



# Hillsborough TPO

## Transportation Planning Organization

Commissioner Gwen Myers  
Hillsborough County  
TPO Chair

Mayor Andrew Ross  
City of Temple Terrace  
TPO Vice Chair

Paul Anderson  
Port Tampa Bay

Councilman Alan Clendenin  
City of Tampa

Commissioner Harry Cohen  
Hillsborough County

Councilmember Lynn Hurtak  
City of Tampa

Commissioner Pat Kemp  
Hillsborough County

Mayor Nate Kilton  
City of Plant City

Scott Drainville  
HART

Joe Lopano  
Hillsborough County  
Aviation Authority

Councilman Guido Maniscalco  
City of Tampa

Commissioner  
Michael Owen  
Hillsborough County

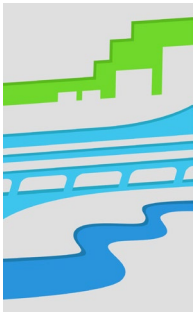
Nigel M. Joseph  
Planning Commission

Greg Slater  
Expressway Authority

Commissioner  
Joshua Wostal  
Hillsborough County

Jessica Vaughn  
Hillsborough County  
School Board

Johnny Wong, PhD  
Executive Director



Plan Hillsborough

[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)

813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602

## Meeting of the TPO Board

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023 @ 10:00am**  
**Hillsborough County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 26<sup>th</sup> Floor**

All voting members are asked to attend in person, in compliance with Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law. Please RSVP for this meeting. Presenters, audience, and members in exceptional circumstances may participate remotely.

This meeting may be viewed on Hillsborough Television (HTV) by visiting Spectrum: 637, Frontier: 22 or live stream from [Hillsborough County's Live YouTube Channel](#) or the County website's [Live Meetings](#) link, also found in the County [Newsroom](#). The agenda packet, presentations, and any supplemental materials are posted on the [TPO's online calendar](#).

### Public comment opportunities:

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

Comments may also be given up to 3pm the day before the meeting:

- by leaving a voice message at (813) 756-0371
- by e-mail to [tpo@plancom.org](mailto:tpo@plancom.org)
- by visiting the event posted on the [Facebook page](#).

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

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](#).

## Agenda

- I. Call to Order & [Pledge of Allegiance](#)
- II. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum (Gail Reese, TPO Staff)
- III. [Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2023 and November 17, 2023](#)
- IV. **Public Comment on Agenda Items – 30 minutes total, with up to 3 minutes per speaker. Staff will unmute you when the Chair recognizes you. As needed, the Chair may allow for additional time later in the agenda.**

**V. Committee Reports and Advance Comments** (Rick Fernandez, CAC Chair and Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff)

**VI. Consent Agenda**

- A. [Committee Appointments](#)
- B. [2024 Meeting Calendar](#)

**VII. Action Items**

- A. [2024 TPO Board Officers & Committee Assignments](#)  
(Cameron Clark, TPO Attorney)
- B. [2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Real Choices When Not Driving](#)  
(Elizabeth Watkins, TPO Staff and Sarah Goolsby, Benesch)
- C. [2050 Plan Needs Assessment for State of Good Repair & Resilience](#)  
(Connor MacDonald, TPO Staff and Pedro Serigos, Cambridge Systematics)

**VIII. Executive Director's Report**

- A. Recap of Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group & Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance meetings on December 1, 2023
- B. Next TPO Board meeting will be held January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- C. Discretionary Grant Opportunities

**IX. Old Business & New Business**

**X. Adjournment**

**XI. Addendum**

- A. Announcements
  - [Hands Free Florida Flyer](#)
  - [FDOT press release on the Governor's proposed transportation budget for next fiscal year](#)
- B. Project Summaries, Fact Sheets & Other Status Reports
  - [Plan Hillsborough Newsletter](#)
  - [Project Factsheet – Water Works Sidewalk Gap Various Locations](#)
- C. Correspondence

- [To FDOT re Signed FY 2025-2029 Tentative Work Program Letter of Comment](#)

#### D. Articles Related to TPO Work

- [From Atlanta to Kansas City, voters approve transportation taxes that could provide insight for Tampa](#) | Tampa Bay Business Journal | 11.08.23
- [45-minute trip from Tampa to Disney to be reality on Brightline Train](#) | South Tampa Patch | 11.08.23
- [Riverview & Wimauma projects win big at 2023 county Planning Commission design awards](#) | Osprey Observer | 11.08.23
- [Tampa officials tour Brightline's new route to Orlando as advocacy for extension wears on](#) | Tampa Bay Business Journal | 11.07.23
- [Hillsborough County leaders need your input for 20-year plan](#) | WTSP 10 Tampa Bay | 11.02.23
- [Planning Commission seeks public input](#) | Plant City Observer | 11.02.23
- [Hillsborough County Wins Big at the Planning Commissions 41st Annual Planning and Design Awards](#) | Hillsborough County Newsroom | 10.30.23
- [City Commission passes resolution allowing Police Officers to participate in Helping Heroes Program - additional Agenda item](#) | Plant City Observer | 10.26.23
- [Planning Commission announces 2023 Award Winners honoring plans, programs and development elevating our community!](#) | Tampa Bay Newswire | 10.25.23
- [Help shape the future of Hillsborough County](#) | Tampa Bay Newswire | 10.25.23
- [Fast Tracking Tampa City projects](#) | Fox 13's Good Day Tampa Bay | 10.24.23
- [Mass transit projects for Tampa to be fast-tracked with federal grant](#) | South Tampa Patch.com | 10.23.23
- [\\$1.75M federal grant awarded to city of Tampa will start office focused on regional infrastructure](#) | Fox 13 Tampa Bay | 10.23.23
- [Tampa is creating a regional office that should make finding transportation funding easier](#) | WUSF | 10.20.23
- [Vision Zero Study](#) | ABC Action News | 10.18.23
- [Rapid buses to USF? A trolley to airport? Tampa wins planning grant](#) | Tampa Bay Times | 10.17.23
- [Tampa scores \\$1.75M federal grant for transit planning](#) | Tampa Bay Business Journal | 10.17.23
- [Regional MPO study gets green light from Pasco MPO](#) | The Laker / Lutz News | 10.17.23

The full agenda packet is available on the TPO's website, [www.planhillsborough.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

*In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, materials attached are for research and educational purposes, and are distributed without profit to TPO Board members, TPO staff, or related committees or subcommittees the TPO supports. The TPO has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of attached articles nor is the TPO endorsed or sponsored by the originator. Persons wishing to use copyrighted material for purposes of their own that go beyond 'fair use' must first obtain permission from the copyright owner. The TPO cannot ensure 508 accessibility for items produced by other agencies or organizations.*

*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.*

**HILLSBOROUGH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD  
HYBRID MEETING NOVEMBER 8, 2023  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance** *(Timestamp 0:05:48)*

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was held in person and virtually via WebEx.

**II. Roll Call** *(Gail Reese, TPO Staff) (Timestamp 0:06:14)*

The following members were present: Commissioner Gwen Myers, Mayor Andrew Ross, Commissioner Michael Owen, Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Councilmember Alan Clendenin, Councilmember Lynn Hurtak, Mayor Nate Kilton, Charles Klug, Joe Lopano, Bob Frey, Scott Drainville

The following members were absent/excused: Planning Commissioner Hemant Saria, Commissioner Wostal, School Board Member Vaughn

A quorum was met in person.

**III. Approval of Minutes** *(Timestamp 0:09:35) – October 11, 2023.*

**Chair Myers sought a vote to approve the October 11, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Owen moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cohen. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**IV. Public Comment On Agenda Items** *(Timestamp 0:07:00)* (up to 3 minutes per speaker) Additional comments made via [Social Media](#) and [Email](#) may be requested. – None

**V. Committee Reports and Advance Comments** (Rick Fernandez, CAC Chair and Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 0:07:35 and 0:11:06)*

**A. CAC Meeting November 1, 2023** (Rick Fernandez, CAC Chair) – the written report is available upon request

- Approved the following:
  - The Suncoast Transportation Planning Alliance Regional Priorities for Major Projects. This passed by a vote of 11-0 with the inclusion of the Streetcar Extension.
  - The Florida Department of Transportation and Florida Turnpike Enterprise’s Tentative Work Programs. The CAC approved the FDOT Tentative Work Program with a vote of 10-1. A separate motion passed 10-1 to approve the FTE Tentative Work Program specifically to resurface the Veterans Expressway/Suncoast Parkway (from Mile post 14.2 to mile post 17.5)
- Heard a status report on the 2050 Long Range Plan Preliminary Discussion of Cost Feasible Scenarios
- In October, the CAC took action on the 2050 Needs Assessment for Equity which is on the agenda today

**B. Other Committees**

- Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) Meeting October 13
  - The TDCB did meet quorum, so action items have been moved to the December meeting.
  - The TDCB heard status reports on the Sunshine Line, HART, and FDOT Tentative Work Program Fiscal Year 2025-2029.
  - The TDCB also named two new voting members: David Michaels as the new representative for Local Veterans, as well as Neugenia Joseph who will be an official voting member alternate representing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
- Livable Roadways Committee (LRC) Meeting October 18
  - Approved Action Items:
    - Florida Department of Transportation Tentative Work Program FY2025-2029. The committee made a motion to shift 50% of capacity project funding to transit and bicycle-pedestrian projects. The FDOT Work Program second motion requested a comparison of Distract 7 Work Program spending categories to the other districts in Florida.
    - 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Congestion Management and Crash Mitigation
  - The LRC meeting heard status reports on:
    - 2050 Plan Revenue and Initial Discussion on Cost Feasibility Scenarios
- Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting October 25
  - Approved Action Items:
    - Florida Department of Transportation Tentative Work Program FY2025-2029
    - 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Congestion Management and Crash Mitigation
      - i. Members expressed concern that the Needs Assessment made increased traffic speeds an equal priority with traffic safety, but were informed that the Needs Assessment does not include any particular priority ranking.
    - Consideration for new Member at Large
      - i. BPAC voted to recommend Gene Peters for approval as the new Member at-Large
  - Heard status reports on
    - 2050 Plan Revenue and Initial Discussion on Cost Feasibility Scenarios

**Emails and Social Media:** No emails were received, social media comments and letters are available upon request. These were provided to the TPO Board on October 10, 2023.

## VI. Consent Agenda (*Timestamp 0:09:57*)

### A. Committee Appointments

- TAC – Marcela Maltass by the Florida Department of Health
- TDCB – David Michaels by Local Veterans; Neugenia Joseph as an alternate for the Agency with Person with Disabilities
- LRC – Sarah Templeton by the Institute of Transportation Engineers; Nicole Dufva and Brian Ramirez as alternates for the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority

### B. Community Air Monitoring Project: USF College of Public Health Agreement

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Commissioner Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Owen; the voice vote passed unanimously.**

## VII. Action Items

### A. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Turnpike Enterprises (FTE) Tentative Work Program FY 2025 – 2029 (Brian Hunter, FDOT and Victoria Williams, FTE Staff) (*Timestamp 0:19:10*)

#### FDOT

- Went over what the Tentative Work Program is, when it starts and ends, and where it is now
- Reviewed the programming strategy – preserve existing, fund next phases, add new; MPO/TPO priorities, regional priorities, FDOT/SIS priorities
- Looked at new projects, newly funded project phases, deferred projects, projects of interest
- Went over the funding/investment
- Went over the timeline

#### FTE

- Went over the FTE and their responsibilities; have 16.5 miles of turnpike roads in Hillsborough County; the FTE must self-fund
- Looked at the FTE revenues and expenditures
- Reviewed how the FTE prioritizes projects
- Went over the work program projects for Hillsborough County – the resurfacing of the Veterans Parkway / Sun Coast

#### TPO

- Went over the letter comment from the TPO to FDOT and FTE
- Highlighted projects being funded by FDOT on the TPO priority list
- Requesting that going forward for 2024, FDOT prioritize the US 41 Grade Separation

**Recommended Action:** Recommend approval of the FDOT and FTE Tentative work programs.

#### Discussion:

It was asked what the \$93 million for transit is designated for. It is for various projects. A breakdown can be provided. Clarification was asked on whether FDOT funds go into the FTE projects. The FTE is self-funded. Appreciation was expressed for the grants to the Port and Aviation. It was asked if the Gibsonton project also included the widening. No, it is for the interchange only; FDOT is working with the County on this. It was asked how it would work if Gibsonton widening became a priority. It would need to be added to the LRTP and then up to the County to add it to the TIP. Clarification was asked about canceled projects and how that works. FDOT regularly communicated with the Engineering department to make sure all projects were aligned with the needs of the county. They can be reprogrammed in the future. THEA expressed thanks for the FRAME project and having it expanded all the way from Orlando to Tampa. It was requested that, in the future, if this could be combined with the Five-Year plan, it would be helpful to understand where things are and how they interact. Understanding where the projects are in the ranking would be helpful. It was noted that FDOT does have a ranking and can show what is around the projects. The FDOT website is GIS-based. Projects can be looked at around specific areas and addresses. It was noted that bike/ped is still not making up half of this program. FDOT has bike/ped programs in other projects; working on finding a way to indicate identifying bike/ped

in projects. It was expressed that moving people in the Urban Core is important but the east and south county needs to move vehicles.

Clarification was asked about the through lanes on the veterans. Through lanes do not assess any additional tolls. It was asked if a segment is barred from charging because it was paid for through general funds. FTE will find out and provide that. Additional clarification was asked if the expansion and resurfacing projects are receiving FDOT funds. No, those projects are funded through toll revenue. It was asked if there is a plan to re-activate a toll on the southern portion of the Veterans.

**Councilmember Clendenin moved to approve the FDOT and FTE Tentative Work Programs letter of comment; seconded by Charles Klug. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**B. 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Congestion Management and Crash Mitigation (Vishaka Shiva Raman, TPO Staff; Rich Margiotta, Cambridge Systematics) (Timestamp 1:02:05)**

- Review of the 2050 Plan ingredients; needs assessments; combining the needs assessments and revenue forecast and public input
- Went over the methodology of the Needs Assessment Development using various scenarios
  - Scenario 1 – Trend
  - Scenario 2 – Performance
- Looked at the impact of Congestion Management Treatments
- Reviewed potential reductions in congestion and improvements to safety with investment

**Recommended Action:** Approve the Draft 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Congestion Management and Crash Mitigation and forward it to the TPO Board for consideration.

**Discussion:**

It was noted that this analysis did not cover the freeways. It was also pointed out that as people travel, one crash can really cause delays and congestion. It was brought up that ramp metering has not been presented to the TPO Board in the last seven years; an explanation of how ramp metering is accomplished includes storing vehicles on the collector roads. A presentation around ramp metering was requested. There was discussion about utilizing the hard shoulders which was one of the things recommended. This has been deployed in many areas around the country. It is not adding a new lane, it is using hardened shoulders within the footprint. A presentation on this topic was also requested. The shoulders are controlled dynamically and used only with congestion. Hardened shoulders are used on freeways only. Clarification was asked about what the TPO Board is being asked to approve. This is not establishing a policy for the board or implementing agencies. It is something to be taken to the public to show what could happen. It was noted that there is discomfort when stating if an investment of \$X is made it will result in X fewer crashes and fatalities. It was brought up that it is important that the TPO Board understand the strategies being presented.

**Commissioner Owen moved to approve the 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Congestion Management and Crash Mitigation, seconded by Joe Lopano. The voice vote passed unanimously.**



C. **2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Equity** (Connor Trejos-MacDonald TPO Staff; Riva Heinrich, Kittelson & Assoc) (*Timestamp 1:28:25*)

- Review of what an Equity Needs Assessment is and how it is conducted
- Went over why this Needs Assessment is being done now
- Showed the Transportation Disadvantaged areas around Hillsborough County
- Went over the Overview of how Equity items appear in the different areas of the LRTP
- Looked at the TDTA areas ranked by TDTA disparities
- Reviewed the project recommendations – projects close critical infrastructure gaps
- Went over the study recommendations
- Went over the committee recommendations – CAC and TAC

**Recommended Action:** Accept the 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Equity

**Mayor Ross moved to accept the 2050 Needs Assessment for Equity; seconded by Joe Lopano. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**VIII. Executive Director's Report** (*Timestamp 1:38:30*)

- A. November 17<sup>th</sup> special TPO Board meeting at 10 AM on the 18<sup>th</sup> Floor.
- B. December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, 2024 TPO Board & Committee Meeting Calendar and Officers & Committee Assignments to Consider.

It was requested that the proposed calendar be sent to the members.

**IX. Old Business & New Business** (*Timestamp 1:43:54*)

- A. Congratulated Johnny Wong on his first weeks in his new role and Scott Drainville in his new role as HART CEO.
- B. Mayor Ross asked what the TPO Board's role is going to be with the Brightline project. That will be brought up at the November 17th meeting. It has been reported on in the media in recent days. Will bring Brightline back in 2024 for an update. There was discussion on who was invited/went to a meeting with Brightline. There was an indication that the City of Tampa was taking the lead as the ending point would be in the city. Funding clarification was requested when they do come for an update.
- C. Commissioner Kemp requested that something be brought back in the form of a resolution that Amtrak goes every day from Tampa to Miami and comes back. One trip there and back does not have great opportunities for use and experiences delays. Amtrak is receiving funding for increased presence around the country. It was requested that an official request be made to Amtrak to expand service to and from Orlando. Would like a presentation and then write a letter to FTA and/or Congresswoman Castor.

**X. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM

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

**HILLSBOROUGH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD  
HYBRID MEETING NOVEMBER 17, 2023  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was held in person and virtually via WebEx.

**II. Roll Call** (Cheryl Wilkening, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 0:00:35)*

The following members were present: Commissioner Gwen Myers, Mayor Andrew Ross, Commissioner Michael Owen, Commissioner Joshua Wostal, Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Councilmember Alan Clendenin, Councilmember Guido Maniscalco, Mayor Nate Kilton, Charles Klug, Greg Slater, Justin Willits, Planning Commissioner Nigel Joseph

The following members were absent/excused: Councilmember Lynn Hurtak, School Board Member Jessica Vaughn

A quorum was met in person.

**III. Public Comment On Agenda Items** *(Timestamp 0:01:39)* (up to 3 minutes per speaker) Additional comments made via Social Media and Email may be requested. – None

**IV. Action Items**

**A. Report to the Florida Legislature Regarding Tampa Bay MPO** (Johnny Wong, TPO Executive Director) *(Timestamp 0:02:30)*

- Review why the feasibility report is due at this time – required by the legislature and will be submitted to the Governor, the President of the State Senate, and the Speaker of the State House
- Went over the benefits – Continue core MPO functions, stronger regional dialogue and coordination, stronger voice
- Went over the feasibility outlined in the report
- Looked at preliminary costs to explore a regional merger
  - Phase 1 – approx.. \$500K to guide consensus building culminating in a vote to proceed or terminate
  - Phase 2a (pending vote to proceed) – minimum of \$1 million to develop required documentation and controls
  - Phase 2b – TBD to allow for buildout
  - Went over annual operating costs
- Review of Appendices
  - Memorandum of Understanding – joint agreement of the MPOs was signed by Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties
  - Tampa Bay MPO Survey Results
  - TBARTA – study of peer organizations

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the TPO Chair to sign the report, approving the transmittal of the report to the Florida legislature. Hillsborough TMA representatives will then communicate the TPO Board's position to the TMA on December 1, 2023.

**Discussion:**

There was discussion regarding the Florida Statute designating the largest Central City and whether the vote extends to the largest cities in Pinellas and Pasco or if that vote resides with the City of Tampa only. It was noted that this needs to be clarified as the ones voting on this are going to drive the details including proportional representation discussions. Clarification was also asked if the decision would be with the Mayor of Tampa or the City Council. It was noted that there may be differing opinions between Tampa and the TPO Board.

**MUTED TIME IN VIDEO**

There was discussion around the costs versus the savings regarding projects being able to be acted on quicker. It was noted that the operating expenses of a merged MPO may be offset if the decision-making includes benefits to the community.

It was asked where the excitement that the City of Tampa may have veto power comes from. It seems that the city may benefit the most from being able to pass transportation through more seamlessly. It was noted that the City of Tampa may see things differently than the rest of the county. If the city does not have as much representation as they would like, it may sway to a negative vote. There could also be challenges if other municipalities see Tampa getting more than other cities, such as St. Petersburg. It was expressed that the first conversation to have is going to be the composition of the Board. If that can't be agreed upon, then the rest of the study will be wasted time, effort, and money. A close second is the advisor boards and how those may be retained. It was brought up that no one is going to get everything they want, the key is to make a deal everyone can live with. There was clarification on how the federal funds are distributed to the counties and they have to be spent in the counties they are designated for but allow for some flexibility in trading funds.

A discussion was had regarding how the TPO Board representatives to the TMA are communicating and that they are communicating the majority position of the TPO. It was noted that the City of Tampa has not made a decision at this time.

It was asked if the issue of proportional representation has been settled. The statute is for equitable geographic population representation. Clarification was asked if the apportionment conversation would happen at the TMA. Over the last year, TPO Staff has gone to the side of inclusivity with discussions and negotiations. The goal is to have conversations documented since committee assignments and elected officials change. The recommended action states that the representatives will communicate the position of the TPO Board.

There was a question about where the \$500K would come from. That is a strategy question. The sponsors of the bill have an interest in the topic. Approaching the State Senate is one idea; possibly having FDOT provide the funds is another idea.

It was asked what happens if the three counties cannot come to a merger agreement. It is unknown at this time. The statute doesn't have a provision to mandate pushing together

jurisdictions, it imagines that they are going to agree to it. FDOT noted that the process will help with the dialogue. Additional discussion took place around how apportionment would be determined and how the voice of small cities and the transit authorities would continue to have a voice.

It was asked how the concerns will be addressed to the TPO Board. A document will be drafted so the TMA reps can iterate those concerns to the TMA at the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Some of those concerns will be part of the normal decision-making process in Phase 1 and some will be reserved for a later time.

**Commissioner Owen moved to authorize the Chair to sign the report, approving transmittal to the Florida legislature, and that the Hillsborough representatives will communicate the TPO Board position at the TMA meeting on December 1, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Wostal. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**B. SCTP Regional Priorities for Major Projects (Elizabeth Watkins, TPO Staff) (Timestamp 0:55:53)**

- Reviewed the Planning for Tomorrow – the region is in the top 20 most populated areas in the county and one of the fastest growing; regional coordination is essential; MPOs/TPOs plan, prioritize, and fund the improvements
- Went over regional priorities – developed annually, advance the LRTP, sited specific projects that have been funded
- Looked at the 2023 unfunded priorities and new unfunded priorities
- Noted that there were a few additional recommendations from the committees but staff did not change the recommendations due to some of the eligibility as well as the funding that has already been programmed

**Recommended Action:** Approve the proposed list of projects to be presented to the Sun Coast Transportation Alliance at its December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Discussion:**

It was noted that the City of Tampa is moving forward in the process of funding the Streetcar Extension. The purpose of this list is to compete for SIS and New START funding and those already on the Streetcar Extension.

**Commissioner Kemp moved to approve the list of projects to be presented to the Sun Coast Transportation Alliance at its December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**V. Status Reports**

**A. Coordinated Trails Planning in Hillsborough County (Ben Gordon, TPO Staff) (Timestamp 1:02:10)**

- Went over statewide initiatives – Florida Greenways and Trails Council, FDOT SUNTrail Projects
- Looked at the history of regional trail planning
- Reviewed regional trail projects, countywide trail planning, and city-level trail planning
- Went over future opportunities

**B. Decision-making Steps to Create a Regional MPO** (Johnny Wong, TPO Executive Director)  
(Timestamp 1:11:52)

- This is to lay the groundwork for conversations that will happen over the next couple of years
- The three MPOs will contact respective legislative delegations seeking an appropriations bill for \$500K in FYs 24/25 to hire a neutral/independent facilitator
- First decision – Regional MPO Structure and Apportionment Plan; went over a few of the questions that will go into this decision
- Regional MPO Staffing Needs/Wants – went over a few of the questions that will go into this decision
- Representation of People – what committees there be, how will they meet, etc.
- Office location
- Went over the timeline of the near future
- This update is to lay the groundwork to answer these questions

**Discussion:**

It was asked if there has been a discussion about creating a work group to go through these questions and bring those back to the counties. Yes, Mayor Ross proposed that a working group be created. It didn't have legs at the time. However, if he is willing and thinks that there is value, it could be brought up again at the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**VI. Old Business & New Business** (Timestamp 1:22:41)

- A. The next meeting is December 13, 2023

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM

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



**Hillsborough TPO**  
**Transportation**  
**Planning Organization**

## **Committee Reports**

### **Livable Roadways Committee (LRC) Meeting on November 15**

The LRC approved action items:

- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Real Choices When Not Driving
- 2024 Draft Meeting Calendar

### **Special TPO Board Meeting on November 17**

The TPO Board approved action items:

- Report to the Florida Legislature Regarding Tampa Bay MPO
- SCTPA Regional Priorities for Major Projects

The TPO Board heard status reports on:

- Coordinated Trails Planning in Hillsborough County
- Decision-making Steps to Create a Regional MPO

### **Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting November 29**

The BPAC approved action items:

- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Real Choices When Not Driving
- 2024 Draft Meeting Calendar

The BPAC discussed new business:

- BPAC Top Ten Project Next Steps The Committee completed and approved a document based on its Top Ten Dangerous Locations list with information and specific requests for each location.

### **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of December 4**

The TAC approved action items:

- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Real Choices When Not Driving
- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Good Repair and Resilience
- 2024 Draft Meeting Calendar

### **Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting December 6**

A verbal report will be given at the meeting.



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### Agenda Item

Committee Appointments

### Presenter

None – Consent Agenda

### Summary

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) shall be responsible for making recommendations to the MPO, Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, City of Plant City, City of Temple Terrace, the Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, and others, on matters concerning the planning, implementation and maintenance of a comprehensive bikeway and pedestrian system. In addition, the BPAC shall be responsible for studying and making recommendations concerning the safety, security, and regulations pertaining to bicyclists and pedestrians.

The following have been nominated to serve on the BPAC:

- Gene Peters, as Citizen At-Large

### Recommended Action

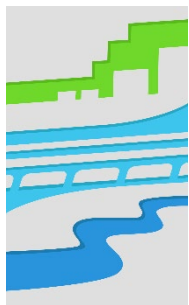
That the TPO Board confirm the above nominations

### Prepared By

Cheryl Wilkening

### Attachments

None



**Plan Hillsborough**  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602





# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

2024 Meeting Calendar

### **Presenter:**

Consent

### **Summary**

Staff has prepared a calendar of meetings for 2024. We ask that each TPO advisory committee review and approve its meeting dates. Upon approval by the TPO Board, this calendar will be published and posted online to provide the public with ample notice of meeting schedules.

### **Recommended Action**

Review and approve the 2024 TPO Board and Committees Meeting Calendar

### **Prepared By:**

Cheryl Wilkening, TPO Staff

### **Attachments:**

2024 Draft Calendar



**Plan Hillsborough**  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602



## 2024 SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

	TAC 1:30 PM	CAC 6:00 PM	TPO Special Meetings 10:00 AM	TPO 10:00 AM	LRC 9:00 AM	BPAC 5:30 PM	ITS 1:30 PM	TDCB 9:30 AM	TMA 9:30 AM	SCPTA 10:30 AM	MPO DIRECTORS 1:30 PM
JANUARY	8	3		10	17	24	4				5
FEBRUARY	5	7	6	14	21	28		23	16		2
MARCH	4	6		20	27	27					1
APRIL	1	3	30	10	17	24	4	26			5
MAY	6	1		8	15	22			17 Forward Pinellas		3
JUNE	3	5		12 (a) @ 6PM TIP Public Hearing	26	26		28			7
JULY	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	24 Workshop	11				Recess
AUGUST	5	7		14	21	28		23			2
SEPTEMBER	9	4	3	11	18	25			20		6
OCTOBER	7	2		16 (a) @ 6pm LRTP Public Hearing	23	23	3	25			4
NOVEMBER	4	6		6	20	20					1
DECEMBER	Joint Mtg. 4 @ 12 PM TBD – Offsite Meeting		3	11	18	Recess		20	6 Pasco		Recess
Meeting Location	(b)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)			

Acronyms

TAC Technical Advisory Committee of the TPO Board  
CAC Citizens Advisory Committee of the TPO Board  
Policy Policy Committee of the TPO Board  
TPO Transportation Planning Organization Board  
LRC Livable Roadways Committee of the TPO Board  
BPAC Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the TPO Board  
ITS Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee of the TPO Board  
TDCB Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board  
TMA Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group  
SCTPA Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance

Meeting Locations

- (a) BOCC Chambers, County Center, 601 East Kennedy Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- (b) Plan Hillsborough Committee Room, County Center, 601 East Kennedy Blvd, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor
- (c) 26<sup>th</sup> Floor, Rooms A&B, County Center, 601 East Kennedy Blvd
- (d) Planning Commission Boardroom, County Center, 601 East Kennedy Blvd, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### Agenda Item

2024 TPO Board Officers & Committee Assignments

### Presenter

Cameron Clark, TPO Attorney

### Summary

Based on the results of a questionnaire distributed at the November 8, 2023 Board meeting, there are several members interested in filling each Officer position and serving on the TMA.

#### *TPO Chair and Vice Chair:*

The Chair and Vice Chair preside at all regular and special meetings of the TPO, and represent the TPO at meetings of the TPO Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance (SCTPA) – typically biannually in May and December – and meetings of the Florida MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) – typically quarterly on the third Friday of February, May, September and December.

The TPO bylaws specify that at the regular meeting in December, the members of the board shall nominate one or more candidates to fill officer positions. Immediately following the close of nominations, the TPO shall vote to fill each office, with the vote for each office being taken in the order in which candidates for that office were nominated, until one is elected.

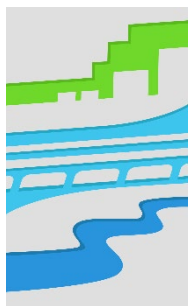
New officers shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election of officers. Officers shall be voting members of the board, and shall hold office for one year or until a successor is elected.

#### *Policy Committee Members:*

The role of the TPO's Policy Committee is to review and make recommendations on new policies and proposed policy changes, for ratification by the Board. At its October 2023 meeting, the Board proposed using 2024 Policy Committee meeting times to hold Board workshops in which topics of discussion may include the regional merger and the Hillsborough 2050 LRTP. Therefore, neither Policy committee members nor officers will need to be appointed by the Board.

#### *Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group Members:*

After the last Census, the Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco MPO Boards formed a new, joint advisory taskforce to focus on issues of tri-county significance. The TMA



Plan Hillsborough  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602

Leadership Group develops consensus priorities every year, focusing on major cross-county transportation markets and traffic movements and on helping the tri-county area speak with one voice in discussions of prioritization and financial resources, especially in the allocation of federal and state funds. It meets four times per year at a central location in the eight-county area, typically on the third Friday of a month at 9:30am.

Since 2014, each TPO Board has annually designated three of its members, and some alternates, to participate.

*Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) Chair* – By Florida administrative code, the TDCB chair must be an elected official who serves on the TPO. TDCB meetings are held every other month, typically on a Friday at 9:30 am.

*Livable Roadways Committee (LRC) Chair* – The LRC was established by the TPO in the 1990s as a board-chaired taskforce to collaborate and lead on improving conditions within rights-of-way. Committee meetings are monthly, often the 3rd Wednesday at 9:00 am.

*Florida MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC) Alternate Representative* – Florida's 27 MPOs come together on a quarterly basis to share best practices and coordinate on statewide transportation policy matters. As noted above, the chair or vice chair represents Hillsborough TPO at these meetings. By Florida law, each MPO shall also elect an alternate representative to vote in the absence of the representative.

### **Recommended Actions**

1. Nominate and vote on candidates for TPO Chair and Vice Chair.
2. Nominate and vote on candidates to serve on the TMA. Commissioner Kemp, Councilmember Hurtak, and Mayor Ross, and alternates Mr. Lopano and Mr. Slater, served in these roles in 2023.
3. Confirm Commissioner Myers (or another elected official) as TDCB Chair.
4. Confirm Councilwoman Hurtak to continue to serve as LRC Chair.
5. Confirm that Mr. Anderson, with Mr. Klug as his alternate, will continue to serve as MPOAC Alternate Representative.

**Prepared By:** Cheryl Wilkening, TPO Staff

**Attachments:** [Hillsborough TPO Bylaws](#)



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Real Choices When Not Driving

### **Presenter:**

Sarah Goolsby, AICP, GISP, Benesch

### **Summary:**

As part of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update, the TPO conducted an analysis of modes captured in the Real Choices When Not Driving TPO Investment Program, which includes:

- Local Bus Service - Bus service that could be provided by Hillsborough Transit Authority under different levels of funding through 2050. The bus service analysis demonstrates how increased funding may improve the amount and quality of access to jobs and homes in the future.
- Transportation Disadvantaged Services - Paratransit service that could be provided through the Sunshine Line to county residents who cannot transport themselves to life-sustaining activities due to age, disability, income, and/or lack of access to bus services. The amount of service needed in the future will vary in part with changes with the local bus network.
- Trail and Sidepath Network - This portion of the program evaluates the availability of trails and sidepaths to the county population, based on varying levels of funding through 2050. Trails and sidepaths are paved facilities, typically eight to 12 feet wide, that allow for pedestrians and cyclists to pass each other in opposite directions.

The needs assessment is a system-level analysis that addresses levels of service that could be offered at the current funding level and a performance funding level through 2050.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approve the 2050 Plan Real Choices When Not Driving Needs Assessment

### **Prepared By:**

Elizabeth Watkins, AICP, TPO Staff

### **Attachments:**

1. [Real Choices When Not Driving Technical Memorandum](#)
2. [Presentation](#)



**Plan Hillsborough**  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

2050 Plan Needs Assessment for State of Good Repair and Resilience

### **Presenter:**

Pedro Serigos, PhD, Cambridge Systematics

### **Summary:**

As part of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update, TPO staff, in partnership with Cambridge Systematics, has developed a Needs Assessment for State of Good Repair and Resilience (SGRR). This assessment identifies the current and future needs of the transportation system, focusing on pavement, bridge, and transit assets while considering the resilience of these assets against potential challenges.

The needs assessment is a system-level analysis that addresses how assets can be maintained and improved at the current funding level and performance funding level through 2050.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approve the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Needs Assessment for State of Good Repair and Resiliency

### **Prepared By:**

Connor Trejos-MacDonald TPO Staff

### **Attachment:**

1. [Report](#)
2. [Presentation](#)



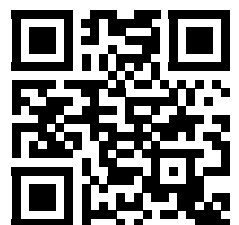
**Plan Hillsborough**  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602

# OUR BUSINESS SUPPORTS SAFE DRIVING AND HANDS-FREE CELL PHONE USE

SAVE LIVES  
**Just Drive.**



Sign the petition at:  
**HandsFreeFlorida.org**



# IT'S TIME TO GO HANDS-FREE FLORIDA

## FAST FACTS

FROM 2020-2022 THERE WERE



**160,155**  
**CRASHES**

in Florida caused by  
distracted driving.



**8,154**  
**SERIOUS**  
**INJURIES**

as a result of distracted  
driving on Florida roads.



**935**  
**DEATHS**

caused by distracted driving  
in Florida.

**DOES HANDS-FREE REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?** Yes. In 12 of the first states to adopt a Hands-Free law, they saw traffic fatalities **decrease by 16%**.

**WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO SUPPORT THIS CAUSE?** Share the pledge with your friends, family and colleagues. Contact your local and state representatives and let them know you support a Hands-Free Florida. And **lead by example! Put the phone down and drive.**

**WHAT ARE THE STATS ON PHONES, DRIVING AND CRASHES?** Drivers who text while driving are **23 times more likely to be involved in a crash** or a near-miss event. You are **four times more likely to be involved in a crash** just by having a phone in your hand.

## Save lives. Just drive.



Sign the petition at:  
**HandsFreeFlorida.org**





## Cheryl Wilkening

---

**Subject:** FW: Governor DeSantis' Focus on Florida's Future Budget Invests an Unprecedented \$15.6 billion in Florida's Transportation System

---

**From:** Reichert, Mark <[Mark.Reichert@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Mark.Reichert@dot.state.fl.us)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023 7:38:43 AM

**Subject:** FW: Governor DeSantis' Focus on Florida's Future Budget Invests an Unprecedented \$15.6 billion in Florida's Transportation System

Good morning, MPOAC Governing Board Members and Staff Directors. Please see the FDOT press release on the Governor's proposed transportation budget for next fiscal year.

---

**From:** FDOT Communications Office <[FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:46 PM

**Subject:** Governor DeSantis' Focus on Florida's Future Budget Invests an Unprecedented \$15.6 billion in Florida's Transportation System



### *Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.  
SECRETARY

**For Immediate Release**  
December 5, 2023

**Contact: FDOT Communications Office**  
(850) 414-4590 | [FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us)

## **Governor DeSantis' Focus on Florida's Future Budget Invests an Unprecedented \$15.6 billion in Florida's Transportation System**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis revealed his Focus on Florida's Future Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. The Governor's proposed \$15.6 billion budget for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) reflects a significant investment in transportation infrastructure across Florida. The Governor's budget proposal directly targets critical congestion relief and safety projects and aims to support the resiliency of Florida's existing and future transportation infrastructure.

By focusing on these key areas, FDOT will continue to be a global leader in transportation technology and infrastructure, while continuing to promote a strong and effective supply chain.

“Governor DeSantis' proposed investments in our transportation infrastructure demonstrate his unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for Floridians and local communities. As Florida's population continues to grow, it is crucial that we have a robust transportation network to support our state,” **said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared W. Perdue, P.E.** “This budget proposal reaffirms the Department’s commitment to addressing congestion relief, resiliency, improving safety on our roadways, and strengthening Florida’s supply chain. I commend Governor DeSantis for his continued investments in Florida’s transportation facilities and infrastructure now and in the future.”

Governor DeSantis’ Focus on Florida’s Future Budget provides \$14.5 billion for projects in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 FDOT Work Program, a collaborative plan of strategic transportation projects that includes:

- \$5.4 billion for highway maintenance and construction to remain a national leader in maintaining existing roadways while expanding the system by 135 new lane miles
- \$1.9 billion in resurfacing to include 3,115 lane miles
- \$381.7 million for scheduled repairs of 62 bridges and the replacement of 15 bridges
- \$109.6 million in seaport investments
- \$334.4 million in aviation investments
- \$997.7 million in rail and transit investments
- \$210.1 million for safety initiatives
- \$215.3 million for community trail projects and \$70.3 million for the SUN Trail Network
- \$181.3 million for small county programs

In addition to the aforementioned investments, the Governor is also recommending an additional \$630 million to further the Moving Florida Forward Infrastructure Initiative and \$25 million to provide commercial truck parking relief along the State Highway System. The \$15.6 billion budget also includes \$75 million in partnership with FloridaCommerce to provide grants to enhance Florida’s supply chain and innovative delivery models, including vertiports, airports, inland ports, seaports, freight railroads, intermodal logistic centers, and fuel pipelines.

While many states rely heavily on the federal government to fund their transportation infrastructure needs, federal funding accounts for just 24% of Florida’s record transportation budget. Rather than support the continued politicization of transportation funding being pushed by the Biden Administration, the Governor’s \$15.6 billion recommended budget focuses on prioritizing road projects that reduce congestion and expedite the movement of goods through the state’s supply chain. As such, the budget includes conforming legislation to prevent the continued politicization of transportation infrastructure by:

- Withholding funding from public transportation entities that violate Florida’s protections against COVID-19 mandates;

- Withholding state funding from public transit providers who use state funds to promote social, political, or ideological interests on taxpayer-funded buses, trains, and transit infrastructure; and
- Ensuring state transportation planning practices focus on pecuniary factors, rather than social, political, or ideological interests.

FDOT's mission is to provide a safe and efficient transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. Together with communities and partners, FDOT strives to ensure Floridians are proud that the Sunshine State is the best place to live, learn, work, and play, and that residents and visitors alike are offered the best transportation system and a variety of travel options. For more information, visit [FDOT.gov](http://www.fdot.gov).

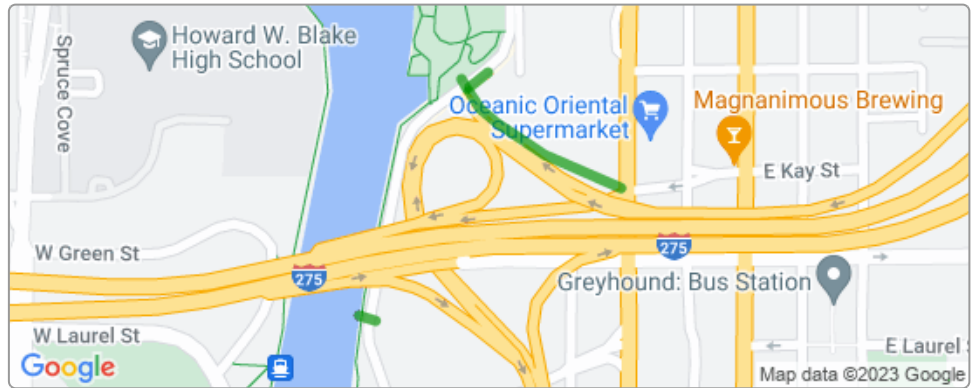
###

[www.fdot.gov](http://www.fdot.gov) | Twitter: [@MyFDOT](https://twitter.com/MyFDOT) | Facebook: [@MyFDOT](https://www.facebook.com/MyFDOT)

*The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.*

## Water Works Sidewalk Gap - Various Locations 452877-1

Project Details	
<b>Work Type</b>	Pedestrian Enhancements
<b>Phase</b>	Design
<b>Limits</b>	From East of Doyle Carlton Dr. to West of Tampa St.
<b>Length</b>	0.5 Mile
<b>City</b>	Tampa
<b>County</b>	Hillsborough
<b>Road</b>	I-275
<b>Design Cost</b>	\$400,717



### About

The Water Works Sidewalk Gap project will enhance multi-modal connectivity by eliminating key sidewalk gaps within the Tampa Heights district along I-275 near Water Works Park.

A direct wide sidewalk connection from Tampa Street to Doyle Carlton Drive adjacent to the barrier-separated I-275 exit ramp and a Doyle Carlton Pedestrian Crossing South of I-275 will be added.

Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2024.

Contact Information	
<b>Design Manager</b>	David Guttenplan 813-975-6078 David.Guttenplan@dot.state.fl.us
<b>Media Contact</b>	Kris Carson 813-975-6060 Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

November 8, 2023

Commissioner Gwen Myers  
Hillsborough County  
TPO Chair

Mayor Andrew Ross  
City of Temple Terrace  
TPO Vice Chair

Paul Anderson  
Port Tampa Bay

Councilman Alan Clendenin  
City of Tampa

Commissioner Harry Cohen  
Hillsborough County

Councilmember Lynn Hurtak  
City of Tampa

Commissioner Pat Kemp  
Hillsborough County

Mayor Nate Kilton  
City of Plant City

Scott Drainville  
HART

Joe Lopano  
Hillsborough County  
Aviation Authority

Councilman Guido Maniscalco  
City of Tampa

Commissioner  
Michael Owen  
Hillsborough County

Hemant Saria  
Planning Commission

Greg Slater  
Expressway Authority

Commissioner  
Joshua Wostal  
Hillsborough County

Jessica Vaughn  
Hillsborough County  
School Board

Johnny Wong, PhD  
Executive Director



**Plan Hillsborough**  
[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)  
[planner@plancom.org](mailto:planner@plancom.org)  
813 - 272 - 5940  
601 E Kennedy Blvd  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tampa, FL, 33602

Secretary David Gwynn  
Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven  
11201 N. McKinley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33612-6403

## RE: FDOT FY 2025-2029 Tentative Work Program

Dear Secretary Gwynn,

We begin by thanking you and your staff for presenting the projects from your Tentative Work Program to the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) committees and Board in October and November.

We appreciate FDOT programming funds for a number of projects identified in the TPO's FY23/24-27/28 List of Priority Projects. Some of the vital safety projects which will be funded include interchange improvements on Fletcher Ave and 15<sup>th</sup> St; I-75 at Gibsonton Drive Diverging Diamond; I-275 off-ramp to I-4 from Floribraska to 21<sup>st</sup> St; Big Bend Rd from US-41 to Covington Garden Dr; improvements on Busch Blvd from Dale Mabry Hwy to Nebraska Ave; Park Rd at Coronet Rd and Alsobrook Rd; intersection improvements at E Alexander St at Jim Johnson Rd; and speed management countermeasures on MacDill Ave from Kennedy Blvd to W Main St. The commitment to moving these projects forward in the Work Program demonstrates our successful partnership with FDOT and using the Transportation Improvement Program to communicate the TPO's priorities.

We are also grateful for the support FDOT has offered to our partners by programming funds for HART's vehicle replacements and bus stop repair under the State of Good Repair and Resilience category, in addition to funding Tampa International Airport's cargo facility and aviation capacity projects, and Port of Tampa Bay's seaport capacity and intermodal projects. In addition to addressing our partners' needs, we appreciate FDOT's continued attention to our TPO's priority multimodal facilities in programming funds for a trail on Fowler Avenue; the South Coast Greenway/Gulf Coast Trail; and improvements to fill in sidewalk gaps along the High Injury Network countywide. Following a coordinated effort among the TPO, Plant City staff, and FDOT staff, we are also grateful to see FDOT committing to a more detailed feasibility study of the Plant City Canal Connector Trail to work toward project delivery. These investments will provide a robust multimodal network for users, and we appreciate the coordinated efforts to accomplish that goal.

Finally, we are excited to see funding for various operational improvements including the Plant City Connected Vehicle and Signal Preemption project; Wrong Way Vehicle Detection (Ph II and III); and the I-275 Florida Regional Advanced Mobility Elements (FRAME) ITS communication projects. These projects under the Smart Cities category

offer great value and improve travel time reliability for both the traveling public and commercial goods movement.

In development of the FY26-30 Work Program, we request that the District consider advancing other important TPO priorities such as construction funding for the US 41/CSX Grade Separation (FPN 440749-1) which was both requested by Port Tampa Bay and supported by our Freight & Logistics Zone Strategic Plan, to evaluate the feasibility of providing a grade separation at US 41 and the CSX railroad crossing to improve mobility and safety along the US 41 corridor. Additionally, we request your support in funding the safety enhancements on Bullard Parkway and Davis Rd, both of which are requests from the City of Temple Terrace and on our priority list.

We look forward to your continued support as you move towards finalizing the FDOT Work Program and funding these key projects to meet the future needs of the community.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Gwen Myers  
TPO Chair

CC: TPO Board Members  
Justin Hall, FDOT Director of Transportation Development  
Brian Hunter, FDOT District 7 Liaison Administrator



Dear Secretary Gwyn,  
We begin by thanking you and your staff for your support of the Hillsborough Transportation Work Program in the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization and Board in October and November.  
We appreciate FDOT programming funds for a number of projects identified in the TPO's FY26-30 List of Priority Projects. Some of the projects that will be funded include the intersection improvements at E Alexander St and W Main St, the intersection improvements at E Alexander St and Jim Johnson Rd, and the intersection improvements at E Alexander St and Kennedy Blvd. We are grateful for the successful partnership with FDOT and using the Transportation Improvement Program to communicate the TPO's priorities.  
We are also grateful for the support FDOT has offered to our partners by programming funds for HART's vehicle replacement and bus stop repair under the State of Good Repair and Restored category, in addition to funding Tampa International Airport's cargo facility and aviation capacity project, and Port of Tampa Bay's seaport capacity and intermodal project. In addition to addressing our partners' needs, we appreciate FDOT's continued attention to our TPO's priority/intermodal facilities in programming funds for a trail on Fowler Avenue, the South Coast Greenway/Gulf Coast Trail, and improvements to fill in sidewalk gaps along the High Injury Network countywide. Following a coordinated effort among the TPO, Plant City staff, and FDOT staff, we are also grateful to see FDOT committing to a more detailed feasibility study of the Plant City Canal Connector Trail to work toward project delivery. These investments will provide a robust multimodal network for users, and we appreciate the coordinated efforts to accomplish that goal.  
Finally, we are excited to see funding for various operational improvements including the Plant City Connected Vehicle and Signal Preemption project, Wrong Way Vehicle Detection (P11 and P12) and the I-275 Florida Regional Advanced Mobility Elements (FRAME) ITS communication projects. These projects under the Smart Cities category

Plant Hillsborough  
Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization  
813 - 275 - 2040  
301 E Kennedy Blvd  
15th Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602