street from the CSX Intermodal Facility Entrance to north of E. Columbus Drive in Hillsborough County.

Project Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Phase IV (December 2021)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begin Construction</td>
<td>Summer 2022</td>
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Project Costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Cost Estimate*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>$0.9M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
<td>$2.34M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$2.91M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that cost estimates may change as the project progresses.

FDOT Project Manager
Charlie Xie, P.E., Project Manager
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-600
Tampa, FL 33612
Office Phone: (813) 975-6287
Charlie.Xie@dot.state.fl.us

Public Information Officer
Kristen Carson
11201 N. McKinley Drive, MS 7-110
Tampa, FL 33612
Office Phone: (813) 975-6060
kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us
Project Update Fact Sheet

Project Title: US 41 From Kracker Ave to South of SR 676/Causeway Blvd
ETDM Number: 5180
FM Number: 430056-1

The FDOT is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the widening of US 41 in Hillsborough County, Florida. The project limits at the northern termini were recently modified during the PD&E Study to connect to the adjoining US 41 @ CSX grade separation project to the north (FM #440749-1). While the project’s limits remain the same (US 41 From Kracker Ave to South of SR 676/Causeway Blvd) the project length has reduced by 0.078 miles (Begin MP 15.784 (no change) end MP 22.617 (new)).

Also, this project was previously approved as a State Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and is now being processed as a Type II Categorical Exclusion (CE) in order to be eligible for federal funding. The FDOT Office of Environmental Management is now the lead agency.

Current schedule of the project

The PD&E phase will begin in February 2022. Design will begin in April 2022 and Phase II will be completed in December 2023.

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact:
Craig Fox, PE
Project Manager
O: 813.975.6082 | M: 813.981.3795 | Craig.Fox@dot.state.fl.us