



Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

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Aviation Authority

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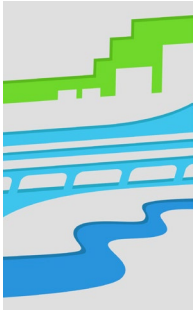
Nigel M. Joseph
Planning Commission

Greg Slater
Expressway Authority

Commissioner
Joshua Wostal
Hillsborough County

Jessica Vaughn
Hillsborough County
School Board

Johnny Wong, PhD
Executive Director



Plan Hillsborough

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Tampa, FL, 33602

Meeting of the TPO Board

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 @ 10:00am
Hillsborough County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 26th Floor

All voting members are asked to attend in person, in compliance with Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law. Please [RSVP](#) here 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
- 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. Call & Declaration of Quorum (Gail Reese, TPO Staff)
- III. [Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2024](#)
- 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](#)

VII. Action Items

- A. [TIP Amendments: HART Fixed Guideway 5309/5337, Fowler Ave from 51st St to Riverhills Dr](#) (Vishaka Shiva Raman, TPO Staff)
- B. [2024 Safety Performance Targets](#) (Connor Trejos-MacDonald, TPO Staff)

VIII. Status Reports

- A. [2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Major Projects](#)
(Wade Reynolds, TPO Staff)

IX. Executive Director's Report

- A. TMA Leadership Group meeting February 16th, 2024
- B. Legislative Update
- C. Follow-up on previous information requests: Amtrak and CSX

X. Old Business & New Business

XI. Adjournment

XII. Addendum

- A. Announcements
- [Gibsonton PD&E Flyer](#)
- B. Project Summaries, Fact Sheets & Other Status Reports
- [Plan Hillsborough Newsletter](#)
 - [HART Governance and Operational Management Analysis](#)
 - [FDOT Factsheet – US41 Widening from Pendola Point/Madison Avenue to Denver Street](#)
 - [FDOT Factsheet – Central Avenue Safety Project](#)
[FDOT Factsheet – SR583 N. 56th St and SR50 Cortez Blvd Safety Improvements at Various Locations](#)
- C. Correspondence
- [Letter To Governor DeSantis re: I4 Intercity Passenger Rail Improvements Appropriations Request](#)
 - [Letter of Support CRA Board Friends of Tampa Union Station](#)

D. Articles Related to TPO Work:

- [Tampa Bay's time to shine: Millions in transportation dollars hang in the balance this legislative session](#) | Tampa Bay Business Journal | 01.12.24
- [Speed cameras are coming to Tampa school zones. Here where.](#) | Tampa Bay Times | 01.12.24
- [Hillsborough transportation leaders could expedite plan to widen span of I-75](#) | ABC Action News | 01.03.24
- [Tampa and Pasco County receive federal grants aimed at preventing traffic fatalities](#) | WUSF | 12.27.23
- [What's happening with Morris Bridge Rd?](#) | New Tampa & Wesley Chapel Neighborhood News | 12.19.23
- [Plant City's population is booming. Some residents fear their home will lose its small-town charm.](#) | WUSF | 12.18.23

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

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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 Trejos-MacDonald, (813) 946-5334 o 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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**HILLSBOROUGH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD
HYBRID MEETING JANUARY 10, 2024
DRAFT MINUTES**

I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance *(Timestamp 0:05:17)*

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 0:05:45)*

The following members were present: Commissioner Gwen Myers, Mayor Andrew Ross, Commissioner Michael Owen, Commissioner Joshua Wostal, Commissioner Harry Cohen, Commissioner Pat Kemp, Councilmember Lynn Hurtak, Councilmember Alan Clendenin, Councilmember Guido Maniscalco, School Board Member Jessica Vaughn, Charles Klug, Greg Slater, Justin Willits, Planning Commissioner Nigel Joseph

The following members were absent/excused: Mayor Nate Kilton, Joe Lopano

A quorum was met in person.

III. Approval of Minutes *(Timestamp 0:06:50)* – December 13, 2023

Chair Myers sought a vote to approve the December 13, 2023. Councilmember Maniscalco moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cohen. The voice vote passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment On Agenda Items *(Timestamp 0:07:04)* (up to 3 minutes per speaker) Additional comments made via [Social Media](#) and [Email](#) may be requested.

Rick Fernandez: Representing the Tampa Heights Civic Association. Went over the history of the pollution/noise wall at Robles Park to be constructed between the park and the interstate. There have been different solutions presented but no resolution. He is bringing it to the TPO Board so it can be addressed.

Lena Young Green: Expressed concern for the quality of the air, water, and soil, the preferred barrier at the Robles Park area is living trees. There is the possibility of the creation of a heat island in this area. The neighborhood is asking that the TPO Board support the request and continue having the conversation.

Commissioner Myers requested this issue be put on the agenda for February for discussion.

V. Committee Reports and Advance Comments (Rick Fernandez, CAC Chair and Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 0:14:08)*

- A. **CAC Meeting January 8, 2024** (Rick Fernandez, CAC Chair) – the written report is available upon request

- Had a robust conversation on the topic from public comment re: the installment of a living wall at Robles Park. The CAC supports the living wall request and suggested that grants may be available for the maintenance.
- Approved the following:
 - Review of officers selected for 2024
 - I-75 TIP Amendment from the Tampa Bypass Canal to Fowler Avenue, approved 14 – 0. There was interest in whether or not this would impact a future Bypass Canal trail.
 - 2050 Plan for Freight and Goods Movement and the Hillsborough County Truck Route Plan, approved 14 – 0
 - Review of the CAC Geographic and Demographic representation. Efforts have been made to more closely match the county population. Suggestions were made. The CAC voted unanimously to accept this report.
- The CAC requested presentations from FDOT, Tampa Heights, and the City of Tampa regarding the noise/ living wall in Tampa Heights.

B. Other Committees

- LRC – December 20, 2023
 - The LRC meeting heard status reports on:
 - Courtney Campbell Causeway Vulnerability Assessment and Resiliency Overview
 - Fowler Avenue Studies
 - Sunshine Line Update
- TDCB – December 16, 2023
 - Action Items
 - 2023 Meeting Calendar
 - FDOT Tentative Work Program and TPO Comments
 - i. The Board had no comments
 - Northside Behavioral Health Coordination Contract
 - MacDonald Training Center Coordination Contract
 - Metropolitan Ministries Coordination Contract
 - Status Reports
 - Health Buddies Program update
 - Decision-making Steps to Create a Regional MPO
- TAC – January 8, 2024
 - Approved Action Items
 - TIP Amendment from I-75 from the Tampa Bypass Canal to Fowler Avenue. Expressed concern for the Bypass Canal Trail impact.

Emails and Social Media: email, social media comments and letters are available upon request. These were provided to the TPO Board on January 9, 2024.

VI. Consent Agenda (*Timestamp 0:00:00*)

A. Committee Appointments

- TDCB – Abbie Walters, by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs
- ITS – Samantha Flores, as an alternate by City of Plant City

B. City of Tampa Traffic Counts Interlocal Agreement

- C. CAC Demographic and Geographic Representation Review** – Planning Commissioner Joseph requested that an addendum be added to the document, specifically the methodologies for calculating the representations. **Planning Commissioner Joseph moved to add an addendum directing staff to look at more granular methods going forward for doing this analysis, seconded by Councilmember Maniscalco. The voice vote passed unanimously.**

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

VII. Action Items

- A. TIP Amendment: I-75 from Tampa Bypass Canal to Fowler Avenue** (Elizabeth Watkins, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 0:23:23)*
- Went over project overview
 - Looked at the summary of changes – construction acceleration the addition of funds
 - Review of the project timeline
 - Went over outreach for amendment; noted positive new story supporting this amendment

Recommended Action: Approve the I-75 from Tampa Bypass Canal and Fowler Amendment to the FY23/24-27/28 TIP.

Discussion:

It was noted that the CAC passed this item unanimously.

Councilmember Maniscalco moved to approve the TIP Amendment, seconded by Commissioner Cohen. The roll call vote passed 14 – 0.

- B. 2024 Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit Interlocal Funding Agreement** (Lisa Silva, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 0:28:48)*
- Went over the origins of the funds to be transferred
 - Indicated that Hillsborough County stepped up to host this year due to the turnover of staff in this year in Pasco County.
 - Will be held in conjunction with Florida Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Coalition Summit, October 8 – 9, 2024; location will be at Port Tampa Bay

Recommended Action: Approve the Interlocal Funding Agreement in support of the 2024 Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit and allow the TPO to receive the funds transfer from Polk TPO.

Councilmember Maniscalco moved to approve the Interlocal Funding Agreement in support of the 2024 Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit and allow the TPO to receive the funds transfer from Polk TPO, seconded by Commissioner Kemp. The voice vote passed unanimously.

VIII. Status Reports

- A. FDOT Freight Analysis** (Brian Hunter, FDOT) *(Timestamp: 0:33:12)*

- Went over the approach for the analysis; provided what type of vehicle is considered a truck, anything over 2 axles
- Four major freight generators: Port Tampa Bay, Tampa International Airport, Sabal Park region (US 301 and I-4), Plant City
- Looked at the distribution footprint and routes chosen
- Noted that the major road links are in the agenda pack and highlighted the ones that go through the Urban Core
- Went over recommendations
 - Truck drivers need to get around in the most efficient way possible
 - Look at I-75, I-4, US 92, US 301, SR 39
 - FDOT is looking at operations improvements to assist in guiding trucks to desired routes

Discussion:

It was noted that the port is going to be dramatically increasing their intake; it is going to be extremely important to move the freight effectively and efficiently. Port Tampa Bay discussed the operation increase all along the port. Many roads are being maintained by the port. There is also freight coming into the cruise terminals in addition to additional cruise ships. It was noted that January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month; the port promotes awareness to the truck drivers. There was discussion about getting an expansion of I-275 N back on the TIP and getting it prioritized in addition to looking further at improvements to I-75. It was noted that the PD&E for I-275 has been done. Clarification was asked if truckers are diverting off the highway when there are challenges. They are not getting off as they want to be on the highways. It was brought up that the expansion of rail; the focus of I-275 should be on moving workers. It was asked if it was possible to have a mobility freight study that could be done and to refresh a study on increased rail movement. There are rail points along the port. The challenge is working with CSX; they prefer to do longer hauls. The capability exists, CSX has to agree to take it. It was **noted** that the future of moving freight is not moving it in the Urban Core but moving it around; there is going to have to be east/west movement.

Councilmember Maniscalco moved to receive the report, seconded by Commissioner Kemp. The voice vote passed unanimously.

B. Plan Hillsborough 2024 – 2029 Strategic Plan (Melissa Dickens, Planning Commission Staff)
(Timestamp 0:57:27)

- Went over the background of the plan
- Looked at the project timeline and the timeline
- Reviewed the highlights from the All Staff Survey and the Board Retreat
- Looked at the overview of the draft and the four pillars and goals – the numbering does not indicate priority: Integrated and Connected Communities, Partnerships and Community Engagement, Resilient Natural and Built Environment, Technology and Operational Enhancements
 - Highlighted how the TPO fits into each of the pillars
 - Received comments from the Planning Commission to refine the Integrated and Connected Communities goal

- Went over the next steps and presentation schedule

Councilmember Maniscalco moved to receive the report, seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. The voice vote passed unanimously.

C. 2050 Plan Outreach Survey Objectives (Harmoni McGee, TPO Staff) *(Timestamp 1:06:00)*

- Went over the name of the campaign and how it fits with the community; Access 2050
- Going to be meeting people where they are – several different ways to complete the survey
 - Looked at a high level of the survey
- Using Metroquest system – went over some of the analysis abilities that can be used real-time to make sure a good cross section is obtained
- Went over the timeline of the survey
- Noted the incentives being offered for those who take the survey
- Requested the TPO Board provide goals and objectives as to what a successful outreach campaign would look like
- Looked at how assistance can be offered

Discussion:

It was asked how the prizes would be balanced in fairness. Anyone who takes the survey can win along with people who don't complete the survey, they can contact staff to be entered to win. It was pointed out that with online engagement, large numbers can be deceiving. It was asked if any identifiers would be collected. Yes, demographic information will be requested: zip, age, and race.

Commissioner Owen moved to receive the report, seconded by Planning Commissioner Joseph. The voice vote passed unanimously.

IX. Executive Director's Report *(Timestamp 1:13:06)*

A. Special TPO Board Meeting February 6, 2024, at 10 AM.

- Went over proposed topics for this meeting
- Information will be provided in advance

B. Filled two TPO staff vacancies; both will be starting in January 2024

C. Reviewed legislative bills being considered and the potential impacts: SB 1032, SB 1678, SB 28

X. Old Business & New Business *(Timestamp 1:17:00)*

A. Next TPO Board meeting is February 14, 2024

B. Councilmember Hurtak directed the TPO Staff to add a freight rail study to the FDOT UPWP and scope what that study would include.

Discussion:

It was asked what type of actionable items would be produced from this. Several studies are done but don't go anywhere. Funding a study would come down to the TPO Board approving the UPWP later in the year. If staff begins exploring study possibilities now, actionable items could come out of the discussions before making recommendations. Clarification was asked if this study would be limited to freight only. Yes, that is the request. The study would be to start planning for now and

the conversation for the future. The long-term sustainability of trucking with employees, efficiency, etc. may be in question. Looking at alternative ways to move freight is important. This type of study would show where the benefit would impact freight on roads. It was also expressed that CSX be invited to a future meeting to be part of this discussion.

- C. It was asked if the living wall at Robles Park is something that can be discussed. Secretary Gwynn provided background information on this topic. FDOT found a way to put a wall in. Different options were presented before finding funding from the federal government including a living wall, trellis wall, etc. FDOT canvassed the area and asked what type of wall residents would like to use. If a concrete wall is not put in, this is the only part of the stretch that would not be a wall. FDOT would put landscaping in front of the wall.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 11:26 AM

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



Committee Reports

Livable Roadways Committee Meeting on January 17

The LRC approved action items:

- Election of Officers, Attendance Review and Declaration of Vacancies
- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Freight & Goods Movement and Hillsborough County Truck Route Plan
 - LRC moved to approve the report with the addition of reviewing community plans for Unincorporated County and the adopted City of Tampa Truck restrictions and the map.

The LRC heard status reports on:

- 2050 Needs Assessment for Major Projects

Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting on January 24

The BPAC approved action items:

- Election of Officers, Attendance Review and Declaration of Vacancies
 - The Committee voted to maintain Tim Horst as Chair, Jim Shirk as Vice Chair, and Peter Davitt as Officer at Large
 - The seats for the City of Temple Terrace and City of Tampa Parks and Recreation were declared vacant
- Consideration of New Citizen at Large Membership Application
 - The Committee voted to encouraged the sole applicant, Brandyn Littleton, to attend the February meeting before a vote on membership approval
- 2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Freight & Goods Movement and Hillsborough County Truck Route Plan
 - Members expressed concern about potential conflicts between truck route improvements and bike/ped accommodations

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting on February 5

The TAC approved action items:

- TIP Amendment: HART Fixed Guideways 5309/5337, Fowler Avenue from 51st Street to Riverhills Drive
 - Members asked about the increase in costs and why the limits did not go all the way to the Hillsborough River. FDOT responded that costs have increased in a variety of projects, and the portion excluded will be taken up in another project.
- 2024 Safety Performance Targets
 - Members asked about the source of the data (Signal 4). FDOT requires the use of Signal 4 but the numbers are not the same as those from the Florida Dept. of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Staff will bring back the differences in methodology to the TAC and update the targets prior to Board action if there are any changes to the data.

The TAC heard status reports on:

- Gibsonton Drive from Fern Hill Drive to US301 PD&E
 - Members asked about the limits to the project and the need to include the portion of Boyette Rd east of US 301. The project does include this.
 - Members also asked if there is a Spanish translation for the Public Hearing on this project. FDOT staff replied that they have a translation service available.
- 2040 LRTP Needs Assessment for Major Projects

A verbal summary will be given for the following:

TPO Special Meeting on February 6

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting on February 7



Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item

Committee Appointments

Presenter

None – Consent Agenda

Summary

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) shall be responsible for considering safe access to schools in the review of transportation project priorities, long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs and shall advise the MPO on such matters. In addition, the TAC shall be responsible for assisting in the development of transportation planning work programs; coordinating transportation planning and programming; review of all transportation studies, reports, plans and/or programs, and making recommendations to the TPO that are pertinent to the subject documents based upon the technical sufficiency, accuracy, and completeness of and the needs as determined by the studies, plans and/or programs.

The following have been nominated to serve on the TAC:

- Lama Alfaseeh, by the Hillsborough County Community and Infrastructure

The Livable Roadways Committee (LRC) shall be composed of representatives of local government departments, transportation agencies and other organizations. They may be elected officials, appointed officials, organization members, designated representatives or staff, but may not be staff or consultants to the TPO.

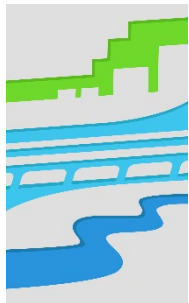
The following have been nominated to serve on the LRC:

- Omar Peerzada, by HART

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:

- Joel Yap, by Department of Health and Allison Nguyen, as alternate



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- Brent Buffington, by the City of Temple Terrace

Recommended Action

That the TPO Board confirm the above nominations

Prepared By

Cheryl Wilkening

Attachments

None



Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item:

TIP Amendments: HART Fixed Guideway 5309/5337 and Fowler Ave from 51st St to Riverhills Dr

Presenter:

Vishaka Shiva Raman, TPO Staff

Summary:

Amend two projects in the Transportation Improvement Program:

1. Add HART Fixed Guideway FTA Section 5309/5337 (FPN 415172-1) project to the TIP. This project will receive an annual allocation of \$750,000 of FTA Section 5309/5337 funds. The funding will be used to support the rebuilding of five streetcars.
2. Update Fowler Ave from 51st St to Riverhills Dr (FPN 446270-1) project by changing the eastern termini from Bruce B. Downs Blvd to 51st Street and reduce construction funding by \$5,000. This is a resurfacing project that also includes signalization, signage, pavement markings, safety, and drainage improvements.

Recommended Action:

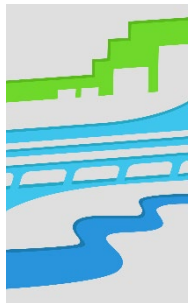
Approve the TIP Amendments to add the HART Fixed Guideway FTA Section 5309/5337 project; and update termini and funding of Fowler Ave from 51st St to Riverhills Dr project.

Prepared By:

Elizabeth Watkins, TPO Staff

Attachments:

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



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**FDOT
5 Year TIP
Hillsborough County, District 7**

FLP: TRANSIT

Status: Amended **Amendment Date:** 2/14/2024 **Amendment Number:** 7

Item Number: 415172 1 **Description:** HART FIXED GUIDEWAY SECTION 5309/5337 **LRTP:** State of Good Repair and Resilience, p. 31

Related Project: **Extra Description:** SECTION 5309/5337

Project Length: 0 *NON-SIS*

Type of Work: CAPITAL FOR FIXED ROUTE

Fund	<2024	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	>2028	All Years
CAPITAL - Managed by HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY								
Added FTA	\$8,932,789	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,682,789
Totals:	\$8,932,789	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,682,789
Item 415172 1 Totals:	\$8,932,789	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,682,789

FTA – Federal Transit Administration



**FDOT
5 Year TIP
Hillsborough County, District 7**

HIGHWAYS

Status Adopted **Adopted Date:** 06/14/2023

Item Number: 446270 1 **Description:** SR 582/E FOWLER AVE FROM W OF BB DOWNS BLVD TO W OF RIVERHILLS DR **LRTP:** State of Good Repair and Resilience, p. 31

Related Project: **Extra Description:** 6 LANES

Project Length: 3.524 *NON-SIS*

Type of Work RESURFACING

Fund	<2024	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	>2028	All Years
CONSTRUCTION - MANAGED BY FDOT								
DDR	\$0	\$4,183,072	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,183,072
DIH	\$0	\$301,261	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$301,261
DS	\$0	\$616,746	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$616,746
SA	\$0	\$10,684,075	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,684,075
Totals:	\$0	\$15,785,154	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,785,154
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING - MANAGED BY FDOT								
DDR	\$7,175	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,175
ACSA	\$1,964,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,964,500
DIH	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
DS	\$18,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,232
Totals:	\$1,999,907	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,999,907
Item 446270 1 Totals:	\$1,999,907	\$15,785,154	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,785,061

DDR - District Dedicated Revenue
 DIH – State In-house Product Support
 DS – State Primary Highways and PTO
 SA – STP, Any Area
 ACSA – Advance Construction (SA)



Status Amended	Amendment Date: 2/14/2024	Amendment Number: 8
Item Number: 446270 1	Description: SR 582/E FOWLER AVE FROM N 51ST ST TO W OF RIVERHILLS DR	LRTP: State of Good Repair and Resilience, p. 31
Related Project:	Extra Description: 6 LANES	
Project Length: 1.906		*NON-SIS*
Type of Work: RESURFACING		

Fund	<2024	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	>2028	All Years
CONSTRUCTION - MANAGED BY FDOT								
Modified DDR	\$0	\$2,687,672	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,687,672
DIH	\$0	\$301,261	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$301,261
DS	\$1,478	\$616,746	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$618,224
Modified SA	\$0	\$6,369,005	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,369,005
Added ACCM	\$0	\$177,685	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$177,685
Added ACNR	\$0	\$495,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$495,400
Added ACSA		\$4,132,385	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,132,385
Added ACSS		\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000
Totals:	\$1,478	\$15,780,154	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,781,632
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING - MANAGED BY FDOT								
DIH	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
DDR	\$7,175	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,175
DS	\$18,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,232
ACSA	\$1,964,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,964,500
Totals:	\$1,999,907	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,999,907
Item 446270 1 Totals:	\$2,001,385	\$15,780,154	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,781,539

ACCM – Advance Construction (CMAQ)
 ACNR – Advance Const Nat Hwy Perform Resurfacing
 ACSA – Advance Construction (SA)
 ACSS – Advance construction (SS, HSP)





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.

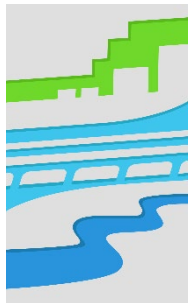
Achieving zero traffic deaths is the long-term aspirational goal of the Hillsborough TPO. The FHWA has encouraged MPOs to select realistic targets based on crash data analysis. Using a methodology developed for the *It's Time Hillsborough 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan*, TPO staff use historical 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): ≤ 197
- Number of Fatalities (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 216
- Number of Motorcycle Fatalities (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 37.93
- Number of Serious Injuries (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 941
- Number of Nonmotorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 240
- Rate of Fatalities per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled (MVMT) (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 1.49
- Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 MVMT (Five-year rolling average): ≤ 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.



Plan Hillsborough
planhillsborough.org
planner@plancom.org
813 - 272 - 5940
601 E Kennedy Blvd
18th floor
Tampa, FL, 33602

Recommended Action:

Approve the Calendar Year 2024 safety performance targets and transmit to FDOT.

Prepared By:

Connor Trejos-MacDonald, TPO Staff

Attachments:

[Presentation Slides](#)



Hillsborough TPO Transportation Planning Organization

Board & Committee Agenda Item

Agenda Item:

2050 Plan Needs Assessment for Major Projects

Presenter:

Wade Reynolds, TPO Staff

Summary:

The Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Hillsborough County is a blueprint for the future, and it conveys the community's transportation vision and priorities. A key part of building the LRTP is to model future traffic volumes and the expected level of congestion on major roads.

One of the most important next steps in the process is to brainstorm and test major projects to determine their performance results. Major projects include any capacity additions, including road widenings, extensions, or elevations, as well as fixed guideway transit projects like water ferries, bus rapid transit (BRT), and rail service.

Over the next three months, each project will be tested in the model and a performance report will be generated. These will also be compared to scores for existing projects from the 2045 plan.

Recommended Action:

None, for information only

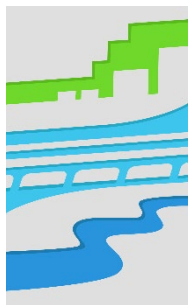
Prepared By:

Wade Reynolds, AICP, TPO Staff

Attachments:

[2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Map of Major Projects](#)

List of new projects to be tested for 2050 LRTP



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Tampa, FL, 33602

Reference Num/ Agency	Project Corridor	From	To	Description	Project Type
HART/ COT	Invision Streetcar Extn	Fort Brooke Garage	Palm Ave	Extension along Tampa/ FL one way pairs	Transit
HART/ COT	Arterial (50th/56th) BRT	USF	Downtown		Transit
HART/ COT	CSX South Tampa Multimodal Corridor	Downtown	SW peninsula of Tampa	Opportunity for other sized-guideway/ transit atgrade premium transt from airport to Westshore, downtown, E Tampa etc	Transit
HART/ COT	Airport to Downtown Transit	Airport	Downtown	Connecting via downtown to serve Brandon/ Riverview/ Valrico area	Transit
HART/ COT	East West BRT	Brandon	Westshore		Transit
HART/ COT	New Water Taxi	downtown Tampa	downtown St. Petersburg	New transit	Transit
HART/ COT	Selmon Expressway BRT	South County	US 301	With and Without South County Extn	Transit
County	I-75 Interchange north of Manatee County Line	New	I-75 N of Manatee Co Line	New Interchange	Interchange
County	CR 39 Widening	SR 60	SR 674	Widening 2 to 4 lanes	Highway
County	CR 672	Clement Pride	Balm Riverview Rd	Widening 2 to 4 lanes	Highway
TAC- Temple Terrace Board	I-75 interchange at US 301/Harney Road.	US 301	Harney Rd	New Interchange	Interchange
Board	Managed Lanes on I-275	SR 60 Westshore Interchange	Downtown	Request for FDOT to study managed lanes	Study
Board	Lee Roy Selmon/Crosstown Extn from current terminus near US 301 to Big Bend Road	US 301	Big Bend Rd	New road	Highway
County and Board	Lithia Pinecrest Widening	Fishhawk Blvd	Lumsden Rd	Widening 2 to 4 lanes, Currently PDE HC 69649000	Highway
FTE	Suncoast Parkway	Van Dyke Rd	County Line	Widening	Highway

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

For more information on this study, visit our project website:
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 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/

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
 813-975-6433

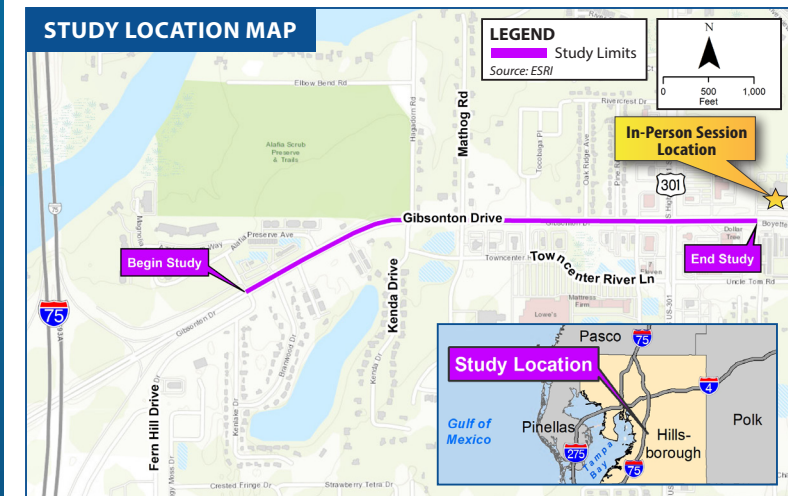
Media Inquiries?
Kris Carson
Public Information Officer
 FDOT District Seven
 11201 N. McKinley Dr., MS 7-110
 Tampa, FL 33612
kristen.carson@dot.state.fl.us
 813-975-6060
 800-226-7220

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/. 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/. 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 or visit our project website at 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.

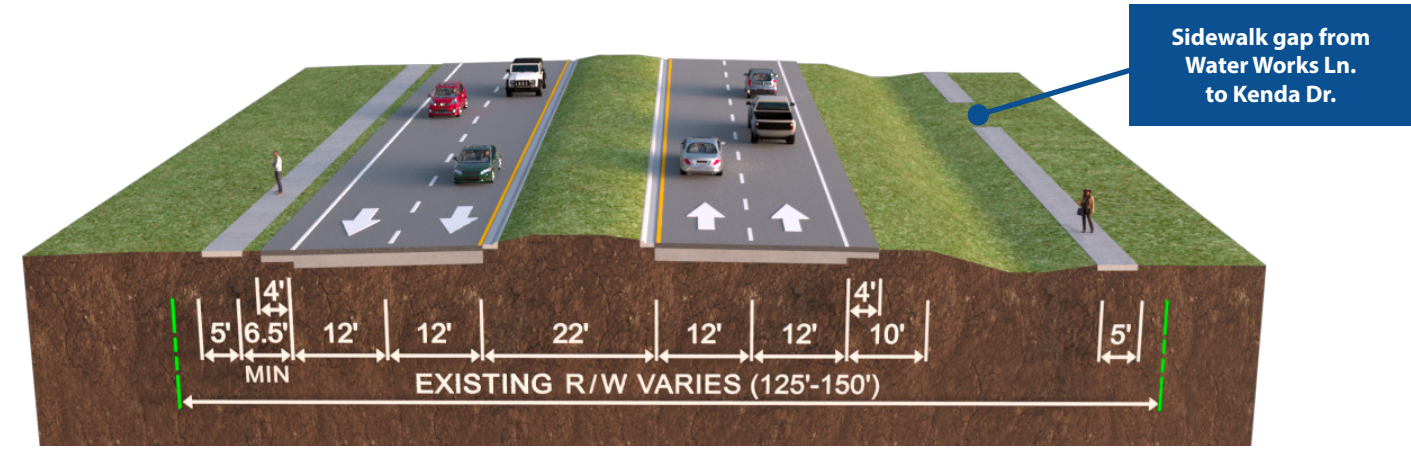
EVALUATION MATRIX

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.

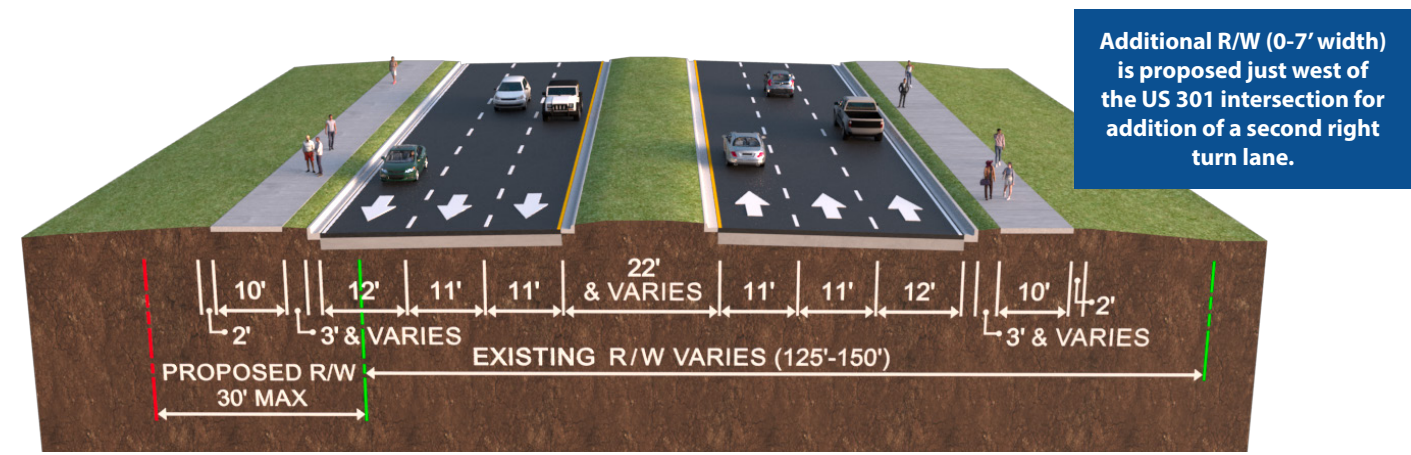
Evaluation Criteria	No-Build Alternative	Preferred Alternative
Potential Business/Residential Impacts		
Number of business relocations	0	1
Number of residential relocations	0	3
Potential ROW Impacts		
Number of affected parcels	0	20
Area of ROW anticipated to be acquired for road widening (acres)	0	0.95
Area of ROW anticipated to be acquired for Stormwater Pond and Floodplain Compensation Site (acres)	0	3.19
Potential Environmental Effects		
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)
Estimated Costs (Present Day Costs in \$ Million rounded up to nearest \$0.1 Million)		Total Project
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 ¹		\$23.5
Total Project Estimated Costs		\$38.3¹

¹ 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.

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



About

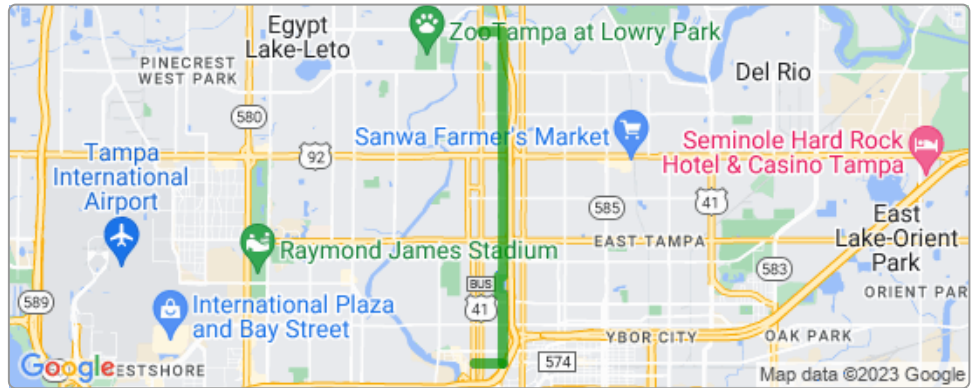
This project will include milling and resurfacing, widening, pavement markings, drainage improvements, pedestrian / bicyclist enhancements, signage, and a shared use path on the east side of the road.

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

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

Central Avenue Safety Project 440511-6-52-01

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



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

About

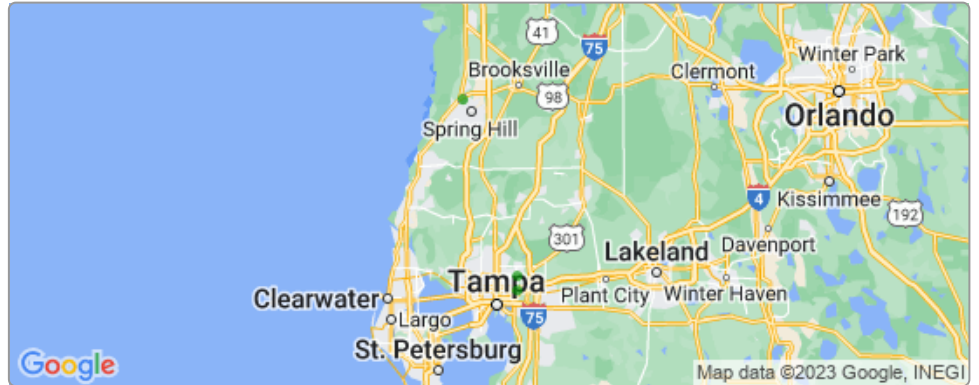
This project will construct a bikeway on N. Central Avenue from W. 7th Avenue to US Bus. 41/Florida Avenue in Tampa.

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.

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

Project Details	
Work Type	Resurfacing, Sidewalk, Traffic Signals, Signing/Pavement Markings, and Lighting. Also included are associated drainage, ADA, and safety improvements.
Phase	Design
Limits	At North 56th Street at East Lake Mall Entrance; North 56th Street at Temple Heights Road; and Cortez Boulevard at Deltona Road
Length	4.554 Miles
City	Spring Hill Tampa
County	Hernando Hillsborough
Road	56th St Cortez Blvd
Design Cost	\$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	
Design Manager	Omar Chehab, P.E. (813) 975-6468 Omar.Chehab@dot.state.fl.us
Media Contact	Kris Carson (813) 975-6060 Kristen.Carson@dot.state.fl.us



Hillsborough TPO

Transportation Planning Organization

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Hillsborough County
TPO Chair

Mayor Andrew Ross
City of Temple Terrace
TPO Vice Chair

Paul Anderson
Port Tampa Bay

Councilman Alan Clendenin
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Planning Commission

Greg Slater
Expressway Authority

Commissioner
Joshua Wostal
Hillsborough County

Jessica Vaughn
Hillsborough County
School Board

Johnny Wong, PhD
Executive Director



Plan Hillsborough
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planner@plancom.org
813 - 272 - 5940
601 E Kennedy Blvd
18th Floor
Tampa, FL, 33602

January 24, 2024

Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

RE: Interstate 4 Intercity Passenger Rail Improvements Appropriations Request

Dear Governor DeSantis,

On behalf of the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), I am writing to express support for the Interstate 4 Intercity Passenger Improvements Appropriations Request. These funds will advance the implementation of the multi-modal corridor through Osceola and parts of Polk County, with a goal to connect travelers between the Tampa and Orlando metropolitan areas. The Hillsborough TPO recognizes and applauds your efforts, and that of the Legislature, for advancing critical transportation funding on Interstate 4 through the Moving Florida Forward program last year.

As the Florida Department of Transportation invests \$2 Billion on Interstate 4 improvements, it is in the best interest of the state and traveling public to incorporate elements that will ultimately allow for Intercity Passenger Rail within the corridor. This Appropriation will allow for coordinated construction while minimizing future disruptions to traffic as well as creating cost-efficiencies to develop the necessary infrastructure along this corridor.

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 our environment and communities. In alignment with FDOT's mission, the Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance, which serves the eight county Tampa Bay region, and the Hillsborough TPO have both identified passenger rail service along Interstate 4 as a top priority. There is no better investment than ensuring that Interstate 4 is an intermodal corridor for generations to come.

The Hillsborough TPO thanks you for your leadership and vision and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of this opportunity to invest in the future of Hillsborough County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Johnny KA Wong'.

Johnny KA Wong, PhD
Executive Director
Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization

CC: President Passidomo
 Speaker Renner
 Senator Collins
 Representative Pittman
 Hillsborough County Commissioner Gwen Myers
 Hillsborough County Commissioner Michael Owen

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Pritchett Steinbeck Group

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1905 Family of Restaurants

Steve Hovsepian
Attorney-at-Law

Michael Martz
Martz Creative

Jackson McQuigg
Atlanta History Center

Robert Modys, AICP, CNU-A
Benesch

Steve Sayles
Bright House Networks (ret.)

Ex-Officio Members

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.

Officers and Directors

Brandie Miklus, AICP
President
Pritchett Steinbeck Group

Jerel McCants, AIA
Vice President
Jerel McCants Architecture

Jeff Hicks, MAI
Treasurer
Dohring Ahern

James Langston
Secretary
CSX Transportation (ret.)

Board Members

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GHD

Casey Bauer
Tampa Downtown Partnership

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1905 Family of Restaurants

Steve Hovsepian
Attorney-at-Law

Michael Martz
Martz Creative

Jackson McQuigg
Atlanta History Center

Robert Modys, AICP, CNU-A
Benesch

Steve Sayles
Bright House Networks (ret.)

Ex-Officio Members

Dennis Fernandez
City of Tampa

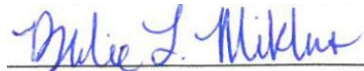
Marley Wilkes
City of Tampa

- 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