The Florida Senate COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION Senator Collins, Chair Senator Avila, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 11, 2025

TIME: 4:00—6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Collins, Chair; Senator Avila, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Davis, Jones, Martin, McClain,

Truenow, and Wright

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Presentation by the Department of Transport	ation on Rural Arterial Roadways	Presented
	Discussion on Metropolitan Planning Organiz	Discussed	
	Presentation by the Department of Transport	Presented	
	Other Related Meeting Documents		



67 Counties – One State Highway System

23,000,000+

RESIDENTS

18,000,000+

LICENSED DRIVERS

300,000,000+

MILES TRAVELED DAILY

800-1,200

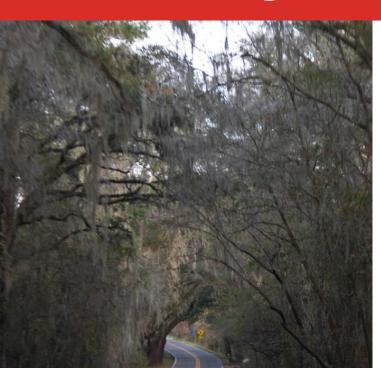
NEW RESIDENTS DAILY



Locally-Driven Projects



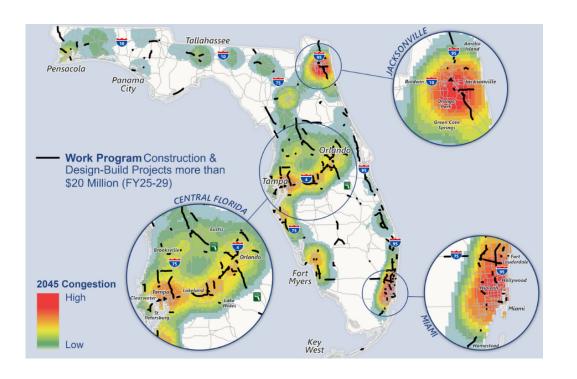
Arterial Highway Program

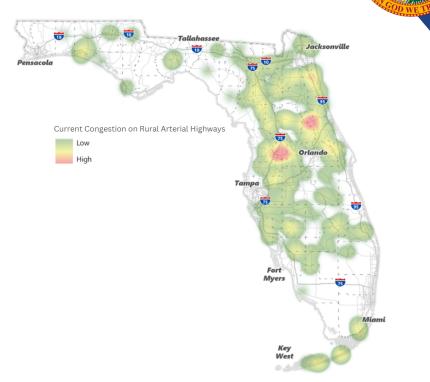




- Relieve congestion on Florida's roadways,
- Connect Florida's rural communities and more densely populated areas,
- Enhance economic competitiveness and support the supply chain; and
- Increase number of evacuation routes.

Every Roadway Matters

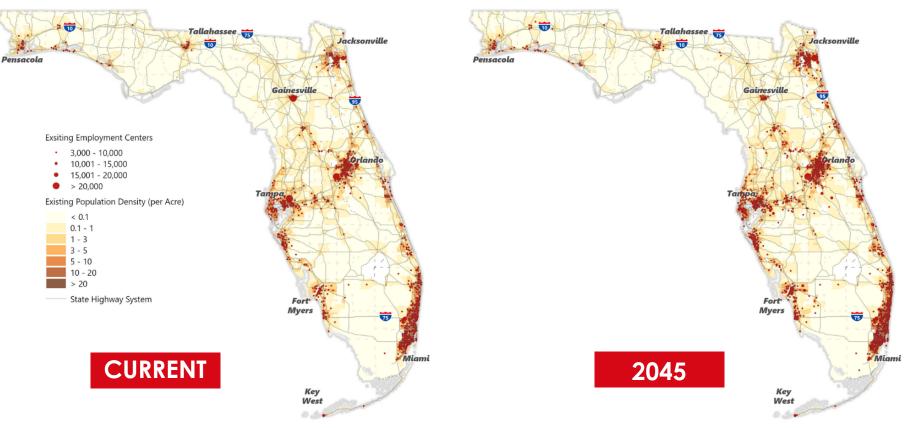




ARTERIAL ROADS ARE JUST AS IMPACTFUL TO OUR ROAD NETWORK AS INTERSTATES

Commuter Growth Patterns





Planning for the Future

Must strategically fund projects with available revenue

FULLY FUNDED

Total Projects: 8

Programmed Amount: \$643,992,417

PARTIALLY FUNDED

Total Projects: 49

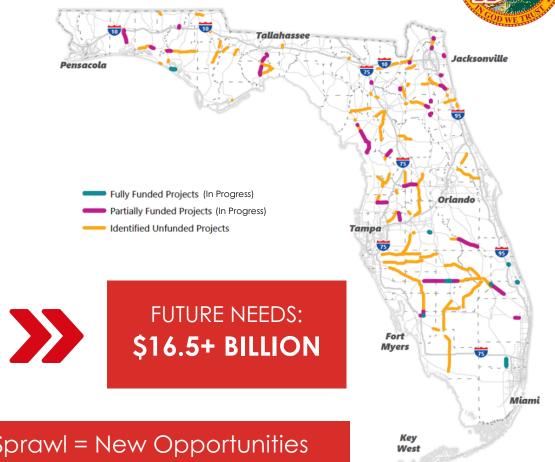
Programmed Amount: \$502,456,678 **Unfunded Amount:** \$4,711,317,510

OPPORTUNITY PROJECTS

Total Projects: 149

Programmed Amount: \$0

Unfunded Amount: \$11,871,654,418



Florida is Growing: More Drivers, Urban Sprawl = New Opportunities

Questions?



Jack Rogers

Legislative Affairs Director Jack.Rogers@dot.state.fl.us (850) 414-4147





2/11	/2024		ine Florida Sena		
Meeting Date Transportation		Del	ARANCE R iver both copies of this f fessional staff conductin	Rural Arterial Roadway Funding Bill Number or Topic	
Name	Committee Will Watts		onor stan conductify		Amendment Barcode (if applicable) -414-4147
Address	605 Suwannee S	St.			.rogers@dot.state.fl.us
	Tallahassee	Florida State	32399 Zip	-	
	Speaking: For	Against 🔽 Informatio	on OR wa	nive Speaking:	In Support Against
l am a	appearing without pensation or sponsorship.	I am a re represe	egistered lobbyist, nting: ent of Transpo		I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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Tampa Bay Regional MPO – Progress and Next Steps

Whit Blanton, FAICP Forward Pinellas

January 17, 2025



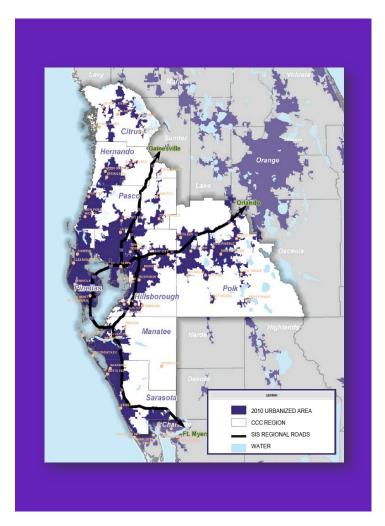
What is a MPO or TPO?

- Metropolitan Planning Organizations created by Congress to fulfill transportation planning responsibilities and receive funds to address transportation needs in urban areas over 50,000 people
- Continuing, comprehensive & cooperative planning process
 - Establish priorities for state and federal funding
 - Engage the public in decision-making
 - Additional responsibilities and authority for MPOs in Transportation Management Areas
- Tampa Bay's county-based MPOs created in the 1970s
- Federal requirements and state statutes govern MPOs in Florida



Some Context

- Most federal transportation funding allocated to the urban area; FDOT then distributes funds based on county population
- Major sources of transportation funding are competitive
- After the 1990 Census, the Florida Governor formally requested the Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas MPOs merge as a single MPO serving the Tampa-St. Petersburg Urban Area
- SCTPA (and TMA Leadership Group) created to guide regional planning and collaboration among the MPOs



Why Merge the MPOs?



Potential to significantly improve the region's transportation network



Strengthen relationships among elected officials, staff, and partners across the region



Tackle regional issues more effectively



Impetus from the Florida Legislature (HB 425 in 2023)

Important Considerations

- Concerns over structural deficiencies and communities losing influence
- No guarantee of more funding or resolving needs for transportation operations and maintenance
- Potential to shift emphasis to regional projects instead of community safety, access and mobility needs
- Could weaken countywide planning and linkage with land use
- How would a regional agency conduct public participation and engagement?

What Have We Accomplished?

- Adopted MOU to explore a potential merger
- Submitted a Feasibility Report in December 2023 to the governor and legislature
- Reached consensus on a regional governing board consisting of 25 governing board members
 - -23 seats to be apportioned by population
 - Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (TPA) and Tampa Port Authority have voting representation by executive staff
 - Transportation operators serve as nonvoting advisors
 - Small city representation to be determined by each county
- Approved scope of services for management and legal consultation

MOU Principles

- Build collaboration and create a forum for leveraging the strength of the region to achieve better regional outcomes
- Respect the differences in characteristics, conditions and needs among the three counties and urban centers
- Determine a process that enables local voices to shape decision-making
- Establish a stable funding mechanism to support planning activities that leverage state and federal funding



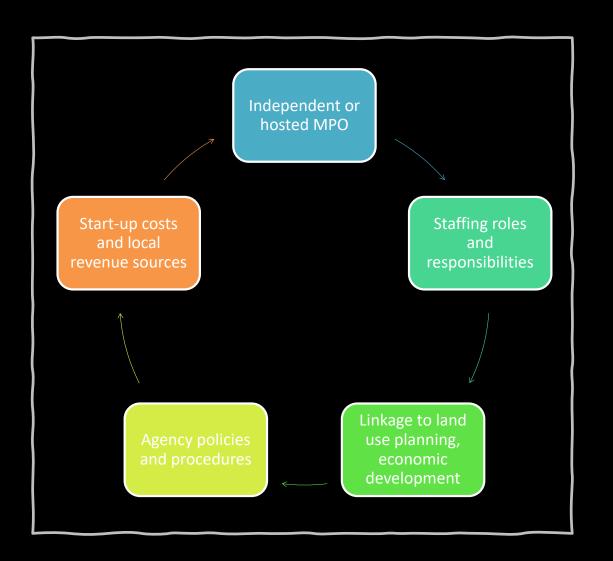
Management and Legal Scope of Services

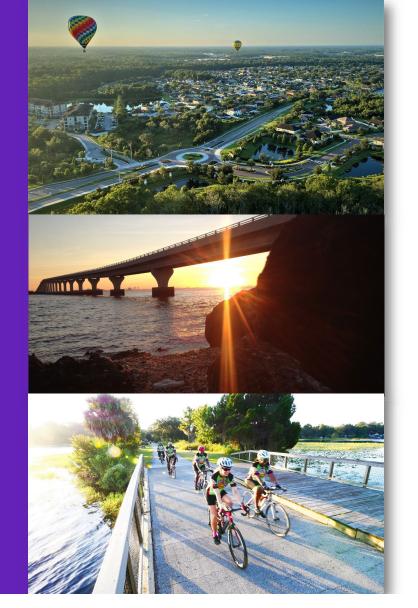
- Affirm the apportionment plan
- Evaluate the organizational structures in place
- Identify options and build consensus on a preferred agency structure
- Develop policies and procedures
- Obtain consensus among the general-purpose local governments representing at least 75% of the population of the urbanized area, and the central city(ies)

Regional MPO Procurement Hillsborough TPO finalizes procurement package, including the draft contract, and goes through internal review process for quality ontrol. This may take 1-2 months Procurement information will be publicly noticed and shared with potential firms. There will be a noticed question & answer period. Approximately 5-6 weeks following the release, proposals are due per the public noticed information which will contain the exact date. TPO staff will review for completion and share with reviewers. proposals, conduct interviews and nake a selection recommendation TMA Update MPO staff will update the TMA Leadership Group on the recommendation and next steps. This is anticipated to be at the May TMA meeting or a special meeting held in selection, initiating negotiations, and will ensure all documentation is in The Hillshorough TPO will penotiate to execute an agreement. This would begin immediately following the selection and last approximately 1-2 Following the Hillsborough TPO Board's execution of the agreement with the consultant, a Notice to Proceed will be issued and kickoff

scheduled. This is likely to occur in late summer or fall of 2025

Questions to Address





Next Steps

- Develop FAQ on the merger
- Procure management & legal support
- Use federal Prioritization Process Pilot Program Grant award to explore ways to align each MPO's methods of setting transportation priorities
- Engage with the City of Tampa and Tampa Bay Partnership on the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) project
- Keep the Legislative Delegation apprised
- Continue meeting with local governments and other partners to address questions

SunCoastTPA.org @SunCoastTPA

















Metropolitan Planning Organizations



Federally-mandated



Florida's first MPOs were established in 1973 in compliance with federal laws



Today, Florida has 27 MPOs responsible for transportation planning within their boundaries



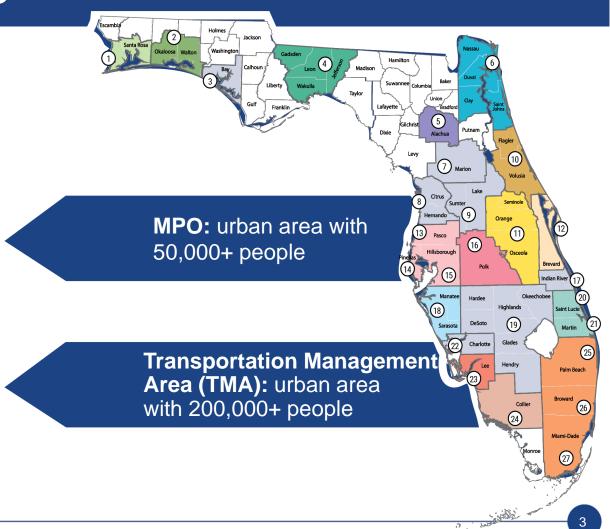
Rural communities utilize County Commissioners



Florida's 27 MPOs

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)	Transportation Management Area* (TMA)		
1. Florida-Alabama TPO	Pensacola, FL-AL		
2. Okaloosa-Walton TPO	Navarre-Miramar Beach-Destin**		
3. Bay County TPO	non-TMA MPO		
4. Capital Region TPA	Tallahassee		
5. Gainesville MTPO	Gainesville		
6. North Florida TPO	Jacksonville		
7. Ocala/Marion TPO	non-TMA MPO		
8. Hernando/Citrus MPO	non-TMA MPO		
9. Lake-Sumter MPO	non-TMA MPO		
10. River to Sea TPO***	Daytona Beach-Palm Coast-Port Orange		
10. Niver to Sea 1PO	Deltona		
11. MetroPlan Orlando***	Orlando		
11. Well or fall of fall to	Kissimmee-St. Cloud		
12.Space Coast TPO	Palm Bay-Melbourne		
13. Pasco County MPO			
14. Forward Pinellas	Tampa-St. Petersburg**		
15. Hillsborough TPO			

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)	Transportation Management Area* (TMA)		
16. Polk TPO***	Lakeland		
16. POIK IPU^^^	Winter Haven		
17.Indian River County MPO	non-TMA MPO		
18. Sarasota/Manatee MPO	Bradenton-Sarasota-Venice**		
19. Heartland Regional TPO	non-TMA MPO		
20.St. Lucie TPO	Port St. Lucie**		
21.Martin MPO			
22. Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO	non-TMA MPO		
23.Lee County MPO	Cape Coral		
24. Collier MPO	Bonita Springs-Estero**		
25. Palm Beach TPA			
26. Broward MPO	Miami-Ft. Lauderdale**		
27. Miami-Dade TPO			

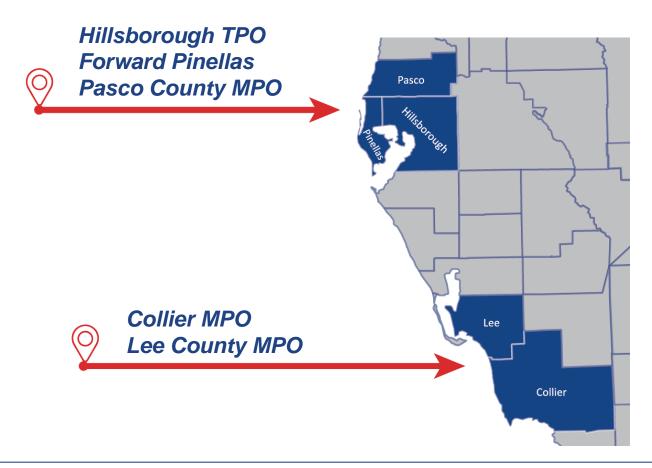




Defining Stakeholders

Consolidation Efforts

Regional Connectivity Reduces Congestion





Federal Regulations

Outline the requirements for MPOs, including their creation, operation, and responsibilities

- ✓ Federal funds are made available to MPOs for carrying out specific transportation planning activities (e.g., TIP and LRTP)
- MPOs must develop a UPWP that outlines its planning work and funding necessary to carry out these tasks
- MPOs must follow the 3-C planning process and ensure that transportation planning is consistent with federal, state, and local goals
- MPOs must integrate goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets from other state and public transportation provider plans and processes into their planning and programming activities





Florida Laws

FS 339.175 – Metropolitan Planning Organization:

Codifies MPOs in Florida law and outlines their responsibilities and requirements, including:

- Composition of MPO voting membership
- Designation of governing board and staff roles
- Preparation of a congestion management system
- Establishment of Interlocal agreements

- Creation and appointment of advisory committees
- Development of apportionment plans
- Florida-specific requirements for the LRTP and TIP



Why Do MPOs Exist?



Federal mandate



Data-driven decision making



Community involvement



Short- and long-range planning



Identify and <u>prioritize</u> transportation improvements for each five-year cycle to align with FDOT's Five-Year Work Program



Coordinate regionally with MPOs in contiguous urban areas



7



Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs)

- Serves as the foundation of a metropolitan area's vision for transportation over a 20+ year timeframe
- Reflects the MPO's project priorities for various modes
- Requires extensive public engagement, adhering to federal and state requirements
- Must align with the State's LRTP (Florida Transportation Plan)
- Updated every 5 years
- Currently in update cycle for 2050 LRTPs





MPOAC

FS 339.175 - Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council

MPOAC roles and responsibilities:

- Works with MPOs and FDOT to ensure alignment between MPO LRTPs and the State's FTP
- Provides coordination platform for MPOs
- Offers policy guidance
- Supplies technical assistance, resources, and training
- Facilitates best practices among MPOs
- Monitors and analyzes legislative proposal that may impact MPOs

MPOAC meets quarterly



THANK YOU

Jack Rogers

Legislative Affairs Director Jack.Rogers@dot.state.fl.us (850) 414-4147

APPEARANCE RECORD

MPO	Discussion
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2/11/25	APPEARANCE RECORI	MPO Discussion
Wass 10 tetros	Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting	Bill Number or Topic
Name White Black		Amendment Barcode (if applicable)
Address 310 Court St.	Email	whatene forward pivelks, org
Clearwater PC State	33756 Zip	
Speaking: For Against	Information OR Waive Speaki	ng:
7	PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWIN	G:
I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.	I am a registered lobbyist, representing:	I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:
1		

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules pdf (fisenate gov)

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APPEARANCE RECORD

Bill Number or Topic

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Mond	Committee					An	nendment Barcode (if appl	icable)
Name I	coia	German			Phone	27-871-	1358	
Address Street	8731	CHYZEN	s Dr	we	Email+4	umoale	pascocour	ryft.ne
City	Ner	Suite &	ley Pe	746°	54			
Sp	oeaking:	For Against	Information	OR	Waive Speaking	: 🗌 In Suppo	ort 🗌 Against	
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I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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	11 February Meeting Date Transporta	and the second s	ooth copies of t		M POs Bill Number or Topic
	Committee		mai stari condu	ecting the meeting Phone	Amendment Barcode (if applicable) 813 · 313 - 9835
Name Address	boi E	Kennedy Blad, 18+	-1 F1	Phone Email	*1 4
	Street +cmpa	FL	33607	2	
	Speaking: For	State Against Information	OR	Waive Speaking	g: 🗌 In Support 🔲 Against
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1 2 4 2	n appearing without npensation or sponsorship.	I am a regi representi	istered lobbyist ing:	t,	I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD Bill Number or Topic Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting Amendment Barcode (if applicable) OR In Support Waive Speaking: Information Against Speaking: PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: I am not a lobbyist, but received I am a registered lobbyist, I am appearing without something of value for my appearance representing: compensation or sponsorship. (travel, meals, lodging, etc.),

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules pad (fisenate gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

sponsored by:

APPEARANCE RECORD

Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Meeting Date Transportation			Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting		Bill Number or Topic
Tranc	Committee Kim Holland		J	8	Amendment Barcode (if applicable) 50-414-4147
Name				Phone	
Address		e St.		Email Ja	ck.rogers@dot.state.fl.us
	Tallahassee	Florida	32399		
	City	State	Zip		
	Speaking: For	Against Information	n OR Wa	ive Speakin	g:
		PLEASE CHEC	CK ONE OF THE F	OLLOWING	i:
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2/11/2024



Fortified Infrastructure Investments: It's What We Do.

Florida Senate

Senate Committee on Transportation

Will N. Watts, Jr., P.E., FDOT Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Operations February 11, 2025



FLORIDA: A Coastal Peninsula

Throughout history, Florida has withstood hurricanes and severe weather. Fortunately, we plan for that:

- · Build to withstand winds and water.
- Preserve materials against saltwater.
- · Practical investments.





Wind and Water

Ensuring Florida's infrastructure sustains for 75 -100 years is a fiscally -responsible approach.

Key Focus Areas:



STRUCTURAL DESIGNS

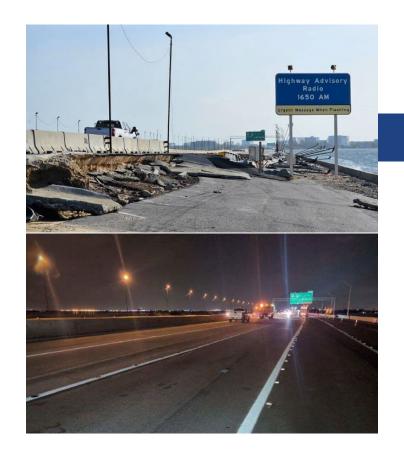


STORM READINESS



DRAINAGE: FLOOD MITIGATION





STRUCTURAL DESIGN

Goal: Mitigate Impacts of Storm Surge

CHALLENGE:

High storm surge from hurricanes can cause disruptions on bridge structures during evacuations and recovery efforts.

SOLUTION:

Design structure to withstand wind and water.

PROJECT SUCCESS EXAMPLEOWARD FRANKLAND BRIDGE

 New bridge structure over 10 feet taller than original 1960 bridge structure.



STORM READINESS

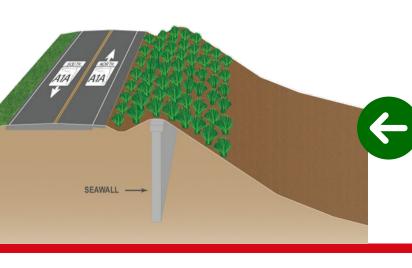
Goal: Combat Coastline Erosion

CHALLENGE:

Extreme wind and storm surge conditions from hurricanes can erode coastlines and damage nearby roadways.

SOLUTION:

Armor roadways with engineering features to strengthen and protect from these impacts.

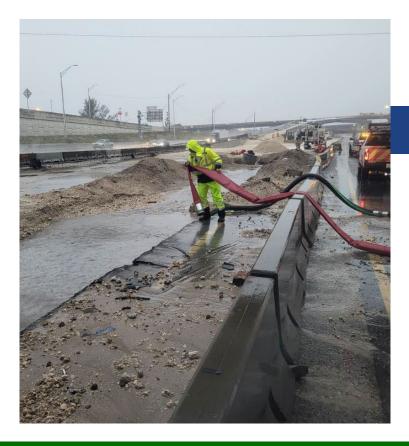






PROJECT SUCCESS EXAMPLER. A1A BURIED SEAWALL

- Dune washed away, but buried secant -pile bulkhead/seawall prevailed.
- Protects roadway from storm -related wave action and erosion.



DRAINAGE: FLOOD MITIGATION

Goal: Enhance Drainage Systems

CHALLENGE:

Localized flooding events are common in Florida due to natural elevation, routine heavy rainfall events, and storm surge.

SOLUTION:

Evaluate and engineer our stormwater/drainage systems to allow for uncertain precipitation conditions and storm events to prevent damage to facilities.

PROJECT SUCCESS EXAMPLES. 98 REHABILITATION



- Replacement of drainage systems & regrading of ditches.
- Use of articulated block mattress to armor shoreline.



FORTIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE

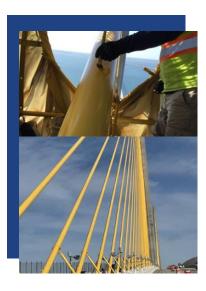
FDOT facilities are built to withstand wind and water – even hard freezes.



TRAFFIC SIGNALS



HIGH MAST LIGHTING



MATERIALS



PAVEMENT MARKINGS

PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthening the future of Florida's transportation system requires inter -agency coordination & partnerships at all levels.

Interagency
Mitigation
Working
Groups



Design & Construction



THANK YOU





The Florida Senate

FDOT Resiliency Planning

2/11/2024 APPEARANCE RECORD Bill Number or Topic Meeting Date Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting Transportation Amendment Barcode (if applicable) Committee 850-414-4147 Will Watts Name jack.rogers@dot.state.fl.us 605 Suwannee St. Street Florida 32399 Tallahassee Zip State City OR Waive Speaking: In Support For Against | Information PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: I am not a lobbyist, but received I am a registered lobbyist, I am appearing without something of value for my appearance representing: compensation or sponsorship. (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), Department of Transportation sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

THE FLORIDA SENATE



Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Rules, Vice Chair
Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education
Community Affairs
Education Postsecondary
Finance and Tax
Fiscal Policy
Transportation

SENATOR SHEVRIN D. "SHEV" JONES

34th District

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Senator Jay Collins

Chairman, Transportation Committee 313 Senate Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chairman Collins,

I respectfully request an excused absence from the Tuesday, February 11, 2025, Transportation Committee at 4:00 p.m. due to a work conflict.

Thank you in advance for considering this request. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Sincerely,

Shevrin D. "Shev" Jones

Florida State Senator – Senate District 34

REPLY TO:

☐ 606 NW 183rd Street, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169 (305) 493-6022

□ 214 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5034

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 37 Case No.: Type: **Caption:** Senate Committee on Transportation Judge: 2/11/2025 4:00:08 PM Started: Ends: 2/11/2025 5:28:28 PM Length: 01:28:21 **4:00:07 PM** Chair Collins calls the meeting to order 4:00:10 PM Roll call 4:00:14 PM Quorum announced 4:00:25 PM Chair Collins with comments, Sen. Jones is excused 4:00:56 PM Pledge of Allegiance **4:01:07 PM** Chair Collins with comments 4:01:23 PM Tab 1, Presentation by the Department of Transportation on Rural Arterial Roadways by Will Watts 4:09:15 PM Chair Collins with comments **4:09:31 PM** Tab 3, Presentation by the Department of Transportation on Resiliency Planning by Will Watts 4:20:58 PM Chair Collins with comments 4:22:29 PM Comment 4:22:31 PM Senator Wright **4:23:01 PM** Questions 4:23:06 PM Senator Davis 4:23:16 PM Mr. Watts 4:24:28 PM Senator McClain 4:24:48 PM Mr. Watts 4:26:17 PM Chair Collins 4:26:21 PM Mr. Watts 4:27:30 PM Chair Collins 4:27:37 PM Mr. Watts 4:28:13 PM Chair Collins 4:28:17 PM Mr. Watts 4:29:04 PM Chair Collins with comments 4:29:13 PM Tab 2, Discussion on Metropolitan Planning Organizations 4:30:00 PM Brief overview of the role and function of MPOs by Assistant Secretary Kim Holland 4:38:33 PM Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando 4:48:21 PM Johnny Wong, Hillsborough TPO 4:50:31 PM Whit Blanton, Forward Pinellas MPO 4:55:35 PM Tania Gorman, Pasco County MPO 4:58:53 PM Chair Collins with comments 4:59:46 PM Comment 4:59:49 PM Senator McClain 5:02:07 PM Senator Arrington **5:02:51 PM** Questions 5:03:06 PM Senator Davis 5:03:16 PM Assistant Secretary Holland

5:04:23 PM Mr. Huttman **5:05:26 PM** Dr. Wong **5:07:18 PM** Mr. Blanton

- **5:08:46 PM** Ms. Gorman
- 5:09:30 PM Senator Avila
- 5:10:17 PM Assistant Secretary Holland
- 5:12:46 PM Chair Collins
- **5:13:12 PM** Mr. Blanton
- 5:16:18 PM Dr. Wong
- 5:17:30 PM Ms. Gorman
- 5:18:58 PM Mr. Huttman
- 5:19:44 PM Chair Collins with comments
- 5:20:04 PM Question
- 5:20:07 PM Chair Collins
- **5:20:24 PM** Mr. Huttman
- **5:21:20 PM** Dr. Wong
- **5:22:21 PM** Mr. Blanton
- **5:23:10 PM** Ms. Gorman
- **5:23:47 PM** Mr. Blanton
- 5:24:27 PM Assistant Secretary Holland
- 5:24:40 PM Chair Collins with comments
- 5:26:24 PM Question
- 5:26:27 PM Chair Collins
- **5:26:32 PM** Mr. Blanton
- 5:27:13 PM Chair Collins
- 5:28:02 PM Senator Davis moves to adjourn
- 5:28:16 PM Meeting adjourned