



2024-2029 Plan Hillsborough Strategic Plan





A Message from the Executive Directors

Plan Hillsborough provides coordinated land use, transportation, and environmental planning recommendations to the elected officials of unincorporated Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa, Temple Terrace, and Plant City to improve the citizens' quality of life. As Executive Directors of the Boards, we understand the importance of collaborative input and strategic thinking in the short term, which ultimately supports our agency's focus on long-range planning.

This Strategic Plan was crafted through several months of collaboration and input, including Board Chair interviews, a Board member survey, and an in-person retreat. Following the development of general themes by the Board members, Plan Hillsborough staff crafted categories and approaches for implementation, including central Pillars, broader Goals, and specific Strategies.

As a result of this detailed development process, the Strategic Plan identifies targeted, quality work on behalf of all three Boards for the next five years. The four Pillars focus on critical aspects of our agency's work: integrated and connected communities, partnerships and community engagement, resilient natural and built environment, and technology and operational enhancements. The Goals and Strategies expand on agency requirements and values for proactive action.

The Strategic Plan provides a framework for agency-wide priorities and staff direction to ensure a vibrant, thriving future for the communities we serve. We look forward to seeing how these Strategies enhance the vital planning work being conducted by Plan Hillsborough to provide a greater quality of life for our citizens.

Sincerely,



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With special thanks to our former board members

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Commissioner Hemant Saria, Planning Commission
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Temple Terrace City Councilmember Meredith Abel



Introduction

Plan Hillsborough, composed of staff who serve the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and the Hillsborough River Interlocal Planning Board, provides coordinated land use, transportation, and Hillsborough River planning for the four local governments in Hillsborough County. The 2024-2029 Plan Hillsborough Strategic Plan is a document that provides direction and guidance on priorities for the agency over a five-year planning horizon.

While the Strategic Plan provides short-term focus for the agency, there are many requirements that the agency completes regularly in addition to it. For example, the Planning Commission maintains and updates the Comprehensive Plans and the Future Land Use Maps. Similarly, the TPO updates the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program, while the River Board maintains and updates the River Master Plan. In contrast to these required items, the Strategic Plan is internally focused and aspirational in nature.

Plan Hillsborough's required reviews and other tasks can be found in other agency documents (e.g., the TPO's Unified Planning Work Program). While the Strategic Plan includes some planning processes and builds on required tasks, it focuses more on highlighting ways Plan Hillsborough staff can enhance work products related to these requirements, improve strategic aspects of how the agency interfaces with the public and its partners, and leverage resources to create a strong future and quality of life for the community.



I Integrated and Connected Communities

Goal 1.1

Connect mobility and land use

Strategy 1.1.1

Focus planning efforts to address population growth and infrastructure needs, including infill and redevelopment approaches and careful study of strategic expansion areas.

Strategy 1.1.2

Identify proactive planning opportunities, pilot projects, and emerging technologies that address growth trends and changing conditions.

Strategy 1.1.3

Develop and refine policies and tools that encourage transportation safety and a variety of mobility choices.

Strategy 1.1.4

Coordinate with agency partners to continue to study innovative funding options, approaches, and technologies for transportation improvements.



Goal 1.2

Encourage housing opportunities and choice

Strategy 1.2.1

Coordinate with local jurisdictions and collaborate regionally to protect and promote affordable and diverse housing options for all through best practices research and proactive policy updates.

Strategy 1.2.2

Continually refine bonus structures and incentives within the Comprehensive Plans to ensure they continue to respond to the market and are providing value to the larger community.

Strategy 1.2.3

Work in tandem with the community and developers to understand housing needs and the market. Utilize the agency's unique role to bridge the gaps among community desires, fiscal realities, and grounded planning.



Partnerships and Community Engagement

Goal 2.1

Ensure seamless regional to local connections and partnerships

Strategy 2.1.1

Pursue projects, studies, and joint planning efforts that cross jurisdictional boundaries within Hillsborough County.

Strategy 2.1.2

Maintain and strengthen connections to regional transportation planning and environmental initiatives with clear messaging and solutions to the region's current and emerging opportunities, challenges, and growth.

Strategy 2.1.3

Explore opportunities for short-term and long-range regional projects, as well as state and federal grant opportunities for those projects.



Goal 2.2

Improve public education and engagement

Strategy 2.2.1

Seek new opportunities to engage communities in the planning process throughout all stages, with a focus on early involvement.

Strategy 2.2.2

Educate the public about the planning process through innovative and cost-effective methods.

Goal 2.3

Strengthen existing and create new public/private partnerships

Strategy 2.3.1

Continue to enhance existing interagency relationships while developing collaborative partnerships with additional organizations, especially those with different perspectives or who have not previously participated.

Strategy 2.3.2

Create continuous discussion with partners through consistent communication on agency requirements, studies, emerging issues, and opportunities for collaboration.





Resilient Natural and Built Environment

Goal 3.1

Strengthen resiliency policies and planning projects

Strategy 3.1.1

Develop and refine resiliency policies and tools to create a common planning approach across jurisdictions while staying sensitive to community context.

Strategy 3.1.2

Enhance strategies for managing future development within the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA). Explore policy changes to increase resiliency of existing development and communities already within the CHHA.

Strategy 3.1.3

Pursue projects and studies that ensure communities are sustainable, livable, and healthy.



Goal 3.2

Enhance connections between natural and built infrastructure and diverse community needs

Strategy 3.2.1

Evaluate fiscal, economic, industrial, and infrastructure policies in the Comprehensive Plans to address changing conditions and ongoing growth.

Strategy 3.2.2

Ensure waterfront development is sensitive to natural resources and addresses public access.

Strategy 3.2.3

Evaluate environmental and preservation policies to ensure they retain valuable ecological assets while also creating connections between the natural and built environment.

Strategy 3.2.4

Ensure projects, studies, and Comprehensive Plan amendments include the consideration of socio-demographic and environmental factors, as well as historic and emerging neighborhood conditions and trends.





Technology and Operational Enhancements

Goal 4.1

Manage and enhance administrative and financial processes, agency systems, data, and technologies to meet community needs

Strategy 4.1.1

Proactively align resources and empower a robust staff to support local planning needs.

Strategy 4.1.2

Streamline processes by refining staff best practices and records management while integrating comprehensive succession planning.

Strategy 4.1.3

Leverage emerging technologies for internal process enhancements and public-facing and internal applications, data, and documents to strengthen connections to the broader community.



Plan Hillsborough Team



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Contact Us

Join the Plan Hillsborough mailing list

Join a mailing list by visiting planhillsborough.org/be-involved or contacting us through the contact information below. You can receive all correspondence or tailor what you receive based on your interests.

Contact staff

We can help you or your organization better understand the planning process and the concepts in the Strategic Plan.

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Hillsborough TPO
Vision Zero Hillsborough

 Plan Hillsborough
(Hillsborough County City-
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