

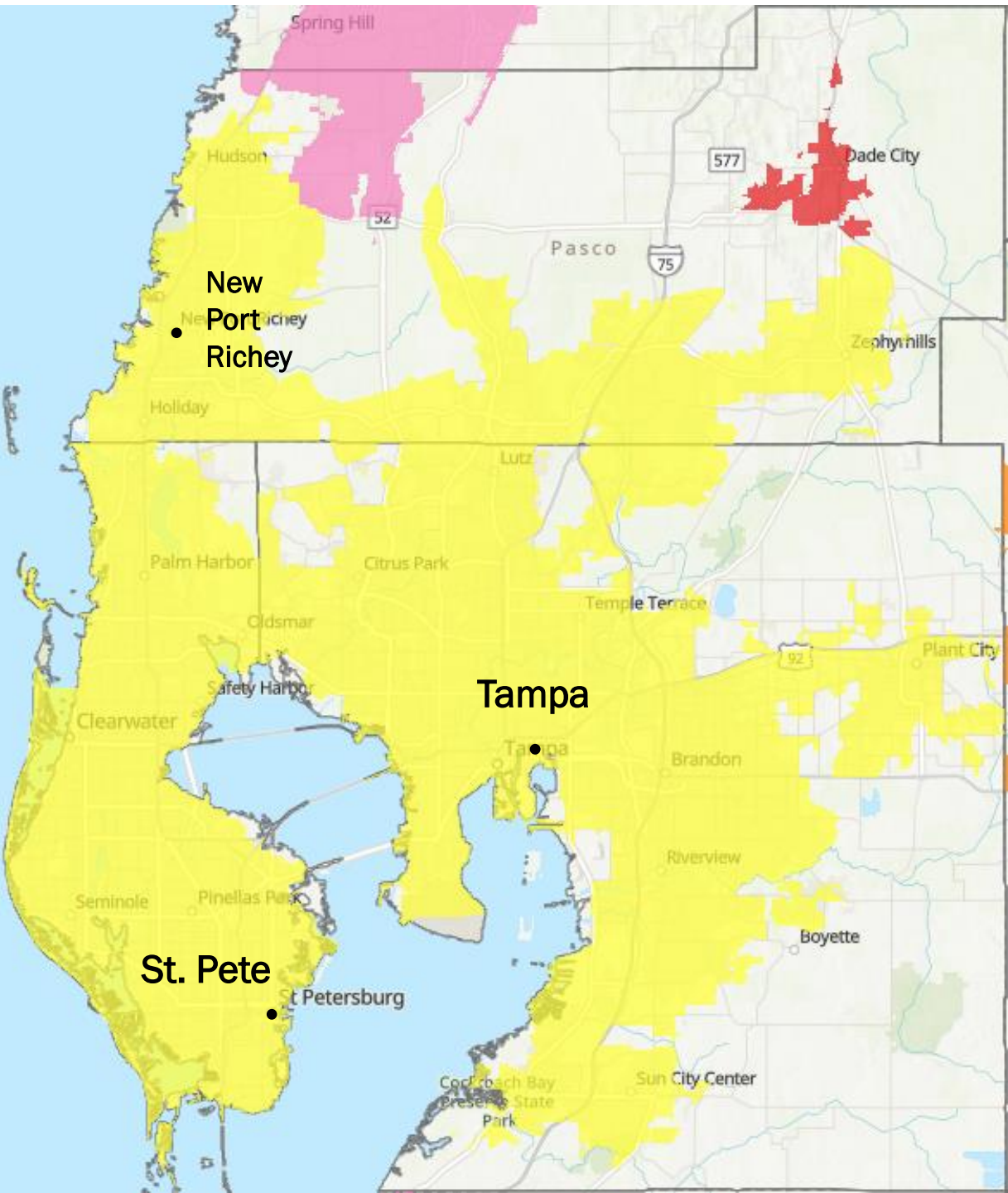


# **MOU on Creating a Tampa Bay MPO**

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July/August 2023 – TPO Committees

# Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL Transportation Management Area



# Legislation

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By December 31, 2023, the M.P.O.'s serving Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas, must submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a **feasibility report exploring the benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single M.P.O.** serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which is to:

1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be regionally significant
2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use decisions on the region.
3. Review all proposed regionally significant transportation projects in the respective transportation improvement programs

# Pros

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- Build trust and collaboration
- Define the transportation agenda
- Compete more effectively with other regions for funding
- Align regional transportation with regional economic development
- Largest MPO in Florida

# Cons

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- Risk of smaller communities and neighborhoods losing influence
- Doesn't guarantee any more funding or change the need for operating funds for transit
- Could shift emphasis to regional projects instead of community safety, access and mobility needs
- Potential to weaken coordination between land use and transportation

# MOU Summary



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## Apportionment

Proportional representation based on population

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## Governance Structure

Voting membership for elected officials and potentially transportation operators

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## Balancing Local & Regional Needs

Maintain County level planning for sub-regional topics

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## Funding

Long term local government funding commitment to float grants and replace federal funds

Start up costs

**Regional  
MPO By  
July 1, 2027**

# MOU Summary

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## Outreach

Coordination with all local jurisdictions

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## Federally Required Plans & Programs

Development of Regional Plans & Programs

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## Agreements

Consider agreements to staff Regional MPO

Consider agreements with current host agencies

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## Existing Staff

Offer positions within Regional MPO or current Planning Agencies



# Proposed Timeline

2023	2024	2025	2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Apportionment Plan</li><li>✓ Business Model &amp; Budget</li><li>✓ Outreach to Local Governments &amp; Public</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Bylaws &amp; Structure</li><li>✓ Operating Procedures &amp; Financial Controls</li><li>✓ HR Procedures &amp; Organizational Chart</li><li>✓ Coordination with FHWA/FTA to maintain TMA certification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Interlocal agreement for MPO creation</li><li>✓ Office Space &amp; Equipment</li><li>✓ Negotiate Staff Services Agreement</li><li>✓ Develop UPWP, PPP, TIP, and LRTP</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Governor Approvals</li><li>✓ Finalize Financial Accounts &amp; Agreements</li><li>✓ Adopt UPWP, PPP, TIP and LRTP</li></ul>

# Public Input Survey

- 5-minute survey to solicit input from the Region
- Launch July 5
- Closes August 20th
- Please share with your networks

The screenshot displays the first step of a survey titled "Transportation Planning in the Tampa Bay Region". The interface includes a purple header with the title and a sub-header "Learn a bit about this initiative before you begin." Below the header is a "WELCOME" sidebar. The main content area features a "Background" section with text about the region's history and a survey question: "Should this region create a tri-county council of city and county elected officials, to agree on plans and priorities for funding major roads, rapid transit, greenway trails, and other transportation improvements? If yes, it would mean merging the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) of the three counties." A "Next" button is visible. At the bottom, there is a MetroQuest logo and a request for input: "Help us understand your transportation planning priorities and organizational preferences!". A vertical navigation bar on the right side shows five steps: "GOALS", "BUDGET PRIORITIES", "GOVERNANCE", and "WRAP UP".



# Committees

	Hillsborough TPO	Pasco MPO	Forward Pinellas
Citizens Advisory*	X	X	X
Technical Advisory*	X	X	X
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board*	X	X	X
Livable Roadways	X		
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory	X		X
Intelligent Transportation Systems	X	X	
Policy/Legislative	X		X
Waterborne Transportation			X
Pinellas Trail Security Task Force			X
School Transportation Safety			X

# Committees

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- Committees continue to meet separately in each county, and they individually advise the governing board about issues in each county
- Committees merge, and meet monthly or bimonthly at a central location
- Committees meet regionally once per quarter, and meet in their individual counties in the other months
- Some committees are absorbed by the host agency in each county
- Procedures are customized according to the committee's mission

# Next Steps

## Summer

Outreach to Agencies, TPO  
Committees & Public

Draft Apportionment Plan &  
Business Model

## Early Fall

MPOs consider signing MOU

## December 1st

TMA Leadership Group  
meeting to approve  
feasibility plan

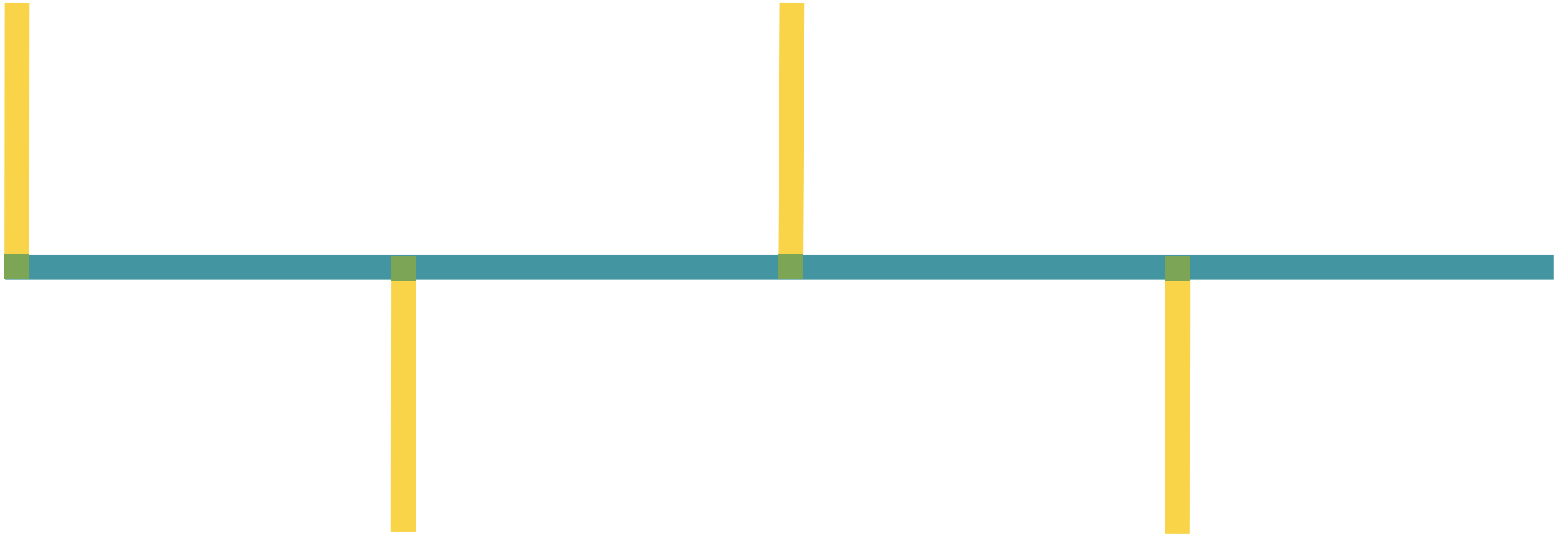
## June 23<sup>rd</sup>

TMA Leadership Group  
meeting to review initial  
local government and public  
feedback

## September 22<sup>nd</sup>

TMA Leadership Group  
meeting to review  
apportionment plan and  
business model

# Next Steps



# **Recommendation**

Recommend the Hillsborough TPO Board sign the Creating a Tampa Bay Metropolitan Planning Organization Memorandum of Understanding