



**THE FLORIDA SENATE**  
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**TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM, AND**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Senator DiCeglie's Comprehensive Transportation Bill Passes Florida House Unanimously***

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – On Tuesday, the Florida House of Representatives unanimously passed **Senate Bill 462**, comprehensive transportation legislation sponsored by **Senator Nick DiCeglie (R-Indian Rocks Beach)**. The bill was championed in the Florida House by **Representative Fiona McFarland (R-Sarasota)** and will soon head to Governor Ron DeSantis for final approval.

“This legislation is about delivering real, tangible improvements to the lives of Floridians,” said **Senator DiCeglie**. “From protecting neighborhoods during storms to modernizing our infrastructure and investing in workforce development, SB 462 brings common-sense reform and innovation to our transportation systems.”

A top priority for Senator DiCeglie, the bill includes the “**No Vehicle Wake Flood Zone**” provision—designed in direct response to community concerns in Pinellas County and other flood-prone areas. The provision prohibits drivers from speeding through flooded streets and creating damaging wake, which has long been a source of property loss and community frustration following hurricanes and major storms.

“I heard from countless residents after Hurricane Helene—many whose homes were already under water—suffering even more damage because vehicles plowed through their streets and created dangerous wakes,” said DiCeglie. “This is a common-sense fix that will help protect our families and property during extreme weather events.”

**Representative Fiona McFarland**, who led the bill’s passage in the House, emphasized the legislation’s broader impact:

“Florida is paving the way for smarter, faster, and safer transportation, driving economic growth and innovation from our highways to our airports.”

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Page 2

Beyond addressing flooding concerns, **Senate Bill 462** delivers major updates to Florida's transportation infrastructure and planning systems, including:

- Launching a **Next-Generation Traffic Signal Modernization Program** with a \$10 million annual investment to upgrade signal technology statewide.
- Reforming **Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)** to improve transparency, accountability, and the integration of emerging technologies.
- Allowing the **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** to award **workforce development grants** to colleges and school districts for training in heavy civil construction.
- Increasing flexibility for Florida airports by enabling participation in the **FAA's Airport Investment Partnership Program**.
- Establishing a **pilot program at Sarasota-Manatee Airport** to test alternative permitting models for future expansion and development.
- Strengthening **school bus safety enforcement**, including new procedures for handling infractions.
- Authorizing the **Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles** to issue **expectant mother parking permits**, improving access for pregnant drivers.

The bill also streamlines state transportation contracting processes, boosts insurance requirements for bridge projects over navigable waters, and improves oversight of local transportation surtax spending.

"This legislation reflects the input of residents, community leaders, and transportation professionals across Florida," added DiCeglie. "It's the product of listening, collaboration, and a commitment to safer, smarter infrastructure for the future."

**Senate Bill 462** represents one of the most comprehensive transportation packages to pass the Florida Legislature in recent years and is expected to be signed into law in the coming days.

For more information, please visit [www.FLSenate.gov](http://www.FLSenate.gov).

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