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1  
2 An act relating to transportation; amending s. 161.58,  
3 F.S.; revising an exception to a prohibition on  
4 vehicular traffic on coastal beaches; creating s.  
5 218.3215, F.S.; requiring counties to report certain  
6 information to the Office of Economic and Demographic  
7 Research annually by a specified date; requiring  
8 counties to report the information in the format  
9 specified by the office; requiring the office to  
10 provide a certain report to the Legislature and the  
11 Department of Transportation; amending s. 316.003,  
12 F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "dynamic  
13 driving task," "micromobility device," and "vehicle";  
14 amending s. 316.173, F.S.; authorizing a person to  
15 request an administrative hearing with a school  
16 district or county within a specified timeframe after  
17 receiving a notice of violation; specifying that the  
18 mailing of the notice of violation constitutes  
19 notification; deleting a provision requiring a court  
20 with jurisdiction over traffic violations to determine  
21 whether a specified violation has occurred;  
22 authorizing school districts and counties to appoint  
23 local hearing officers to conduct certain  
24 administrative hearings; providing eligibility  
25 requirements for such officers; providing duties of  
26 such officers; providing for penalties and costs;  
27 providing procedures for an administrative hearing;  
28 providing a specified date by which certain  
29 administrative hearings may be conducted; amending s.

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30 316.20655, F.S.; authorizing a local government to  
31 adopt certain ordinances and provide certain training  
32 relating to the safe operation of electric bicycles;  
33 amending s. 316.2128, F.S.; authorizing a local  
34 government to adopt certain ordinances and provide  
35 certain training relating to the safe operation of  
36 motorized scooters and micromobility devices; amending  
37 s. 316.650, F.S.; revising the entity required to  
38 provide citation data in the case of a traffic  
39 enforcement agency that has an automated citation  
40 issuance system; creating s. 316.88, F.S.; prohibiting  
41 excessive wakes under certain circumstances; amending  
42 s. 318.18, F.S.; providing minimum civil penalties for  
43 a specified violation enforced by a school bus  
44 infraction detection system; requiring such penalties  
45 to be remitted to the school district at least monthly  
46 and used for specified purposes; requiring specified  
47 administrative costs to be imposed for specified  
48 violations; requiring that such costs be used by a  
49 school district or county, as applicable, for  
50 specified purposes; requiring that certain costs be  
51 remitted to the county at least monthly; conforming a  
52 cross-reference; amending s. 318.21, F.S.; requiring  
53 that specified penalties be distributed in a specified  
54 manner; conforming a cross-reference; creating s.  
55 320.0849, F.S.; requiring the department to issue  
56 expectant mother parking permits upon application;  
57 specifying the validity period thereof; providing  
58 design requirements for expectant mother parking

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59 permit placards or decals; providing application  
60 requirements; authorizing such permitholders to park  
61 in certain spaces; creating s. 330.355, F.S.;

62 prohibiting publicly owned airports from charging a  
63 landing fee established on or after a specified date  
64 for certain aircraft operations; amending s. 332.004,  
65 F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 332.006, F.S.;

66 revising duties and responsibilities of the department  
67 relating to airports; amending s. 332.007, F.S.;

68 revising provisions relating to the administration and  
69 financing of certain aviation and airport programs and  
70 projects; authorizing certain airports to participate  
71 in a specified federal program in a certain manner;

72 authorizing the department to provide for improvements  
73 to certain entities for the capital cost of a  
74 discretionary improvement project at a public-use  
75 airport, subject to the availability of certain funds;

76 creating s. 332.136, F.S.; establishing an airport  
77 pilot program at the Sarasota Manatee Airport  
78 Authority; providing the purpose of the pilot program;

79 requiring the department to adopt rules; requiring the  
80 department, by a specified date, to submit certain  
81 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature;

82 providing for the future repeal of specified  
83 provisions; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the  
84 department to acquire property or property rights in  
85 advance to preserve a corridor for future proposed  
86 improvements; authorizing the department to expend  
87 from the State Transportation Trust Fund a certain

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88 amount of grant funds annually to state colleges and  
89 school districts for certain construction workforce  
90 development programs; requiring that priority be given  
91 to certain colleges and school districts; amending s.  
92 334.065, F.S.; deleting a provision specifying that  
93 the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research  
94 shall be administered by the Board of Governors of the  
95 State University System; deleting a provision  
96 prohibiting the undertaking of certain projects  
97 without the approval of the Center for Urban  
98 Transportation Research advisory board; revising  
99 membership of such advisory board; creating s. 334.63,  
100 F.S.; providing requirements for certain project  
101 concept studies and project development and  
102 environment studies; amending s. 337.11, F.S.;  
103 revising the bidding and award process for contracts  
104 for road construction and maintenance projects;  
105 revising the circumstances in which the department  
106 must competitively award a phased design-build  
107 contract for phase one; requiring the department to  
108 select a single design-build firm to perform the work  
109 associated with phase two under certain circumstances;  
110 authorizing a design-build firm to self-perform  
111 portions of work under a contract; requiring that  
112 contracts let by the department on or after a certain  
113 date for bridge construction or maintenance over  
114 navigable waters include protection and indemnity  
115 coverage; amending s. 337.14, F.S.; authorizing the  
116 department to waive contractor certification

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117 requirements for certain projects; revising the  
118 threshold value of contracts for which the department  
119 may waive a contract bond requirement; requiring that  
120 a contractor seeking to bid on certain maintenance  
121 contracts possess certain qualifications; amending s.  
122 337.185, F.S.; increasing the limits of claims per  
123 contract which a contractor may submit to the State  
124 Arbitration Board; revising the period in which an  
125 arbitration request may be made for a claim related to  
126 a warranty notice; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; revising  
127 legislative intent; revising requirements for the  
128 designation of additional metropolitan planning  
129 organizations (M.P.O.'s); revising projects and  
130 strategies to be considered in developing an M.P.O.'s  
131 long-range transportation plan and transportation  
132 improvement program; deleting obsolete provisions;  
133 requiring the department to convene M.P.O.'s of  
134 similar size to exchange best practices at least  
135 annually; authorizing M.P.O.'s to develop committees  
136 or working groups; requiring training for new M.P.O.  
137 governing board members to be provided by the  
138 department or another specified entity; deleting  
139 provisions relating to M.P.O. coordination mechanisms;  
140 including public-private partnerships in authorized  
141 financing techniques; revising proposed transportation  
142 enhancement activities that must be indicated by the  
143 long-range transportation plan; authorizing each  
144 M.P.O. to execute a written agreement with the  
145 department regarding state and federal transportation

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146 planning requirements; requiring the department, in  
147 collaboration with M.P.O.'s, to establish certain  
148 quality performance metrics and develop certain  
149 performance targets; requiring the department to  
150 evaluate and post on its website whether each M.P.O.  
151 has made significant progress toward such targets;  
152 amending s. 339.65, F.S.; requiring the department to  
153 prioritize certain Strategic Intermodal System highway  
154 corridor projects; creating s. 339.85, F.S.; requiring  
155 the department to implement a Next-generation Traffic  
156 Signal Modernization Program; providing program  
157 requirements; amending s. 348.0304, F.S.; revising  
158 membership of the governing body of the Greater Miami  
159 Expressway Agency; reenacting s. 332.115(1), F.S.,  
160 relating to joint project agreements with port  
161 districts for transportation corridors between  
162 airports and port facilities, to incorporate the  
163 amendment made to s. 332.004, F.S., in a reference  
164 thereto; providing a legislative finding; requiring  
165 the department to develop a report on widening  
166 Interstate 4; providing requirements for the report;  
167 requiring the department to submit the report to the  
168 Governor and the Legislature by a specified date;  
169 providing effective dates.

170  
171 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

172  
173 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 161.58, Florida  
174 Statutes, is amended to read:

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175 161.58 Vehicular traffic on coastal beaches.—

176 (2) Vehicular traffic, except that which is necessary for  
177 cleanup, repair, or public safety; for removal of rental  
178 equipment using off-highway vehicles as defined in s. 317.0003,  
179 as authorized by the governing body having jurisdiction of the  
180 coastal property through formal agreement;<sup>7</sup> or for the purpose  
181 of maintaining existing licensed and permitted traditional  
182 commercial fishing activities or existing authorized public  
183 accessways, is prohibited on coastal beaches except where a  
184 local government with jurisdiction over a coastal beach or  
185 portions of a coastal beach has:

186 (a) Authorized such traffic, by at least a three-fifths  
187 vote of its governing body, on all or portions of the beaches  
188 under its jurisdiction prior to the effective date of this act;  
189 and

190 (b) Determined, by October 1, 1989, in accordance with the  
191 rules of the department, that less than 50 percent of the peak  
192 user demand for off-beach parking is available. However, the  
193 requirements and department rulemaking authority provided in  
194 this paragraph shall not apply to counties that have adopted,  
195 prior to January 1, 1988, unified countywide beach regulations  
196 pursuant to a county home rule charter.

197 Section 2. Section 218.3215, Florida Statutes, is created  
198 to read:

199 218.3215 County transportation project data.—

200 (1) Each county shall, annually by January 15, report to  
201 the Office of Economic and Demographic Research all of the  
202 following information, by county fiscal year, for surtax  
203 revenues received pursuant to s. 212.055(1):

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204 (a) Total proceeds from the surtax received by the county.

205 (b) The amount allocated by the county for road and bridge  
206 projects. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research, in  
207 consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall define  
208 broad categories, including, but not limited to, widening,  
209 repair and rehabilitation, sidewalks, or payment or pledge of  
210 bonds for the construction of roads or bridges, for reporting  
211 this information. This information must be reported as a total  
212 by category and by revenue source by category.

213 (c) The total expenditure on road and bridge projects by  
214 category.

215 (d) The unexpended balances of funds allocated to road and  
216 bridge projects by category.

217 (e) A list of current road and bridge projects, including  
218 the project cost, location, and scope.

219 (f) The amount allocated by the county to all other  
220 permissible uses of the proceeds from the surtax, excluding road  
221 and bridge projects and the payment or pledge of bonds for the  
222 construction of roads or bridges.

223 (2) Counties shall report the information required by this  
224 section in the format specified by the Office of Economic and  
225 Demographic Research. The Office of Economic and Demographic  
226 Research shall compile the information into a report and provide  
227 the report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
228 House of Representatives, and the Department of Transportation.

229 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and subsections  
230 (41) and (109) of section 316.003, Florida Statutes, are amended  
231 to read:

232 316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when



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233 used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively  
234 ascribed to them in this section, except where the context  
235 otherwise requires:

236 (3) AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEM.—The hardware and software  
237 that are collectively capable of performing the entire dynamic  
238 driving task of an autonomous vehicle on a sustained basis,  
239 regardless of whether it is limited to a specific operational  
240 design domain. The term:

241 (b) "Dynamic driving task" means all of the real-time  
242 operational and tactical functions required to operate a vehicle  
243 in on-road traffic within its specific operational design  
244 domain, if any, excluding strategic functions such as trip  
245 scheduling; provision of event-based information, advice,  
246 instruction, or revised goals; and selection of destinations and  
247 waypoints.

248 (41) MICROMOBILITY DEVICE.—A motorized transportation  
249 device designed for individual use which is typically 20 to 36  
250 inches in width and 50 pounds or less in weight and which  
251 operates at a speed of typically less than 15 miles per hour but  
252 no more than 28 miles per hour. This term includes both a human-  
253 powered and a nonhuman-powered device such as a bicycle,  
254 electric bicycle, motorized scooter, or any other device that is  
255 owned by an individual or part of a shared fleet ~~Any motorized~~  
256 ~~transportation device made available for private use by~~  
257 ~~reservation through an online application, website, or software~~  
258 ~~for point-to-point trips and which is not capable of traveling~~  
259 ~~at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour on level ground. This~~  
260 ~~term includes motorized scooters and bicycles as defined in this~~  
261 ~~chapter.~~

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262 (109) VEHICLE.—Every device in, upon, or by which any  
263 person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a  
264 street or highway, except personal delivery devices, mobile  
265 carriers, and devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or  
266 tracks.

267 Section 4. Effective upon this act becoming a law, present  
268 subsections (6) through (19) of section 316.173, Florida  
269 Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7) through (20),  
270 respectively, a new subsection (6) is added to that section, and  
271 paragraph (c) of subsection (1), subsection (5), and present  
272 subsections (8), (10), (11), and (12) of that section are  
273 amended, to read:

274 316.173 School bus infraction detection systems.—

275 (1)

276 (c) The school district must ensure that each school bus  
277 infraction detection system meets the requirements of subsection  
278 (19) ~~(18)~~.

279 (5) Within 30 days after receiving the information required  
280 in subsection (4), the law enforcement agency or its designee  
281 must, if it is determined that the motor vehicle violated s.  
282 316.172(1)(a) or (b), send a notice of violation to the  
283 registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation  
284 specifying the remedies available under s. 318.14 and that the  
285 violator must pay the penalty under s. 318.18(5), ~~or~~ furnish an  
286 affidavit in accordance with subsection (11), or request an  
287 administrative hearing with the school district or county, as  
288 applicable, subsection ~~(10)~~ within 60 30 days after the notice  
289 of violation is sent in order to avoid court fees, costs, and  
290 the issuance of a uniform traffic citation. The mailing of the

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291 notice of violation constitutes notification. The notice of  
292 violation must be sent by first-class mail and include all of  
293 the following:

294 (a) A copy of one or more recorded images showing the motor  
295 vehicle involved in the violation, including an image showing  
296 the license plate of the motor vehicle.

297 (b) The date, time, and location of the violation.

298 (c) The amount of the civil penalty, the date by which the  
299 civil penalty must be paid, and instructions on how to pay the  
300 civil penalty.

301 (d) Instructions on how to request a hearing to contest  
302 liability or the notice of violation.

303 (e) A notice that the owner has the right to review, in  
304 person or remotely, the video and images recorded by the school  
305 bus infraction detection system which constitute a rebuttable  
306 presumption against the owner of the motor vehicle that the  
307 motor vehicle was used in violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b).

308 (f) The time when, and the place or website at which, the  
309 recorded video and images may be examined and observed.

310 (g) A warning that failure to pay the civil penalty or to  
311 contest liability within 60 ~~30~~ days after the notice is sent  
312 will result in the issuance of a uniform traffic citation. ~~A~~  
313 ~~court that has jurisdiction over traffic violations shall~~  
314 ~~determine whether a violation of this section has occurred. If a~~  
315 ~~court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation~~  
316 ~~occurred, the court must uphold the violation. If the notice of~~  
317 ~~violation is upheld, the court must require the petitioner to~~  
318 ~~pay the penalty previously assessed under s. 318.18(5), and may~~  
319 ~~also require the petitioner to pay costs, not to exceed those~~

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320 ~~established in s. 316.0083(5)(e).~~

321 (6)(a) A local hearing officer appointed by the school  
322 district or county shall administer an administrative hearing  
323 process for a contested notice of violation. The school district  
324 may appoint an attorney who is, and has been for the preceding 5  
325 years, a member in good standing with The Florida Bar to serve  
326 as a local hearing officer. The county in which a school  
327 district has entered into an interlocal agreement with a law  
328 enforcement agency to issue uniform traffic citations may  
329 designate by resolution existing staff to serve as the local  
330 hearing officer. At the administrative hearing, the local  
331 hearing officer shall determine whether a violation of s.  
332 316.172(1)(a) or (b) has occurred. If the local hearing officer  
333 finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation has  
334 occurred, the local hearing officer must uphold the notice of  
335 violation and require the petitioner to pay the penalty  
336 previously assessed under s. 318.18(5). The local hearing  
337 officer shall also require the petitioner to pay costs  
338 consistent with this subsection.

339 (b) Procedures for an administrative hearing conducted  
340 under this subsection are as follows:

341 1. The department shall make available electronically to  
342 the school district or its designee or the county a Request for  
343 Hearing form to assist each district or county with  
344 administering this subsection.

345 2. A person, referred to in this paragraph as the  
346 petitioner, who elects to request a hearing under this  
347 subsection shall be scheduled for a hearing. The hearing may be  
348 conducted either virtually via live video conferencing or in

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349 person.

350 3. Within 120 days after receipt of a timely request for a  
351 hearing, the law enforcement agency or its designee shall  
352 provide a replica of the notice of violation data to the school  
353 district or county by manual or electronic transmission, and  
354 thereafter the school district or its designee or the county  
355 shall mail a notice of hearing, which shall include a hearing  
356 date and may at the discretion of the district or county include  
357 virtual and in-person hearing options, to the petitioner by  
358 first-class mail. Mailing of the notice of hearing constitutes  
359 notification. Upon receipt of the notice of hearing, the  
360 petitioner may reschedule the hearing once by submitting a  
361 written request to the local hearing officer at least 5 calendar  
362 days before the day of the originally scheduled hearing. The  
363 petitioner may cancel his or her hearing by paying the penalty  
364 assessed in the notice of violation.

365 4. All testimony at the hearing shall be under oath. The  
366 local hearing officer shall take testimony from the law  
367 enforcement agency and the petitioner, and may take testimony  
368 from others. The local hearing officer shall review the video  
369 and images recorded by a school bus infraction detection system.  
370 Formal rules of evidence do not apply, but due process shall be  
371 observed and govern the proceedings.

372 5. At the conclusion of the hearing, the local hearing  
373 officer shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence  
374 whether a violation has occurred and shall uphold or dismiss the  
375 violation. The local hearing officer shall issue a final  
376 administrative order including the determination and, if the  
377 notice of violation is upheld, require the petitioner to pay the

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378 civil penalty previously assessed in the notice of violation,  
379 and shall also require the petitioner to pay costs, not to  
380 exceed those established in s. 316.0083(5) (e), to be used by the  
381 county for operational costs relating to the hearing process or  
382 by the school district for technology and operational costs  
383 relating to the hearing process as well as school transportation  
384 safety-related initiatives. The final administrative order shall  
385 be mailed to the petitioner by first-class mail.

386 6. An aggrieved party may appeal a final administrative  
387 order consistent with the process provided in s. 162.11.

388 (c) Any hearing for a contested notice of violation that  
389 has not been conducted before July 1, 2025, may be conducted  
390 pursuant to the procedures in this subsection within 1 year  
391 after such date.

392 (9)~~(8)~~ A uniform traffic citation must be issued by mailing  
393 the uniform traffic citation by certified mail to the address of  
394 the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the  
395 violation if, within 60 days after notification under subsection  
396 (5), payment has not been made, ~~within 30 days after~~  
397 notification under subsection (5) and if the registered owner  
398 has not submitted an affidavit in accordance with subsection  
399 (11), or the registered owner has not requested an  
400 administrative hearing with the school district or county, as  
401 applicable, contesting the notice of violation pursuant to  
402 subsection (6) ~~(10)~~.

403 (a) Delivery of the uniform traffic citation constitutes  
404 notification of a violation under this subsection. If the  
405 registered owner or co-owner of the motor vehicle; the person  
406 identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor

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407 vehicle at the time of the violation; or a duly authorized  
408 representative of the owner, co-owner, or identified person  
409 initiates a proceeding to challenge the citation, such person  
410 waives any challenge or dispute as to the delivery of the  
411 uniform traffic citation.

412 (b) In the case of joint ownership of a motor vehicle, the  
413 uniform traffic citation must be mailed to the first name  
414 appearing on the motor vehicle registration, unless the first  
415 name appearing on the registration is a business organization,  
416 in which case the second name appearing on the registration may  
417 be used.

418 (c) The uniform traffic citation mailed to the registered  
419 owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation must be  
420 accompanied by information described in paragraphs (5)(a)-(f).

421 (11)~~(10)~~ To establish such facts under subsection (10) ~~(9)~~,  
422 the registered owner of the motor vehicle must, within 60 ~~30~~  
423 days after the date of issuance of the notice of violation or  
424 the uniform traffic citation, furnish to the law enforcement  
425 agency that issued the notice of violation or uniform traffic  
426 citation an affidavit setting forth information supporting an  
427 exception under subsection (10) ~~(9)~~.

428 (a) An affidavit supporting the exception under paragraph  
429 (10)(a) ~~(9)(a)~~ must include the name, address, date of birth,  
430 and, if known, the driver license number of the person who  
431 leased, rented, or otherwise had care, custody, or control of  
432 the motor vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. If the  
433 motor vehicle was stolen at the time of the alleged violation,  
434 the affidavit must include the police report indicating that the  
435 motor vehicle was stolen.

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436 (b) If a uniform traffic citation for a violation of s.  
437 316.172(1)(a) or (b) was issued at the location of the violation  
438 by a law enforcement officer, the affidavit must include the  
439 serial number of the uniform traffic citation.

440 (c) If the motor vehicle's owner to whom a notice of  
441 violation or a uniform traffic citation has been issued is  
442 deceased, the affidavit must include a certified copy of the  
443 owner's death certificate showing that the date of death  
444 occurred on or before the date of the alleged violation and one  
445 of the following:

446 1. A bill of sale or other document showing that the  
447 deceased owner's motor vehicle was sold or transferred after his  
448 or her death but on or before the date of the alleged violation.

449 2. Documented proof that the registered license plate  
450 belonging to the deceased owner's motor vehicle was returned to  
451 the department or any branch office or authorized agent of the  
452 department after his or her death but on or before the date of  
453 the alleged violation.

454 3. A copy of the police report showing that the deceased  
455 owner's registered license plate or motor vehicle was stolen  
456 after his or her death but on or before the date of the alleged  
457 violation.

458  
459 Upon receipt of the affidavit and documentation required under  
460 paragraphs (b) and (c), or 60 ~~30~~ days after the date of issuance  
461 of a notice of violation sent to a person identified as having  
462 care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of  
463 the violation under paragraph (a), the law enforcement agency  
464 must dismiss the notice or citation and provide proof of such



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465 dismissal to the person who submitted the affidavit. If, within  
466 60 ~~30~~ days after the date of a notice of violation sent to a  
467 person under subsection (12) ~~(11)~~, the law enforcement agency  
468 receives an affidavit under subsection (13) ~~(12)~~ from the person  
469 who was sent a notice of violation affirming that the person did  
470 not have care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the  
471 time of the violation, the law enforcement agency must notify  
472 the registered owner that the notice or citation will not be  
473 dismissed due to failure to establish that another person had  
474 care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of  
475 the violation.

476 (12) ~~(11)~~ Upon receipt of an affidavit under paragraph  
477 (10) (a) ~~(9) (a)~~, the law enforcement agency may issue the person  
478 identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor  
479 vehicle at the time of the violation a notice of violation  
480 pursuant to subsection (5) for a violation of s. 316.172(1) (a)  
481 or (b). The affidavit is admissible in a proceeding pursuant to  
482 this section for the purpose of providing evidence that the  
483 person identified in the affidavit was in actual care, custody,  
484 or control of the motor vehicle. The owner of a leased motor  
485 vehicle for which a uniform traffic citation is issued for a  
486 violation of s. 316.172(1) (a) or (b) is not responsible for  
487 paying the uniform traffic citation and is not required to  
488 submit an affidavit as specified in subsection (11) ~~(10)~~ if the  
489 motor vehicle involved in the violation is registered in the  
490 name of the lessee of such motor vehicle.

491 (13) ~~(12)~~ If a law enforcement agency receives an affidavit  
492 under paragraph (10) (a) ~~(9) (a)~~, the notice of violation required  
493 under subsection (5) must be sent to the person identified in

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494 the affidavit within 30 days after receipt of the affidavit. The  
495 person identified in an affidavit and sent a notice of violation  
496 may ~~also~~ affirm he or she did not have care, custody, or control  
497 of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation by furnishing  
498 to the appropriate law enforcement agency within 60 ~~30~~ days  
499 after the date of the notice of violation an affidavit stating  
500 such.

501 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 316.20655, Florida  
502 Statutes, is amended, and subsections (8) and (9) are added to  
503 that section, to read:

504 316.20655 Electric bicycle regulations.—

505 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an  
506 electric bicycle or an operator of an electric bicycle shall be  
507 afforded all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all of  
508 the duties, of a bicycle or the operator of a bicycle, including  
509 s. 316.2065. An electric bicycle is a vehicle to the same extent  
510 as a bicycle. However, this section may not be construed to  
511 prevent a local government, through the exercise of its powers  
512 under s. 316.008, from adopting an ordinance governing the  
513 operation of electric bicycles on streets, highways, sidewalks,  
514 and sidewalk areas under or within the local government's  
515 jurisdiction; to prevent a municipality, county, or agency of  
516 the state having jurisdiction over a bicycle path, multiuse  
517 path, or trail network from restricting or prohibiting the  
518 operation of an electric bicycle on a bicycle path, multiuse  
519 path, or trail network; or to prevent a municipality, county, or  
520 agency of the state having jurisdiction over a beach as defined  
521 in s. 161.54(3) or a dune as defined in s. 161.54(4) from  
522 restricting or prohibiting the operation of an electric bicycle

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523 on such beach or dune.

524 (8) A local government may adopt an ordinance providing one  
525 or more minimum age requirements to operate an electric bicycle  
526 and may adopt an ordinance requiring an operator of an electric  
527 bicycle to possess a government-issued photographic  
528 identification while operating the electric bicycle.

529 (9) A local government may provide training on the safe  
530 operation of electric bicycles and compliance with the traffic  
531 laws of this state that apply to electric bicycles.

532 Section 6. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section  
533 316.2128, Florida Statutes, to read:

534 316.2128 Micromobility devices, motorized scooters, and  
535 miniature motorcycles; requirements.—

536 (7) A local government may adopt an ordinance providing one  
537 or more minimum age requirements to operate a motorized scooter  
538 or micromobility device and may adopt an ordinance requiring a  
539 person who operates a motorized scooter or micromobility device  
540 to possess a government-issued photographic identification while  
541 operating the motorized scooter or micromobility device.

542 (8) A local government may provide training on the safe  
543 operation of motorized scooters and micromobility devices and  
544 compliance with the traffic laws of this state that apply to  
545 motorized scooters and micromobility devices.

546 Section 7. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
547 paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida  
548 Statutes, is amended to read:

549 316.650 Traffic citations.—

550 (3) (a) Except for a traffic citation issued pursuant to s.  
551 316.1001, s. 316.0083, s. 316.173, or s. 316.1896, each traffic

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552 enforcement officer, upon issuing a traffic citation to an  
553 alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of  
554 this state or of any traffic ordinance of any municipality or  
555 town, shall deposit the original traffic citation or, in the  
556 case of a traffic enforcement agency that has an automated  
557 citation issuance system, the agency ~~chief administrative~~  
558 ~~officer~~ shall provide by an electronic transmission a replica of  
559 the citation data to the ~~a~~ court having jurisdiction over the  
560 alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 5  
561 business days after issuance to the violator.

562 Section 8. Section 316.88, Florida Statutes, is created to  
563 read:

564 316.88 Creation of a wake on streets or highways.—A person  
565 may not operate a motor vehicle, vessel, or any other conveyance  
566 at a speed that creates an excessive wake on a flooded or  
567 inundated street or highway.

568 Section 9. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
569 paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (5) of section  
570 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

571 318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a  
572 noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal  
573 offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

574 (5) (a) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., \$200 ~~two~~  
575 ~~hundred dollars~~ for a violation of s. 316.172(1) (a), failure to  
576 stop for a school bus. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is  
577 found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a  
578 minimum civil penalty of \$200. In addition to this penalty, for  
579 a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the  
580 department shall suspend the driver license of the person for

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581 not less than 180 days and not more than 1 year.

582 2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) is enforced by a  
583 school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173,  
584 the penalty of \$200 shall be imposed. If, at an administrative  
585 hearing contesting a notice of violation or uniform traffic  
586 citation, the alleged offender is found to have committed this  
587 offense, a minimum civil penalty of \$200 shall be imposed.  
588 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the civil penalties  
589 assessed under this subparagraph resulting from a notice of  
590 violation or uniform traffic citation shall be remitted to the  
591 school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s.  
592 316.173(8).

593 (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., \$400 ~~four~~  
594 ~~hundred dollars~~ for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b), passing a  
595 school bus on the side that children enter and exit when the  
596 school bus displays a stop signal. If, at a hearing, the alleged  
597 offender is found to have committed this offense, the court  
598 shall impose a minimum civil penalty of \$400.

599 2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b) is enforced by a  
600 school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173,  
601 the penalty under this subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ is a minimum of  
602 \$200. If, at a hearing contesting a notice of violation or  
603 uniform traffic citation, the alleged offender is found to have  
604 committed this offense, the court shall ~~must~~ impose a minimum  
605 civil penalty of \$200. Notwithstanding any other provision of  
606 law, the civil penalties assessed under this subparagraph  
607 resulting from notice of violation or uniform traffic citation  
608 shall be remitted to the school district at least monthly and  
609 used pursuant to s. 316.173(8).

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610           3. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent  
611 offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend  
612 the driver license of the person for not less than 360 days and  
613 not more than 2 years.

614           (c)1. In addition to the penalty under subparagraph (a)2.  
615 or subparagraph (b)2., if, at an administrative hearing  
616 contesting a notice of violation, the alleged offender is found  
617 to have committed this offense, costs shall be imposed, not to  
618 exceed those established in s. 316.0083(5)(e), to be paid by the  
619 petitioner and to be used by the county for the operational  
620 costs related to the hearing or the school district for  
621 technology and operational costs relating to the hearing as well  
622 as school transportation safety-related initiatives.  
623 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a county's local  
624 hearing officer administers the administrative hearing process  
625 for a contested notice of violation, the costs imposed under  
626 this subparagraph resulting from notice of violation shall be  
627 remitted to the county at least monthly.

628           2. In addition to the penalty under paragraph (a) or  
629 paragraph (b), \$65 for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b).  
630 If the alleged offender is found to have committed the offense,  
631 the court shall impose the civil penalty under paragraph (a) or  
632 paragraph (b) plus an additional \$65. The additional \$65  
633 collected under this subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ shall be remitted to  
634 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Emergency Medical  
635 Services Trust Fund of the Department of Health to be used as  
636 provided in s. 395.4036. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or  
637 (b) is enforced by a school bus infraction detection system  
638 pursuant to s. 316.173, the additional amount imposed on a

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639 notice of violation, on a uniform traffic citation, or by the  
640 court under this paragraph must be \$25, in lieu of the  
641 additional \$65, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
642 the civil penalties and additional costs must be remitted to the  
643 participating school district at least monthly and used pursuant  
644 to s. 316.173(8) ~~s. 316.173(7)~~.

645 Section 10. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
646 subsection (21) of section 318.21, Florida Statutes, is amended  
647 to read:

648 318.21 Disposition of civil penalties by county courts.—All  
649 civil penalties received by a county court pursuant to the  
650 provisions of this chapter shall be distributed and paid monthly  
651 as follows:

652 (21) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) or any other  
653 provision of law, the civil penalties and the proceeds from the  
654 additional penalties imposed pursuant to s. 318.18(5)(a)2.,  
655 (b)2., and (c) and (21) ~~s. 318.18(5)(c) and (21)~~ shall be  
656 distributed as provided in that section.

657 Section 11. Section 320.0849, Florida Statutes, is created  
658 to read:

659 320.0849 Expectant mother parking permits.—

660 (1)(a) The department or its authorized agents shall, upon  
661 application, issue an expectant mother parking permit placard or  
662 decal to an expectant mother. The placard or decal is valid for  
663 up to 1 year after the date of issuance.

664 (b) The department shall, by rule, provide for the design,  
665 size, color, and placement of the expectant mother parking  
666 permit placard or decal. The placard or decal must be designed  
667 to conspicuously display the expiration date of the permit.

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668           (2) An application for an expectant mother parking permit  
669 must include, but need not be limited to:

670           (a) Certification provided by a physician licensed under  
671 chapter 458 or chapter 459 that the applicant is an expectant  
672 mother.

673           (b) The certifying physician's name and address.

674           (c) The physician's certification number.

675           (d) The following statement in bold letters: "An expectant  
676 mother parking permit may be issued only to an expectant mother  
677 and is valid for up to 1 year after the date of issuance."

678           (e) The signatures of:

679           1. The certifying physician.

680           2. The applicant.

681           3. The employee of the department processing the  
682 application.

683           (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an  
684 expectant mother who is issued an expectant mother parking  
685 permit under this section may park a motor vehicle in a parking  
686 space designated for persons who have disabilities as provided  
687 in s. 553.5041.

688           Section 12. Section 330.355, Florida Statutes, is created  
689 to read:

690           330.355 Prohibition on landing fees for certain aircraft  
691 operations.—A publicly owned airport in this state may not  
692 charge a landing fee established on or after January 1, 2025,  
693 for aircraft operations conducted by an accredited nonprofit  
694 institution located in this state which offers a 4-year  
695 collegiate aviation program, when such aircraft operations are  
696 for flight training necessary for pilot certification and



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697 proficiency.

698 Section 13. Subsections (4), (5), (7), and (8) of section  
699 332.004, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

700 332.004 Definitions of terms used in ss. 332.003-332.007.—

701 As used in ss. 332.003-332.007, the term:

702 (4) "Airport or aviation development project" or  
703 "development project" means any activity associated with the  
704 design, construction, purchase, improvement, or repair of a  
705 public-use airport or portion thereof, including, but not  
706 limited to: the purchase of equipment; the acquisition of land,  
707 including land required as a condition of a federal, state, or  
708 local permit or agreement for environmental mitigation; off-  
709 airport noise mitigation projects; the removal, lowering,  
710 relocation, marking, and lighting of airport hazards; the  
711 installation of navigation aids used by aircraft in landing at  
712 or taking off from a public-use ~~public~~ airport; the installation  
713 of safety equipment required by rule or regulation for  
714 certification of the airport under s. 612 of the Federal  
715 Aviation Act of 1958, and amendments thereto; and the  
716 improvement of access to the airport by road or rail system  
717 which is on airport property and which is consistent, to the  
718 maximum extent feasible, with the approved local government  
719 comprehensive plan of the units of local government in which the  
720 airport is located.

721 (5) "Airport or aviation discretionary capacity improvement  
722 projects" or "discretionary capacity improvement projects" means  
723 capacity improvements which are consistent, to the maximum  
724 extent feasible, with the approved local government  
725 comprehensive plans of the units of local government in which

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726 the public-use airport is located, and which enhance  
727 intercontinental capacity at airports which:

728 (a) Are international airports with United States Bureau of  
729 Customs and Border Protection;

730 (b) Had one or more regularly scheduled intercontinental  
731 flights during the previous calendar year or have an agreement  
732 in writing for installation of one or more regularly scheduled  
733 intercontinental flights upon the commitment of funds for  
734 stipulated airport capital improvements; and

735 (c) Have available or planned public ground transportation  
736 between the airport and other major transportation facilities.

737 (7) "Eligible agency" means a political subdivision of the  
738 state or an authority, or a public-private partnership through a  
739 lease or an agreement under s. 255.065 with a political  
740 subdivision of the state or an authority, which owns or seeks to  
741 develop a public-use airport.

742 (8) "Federal aid" means funds made available from the  
743 Federal Government for the accomplishment of public-use airport  
744 or aviation development projects.

745 Section 14. Subsections (4) and (8) of section 332.006,  
746 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

747 332.006 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of  
748 Transportation.—The Department of Transportation shall, within  
749 the resources provided pursuant to chapter 216:

750 (4) Upon request, provide financial and technical  
751 assistance to public agencies that own ~~which operate~~ public-use  
752 airports by making department personnel and department-owned  
753 facilities and equipment available on a cost-reimbursement basis  
754 to such agencies for special needs of limited duration. The

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755 requirement relating to reimbursement of personnel costs may be  
756 waived by the department in those cases in which the assistance  
757 provided by its personnel was of a limited nature or duration.

758 (8) Encourage the maximum allocation of federal funds to  
759 local public-use airport projects in this state.

760 Section 15. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (4),  
761 subsection (6), paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (7), and  
762 subsections (8) and (10) of section 332.007, Florida Statutes,  
763 are amended, and subsection (11) is added to that section, to  
764 read:

765 332.007 Administration and financing of aviation and  
766 airport programs and projects; state plan.—

767 (4) (a) The annual legislative budget request for aviation  
768 and airport development projects shall be based on the funding  
769 required for development projects in the aviation and airport  
770 work program. The department shall provide priority funding in  
771 support of the planning, design, and construction of proposed  
772 projects by local sponsors of public-use airports, with special  
773 emphasis on projects for runways and taxiways, including the  
774 painting and marking of runways and taxiways, lighting, other  
775 related airside activities, and airport access transportation  
776 facility projects on airport property.

777 (c) No single airport shall secure airport or aviation  
778 development project funds in excess of 25 percent of the total  
779 airport or aviation development project funds available in any  
780 given budget year. However, any public-use airport which  
781 receives discretionary capacity improvement project funds in a  
782 given fiscal year shall not receive greater than 10 percent of  
783 total aviation and airport development project funds

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784 appropriated in that fiscal year.

785 (6) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the  
786 department may participate in the capital cost of eligible  
787 public-use ~~public~~ airport and aviation development projects in  
788 accordance with the following rates, unless otherwise provided  
789 in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill  
790 implementing the General Appropriations Act:

791 (a) The department may fund up to 50 percent of the portion  
792 of eligible project costs which are not funded by the Federal  
793 Government, except that the department may initially fund up to  
794 75 percent of the cost of land acquisition for a new airport or  
795 for the expansion of an existing airport which is owned ~~and~~  
796 ~~operated~~ by a municipality, a county, or an authority, and shall  
797 be reimbursed to the normal statutory project share when federal  
798 funds become available or within 10 years after the date of  
799 acquisition, whichever is earlier. Due to federal budgeting  
800 constraints, the department may also initially fund the federal  
801 portion of eligible project costs subject to:

802 1. The department receiving adequate assurance from the  
803 Federal Government or local sponsor that this amount will be  
804 reimbursed to the department; and

805 2. The department having adequate funds in the work program  
806 to fund the project.

807  
808 Such projects must be contained in the Federal Government's  
809 Airport Capital Improvement Program, and the Federal Government  
810 must fund, or have funded, the first year of the project.

811 (b) The department may retroactively reimburse cities,  
812 counties, or airport authorities up to 50 percent of the

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813 nonfederal share for land acquisition when such land is needed  
814 for airport safety, expansion, tall structure control, clear  
815 zone protection, or noise impact reduction. No land purchased  
816 prior to July 1, 1990, or purchased prior to executing the  
817 required department agreements shall be eligible for  
818 reimbursement.

819 (c) When federal funds are not available, the department  
820 may fund up to 80 percent of master planning and eligible  
821 aviation development projects at public-use ~~publicly owned,~~  
822 ~~publicly operated~~ airports. If federal funds are available, the  
823 department may fund up to 80 percent of the nonfederal share of  
824 such projects. Such funding is limited to general aviation  
825 airports, or commercial service airports that have fewer than  
826 100,000 passenger boardings per year as determined by the  
827 Federal Aviation Administration.

828 (d) The department is authorized to fund up to 100 percent  
829 of the cost of an eligible project that is statewide in scope or  
830 that involves more than one county where no other governmental  
831 entity or appropriate jurisdiction exists.

832 (7) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds in  
833 addition to aviation fuel tax revenues, the department may  
834 participate in the capital cost of eligible public airport and  
835 aviation discretionary capacity improvement projects. The annual  
836 legislative budget request shall be based on the funding  
837 required for discretionary capacity improvement projects in the  
838 aviation and airport work program.

839 (a) The department shall provide priority funding in  
840 support of:

841 1. Land acquisition which provides additional capacity at

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842 the qualifying international airport or at that airport's  
843 supplemental air carrier airport.

844 2. Runway and taxiway projects that add capacity or are  
845 necessary to accommodate technological changes in the aviation  
846 industry.

847 3. Public-use airport access transportation projects that  
848 improve direct airport access and are approved by the airport  
849 sponsor.

850 4. International terminal projects that increase  
851 international gate capacity.

852 (d) The department may fund up to 50 percent of the portion  
853 of eligible project costs which are not funded by the Federal  
854 Government except that the department may initially fund up to  
855 75 percent of the cost of land acquisition for a new public-use  
856 airport or for the expansion of an existing public-use airport  
857 which is owned ~~and operated~~ by a municipality, a county, or an  
858 authority, and shall be reimbursed to the normal statutory  
859 project share when federal funds become available or within 10  
860 years after the date of acquisition, whichever is earlier.

861 (8) The department may also fund eligible projects  
862 performed by not-for-profit organizations that represent a  
863 majority of public airports in this state. Eligible projects may  
864 include activities associated with aviation master planning,  
865 professional education, safety and security planning, enhancing  
866 economic development and efficiency at airports in this state,  
867 or other planning efforts to improve the viability of public-use  
868 airports in this state.

869 (10) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and  
870 unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act or

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871 the substantive bill implementing the General Appropriations  
872 Act, the department may fund up to 100 percent of eligible  
873 project costs of all of the following at a public-use ~~publicly~~  
874 ~~owned, publicly operated~~ airport located in a rural community as  
875 defined in s. 288.0656 which does not have any scheduled  
876 commercial service:

877 (a) The capital cost of runway and taxiway projects that  
878 add capacity. Such projects must be prioritized based on the  
879 amount of available nonstate matching funds.

880 (b) Economic development transportation projects pursuant  
881 to s. 339.2821.

882  
883 Any remaining funds must be allocated for projects specified in  
884 subsection (6).

885 (11) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a  
886 municipality, a county, or an authority that owns a public-use  
887 airport may participate in the Federal Aviation Administration  
888 Airport Investment Partnership Program under federal law by  
889 contracting with a private partner to operate the airport under  
890 lease or agreement. Subject to the availability of appropriated  
891 funds from aviation fuel tax revenues, the department may  
892 provide for improvements under this section to a municipality, a  
893 county, or an authority that has a private partner under the  
894 Airport Investment Partnership Program for the capital cost of a  
895 discretionary improvement project at a public-use airport.

896 Section 16. Section 332.136, Florida Statutes, is created  
897 to read:

898 332.136 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; airport pilot  
899 program.—

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900       (1) There is established at the Sarasota Manatee Airport  
901 Authority an airport pilot program. The purpose of the pilot  
902 program is to determine the long-term feasibility of alternative  
903 airport permitting procedures, such as those provided in ss.  
904 553.80, 1013.30, 1013.33, and 1013.371.

905       (2) The department shall adopt rules as necessary to  
906 implement the pilot program.

907       (3) By December 1, 2027, the department shall submit  
908 recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
909 of the House of Representatives about how to expand the pilot  
910 program to additional airports, amend the pilot program to  
911 increase its effectiveness, or terminate the pilot program.

912       (4) This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2028,  
913 unless reviewed and saved from appeal through reenactment by the  
914 Legislature.

915       Section 17. Subsections (6) and (35) of section 334.044,  
916 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

917       334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The department  
918 shall have the following general powers and duties:

919       (6) To acquire, by the exercise of the power of eminent  
920 domain as provided by law, all property or property rights,  
921 whether public or private, which it may determine are necessary  
922 to the performance of its duties and the execution of its  
923 powers, including, but not limited to, in advance to preserve a  
924 corridor for future proposed improvements.

925       (35) To expend funds for ~~provide~~ a construction workforce  
926 development program, in consultation with affected stakeholders,  
927 for delivery of projects designated in the department's work  
928 program. The department may annually expend up to \$5 million



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929 from the State Transportation Trust Fund for fiscal years 2025-  
930 2026 through 2029-2030 in grants to state colleges and school  
931 districts, with priority given to state colleges and school  
932 districts in counties that are rural communities as defined in  
933 s. 288.0656(2), for the purchase of equipment simulators with  
934 authentic original equipment manufacturer controls and a  
935 companion curriculum, for the purchase of instructional aids for  
936 use in conjunction with the equipment simulators, and to support  
937 offering an elective course in heavy civil construction which  
938 must, at a minimum, provide the student with an Occupational  
939 Safety and Health Administration 10-hour certification and a  
940 fill equipment simulator certification.

941 Section 18. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 334.065,  
942 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

943 334.065 Center for Urban Transportation Research.-

944 (1) There is established within ~~at~~ the University of South  
945 Florida the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, ~~to~~  
946 ~~be administered by the Board of Governors of the State~~  
947 ~~University System~~. The responsibilities of the center include,  
948 but are not limited to, conducting and facilitating research on  
949 issues related to urban transportation problems in this state  
950 and serving as an information exchange and depository for the  
951 most current information pertaining to urban transportation and  
952 related issues.

953 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically ~~and~~  
954 ~~objectively~~ review and advise the center concerning its research  
955 program. ~~Except for projects mandated by law, state-funded base~~  
956 ~~projects shall not be undertaken without approval of the~~  
957 ~~advisory board~~. The membership of the board shall be composed

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958 ~~consist~~ of nine experts in transportation-related areas, as  
959 follows:

960 (a) A member appointed by the President of the Senate.

961 (b) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
962 Representatives.

963 (c) The Secretary of Transportation, or his or her  
964 designee.

965 (d) The Secretary of Commerce, or his or her designee.  
966 ~~including the secretaries of the Department of Transportation,~~  
967 ~~the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department~~  
968 ~~of Commerce, or their designees, and~~

969 (e) A member of the Florida Transportation Commission.

970 (f) Four members nominated ~~The nomination of the remaining~~  
971 ~~members of the board shall be made to the President of the~~  
972 ~~University of South Florida by the College of Engineering at the~~  
973 ~~University of South Florida and approved by the university's~~  
974 ~~president, and The appointment of these members must be reviewed~~  
975 ~~and approved by the Florida Transportation Commission and~~  
976 ~~confirmed by the Board of Governors.~~

977 Section 19. Section 334.63, Florida Statutes, is created to  
978 read:

979 334.63 Project concept studies and project development and  
980 environment studies.—

981 (1) Project concept studies and project development and  
982 environment studies for capacity improvement projects on limited  
983 access facilities must include the evaluation of alternatives  
984 that provide transportation capacity using elevated roadway  
985 above existing lanes.

986 (2) Project development and environment studies for new

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987 alignment projects and capacity improvement projects must be  
988 completed to the maximum extent possible within 18 months after  
989 the date of commencement.

990 Section 20. Subsection (4), paragraph (b) of subsection  
991 (7), and subsection (15) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes,  
992 are amended to read:

993 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; emergency  
994 repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; combined  
995 design and construction contracts; progress payments; records;  
996 requirements of vehicle registration.-

997 (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the department  
998 may award the proposed construction and maintenance work to the  
999 lowest responsible bidder, or in the instance of a time-plus-  
1000 money contract, the lowest evaluated responsible bidder, or it  
1001 may reject all bids and proceed to rebid the work in accordance  
1002 with subsection (2) or otherwise perform the work.

1003 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the  
1004 department intends to reject all bids on any project after  
1005 announcing, but before posting official notice of, such intent,  
1006 the department must provide to the lowest responsive,  
1007 responsible bidder the opportunity to negotiate the scope of  
1008 work with a corresponding reduction in price, as provided in the  
1009 bid, to provide a reduced bid without filing a protest or  
1010 posting a bond under paragraph (5) (a). Upon reaching a decision  
1011 regarding the lowest bidder's reduced bid, the department must  
1012 post notice of final agency action to either reject all bids or  
1013 accept the reduced bid.

1014 (c) This subsection does not prohibit the filing of a  
1015 protest by any bidder or alter the deadlines provided in s.

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1016 120.57.  
1017 (d) Notwithstanding the requirements of ss. 120.57(3)(c)  
1018 and 287.057(25), upon receipt of a formal written protest that  
1019 is timely filed, the department may continue the process  
1020 provided in this subsection but may not take final agency action  
1021 as to the lowest bidder except as part of the department's final  
1022 agency action in the protest or upon dismissal of the protest by  
1023 the protesting party.

1024 (7)

1025 (b) If the department determines that it is in the best  
1026 interests of the public, the department may combine the design  
1027 and construction phases of a project fully funded in the work  
1028 program into a single contract and select the design-build firm  
1029 in the early stages of a project to ensure that the design-build  
1030 firm is part of the collaboration and development of the design  
1031 as part of a step-by-step progression through construction. Such  
1032 a contract is referred to as a phased design-build contract. For  
1033 phased design-build contracts, selection and award must include  
1034 a two-phase process. For phase one, the department shall  
1035 competitively award the contract to a design-build firm based  
1036 upon qualifications, provided that the department receives at  
1037 least three statements of qualifications from qualified design-  
1038 build firms. If during phase one the department elects to enter  
1039 into contracts with more than one design-build firm based upon  
1040 qualifications, the department must competitively select a  
1041 single design-build firm to perform the work associated with  
1042 phase two. For phase two, the design-build firm may self-perform  
1043 portions of the work and shall competitively bid construction  
1044 trade subcontractor packages and, based upon these bids,

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1045 negotiate with the department a fixed firm price or guaranteed  
1046 maximum price that meets the project budget and scope as  
1047 advertised in the request for qualifications.

1048 (15) Each contract let by the department for performance of  
1049 bridge construction or maintenance over navigable waters must  
1050 contain a provision requiring marine general liability  
1051 insurance, in an amount to be determined by the department,  
1052 which covers third-party personal injury and property damage  
1053 caused by vessels used by the contractor in the performance of  
1054 the work. For a contract let by the department on or after July  
1055 1, 2025, such insurance must include protection and indemnity  
1056 coverage, which may be covered by endorsement on the marine  
1057 general liability insurance policy or may be a separate policy.

1058 Section 21. Subsections (1), (2), and (8) of section  
1059 337.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1060 337.14 Application for qualification; certificate of  
1061 qualification; restrictions; request for hearing.—

1062 (1) Any contractor desiring to bid for the performance of  
1063 any construction contract in excess of \$250,000 which the  
1064 department proposes to let must first be certified by the  
1065 department as qualified pursuant to this section and rules of  
1066 the department. The rules of the department must address the  
1067 qualification of contractors to bid on construction contracts in  
1068 excess of \$250,000 and must include requirements with respect to  
1069 the equipment, past record, experience, financial resources, and  
1070 organizational personnel of the applying contractor which are  
1071 necessary to perform the specific class of work for which the  
1072 contractor seeks certification. Any contractor who desires to  
1073 bid on contracts in excess of \$50 million and who is not

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1074 qualified and in good standing with the department as of January  
1075 1, 2019, must first be certified by the department as qualified  
1076 and must have satisfactorily completed two projects, each in  
1077 excess of \$15 million, for the department or for any other state  
1078 department of transportation. The department may limit the  
1079 dollar amount of any contract upon which a contractor is  
1080 qualified to bid or the aggregate total dollar volume of  
1081 contracts such contractor is allowed to have under contract at  
1082 any one time. Each applying contractor seeking qualification to  
1083 bid on construction contracts in excess of \$250,000 shall  
1084 furnish the department a statement under oath, on such forms as  
1085 the department may prescribe, setting forth detailed information  
1086 as required on the application. Each application for  
1087 certification must be accompanied by audited, certified  
1088 financial statements prepared in accordance with generally  
1089 accepted accounting principles and auditing standards by a  
1090 certified public accountant licensed in this state or another  
1091 state. The audited, certified financial statements must be for  
1092 the applying contractor and must have been prepared within the  
1093 immediately preceding 12 months. The department may not consider  
1094 any financial information of the parent entity of the applying  
1095 contractor, if any. The department may not certify as qualified  
1096 any applying contractor who fails to submit the audited,  
1097 certified financial statements required by this subsection. If  
1098 the application or the annual financial statement shows the  
1099 financial condition of the applying contractor more than 4  
1100 months before the date on which the application is received by  
1101 the department, the applicant must also submit interim audited,  
1102 certified financial statements prepared in accordance with

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1103 generally accepted accounting principles and auditing standards  
1104 by a certified public accountant licensed in this state or  
1105 another state. The interim financial statements must cover the  
1106 period from the end date of the annual statement and must show  
1107 the financial condition of the applying contractor no more than  
1108 4 months before the date that the interim financial statements  
1109 are received by the department. However, upon the request of the  
1110 applying contractor, an application and accompanying annual or  
1111 interim financial statement received by the department within 15  
1112 days after either 4-month period under this subsection shall be  
1113 considered timely. An applying contractor desiring to bid  
1114 exclusively for the performance of construction contracts with  
1115 proposed budget estimates of less than \$2 million may submit  
1116 reviewed annual or reviewed interim financial statements  
1117 prepared by a certified public accountant. The information  
1118 required by this subsection is confidential and exempt from s.  
1119 119.07(1). The department shall act upon the application for  
1120 qualification within 30 days after the department determines  
1121 that the application is complete. The department may waive the  
1122 requirements of this subsection for push-button projects having  
1123 a contract price of \$1 million or less, or for non-push-button  
1124 projects having a contract price of \$500,000 or less, if the  
1125 department determines that the project is of a noncritical  
1126 nature and the waiver will not endanger public health, safety,  
1127 or property.

1128 (2) Certification is ~~shall be~~ necessary in order to bid on  
1129 a road, bridge, or public transportation construction contract  
1130 of more than \$250,000. However, the successful bidder on any  
1131 construction contract must furnish a contract bond before ~~prior~~

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1132 ~~to~~ the award of the contract. The department may waive the  
1133 requirement for all or a portion of a contract bond for  
1134 contracts of \$250,000 ~~\$150,000~~ or less under s. 337.18(1).

1135 (8) This section does not apply to maintenance contracts.  
1136 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contractor seeking  
1137 to bid on a maintenance contract in which the majority of the  
1138 work includes repair and replacement of safety appurtenances,  
1139 including, but not limited to, guardrails, attenuators, traffic  
1140 signals, and striping, must possess the prescribed  
1141 qualifications, equipment, record, and experience to perform  
1142 such repair and replacement.

1143 Section 22. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 337.185,  
1144 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1145 337.185 State Arbitration Board.—

1146 (4) The contractor may submit a claim greater than \$250,000  
1147 up to \$2 ~~\$1~~ million per contract or, upon agreement of the  
1148 parties, greater than ~~up to~~ \$2 million per contract to be  
1149 arbitrated by the board. An award issued by the board pursuant  
1150 to this subsection is final if a request for a trial de novo is  
1151 not filed within the time provided by Rule 1.830, Florida Rules  
1152 of Civil Procedure. At the trial de novo, the court may not  
1153 admit evidence that there has been an arbitration proceeding,  
1154 the nature or amount of the award, or any other matter  
1155 concerning the conduct of the arbitration proceeding, except  
1156 that testimony given in connection with ~~at~~ an arbitration  
1157 hearing may be used for any purpose otherwise permitted by the  
1158 Florida Evidence Code. If a request for trial de novo is not  
1159 filed within the time provided, the award issued by the board is  
1160 final and enforceable by a court of law.



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1161 (5) An arbitration request may not be made to the board  
1162 before final acceptance but must be made to the board within 820  
1163 days after final acceptance. An arbitration request related to a  
1164 warranty notice provided by the department must be made to the  
1165 board within 360 days after such notice or 820 days after final  
1166 acceptance, whichever is later.

1167 Section 23. Present subsection (10) of section 339.175,  
1168 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (11), a new  
1169 subsection (10) is added to that section, and subsection (1),  
1170 paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (i), and (j) of  
1171 subsection (6), and paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (7) of  
1172 that section are amended, to read:

1173 339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

1174 (1) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of the Legislature to  
1175 encourage and promote the safe and efficient management,  
1176 operation, and development of multimodal surface transportation  
1177 systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight  
1178 and foster economic growth and development within and through  
1179 urbanized areas of this state in accordance with the  
1180 department's mission statement ~~while minimizing transportation-~~  
1181 ~~related fuel consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas~~  
1182 ~~emissions through metropolitan transportation planning processes~~  
1183 ~~identified in this section.~~ To accomplish these objectives,  
1184 metropolitan planning organizations, referred to in this section  
1185 as M.P.O.'s, shall develop, in cooperation with the state and  
1186 public transit operators, transportation plans and programs for  
1187 metropolitan areas. The plans and programs for each metropolitan  
1188 area must provide for the development and integrated management  
1189 and operation of transportation systems and facilities,

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1190 including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation  
1191 facilities that will function as an intermodal transportation  
1192 system for the metropolitan area, based upon the prevailing  
1193 principles provided in s. 334.046(1). The process for developing  
1194 such plans and programs shall provide for consideration of all  
1195 modes of transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative,  
1196 and comprehensive, to the degree appropriate, based on the  
1197 complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed. To  
1198 ensure that the process is integrated with the statewide  
1199 planning process, M.P.O.'s shall develop plans and programs that  
1200 identify transportation facilities that should function as an  
1201 integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis  
1202 to facilities that serve important national, state, and regional  
1203 transportation functions. For the purposes of this section,  
1204 those facilities include the facilities on the Strategic  
1205 Intermodal System designated under s. 339.63 and facilities for  
1206 which projects have been identified pursuant to s. 339.2819(4).

1207 (2) DESIGNATION.—

1208 (a)1. An M.P.O. shall be designated for each urbanized area  
1209 of the state; however, this does not require that an individual  
1210 M.P.O. be designated for each such area. Such designation shall  
1211 be accomplished by agreement between the Governor and units of  
1212 general-purpose local government representing at least 75  
1213 percent of the population of the urbanized area; however, the  
1214 unit of general-purpose local government that represents the  
1215 central city or cities within the M.P.O. jurisdiction, as  
1216 defined by the United States Bureau of the Census, must be a  
1217 party to such agreement.

1218 2. To the extent possible, only one M.P.O. shall be

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1219 designated for each urbanized area or group of contiguous  
1220 urbanized areas. More than one M.P.O. may be designated within  
1221 an existing urbanized area only if the Governor and the existing  
1222 M.P.O. determine that the size and complexity of the existing  
1223 urbanized area makes the designation of more than one M.P.O. for  
1224 the area appropriate. After July 1, 2025, no additional M.P.O.'s  
1225 may be designated in this state except in urbanized areas, as  
1226 defined by the United States Census Bureau, where the urbanized  
1227 area boundary is not contiguous to an urbanized area designated  
1228 before the 2020 census, ~~in which case each M.P.O. designated for~~  
1229 ~~the area must:~~

1230 ~~a. Consult with every other M.P.O. designated for the~~  
1231 ~~urbanized area and the state to coordinate plans and~~  
1232 ~~transportation improvement programs.~~

1233 ~~b. Ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the~~  
1234 ~~consistency of data used in the planning process, including data~~  
1235 ~~used in forecasting travel demand within the urbanized area.~~

1236  
1237 Each M.P.O. required under this section must be fully operative  
1238 no later than 6 months following its designation.

1239 (6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers,  
1240 privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in  
1241 this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement  
1242 authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts  
1243 required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently  
1244 applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It  
1245 is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in  
1246 the planning and programming of transportation facilities,  
1247 including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-

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1248 speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the  
1249 extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not  
1250 perform project production or delivery for capital improvement  
1251 projects on the State Highway System.

1252 (b) In developing the long-range transportation plan and  
1253 the transportation improvement program required under paragraph  
1254 (a), each M.P.O. shall provide for consideration of projects and  
1255 strategies that will:

1256 1. Support the economic vitality of the contiguous  
1257 urbanized metropolitan area, especially by enabling global  
1258 competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

1259 2. Increase the safety and security of the transportation  
1260 system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

1261 3. Increase the accessibility and mobility options  
1262 available to people and for freight.

1263 4. Protect and enhance the environment, conserve natural  
1264 resources ~~promote energy conservation~~, and improve quality of  
1265 life.

1266 5. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the  
1267 transportation system, across and between modes and contiguous  
1268 urbanized metropolitan areas, for people and freight.

1269 6. Promote efficient system management and operation.

1270 7. Emphasize the preservation of the existing  
1271 transportation system.

1272 8. Improve the resilience of transportation infrastructure.

1273 9. Reduce traffic and congestion.

1274 ~~(i) By December 31, 2023, the M.P.O.'s serving~~  
1275 ~~Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties must submit a~~  
1276 ~~feasibility report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,~~

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1277 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives exploring the  
1278 benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single  
1279 M.P.O. serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which  
1280 would be to:

1281 1. ~~Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be~~  
1282 ~~regionally significant.~~

1283 2. ~~Review the impact of regionally significant land use~~  
1284 ~~decisions on the region.~~

1285 3. ~~Review all proposed regionally significant~~  
1286 ~~transportation projects in the transportation improvement~~  
1287 ~~programs.~~

1288 (i)1.~~(j)1.~~ To more fully accomplish the purposes for which  
1289 M.P.O.'s have been mandated, the department shall, at least  
1290 annually, convene M.P.O.'s of similar size, based on the size of  
1291 population served, for the purpose of exchanging best practices.

1292 M.P.O.'s may shall develop committees or working groups as  
1293 needed to accomplish such purpose. At the discretion of the  
1294 department, training for new M.P.O. governing board members  
1295 shall be provided by the department, by an entity pursuant to a  
1296 contract with the department, by the Florida Center for Urban  
1297 Transportation Research, or by the Implementing Solutions from  
1298 Transportation Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technologies  
1299 (I-STREET) living lab ~~coordination mechanisms with one another~~  
1300 ~~to expand and improve transportation within the state. The~~  
1301 ~~appropriate method of coordination between M.P.O.'s shall vary~~  
1302 ~~depending upon the project involved and given local and regional~~  
1303 ~~needs. Consequently, it is appropriate to set forth a flexible~~  
1304 ~~methodology that can be used by M.P.O.'s to coordinate with~~  
1305 ~~other M.P.O.'s and appropriate political subdivisions as~~

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1306 ~~circumstances demand.~~

1307       2. Any M.P.O. may join with any other M.P.O. or any  
1308 individual political subdivision to coordinate activities or to  
1309 achieve any federal or state transportation planning or  
1310 development goals or purposes consistent with federal or state  
1311 law. When an M.P.O. determines that it is appropriate to join  
1312 with another M.P.O. or any political subdivision to coordinate  
1313 activities, the M.P.O. or political subdivision shall enter into  
1314 an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01, which, at a  
1315 minimum, creates a separate legal or administrative entity to  
1316 coordinate the transportation planning or development activities  
1317 required to achieve the goal or purpose; provides the purpose  
1318 for which the entity is created; provides the duration of the  
1319 agreement and the entity and specifies how the agreement may be  
1320 terminated, modified, or rescinded; describes the precise  
1321 organization of the entity, including who has voting rights on  
1322 the governing board, whether alternative voting members are  
1323 provided for, how voting members are appointed, and what the  
1324 relative voting strength is for each constituent M.P.O. or  
1325 political subdivision; provides the manner in which the parties  
1326 to the agreement will provide for the financial support of the  
1327 entity and payment of costs and expenses of the entity; provides  
1328 the manner in which funds may be paid to and disbursed from the  
1329 entity; and provides how members of the entity will resolve  
1330 disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal  
1331 agreement or disputes relating to the operation of the entity.  
1332 Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its  
1333 recordation in the official public records of each county in  
1334 which a member of the entity created by the interlocal agreement

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1335 has a voting member. Multiple M.P.O.'s may merge, combine, or  
1336 otherwise join together as a single M.P.O.

1337 (7) LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each M.P.O. must  
1338 develop a long-range transportation plan that addresses at least  
1339 a 20-year planning horizon. The plan must include both long-  
1340 range and short-range strategies and must comply with all other  
1341 state and federal requirements. The prevailing principles to be  
1342 considered in the long-range transportation plan are: preserving  
1343 the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's  
1344 economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure  
1345 mobility. The long-range transportation plan must be consistent,  
1346 to the maximum extent feasible, with future land use elements  
1347 and the goals, objectives, and policies of the approved local  
1348 government comprehensive plans of the units of local government  
1349 located within the jurisdiction of the M.P.O. Each M.P.O. is  
1350 encouraged to consider strategies that integrate transportation  
1351 and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and  
1352 reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The approved long-range  
1353 transportation plan must be considered by local governments in  
1354 the development of the transportation elements in local  
1355 government comprehensive plans and any amendments thereto. The  
1356 long-range transportation plan must, at a minimum:

1357 (b) Include a financial plan that demonstrates how the plan  
1358 can be implemented, indicating resources from public and private  
1359 sources which are reasonably expected to be available to carry  
1360 out the plan, and recommends any additional financing strategies  
1361 for needed projects and programs. The financial plan may  
1362 include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that  
1363 would be included in the adopted long-range transportation plan

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1364 if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in  
1365 the financial plan were available. For the purpose of developing  
1366 the long-range transportation plan, the M.P.O. and the  
1367 department shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that  
1368 will be available to support the plan implementation. Innovative  
1369 financing techniques may be used to fund needed projects and  
1370 programs. Such techniques may include the assessment of tolls,  
1371 public-private partnerships, the use of value capture financing,  
1372 or the use of value pricing. Multiple M.P.O.'s within a  
1373 contiguous urbanized area must ensure, to the maximum extent  
1374 possible, the consistency of data used in the planning process.

1375 (d) Indicate, as appropriate, proposed transportation  
1376 enhancement activities, including, but not limited to,  
1377 pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails or facilities that are  
1378 regionally significant or critical linkages for the Florida  
1379 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network, scenic easements,  
1380 landscaping, integration of advanced air mobility, and  
1381 integration of autonomous and electric vehicles, electric  
1382 bicycles, and motorized scooters used for freight, commuter, or  
1383 micromobility purposes ~~historic preservation, mitigation of~~  
1384 ~~water pollution due to highway runoff, and control of outdoor~~  
1385 ~~advertising.~~

1386  
1387 In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each  
1388 M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies,  
1389 representatives of transportation agency employees, freight  
1390 shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private  
1391 providers of transportation, representatives of users of public  
1392 transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable



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1393 opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan.  
1394 The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the  
1395 M.P.O.

1396 (10) AGREEMENTS; ACCOUNTABILITY.—

1397 (a) Each M.P.O. may execute a written agreement with the  
1398 department, which shall be reviewed, and updated as necessary,  
1399 every 5 years, which clearly establishes the cooperative  
1400 relationship essential to accomplish the transportation planning  
1401 requirements of state and federal law. Roles, responsibilities,  
1402 and expectations for accomplishing consistency with federal and  
1403 state requirements and priorities must be set forth in the  
1404 agreement. In addition, the agreement must set forth the  
1405 M.P.O.'s responsibility, in collaboration with the department,  
1406 to identify, prioritize, and present to the department a  
1407 complete list of multimodal transportation projects consistent  
1408 with the needs of the metropolitan planning area. It is the  
1409 department's responsibility to program projects in the state  
1410 transportation improvement program.

1411 (b) The department must establish, in collaboration with  
1412 each M.P.O., quality performance metrics, such as safety,  
1413 infrastructure condition, congestion relief, and mobility. Each  
1414 M.P.O. must, as part of its long-range transportation plan, in  
1415 direct coordination with the department, develop targets for  
1416 each performance measure within the metropolitan planning area  
1417 boundary. The performance targets must support efficient and  
1418 safe movement of people and goods both within the metropolitan  
1419 planning area and between regions. Each M.P.O. must report  
1420 progress toward establishing performance targets for each  
1421 measure annually in its transportation improvement plan. The

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1422 department shall evaluate and post on its website whether each  
1423 M.P.O. has made significant progress toward its target for the  
1424 applicable reporting period.

1425 Section 24. Subsection (4) of section 339.65, Florida  
1426 Statutes, is amended to read:

1427 339.65 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridors.—

1428 (4) The department shall develop and maintain a plan of  
1429 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridor projects that are  
1430 anticipated to be let to contract for construction within a time  
1431 period of at least 20 years. The department shall prioritize  
1432 projects affecting gaps in a corridor so that the corridor  
1433 becomes contiguous in its functional characteristics across the  
1434 corridor. The plan must ~~shall~~ also identify when segments of the  
1435 corridor will meet the standards and criteria developed pursuant  
1436 to subsection (5).

1437 Section 25. Section 339.85, Florida Statutes, is created to  
1438 read:

1439 339.85 Next-generation Traffic Signal Modernization  
1440 Program.—The department shall implement a Next-generation  
1441 Traffic Signal Modernization Program. The purpose of the program  
1442 is to increase traffic signal interconnectivity and provide  
1443 real-time traffic optimization to improve traffic flow and  
1444 enhance safety. The program shall:

1445 (1) Provide for retrofitting existing traffic signals and  
1446 controllers and providing a communication backbone for remote  
1447 and automated operations and management of such signals on the  
1448 State Highway System and the nonstate highway system.

1449 (2) Prioritize signal upgrades based on average annual  
1450 daily traffic and the impact of adding to an existing

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1451 interconnected system.

1452 (3) Use at least one advanced traffic management platform  
1453 that uses state-of-the-art technology and that complies with  
1454 leading cybersecurity standards, such as SOC 2 and ISO 27001,  
1455 ensuring robust data protection.

1456 Section 26. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
1457 348.0304, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1458 348.0304 Greater Miami Expressway Agency.—

1459 (3) (a) The governing body of the agency shall consist of  
1460 nine voting members. Except for the district secretary of the  
1461 department, each member must be a permanent resident of a county  
1462 served by the agency and may not hold, or have held in the  
1463 previous 2 years, elected or appointed office in such county,  
1464 except that this paragraph does not apply to any initial  
1465 appointment under paragraph (b) or to any member who previously  
1466 served on the governing body of the former Greater Miami  
1467 Expressway Agency. Each member may only serve two terms of 4  
1468 years each, except that there is no restriction on the term of  
1469 the department's district secretary. Four members, each of whom  
1470 must be a permanent resident of Miami-Dade County, shall be  
1471 appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate  
1472 at the next regular session of the Legislature. Refusal or  
1473 failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment shall create a  
1474 vacancy. Appointments made by the Governor and board of county  
1475 commissioners of Miami-Dade County shall reflect the state's  
1476 interests in the transportation sector and represent the intent,  
1477 duties, and purpose of the Greater Miami Expressway Agency, and  
1478 have at least 3 years of professional experience in one or more  
1479 of the following areas: finance; land use planning; tolling

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1480 industry; or transportation engineering. Two members, who must  
1481 be residents of an unincorporated portion of the geographic area  
1482 described in subsection (1) and residing within 15 miles of an  
1483 ~~area with the highest amount of agency toll~~ road roads, shall be  
1484 appointed by the board of county commissioners of Miami-Dade  
1485 County. Two members, who must be residents of incorporated  
1486 municipalities within a county served by the agency, shall be  
1487 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization for a county  
1488 served by the agency. The district secretary of the department  
1489 serving in the district that contains Miami-Dade County shall  
1490 serve as an ex officio voting member of the governing body.

1491 Section 27. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
1492 made by this act to section 332.004, Florida Statutes, in a  
1493 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 332.115, Florida  
1494 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1495 332.115 Joint project agreement with port district for  
1496 transportation corridor between airport and port facility.—

1497 (1) An eligible agency may acquire, construct, and operate  
1498 all equipment, appurtenances, and land necessary to establish,  
1499 maintain, and operate, or to license others to establish,  
1500 maintain, operate, or use, a transportation corridor connecting  
1501 an airport operated by such eligible agency with a port  
1502 facility, which corridor must be acquired, constructed, and used  
1503 for the transportation of persons between the airport and the  
1504 port facility, for the transportation of cargo, and for the  
1505 location and operation of lines for the transmission of water,  
1506 electricity, communications, information, petroleum products,  
1507 products of a public utility (including new technologies of a  
1508 public utility nature), and materials. However, any such

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1509 corridor may be established and operated only pursuant to a  
1510 joint project agreement between an eligible agency as defined in  
1511 s. 332.004 and a port district as defined in s. 315.02, and such  
1512 agreement must be approved by the Department of Transportation  
1513 and the Department of Commerce. Before the Department of  
1514 Transportation approves the joint project agreement, that  
1515 department must review the public purpose and necessity for the  
1516 corridor pursuant to s. 337.273(5) and must also determine that  
1517 the proposed corridor is consistent with the Florida  
1518 Transportation Plan. Before the Department of Commerce approves  
1519 the joint project agreement, that department must determine that  
1520 the proposed corridor is consistent with the applicable local  
1521 government comprehensive plans. An affected local government may  
1522 provide its comments regarding the consistency of the proposed  
1523 corridor with its comprehensive plan to the Department of  
1524 Commerce.

1525       Section 28. (1) The Legislature finds that the widening of  
1526 Interstate 4, from U.S. 27 in Polk County to Interstate 75 in  
1527 Hillsborough County, is in the public interest and the strategic  
1528 interest of the region to improve the movement of people and  
1529 goods.

1530       (2) The Department of Transportation shall develop a report  
1531 on widening Interstate 4, from U.S. 27 in Polk County to  
1532 Interstate 75 in Hillsborough County, as efficiently as possible  
1533 which includes, but is not limited to, detailed cost projections  
1534 and schedules for project development and environment studies,  
1535 design, acquisition of rights-of-way, and construction. The  
1536 report must identify funding shortfalls and provide strategies  
1537 to address such shortfalls, including, but not limited to, the

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1538 use of express lane toll revenues generated on the Interstate 4  
1539 corridor and available department funds for public-private  
1540 partnerships. The Department of Transportation shall submit the  
1541 report by December 31, 2025, to the Governor, the President of  
1542 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

1543       Section 29. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
1544 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
1545 becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.