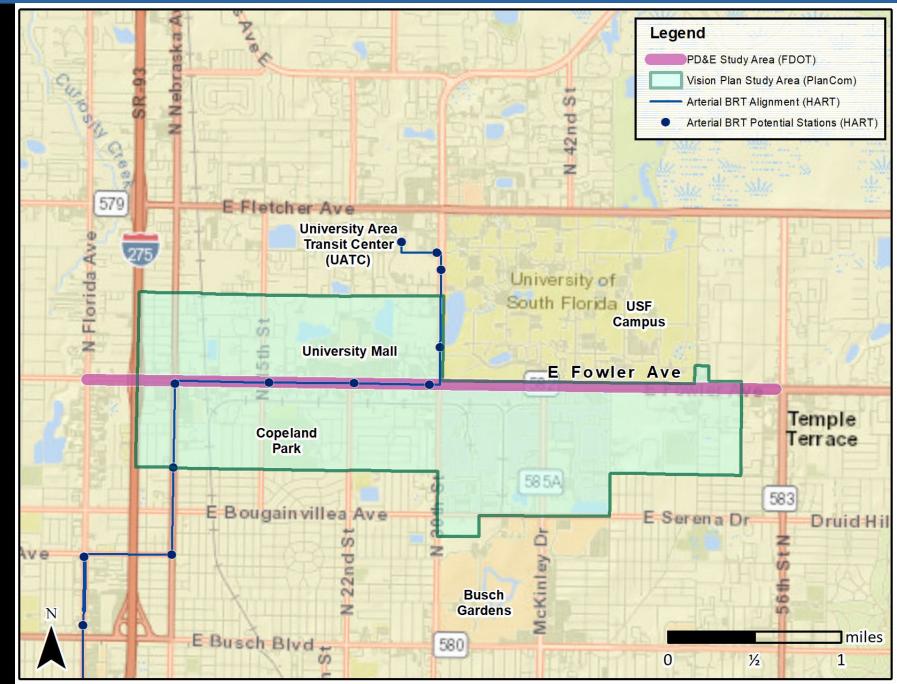
#### **Fowler Avenue Projects**









Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

FROM N. FLORIDA AVENUE TO WEST OF N. 56<sup>TH</sup> STREET



582

McKinlev

Bruce B. Downs Blvd

582

Hillsborough TPO Committees Pre-Public Workshop Presentation May/June 2023

Nebraska Ave



Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

FROM N. FLORIDA AVENUE TO WEST OF N. 56<sup>TH</sup> STREET



## **Related Studies**

- HART's Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Alignment
- Hillsborough Planning Commission's Fowler Avenue Vision Plan
- FDOT's N. 56<sup>th</sup> Street / 50<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Study
- FDOT's Smart Corridor project
- TBARTA's Regional Rapid Transit (RRT) Study

## Redevelopment

- Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI)
- USF Football Stadium
- Private redevelopment along corridor





## **Fowler Avenue PD&E Study**

### Study Purpose

- Improve safety for all users
- Improve traffic operations
- Improve multi-modal accommodations

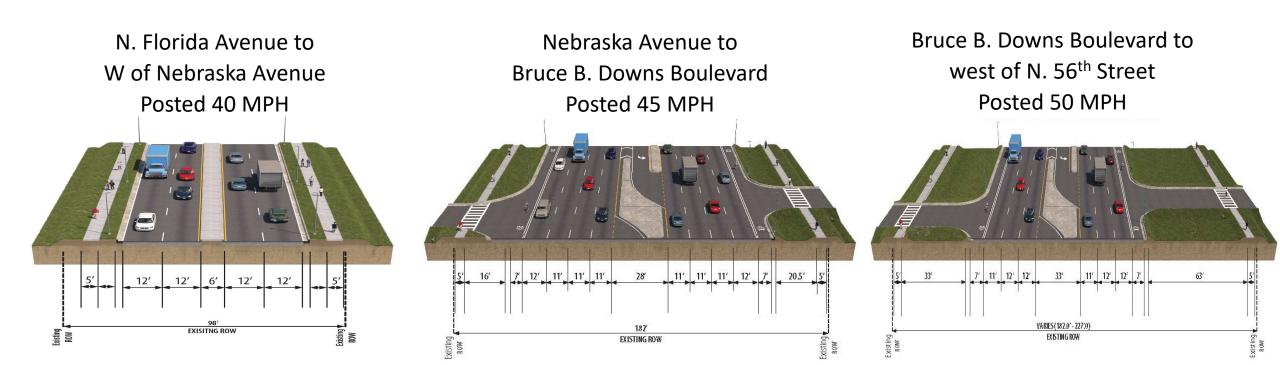
### **Improvements Being Evaluated**

- 3 Transit Alternatives Nebraska Ave to Bruce B. Downs Boulevard
  - Business Access & Transit (BAT) Lanes
  - Frontage Lanes
  - Median Guideway
- Intersection Improvements Bruce B. Downs Boulevard to west of N. 56<sup>th</sup> Street
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities





## **Fowler Avenue Existing Typical Sections**





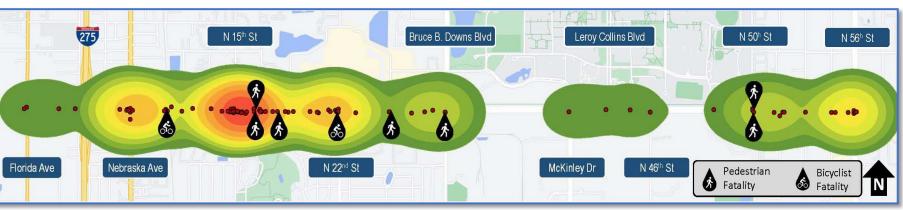
# **Crash History**

- 3,320 Total Crashes
- 120 Total Crashes with Bicycle/Pedestrian
- 53 severe crashes
  - 9 fatalities
    (All Bicycle/Pedestrian)
  - 46 incapacitating injuries (17 Bicycle/Pedestrian)
- 75% of crashes associated with 10 intersections
- 56% rear end; 20% angle and left turn



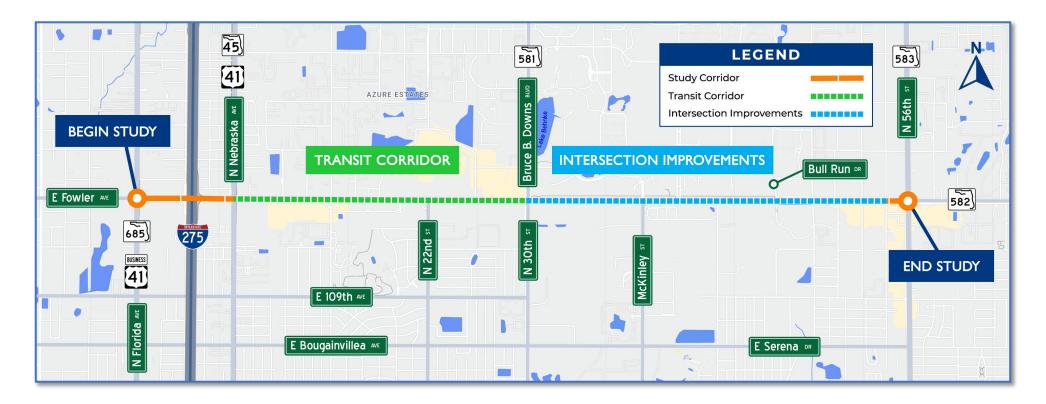
#### 2015-2019 Five-Year Total Crash Data

#### 120 - Total Crashes Involving Bicycle/Pedestrian





## **Study Alternatives**



Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

FROM N. FLORIDA AVENUE TO WEST OF N. 56<sup>TH</sup> STREET

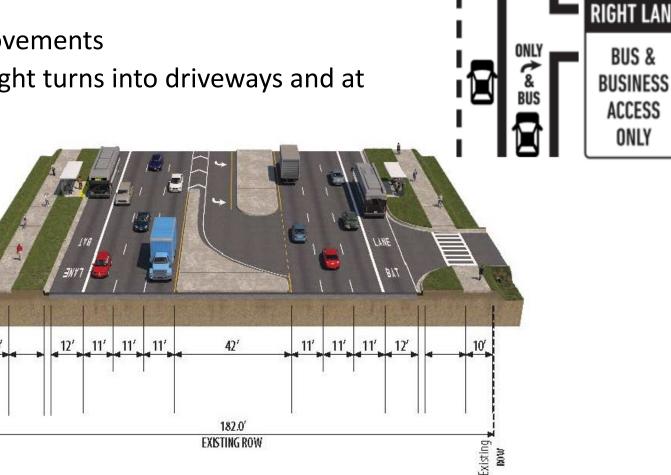


## Alt. 1) Business Access & Transit (BAT) Lanes Nebraska Ave to Bruce B Downs Blvd

- Transit vehicles can make through movements
- General purpose vehicles can make right turns into driveways and at intersections

Existing

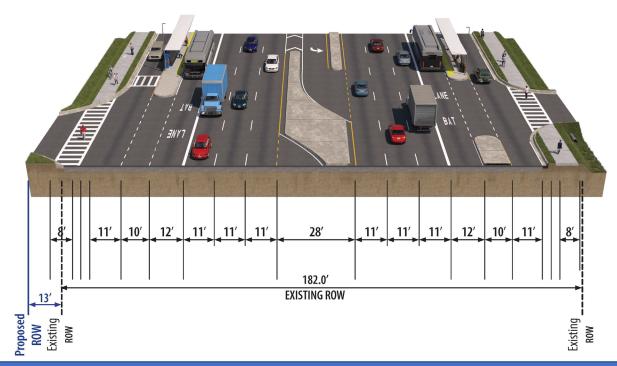
- General purpose vehicles not allowed to make through movements
- 10-foot widewalks located along both sides
- Minimal right-of-way needed at intersections





## **Alt. 2) Frontage Lanes** Nebraska Ave to Bruce B Downs Blvd

- Frontage lanes are located parallel and separate from Fowler Avenue mainline
- Bus operates in mainline outside lane with transit stops/stations located at or near intersections
- Ingress/egress to frontage lanes at appropriate locations
- 8-foot widewalks located along both sides
- Right-of-way required

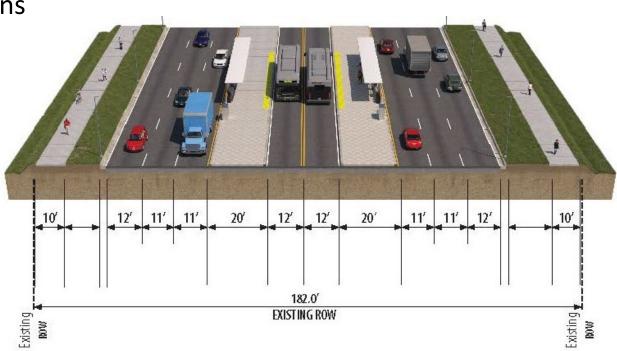


Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

FROM N. FLORIDA AVENUE TO WEST OF N. 56<sup>TH</sup> STREET

# **Alt. 3) Median Guideway** Nebraska Ave to Bruce B Downs Blvd

- Bus only lanes located within median
- Stops/stations located at or near intersections
- Median U-turns allowed at designated locations
- 10-foot widewalks located along both sides
- Minimal right-of-way needed at intersections





Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

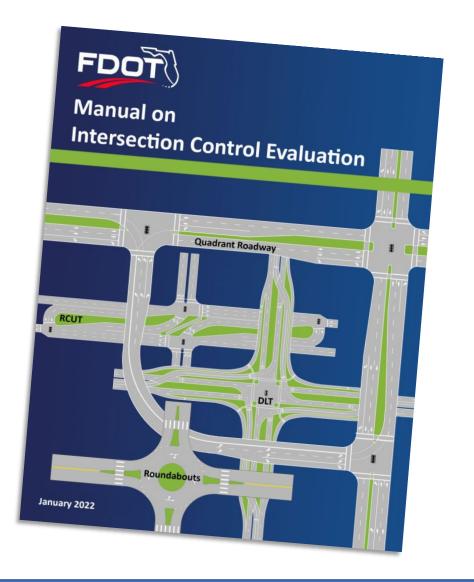


- Innovative Intersections considered
  - Intended for major streets with high traffic volumes
  - Improve vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian movements
  - Reduce delay, increase efficiency
  - Safer for all road users

### Examples include:

- R-Cut
- Thru-Cut
- Displaced Left Turn
- Single Loop

<u>Note</u>: No Innovative Intersection designs were found to be feasible .





# **Safety Strategies**

- Speed Management
- Mid-block Pedestrian Crossings
- Separate Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities







## **Environmental Effects**

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

- Wetlands and
  Surface Waters
- Protected Species & Habitat

#### CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Archaeological and Historic Resources
- Section 4(f)

#### SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Land Use
- Community
  Impacts

#### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Air Quality
- Noise
- Contamination











## **Evaluation Matrix & Estimated Project Cost**

	No-Build Alternative	BAT Lane	Frontage Lane	Median Guideway					
Potential Right-of-Way Impacts									
Number of Businesses Relocations	0	0	0	0					
Number of Businesses and Residences	0	0	0	0					
Additional Right-of-Way for Roadway/Ponds	0	0.01 ac	1.47ac	0.01 ac					
Potential Environmental Effects									
Archaeological Sites and Historic Resources	0	2	2	2					
Section 4(f) Sites	0	0	0	0					
Wetlands	0	LOW	LOW	LOW					
Surface Waters	0	LOW	LOW	LOW					
Floodplains (Potential for Encroachment)	0	LOW	LOW	LOW					
Threatened & Endangered Species	0	NO	NO	NO					
Noise	0	LOW	LOW	LOW					
Contamination Sites	0	LOW	MED	LOW					
Estimated Costs (in millions)	•		•						
Right-of-Way Acquisition <sup>1</sup>	\$0.00	TBD	TBD	TBD					
Wetland & Surface Water Mitigation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					
Construction Engineering and Inspection (8%)	\$0.00	\$1.90	\$2.45	\$3.04					
Design (7%)	\$0.00	\$1.60	\$2.15	\$2.66					
Construction	\$0.00	\$19.50	\$26.10	\$32.30					
Preliminary Estimate of Total Costs	\$0.00	\$23.00	\$31.00	\$38.00					

Fowler Avenue/SR 582 Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study WPI Segment No. 448505-1

# **Public Engagement Approach**

- Kick-off Meetings
  - Hillsborough County TPO Committees & Board November 2022/January 2023
- Newsletters
  - Kick-off November 2022
  - Alternatives Public Workshop May 2023
- Study Website
- Small Group/Stakeholder Meetings
  - University Area CDC January 2023
  - MOSI January 2023
  - City of Tampa April 2023
  - USF (Engineering) April 2023
  - Hillsborough County TPO Committees May/June 2023
- Alternatives Public Workshop June 15, 2023
- Public Hearing (if necessary) Spring 2024







# **Planning Consistency**

 Fowler Avenue - Identified in Hillsborough County TPO Cost Feasible Non-Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) State Roadway Projects for 2020-2045



Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization





# **Funding and Schedule**

FDOT Five-Year Tentative Work Program FY 2023/24 – 2027/28

Design	Right of Way	Construction
FY 2023/24	Pending	FY 2025/26

Activity	2022		2023				2024			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Public Involvement		I		1	1	1				
Data Collection & Existing Conditions Analysis										
Alternatives Develop. & Evaluation										
Alternatives Public Workshop										
Public Hearing									1	
Study Approval										$\mathbf{\times}$







# **Next Steps**

- 1. PD&E Study Alternatives Public Workshop (June 15, 2023)
- 2. PD&E Study Preferred Alternative selected (August 2023)\*
- 3. HART begins Lane Repurposing process if applicable (Fall 2023)
- 4. Vision Plan Open House #2 (Fall 2023)
- 5. FDOT Design Phase begins (Fall 2023)

\*PD&E Study receives NEPA approval (Public Hearing if applicable)



## **For More Information**

Study website -

https://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/fowler-florida-to-56th/

#### **Or Contact –**

Amber Russo, P.E. FDOT Project Manager (813) 975-6260 (800) 226-7220 Amber.Russo@dot.state.fl.us



# Fowler Avenue Vision Study Engagement and Policy Update

May 8, 2023 Jay Collins, AICP Alvaro Gabaldon

Hillsborough County Florida





# **Background/ Purpose**

- Fowler Ave is at the intersection of jurisdictional boundaries, with unique planning challenges
- A vision plan for the Fowler Avenue Corridor:
  - Conveys clear and consistent strategies shared across jurisdictional boundaries
  - Enables equitable redevelopment

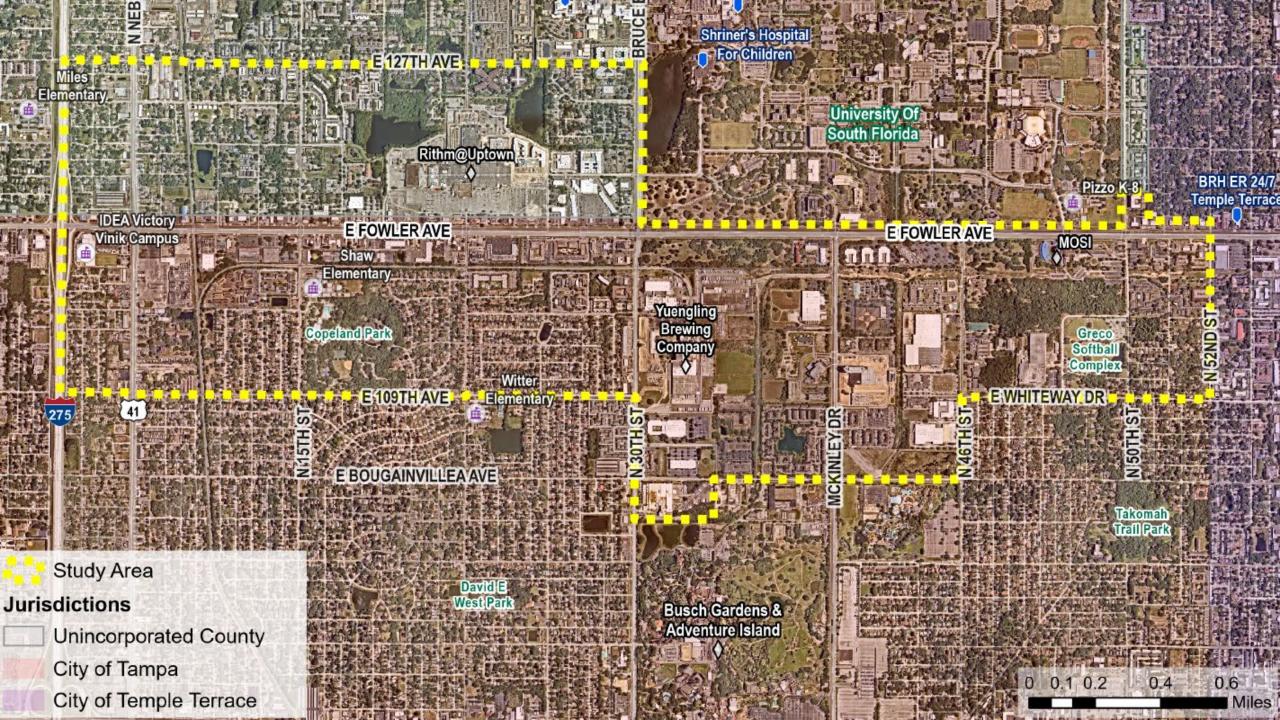
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Integrates land use and transportation









# **Overall Schedule**

Fowler Aver	nue Vision S	tudy - Pi	roject Sche	dule						
Task		2022/2023			2023/2024					
	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter			
	Community Values									
Project Phase			Co	Corridor Vision						
					Redev	evelopment Plan				
Publi	c Engagement a	nd Outreach	Activities							
Community Workshop #1										
Community Workshop #2										
Online Survey										
Project Website										
Mobile Events										
Stakeholder Focus Group Meetings										
Presentations to Agencies and Boards										

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# Fowler Avenue Engagement Timeline

### **Spring Engagement Activities**

### Mobile Engagement: February - May 2023

- Promote online survey and continue eliciting feedback on the vision
- Includes Walk and Talks and other activities to meet people in the community

### Stakeholder Focus Group Meetings: February - May 2023

- Targeted engagement with businesses, community partners, and neighborhood associations/groups
- Opportunity to identify community leaders for the Ambassador program

### Community Workshop #2: Fall 2023

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• Focus on recommendations to support implementation of the Vision Plan







# Spring Engagement Summary

### **Progress Update on Spring Engagement Activities**

- **3\*** Walk and Talk groups
- **13** Walk and Talk participants
  - 6 Stakeholder Focus Group Meetings
- **22** Focus Group Participants
- **259** Survey response

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# Fowler Avenue Engagement Insights

#### Community

- Diversity of culture businesses, restaurants, retail are special
- New development is harbinger of displacement
- Lack of identity or collective character
- Physically and socially divided by Fowler Ave.
- USF, MOSI, health care facilities don't "face the community"
- Housing in the area is affordable

#### Development

- Inconsistencies between City of Tampa and Hillsborough County permitting processes
- Difficult to do business in the County along corridor

#### Infrastructure

- Stormwater/ flooding issues
- Buildings are spread out and "far away"
- Septic systems
- Lighting and beautification
- Lack of green space and recreation





# Fowler Avenue Engagement Insights

### Safety

- Driving speed
- Not lit at night
- No mid-block crossings

### Walking/ Biking Conditions

- Lack of shade
- Rush hours have major impact
- Moderate amount of bike/ped activity
- Drivers making right turns
- Sidewalk narrow and disconnected

#### Transit

- Most bus stops unsheltered
- No lighting or trash cans
- Lack of stops in Terrace Park

#### **Buildings, Connectivity, Aesthetics**

- Vacant properties are not maintained and attract further litter
- Signage clutters Fowler Ave
- Impossible to walk to necessary goods and services





# Framing the Fowler Ave. Vision

#### **Community Technical Report**

- Describes the study area as it is today through:
  - 1. Study Area Profile
  - 2. Existing Plan Review
  - 3. Equity Analysis

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- 4. Land Use Characteristics
- 5. Regulatory Assessment
- 6. Transportation Assessment
- 7. Opportunities and Constraints



Available to download: https://planhillsborough.org/fowler-avenue-vision-study/



# Fowler Avenue Redevelopment Vision

#### **Overall Corridor Vision:**

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The Fowler Avenue Corridor will be an *inclusive and vibrant community* that welcomes a *diversity of people and businesses* by providing those who live, work, and play in the area with *safe, convenient, and accessible options* for housing, employment, transportation, and recreation.





# **Redevelopment Vision Objectives**

- **1.** Create a cohesive community identity
- 2. Improve mobility and connectivity
- 3. Improve safety
- 4. Encourage redevelopment that revitalizes the area
- 5. Mitigate displacement of current residents and small businesses









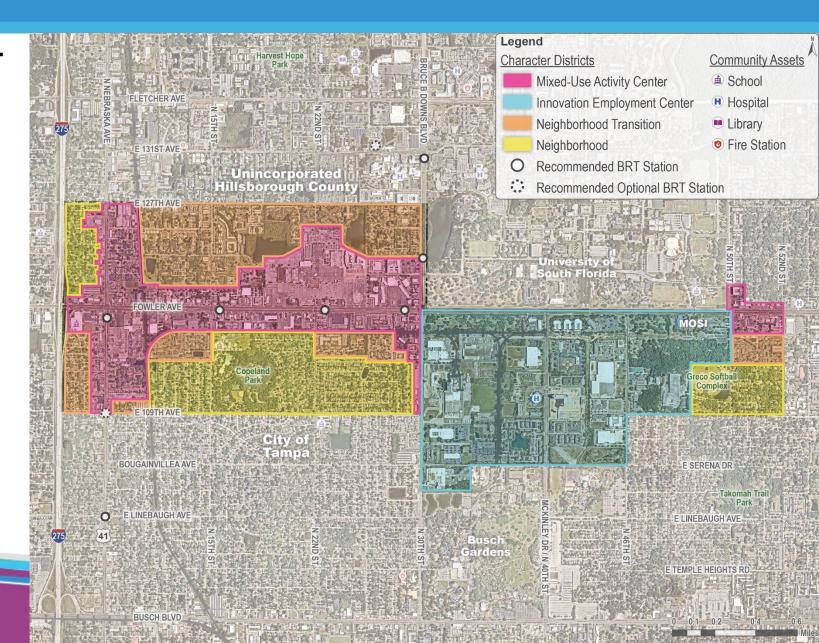
# Fowler Avenue Redevelopment Vision

### **Character District Map - DRAFT**



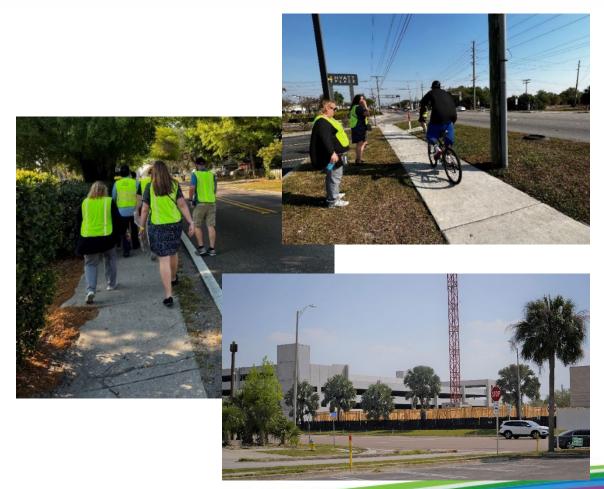
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- District 1: Mixed-Use Activity Center
- District 2: Innovation Employment Center
- District 3: Neighborhood Transition
- District 4: Neighborhood



# Fowler Avenue Policy Recommendations

- Create Density and Intensity Standards
- Allow a Varied Land Use Mix
- Create a Sense of Place through Urban Design
- Enhance Community Support Infrastructure
- Increase Mobility and Connectivity
- Manage Building Form and Placement
- Explore Options for Implementation







# **Next Steps**

### **Upcoming Engagement and Presentations**

- **May to June** TPO Advisory Committees
- Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> table at Fowler Ave.
  Alternative Public Workshop with FDOT
- **Summer 2023** Fowler Avenue Vision Study Open House #2

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# Contact Us



Hillsborough County Florida

Jay Collins, AICP Special Area Studies Manager (813) 582-7335 CollinsJ@plancom.org



Alvaro Gabaldon Planner II (813) 582-7349 GabaldonA@plancom.org









# **Next Steps**

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\*PD&E Study receives NEPA approval (Public Hearing if applicable)









- *1. Fowler Ave PD&E Study* FDOT
- 2. Fowler Ave Vision Plan Planning Commission
- 3. Arterial BRT Study HART



Remember to be **Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow**. Safety doesn't happen by accident.