



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

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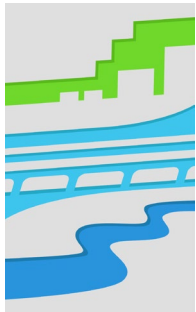
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## Plan Hillsborough

[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 Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 5:30pm. – 7:30pm

County Center, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor – Plan Hillsborough Committee Room

Please RSVP [here](#) for this meeting.

Microsoft Teams meeting:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 247 979 961 205

Passcode: nzQ3up

**Or call in (audio only)** 1-813-498-2121

Phone Conference ID: 743 300 500#

- 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: Michael Rempfer 813-793-2348
- Rules of engagement:

Professional courtesy and respect for others at this meeting are expected. Failure to do so 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 & Introductions**
- II. **Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum** (Gail Reese, TPO Staff)
- III. **Public Comment** – *3 minutes per speaker, for a maximum of 30 minutes.*

*Public comments are welcome and may be given during this hybrid meeting by logging into the website above and clicking the “raise hand” button. Comments may also be provided before the start of the meeting by e-mail to [gordonb@plancom.org](mailto:gordonb@plancom.org). Written comments will be read into the record, if brief, and provided in full to the committee members.*

- IV. **Members’ Interests & Future Topic Requests**
- V. **Approval of Minutes: January 24, 2024**

### VI. Action Items

- A. **Multimodal Counts Report** (Ben Gordon, TPO Staff)
- B. **Consideration of New Citizen at Large Membership Applications** (Ben Gordon, TPO Staff)

## VII. Status Reports

- A. [2024 Safety Performance Targets \(Connor Trejos-MacDonald, TPO Staff\)](#)
- B. [Access 2050 LRTP Outreach Survey \(Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff\)](#)

## VIII. Old Business and New Business

## IX. Adjournment

## X. Addendum

- A. [TPO Summary and Committee Reports](#)
- B. [HART Governance and Operational Management Analysis](#)
- C. [Gibson PD&E Flyer](#)
- D. [FDOT Factsheet – US41 Widening from Pendola Point/Madison Avenue to Denver Street](#)
- E. [FDOT Factsheet – Central Avenue Safety Project](#)
- F. [FDOT Factsheet – SR583 N. 56<sup>th</sup> St and SR50 Cortez Blvd Safety Improvements at Various Locations](#)
- G. [Letter of Support CRA Board Friends of Tampa Union Station](#)

The full agenda packet is available on the TPO's website, [www.planhillsborough.org](http://www.planhillsborough.org), or by calling (813) 272-5940.

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Persons needing interpreter services or accommodations for a disability in order to participate in this meeting, free of charge, are encouraged to contact Connor MacDonald, (813) 946-5334 or [macdonaldc@plancom.org](mailto:macdonaldc@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 Connor MacDonald, (813) 946-5334 o [macdonaldc@plancom.org](mailto:macdonaldc@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.

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HYBRID MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2024**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Tim Horst called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM

**Members Present:** Tim Horst, Jim Shirk, Katrina Corcoran, Christopher Fellerhoff, Abigail Flores, Noliyanda James, Alain Watson, Samantha Flores, Daniel Rodriguez, Jonathan Forbes, Peter Davitt, David Aylesworth, John Kubicki, Victoria Klug, Sally Thompson, David Cillitti, John Marsh,

**Members Excused/Absent:** Cpl. Julian Anderson, Jamie Morris, Jason Jackman, Faye Miller, Martin Santiago

**Others Present:** Ben Gordon, Wade Reynolds, Gena Torres, Gail Reese (TPO Staff); Lariss Krinos, Lauren Brooks, (AECOM); Ashley Henzel, Kirk Bogen, Jeff Novotry (FDOT); Mary Seville (Public)

**An in-person quorum was met (9)**

**II. Public Comment** (3 minutes per speaker) (*Timestamp 0:04:41*) – None

**III. Member's Interest** (*Timestamp 0:04:52*)

- Revisions to FPM regarding the design of bicycle facilities
- No Critical Mass ride this week, postponed to Friday 2/4.

**IV. Approval of Minutes** (*Timestamp 0:07:15*)

**Jim Shirk moved to approve the minutes from November 29, 2023; seconded by Katrina Corcoran. The motion passed unanimously.**

**V. Action Items**

**A. Election of Officers, Attendance Review and Declaration of Vacancies** (Ben Gordon, TPO Staff) (*Timestamp 0:08:08*)

- Election of Officers
  - Chair – Tim Horst
  - Vice Chair – Jim Shirk
  - Officer at Large – Peter Davitt

**Jim Shirk moved to maintain the officers in their positions, seconded by Sally Thompson. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

- **Went over attendance records and vacancies.**

**Alain Watson moved that the seat from the City of Temple Terrace and the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation be declared vacant, seconded by David Aylesworth. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**B. Consideration of New Citizen at Large Membership Application** (Ben Gordon, TPO Staff)  
(Timestamp 0:28:07)

- The person decided on in October has moved. An additional applicant has been identified, Brandyn Littleton.

**Discussion:**

There was a discussion about the applicant. The committee requested the applicant attend the next meeting before voting on approval.

**John Kubiki moved to encourage Brandyn Littleton to attend the February meeting before voting for membership approval, seconded by Katrina Corcoran. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

**C. 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Freight and Goods Movement and Hillsborough County Truck Route Plan** (Lauren Brooks, AECOM) (Timestamp 0:36:13)

- Review of objectives for the studies/assessment
- Went over the set-up for Truck Route Update – made three networks; removed limited access facilities for analysis only
  - Defined a truck – 2 or more axels
  - Looked at analysis inputs – people and data
  - Analysis – Factors and Evaluation Criteria
  - Went over findings including lower-performing routes, county roads
- L RTP study
  - Went over Projects, Costs, and Investment Levels
  - Reviewed the tiers of projects
  - Went over the project impact to cost ratio tiers

**Recommended Action:** Recommend that the TPO Board receive the 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Freight and Goods Movement and Hillsborough County Truck /route Plan Update.

**Discussion:**

It was asked if the FDOT or County context classifications were used. FDOT, the County, and the City of Tampa were used. Clarification was requested regarding lower-performing truck routes. It was asked what the practical impact of a road on the truck route network could impact bike/ped accommodation. Yes, there could be conflict so that trucks won't go to places where you don't want them to be. It can also shift a truck route from particular roads to parallel facilities to avoid potential conflict. It was asked if safety improvements overlapped with the HIN. This study is TPO-funded. There was discussion regarding how this plays into the CIS routes. It was asked that on-road bike facilities and bike/ped crashes be considered when adding and removing roads from the

network. It was noted that if roads are modified for trucks, other types of crashes that do not involve trucks could increase with faster speeds and longer crossings.

**Christopher Fellerhoff moved to recommend that the TPO Board receive the 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Freight and Goods Movement and Hillsborough County Truck Route Plan for approval, seconded by Jim Shirk. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

## **VI. Status Reports**

### **A. 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Major Projects (Wade Reynolds, TPO Staff;) (Timestamp 1:12:12)**

- Went over where the list of major projects comes from
- Reviewed the 2045 Cost Feasible Projects
- Looked at the new projects for 2050 that will be tested against the models and some projects that are coming off the list as they are already far enough along or have been previously tested.
- Went over the next steps – modeling, survey, narrowing down the list, determining funding levels, and determining Cost Feasible projects

#### **Discussion:**

It was asked if there has been any word about what is going to happen to the surtax money being held in Tallahassee. There has been some discussion that it should be spent in Hillsborough County. It was asked if there are any bike network projects in the major projects. Most bike trails are lower in cost and the major projects funding sources are not online for bike projects. However, with road improvements, bike facilities could be part of the implementation.

### **B. 2050 Plan Outreach Survey Objectives (Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff) - deferred**

### **C. Gibsonton Drive from Fern Hill Drive to US301 PD&E (Ashley Henzel, FDOT) (Timestamp 1:26:30)**

- Review of project location and study area; purpose and need; the no-build alternative will remain as an alternative during the study
- Went over the consistency with the Long Range Transportation Plan
- Looked at the preferred build alternative typical section, environmental effects, right of way impacts
- Went over the evaluation matrix and estimated project costs
- Looked at the timeline – upcoming public hearing on February 20, 2024

#### **Discussion:**

It was noted that the preferred build showed a 10' bike/ped area. The bike lanes were removed from the roadway and moved to the sidewalk. It was asked if there is transit on the corridor. Yes, there are several HART stops along the corridor, those will be worked out during design. It was asked if that is why the outside lane is 12'. The outside lanes serve as a connection to the interstate ramps and there is transit and truck traffic. The goal is to buffer the sidewalk from the roadway. It was asked if there was consideration to narrow the median. The median size is already 22' and it is planned to be continued; there will also be consideration for additional turn lanes at US301. Providing better visibility for the left turns is a priority. It was asked if the right-of-way

space where other safety considerations are not being done that greater separation be made for the bike/ped sidewalk.

**VII. Old Business and New Business** (*Timestamp 1:41:11*)

- A. The next meeting is February 28, 2023.**

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM

**A recording of this meeting may be viewed at:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsojHyZb\\_mkYIU3o32Tbg4w/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsojHyZb_mkYIU3o32Tbg4w/videos)

DRAFT



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

Multimodal Counts Report

### **Presenter:**

Ben Gordon, TPO Staff

### **Summary:**

In 2017, Hillsborough TPO identified High Injury Network (HIN) corridors through its Vision Zero Action Plan. To quantify and correlate bicyclist and pedestrian activity and crashes along these corridors, the TPO must periodically collect data.

Traditional traffic count methods used for collecting motor vehicle counts along roadways are not effective in capturing bicycle and pedestrian activity along corridors or at roadway intersections. The most effective and accurate method for capturing such data is through the deployment of video equipment (cameras).

Accordingly, the TPO partnered with Benesch and its subconsultants in the fall of 2023 to deploy video equipment to quantify and document bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular activity. With the counts now fully complete, staff will provide an overview of the study process and present key findings.

### **Recommended Action:**

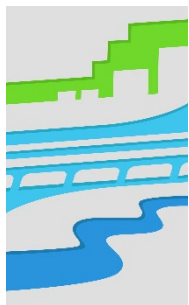
Accept the report and forward it to the TPO Board for their approval.

### **Prepared By:**

Ben Gordon, TPO Staff

### **Attachments:**

1. [Multimodal Counts Report](#)
2. [Presentation Slides](#)



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# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

Consideration of New Citizen At-Large Membership Application

### **Presenter:**

Ben Gordon, TPO Staff

### **Summary:**

BPAC currently has one vacancy for a new Citizen At-Large member. With two applicants (Brandyn Littleton and Edward Newsome) currently eligible, BPAC will work to hold a discussion with both applicants and deliberate on who to recommend.

### **Recommended Action:**

Recommend one applicant for BPAC membership.

### **Prepared By:**

Ben Gordon, TPO Staff

### **Attachments:**

Attach 1 – BPAC membership application – Brandyn Littleton

Attach 2 – BPAC membership application – Edward Newsome



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BPAC Citizen At-Large Membership Application (Brandyn D Littleton)

**Brandyn D Littleton (Lithia, FL)**

**Place of Employment**

Halff Associates

**Gender**

Male

**Race / Ethnicity**

White / non-Hispanic

**Birth Year**

1983

**Are you a United States citizen?**

Yes

**Do you have a disability?**

No

**Are you a registered voter?**

Yes

**In the past 12 months, did you, and any member of your household, receive: Medicaid benefits; supplemental security income (SSI); or, special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC) benefits?**

No

**Continuous resident of Hillsborough County since (Hillsborough County residency is not mandatory for all types of appointments.)**

2022-08-01

**Education**

Lake Highlands High School, Dallas, Texas - Graduated 2001

**List all post-secondary educational institutions attended**

University of North Texas - BS, Geography 2005

University of North Texas - MS, Applied Geography (Urban Environmental Management) 2011

**Have you ever held a professional license or certificate?**

Yes

**If "Yes", please provide title, issue date, and issuing authority. If any disciplinary action has been taken, please state the type and date of the action taken**

Professional Wetland Scientist, #2909 (2/19/2018)

**State your experience and interest or elements of your personal history that qualify you for appointment**

I am an environmental professional and consultant in the A/E industry with expertise in natural resource assessment and policy, GIS and mapping, permitting for private and public development, energy development, and asset management. Over my nearly 20-year career, I have been involved in a wide spectrum of projects including oil/natural gas development, solar development, residential/commercial/industrial development, transportation, utilities (distribution and transmission), ecological restoration, water resource planning and infrastructure design, and comprehensive planning. Within these projects I conducted tree surveys, baseline ecological assessments, aquatic resource delineations, functional/qualitative resource assessments, threatened and endangered species evaluations, groundwater sampling, floodplain modeling, vegetation surveys, wildlife habitat appraisals, and provided design guidance to engineering teams based on these assessments.

I recently relocated to the Tampa Bay area (from Texas) to begin a new journey as Operations Manager for Halff's Tampa office. I am looking forward to leading growth in all aspects of our business and improving lives and communities in the Tampa Bay Region. Halff is a company built on the concept of servant leadership, and my goal as Operations Manager is to represent our cultural values both internally and externally for the Tampa office.

I am specifically interested in joining the [Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee] ~~Livable Roadways Committee~~ to help serve my community by sharing my experience and expertise related to environmental impacts associated with transportation development and to help guide the planning of our transportation system in a resilient and sustainable manner.

**If you are appointed, do you know of any reason whatsoever why you will not be able to attend regularly scheduled meetings or otherwise fulfill the duties of the office to which you have been appointed?**

No

**Name any business, professional civic or fraternal organizations of which you are a member, and the dates of your membership.**

Society of Wetland Scientists  
Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce  
Florida Greenways and Trails Foundation  
Urban Land Institute

**Do you or any member of your family sell goods or services to Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, Plant City or Temple Terrace?**

Yes

**If "Yes", please explain**

My company (Halff), sells engineering professional services to these entities.

## BPAC Citizen At-Large Membership Application (Edward Newsome)

Edward Newsome, Tampa, FL

### Which Board or Committee are you interested in?

Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

### Name

Edward Newsome

### Email

[leneWSome@msn.com](mailto:leneWSome@msn.com)

### Place of Employment

Retired

### Gender

Male

### Race / Ethnicity

Black

### Birth Year

1951

### Are you a United States citizen?

Yes

**Do you have a disability?**

No

**Are you a registered voter?**

Yes

**In the past 12 months, did you, and any member of your household, receive: Medicaid benefits; supplemental security income (SSI); or, special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC) benefits?**

No

**Continuous resident of Hillsborough County since (Hillsborough County residency is not mandatory for all types of appointments.)**

2019-06-26

**Education**

Bachelor of Science: City College of New York 1975

**List all post-secondary educational institutions attended**

CW Post Long Island University. Financial Planning 1990

**Have you ever held a professional license or certificate?**

Yes

**If "Yes", please provide title, issue date, and issuing authority. If any disciplinary action has been taken, please state the type and date of the action taken**

Securities and Insurance 1994 - 2008

**State your experience and interest or elements of your personal history that qualify you for appointment**

Retired commercial bank loan officer with more than 40 years of banking experience. Comprehensive financial planning professional. Experienced negotiator with broad knowledge of contracts and documentation; includes real estate, lending, budgeting, risk management. Avid cyclist.

**If you are appointed, do you know of any reason whatsoever why you will not be able to attend regularly scheduled meetings or otherwise fulfill the duties of the office to which you have been appointed?**

No

**Name any business, professional civic or fraternal organizations of which you are a member, and the dates of your membership.**

Financial Planning Association, 1999 - 2008

**Do you or any member of your family sell goods or services to Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, Plant City or Temple Terrace?**

No



# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### Agenda Item:

2024 Safety Performance Targets

### Presenter:

Connor Trejos-MacDonald, TPO Staff

### Summary:

Under the MAP-21 legislation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires state DOTs and MPOs to adopt performance targets for five safety measures, which must be reviewed and updated annually.

Achieving zero traffic deaths is the long-term aspirational goal of the Hillsborough TPO. The FHWA has encouraged MPOs to select realistic targets based on crash data analysis. Using a methodology developed for the *It's Time Hillsborough 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan*, TPO staff use historical crash and safety investment data to forecast performance.

For calendar year 2023, TPO staff is proposing to set safety performance targets as follows:

- Number of Fatalities (2024 year-end total):  $\leq 197$
- Number of Fatalities (Five-year rolling average of fatalities):  $\leq 216$
- Number of Motorcycle Fatalities (Five-year rolling average):  $\leq 37.93$
- Number of Serious Injuries (Five-year rolling average of serious injuries):  $\leq 941$
- Number of Nonmotorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (Five-year rolling average of fatalities + serious injuries):  $\leq 240$
- Rate of Fatalities per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled (MVMT) (Five-year rolling average):  $\leq 1.49$
- Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 MVMT (Five-year rolling average):  $\leq 6.52$

These targets represent five-year rolling averages (2020-2024) with a 0.93% crash reduction factor applied. **The 0.93% crash reduction factor represents the annual reduction achievable given existing funding, as identified in the Vision Zero investment program in the 2045 LRTP.**

The TPO Board prioritizes projects for federal and state funding, many of which meet the criteria for safety projects under the Vision Zero program. The 2023-2024 Transportation Improvement Program has numerous funded projects that enhance the safety of facilities on the high-injury network. Upon implementation, these projects will make progress toward improving safety in future years.



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Tampa, FL, 33602

**Recommended Action:**

No Action. Status report only.

**Prepared By:**

Connor Trejos-MacDonald, TPO Staff

**Attachments:**

[Presentation Slides](#)





# Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

## Board & Committee Agenda Item

### **Agenda Item:**

Access 2050 LRTP Outreach Survey

### **Presenter:**

Committee Liaison or Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff

### **Summary:**

Over the past several months, the TPO Board and committees have provided feedback and support for the various 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Needs Assessments. The next step for the 2050 Plan Update will be to obtain meaningful public input from community residents and stakeholders to guide recommendations for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

A *MetroQuest* survey has been launched to solicit feedback on priorities, major projects and funding options. To incentivize participation, several prizes are being offered to recruit survey respondents. The survey will remain open through April 15, 2024.

TPO staff is seeking [survey](#) participation, sharing of the survey to networks, as well as input and recommendations on community groups that we should present to.

### **Recommended Action:**

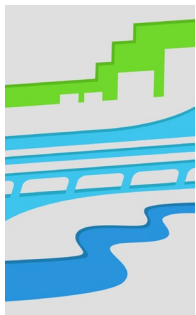
Take and share the Access 2050 Transportation Survey, provide feedback on engagement objectives and suggestions on community groups to receive a presentation.

### **Prepared By:**

Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff

### **Attachments:**

[Access2050.org](https://Access2050.org)



Plan Hillsborough

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# Gibsonton Drive from Fern Hill Drive to US 301

## Project Development & Environment Study

WPI Segment No. 450438-1

JANUARY 2024

### GET INVOLVED TODAY!

We invite you to get involved! The public plays an important role in the project development and decision-making process of this study. Opportunities for you to provide your input will be available throughout the study by means of submitting comments or attending the public hearing. Project newsletters like this one will be mailed out to all property owners adjacent to the study area and to federal, state, and local officials at key points during the study. There are multiple ways to get involved — call, write, or email us. You can also join us at our public hearing or invite us to speak at one of your own small group meetings.

### NON-DISCRIMINATION

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact **Roger Roscoe**, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6411 or by email to: [roger.roscoe@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:roger.roscoe@dot.state.fl.us)

For more information on this study, visit our project website:  
[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/)

### COMUNIQUESE CON NOSOTROS

Nos importa mucho la opinión del público sobre el proyecto. Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nuestro representante, Manuel Flores, (813) 975-4248, [Manuel.Flores@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Manuel.Flores@dot.state.fl.us) Departamento de Transporte de la Florida, 11201 North McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

Study Began	Summer 2022
Data Collection	Summer 2022 thru Fall 2023
Preparation of Documents	Ongoing
Public Hearing	February 20, 2024
PD&E Study Approval	Summer 2024

### PROJECT FUNDING

Hillsborough County Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 to Fiscal Year 2027/2028.

Phase	Fiscal Year(s)
Design	Not Currently Funded
Right of Way Acquisition	Not Currently Funded
Construction	Not Currently Funded

**Hearing Date**  
**February 20, 2024**  
 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
 Formal presentation 6:30 p.m.

**In-person Session Location**  
 Riverview Public Library  
 9951 Balm Riverview Road  
 Riverview, FL 33569

**Registration to Virtual Session**  
[www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/)

Join the Conversation about the **Gibsonton Drive PD&E Study**  
 We want your comments and suggestions throughout the study.

**Questions?**  
 We're here to help.  
 Give us a call, send us an email, or let us come speak to your group:

**Ashley Henzel, P.E.**  
**FDOT Project Manager**  
 FDOT District Seven  
 11201 N. McKinley Dr., MS 7-500  
 Tampa, FL 33612  
[ashley.henzel@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:ashley.henzel@dot.state.fl.us)  
 813-975-6433

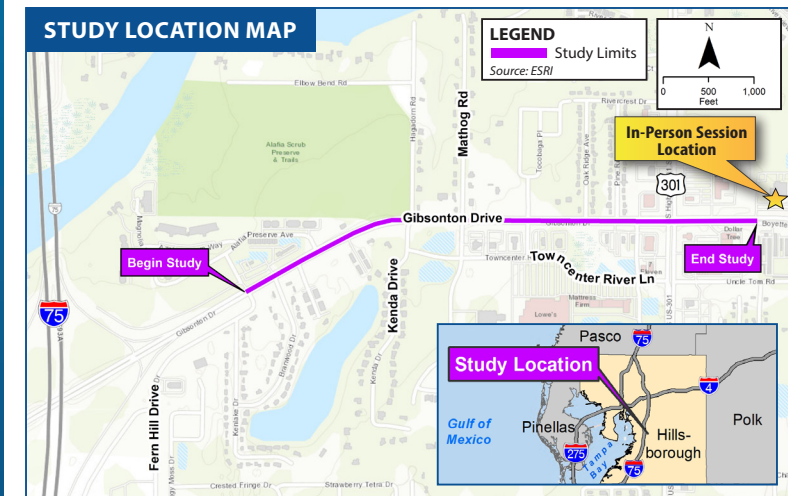
**Media Inquiries?**  
**Kris Carson**  
**Public Information Officer**  
 FDOT District Seven  
 11201 N. McKinley Dr., MS 7-110  
 Tampa, FL 33612  
[kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us)  
 813-975-6060  
 800-226-7220

Dear Property Owner/Interested Citizen,

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven, in coordination with Hillsborough County, will hold a public hearing on February 20, 2024, regarding the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study for the proposed improvements to Gibsonton Drive from Fern Hill Drive to US 301 in Hillsborough County, a distance of approximately 0.95 miles. This Public Hearing is being held to provide the opportunity for public comment on the proposed widening of Gibsonton Drive from four lanes to six lanes, including providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The proposed improvements at the I-75/Gibsonton Drive interchange as well as improvements at Gibsonton Drive/Fern Hill Drive intersection are proposed under other projects.

This newsletter also serves as notice to property owners (pursuant to Florida Statutes 339.155) that all or a portion of their property is within a minimum of 500 feet of the centerline of the alignment; however, this does not mean that all properties would be directly affected.

This public hearing is being conducted both in-person and virtually to present information to and receive public input from interested persons regarding the proposed improvements to Gibsonton Drive. Citizens who choose to attend the virtual hearing session must do so through a computer, tablet or smartphone via GoToWebinar. **Virtual attendees must register online** at the project website: [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/). Additional information related to the public hearing is included in the newsletter insert.



Maps, drawings, project videos and other project information will be available at the hearing session and for review online starting on **February 16, 2024**, at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/). Project reports will be on display from **January 29, 2024**, to **March 1, 2024**, on the project website and at the following locations:

- Riverview Public Library: 9951 Balm Riverview Road, Riverview, Florida 33569  
 Monday-Thursday: 10 am to 9 pm; Friday & Saturday: 10 am to 6 pm; Sunday: Closed
- Florida Department of Transportation, District 7: 11201 N. Mc Kinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612  
 Monday-Friday: 8 am to 5 pm; Saturday & Sunday: Closed

To become part of the official public hearing record, comments must be postmarked by Friday March 1, 2024. The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

FDOT welcomes and appreciates everyone's participation. If you have questions about the project or the scheduled hearing, please contact Ashley Henzel, P.E., FDOT Project Manager at [ashley.henzel@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:ashley.henzel@dot.state.fl.us) or visit our project website at [www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/](http://www.fdotd7studies.com/projects/gibsonton-dr-fern-hill-to-us301/).

Sincerely,

**Kirk Bogen, P.E.**

Environmental Management Engineer

## WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A PD&E study is conducted to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal and state requirements. The study is to ensure that the implementation of transportation projects reflect and incorporate the unique engineering and community characteristics of the area. During the study, the FDOT and Hillsborough County will determine the location and conceptual design of feasible "build" alternatives for transportation improvements and analyze each of their social and economic, cultural, natural and physical environmental effects. The "no-build" alternative, which leaves Gibsonton Drive in its present state and provides for only routine maintenance, will remain an option throughout the study.

## STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to address future roadway capacity issues as well as improve safety conditions on Gibsonton Drive, which is an important east-west connection between I-75 and US 301. The project will also provide improved mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists along Gibsonton Drive. This segment of Gibsonton Drive experiences high crash rates that are higher than the statewide average for similar facilities. Gibsonton Drive is an important freight route that serves as an alternate route to I-75 and has the potential of safely accommodate higher truck volumes. Gibsonton Drive is also a designated Hurricane Evacuation Route.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project traverses the unincorporated census designated place of Riverview and provides access to I-75 from the communities of Riverview, Boyette, Fish Hawk and Lithia. The class of action for this project is a Type 2 Categorical Exclusion. The proposed improvements will include widening Gibsonton Drive, the construction of stormwater management facilities (SMF) and floodplain compensation sites (FPC), various intersection improvements, median modifications, and multimodal facilities (pedestrian, bicycle, and transit accommodation). The No-Build alternative, which involves no new capacity or operational improvements, remains a viable alternative throughout the study process, although it does not accomplish the purpose and need for this project.

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The existing Gibsonton Drive from Fern Hill Drive to US 301 has four travel lanes, two in each direction. The existing right of way is a minimum of 125 feet wide, but varies throughout the corridor from 125 feet to generally 150 feet.

## TRAFFIC & CRASH DATA

Crash data along Gibsonton Drive within the project limits was obtained from the FDOT crash records database for the 5-year period including 2018 through 2022. A total of 910 crashes were reported including 280 of them involving injuries and 2 fatalities.

Traffic along Gibsonton Drive in 2022 ranged from an average of 38,400 to 56,600 vehicles per day. Projected traffic by year 2045 is expected to range from 52,500 to nearly 71,000 vehicles per day.

## PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative is to widen the existing four-lane divided urban arterial from Fern Hill Drive to US 301 to a six-lane divided urban arterial with a 22-foot median. There will be two 11-foot and one 12-foot travel lanes with curb and gutter with a 10-foot wide sidewalk in each direction. Horizontal widening alignments were adjusted to minimize right-of-way requirements, impacts and costs.

Up to 30 feet of additional right-of-way is required along the north side of the roadway between Hagadorn Road and US 301 and up to 7 feet of additional right-of-way is needed on the south side of Gibsonton Drive approaching the US 301 intersection. Additional right-of-way is proposed for one off-site SMF and one off-site FPC site which are located adjacent to Gibsonton Drive.

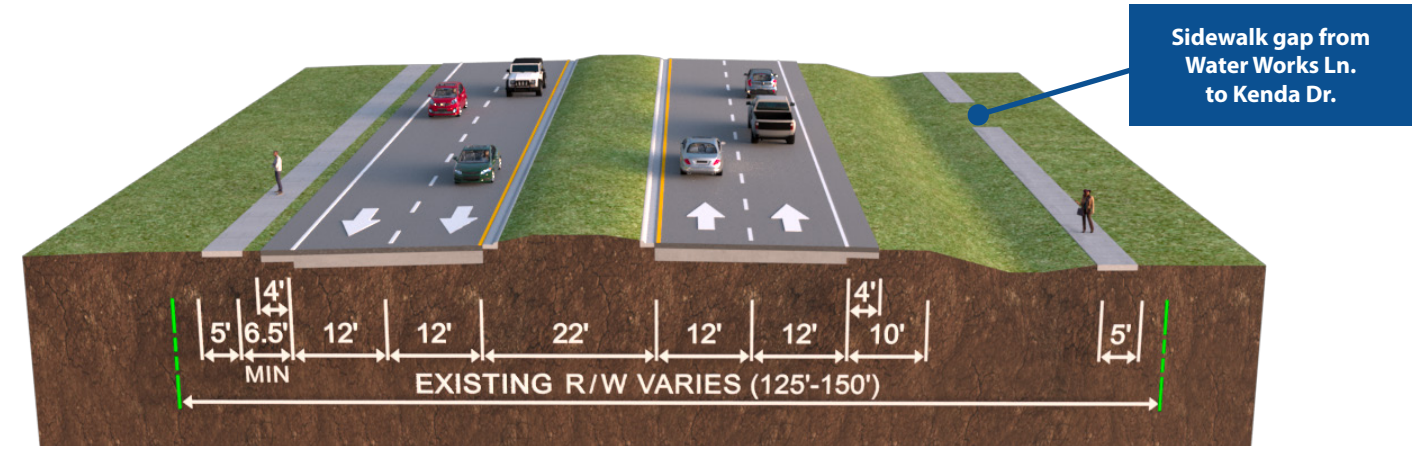
## EVALUATION MATRIX

An evaluation matrix comparing the No Build and Build alternatives is shown below. This matrix compares preliminary cost estimates (ROW acquisition, wetland mitigation, engineering and construction), as well as natural, physical and social environmental factors.

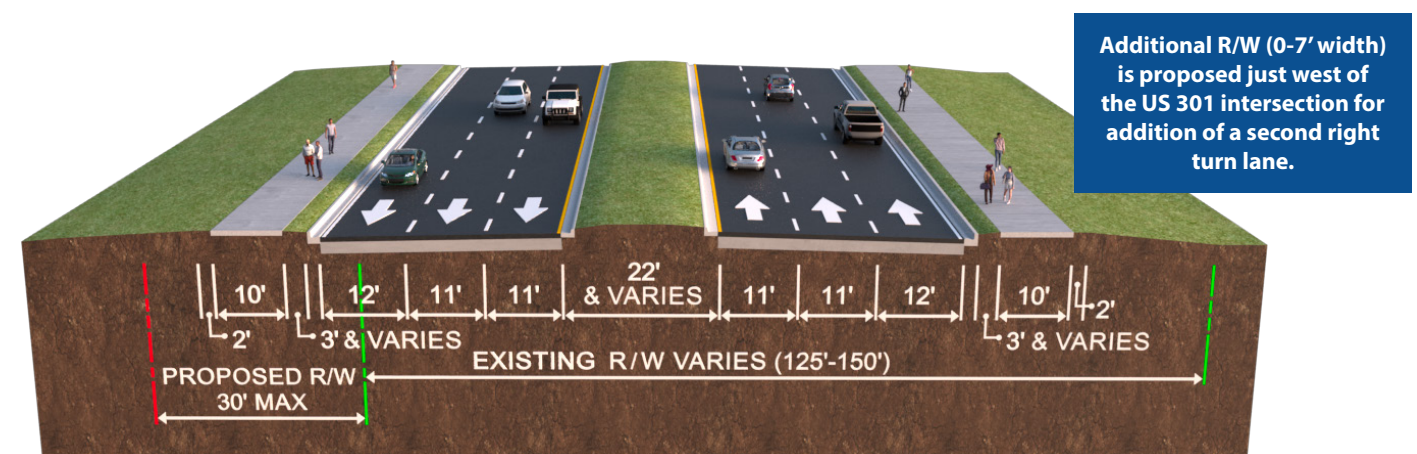
Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
<b>Potential Business/Residential Impacts</b>		
Number of business relocations	0	1
Number of residential relocations	0	3
<b>Potential ROW Impacts</b>		
Number of affected parcels	0	20
Area of ROW anticipated to be acquired for road widening (acres)	0	0.95
Area of ROW anticipated to be acquired for Stormwater Pond and Floodplain Compensation Site (acres)	0	3.19
<b>Potential Environmental Effects</b>		
Archaeological/Historical Resources	0	0
Section 4(f) sites	0	0
Noise impacted receptors	0	12
Wetlands that are not Other Surface Waters (acres)	0	0.17
Protected Species Involvement	None	Low
Petroleum and hazardous material sites (risk ranking)	None	0 (High) 6 (Medium)
<b>Estimated Costs</b> (Present Day Costs in \$ Million rounded up to nearest \$0.1 Million)		<b>Total Project</b>
Design (10% of construction)		\$2.4
Right of Way Gibsonton Drive Roadway Widening		\$6.7
Right of Way for Stormwater Pond and Floodplain Compensation Site		\$3.2
Wetlands Mitigation for Wetland impacts that are not other surface waters (0.17 acres)		\$0.1
Construction Inspection (10% of construction)		\$2.4
Construction Cost <sup>1</sup>		\$23.5
<b>Total Project Estimated Costs</b>		<b>\$38.3<sup>1</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Construction cost estimate prepared December 2023.

## EXISTING ROADWAY TYPICAL SECTION (Looking East)



## PREFERRED ROADWAY TYPICAL SECTION (Looking East)



## RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION PROCEDURE

We understand that when a transportation project proposes the acquisition of private property, you may have questions and concerns. To better educate and inform you about the Right of Way acquisition process and your rights, the FDOT has created real estate acquisition and relocation brochures.

These brochures and other educational materials will be available at the public hearing along with representatives from the FDOT's Right of Way acquisition and relocations departments. Copies of the brochures may also be found on our website at: [www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/documents.shtm](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/rightofway/documents.shtm).

We are interested in hearing your concerns and answering your questions. Please feel free to speak with the FDOT's Project Manager or a Right of Way Representative at your convenience either at the workshop or by phone at (813) 975-6495.



US 41 Widening from Pendola Point/Madison Avenue to Denver Street 430056-2-52-01

Project Details	
<b>Work Type</b>	Widening
<b>Phase</b>	Design
<b>Limits</b>	From south of Pendola Point /Madison Avenue to Denver Street
<b>Length</b>	1 mile
<b>City</b>	Tampa
<b>County</b>	Hillsborough
<b>Road</b>	US 41
<b>Design Cost</b>	\$1.5 million
<b>ROW Cost</b>	\$4.9 million



**About**

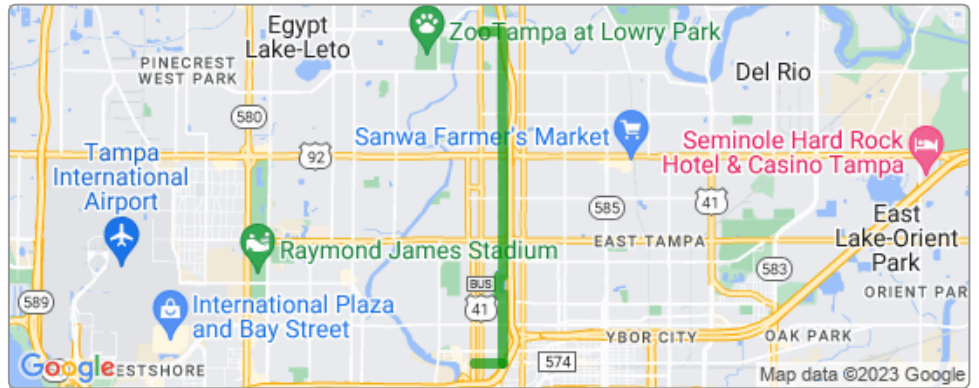
This project will include milling and resurfacing, widening, pavement markings, drainage improvements, pedestrian / bicyclist enhancements, signage, and a shared use path on the east side of the road.

This project is currently in the design phase. Right of way acquisition and construction are not funded at this time.

Contact Information	
<b>Design Manager</b>	Anh-Thu Nguyen 813-975-6197 Anh-Thu.Nguyen@dot.state.fl.us
<b>Media Contact</b>	Kris Carson 813-975-6060 Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us

Central Avenue Safety Project 440511-6-52-01

Project Details	
<b>Work Type</b>	Bike Lane/Sidewalk
<b>Phase</b>	Design
<b>Limits</b>	From W. 7th Avenue to USB-41/N. Florida Ave.
<b>Length</b>	4.292 miles
<b>City</b>	Tampa
<b>County</b>	Hillsborough
<b>Design Cost</b>	\$1.2M



**About**

This project will construct a bikeway on N. Central Avenue from W. 7th Avenue to US Bus. 41/Florida Avenue in Tampa.

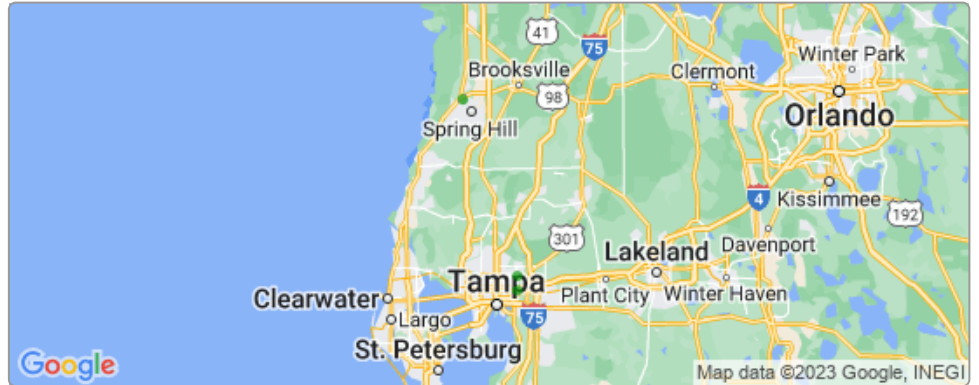
Additional improvements include ADA ramps, curb returns, bulb outs for on-street parking, pavement striping for crossing and designations, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB), signals, and minor drainage improvements.

The project is currently in design. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2024.

Contact Information	
<b>Design Manager</b>	Dinyar Sharifabad 813-975-6172 Dinyar.Sharifabad@dot.state.fl.us
<b>Media Contact</b>	Kris Carson 813-975-6060 Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us

SR 583/N 56th Street and SR 50/Cortez Boulevard Safety Improvements at Various Locations 452412-1-52-01

Project Details	
<b>Work Type</b>	Resurfacing, Sidewalk, Traffic Signals, Signing/Pavement Markings, and Lighting. Also included are associated drainage, ADA, and safety improvements.
<b>Phase</b>	Design
<b>Limits</b>	At North 56th Street at East Lake Mall Entrance; North 56th Street at Temple Heights Road; and Cortez Boulevard at Deltona Road
<b>Length</b>	4.554 Miles
<b>City</b>	Spring Hill Tampa
<b>County</b>	Hernando Hillsborough
<b>Road</b>	56th St Cortez Blvd
<b>Design Cost</b>	\$309,000



**About**

This project consists of safety improvements at three separate intersections.

The safety improvements entail providing missing crosswalks at the intersections of 56th St./East Lake Mall (Net Park), and 56th St./Temple Heights Road in Tampa, as well as the intersection of SR 50/Cortez Blvd. at Deltona Blvd in Spring Hill.

Improvements include the installation of crosswalk striping, median reconfiguration, ADA compliant ramps, pedestrian signals, lighting, and milling and resurfacing as needed to replace pavement markings.

\*\*Please see project map images below for specific safety improvement locations.

Contact Information	
<b>Design Manager</b>	Omar Chehab, P.E. (813) 975-6468 Omar.Chehab@dot.state.fl.us
<b>Media Contact</b>	Kris Carson (813) 975-6060 Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us

## Officers and Directors

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Pritchett Steinbeck Group

Jerel McCants, AIA  
Vice President  
Jerel McCants Architecture

Jeff Hicks, MAI  
Treasurer  
Dohring Ahern

James Langston  
Secretary  
CSX Transportation (ret.)

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Tampa Downtown Partnership

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Martz Creative

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Bright House Networks (ret.)

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Dennis Fernandez  
City of Tampa

Marley Wilkes  
City of Tampa



February 7, 2024

The Honorable Chair Gwendolyn Henderson  
Members of the City of Tampa Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board  
306 E. Jackson Street  
Tampa, FL 33602

RE: CRA Request for Additional \$1.5 Million in Funding for Repairs to Historic Tampa Union Station

Dear Chair Henderson and Members of the CRA Board:

We are pleased to provide this letter of support of the request for the CRA to provide an additional \$1.5 million in funding for necessary repairs to historic Tampa Union Station. Thank you for considering this request for this important community asset.

Our all-volunteer nonprofit organization, and its predecessor, includes individuals who advocate for the preservation and expanded use of Tampa Union Station. These efforts, which included raising millions in public and private funds, successfully rescued Tampa Union Station from likely demolition and restored the building for passenger rail use prior to its donation to the City of Tampa in 1998.

Tampa Union Station, located on the CSX main line serving Tampa, currently hosts Amtrak's northbound and southbound *Silver Star* trains as well as Amtrak buses which connect to the state's other New York-Florida train service, the *Silver Meteor*.

Like any building, Tampa Union Station requires periodic repairs. In 2021, Friends of Tampa Union Station first appealed to the CRA Board for funding for key renovations to this building so that it can successfully remain one of Tampa's "front doors" for visitors and residents.

To this end, we recently worked with the City of Tampa Grants Office to secure a \$414,000 State of Florida Special Category Historic Preservation Grant toward the current renovation project. In 2020 and 2021, we raised public and private funds – and successfully managed and completed – the restoration of the historic Baggage Building at Tampa Union Station.

We support the request for an additional \$1.5 million in funds for this Design Build renovation project. The combination of inflation in construction pricing and the identification of pressing repair needs at Tampa Union Station, including termites and water damage, makes the allocation of additional funds necessary.

We respectfully request the CRA and City staff to do the following:

1. **Current Renovation: Proceed with the renovation project as soon as possible.** We encourage the CRA Board and the City staff to hammer out a schedule which everyone can agree on – and move forward as a unified team to avoid more delays and cost increases.

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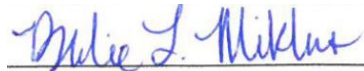
Marley Wilkes  
City of Tampa

- 2. Future Activation: Draft and issue the Request for Proposals.** Tampa Union Station is an underutilized City of Tampa asset with a significant potential for uses beyond its current sole role as an Amtrak station. CRA staff should proceed with drafting the planned Request for Proposals for the operation and management of Tampa Union Station that is complementary to an active train station. This is particularly important considering the expiration of Amtrak's lease in August of this year.
- 3. Passenger Rail Preservation: Work with the Hillsborough TPO, Florida DOT, and other agencies to expand passenger rail use at Tampa Union Station.** Historic Tampa Union Station is the second busiest Amtrak station in the State of Florida, and it has the capacity to serve additional trains. In light of Brightline's decision to build another station in Ybor City for its trains, Tampa Union Station has plenty of capacity for new or expanded Amtrak service as well as future commuter rail services.

The volunteers of Friends of Tampa Union Station stand ready to support the CRA and the City of Tampa staff with any and all of these efforts.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,



Brandie L. Miklus, AICP  
President  
Friends of Tampa Union Station

Cc: The Honorable Jane Castor, Mayor, City of Tampa  
John Bennett, Chief of Staff, City of Tampa  
Nicole Travis, Administrator, Development & Economic Opportunity, City of Tampa  
Jean Duncan, Administrator, Infrastructure & Mobility, City of Tampa  
Alis Drumgo, Deputy Administrator, Development & Economic Opportunity, City of Tampa  
Brad Baird, Deputy Administrator, Infrastructure, City of Tampa  
Adriana Colina, Director, Logistics & Asset Management, City of Tampa  
Richard Mutterback, Director, Contract Administration, City of Tampa  
Erica Moody, CRA Director, City of Tampa  
Andrea Zelman, City Attorney, City of Tampa  
Justin Vaske, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of Tampa  
Shirley Foxx-Knowles, CRA Secretary, City of Tampa  
Susan Gobble, CRA Fiscal Analyst, City of Tampa  
Morris Massey, Deputy City Attorney, City of Tampa  
Johnny Wong, Executive Director, Hillsborough TPO  
David Gwynn, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation District 7  
Friends of Tampa Union Station Board Members