

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HB 567 (2025)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION _____ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT _____ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)

OTHER _____

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Transportation & Economic
Development Budget Subcommittee

Representative McFarland offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 148-2110 and insert:

**Section 1. Section 218.3215, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:**

218.3215 County transportation projects.—

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

(a) The total proceeds from the surtax received by the
county.

(b) The amount allocated by the county for road and bridge

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projects. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, must establish and define broad categories for reporting this information, including, but not limited to, widening, repair and rehabilitation, sidewalks, or payment or pledge of bonds for the construction of roads and bridges.

(c) The total expenditures for road and bridge projects, including by category established pursuant to paragraph (b).

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

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

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

(2) Each county shall report the information required in subsection (1) in the format specified by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall compile the information from each county into a report and submit the report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Department of Transportation.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 316.183, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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316.183 Unlawful speed.—

(2) On all streets or highways, the maximum speed limits for all vehicles must be 30 miles per hour in business or residence districts, and 55 miles per hour at any time at all other locations. However, with respect to a residence district, a county or municipality may set a maximum speed limit of 20 or 25 miles per hour on local streets and highways after an investigation determines that such a limit is reasonable. It is not necessary to conduct a separate investigation for each residence district. The department shall determine the safe and available minimum speed limit on all highways that are ~~comprise~~ a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways and have at least ~~not fewer than~~ four lanes ~~is 40 miles per hour, except that when the posted speed limit is 70 miles per hour, the minimum speed limit is 50 miles per hour.~~

Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 316.187, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.187 Establishment of state speed zones.—

(2)(a) The maximum allowable speed limit on limited access highways is 75 ~~70~~ miles per hour.

(b) The maximum allowable speed limit on any other highway that ~~which~~ is outside an urban area of 5,000 or more persons and that ~~which~~ has at least four lanes divided by a median strip is 70 ~~65~~ miles per hour.

(c) The Department of Transportation is authorized to set

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such maximum and minimum speed limits for travel over other roadways under its authority as it deems safe and advisable, not to exceed as a maximum limit 65 ~~60~~ miles per hour.

Section 4. Subsections (8) and (9) are added to section 316.20655, Florida Statutes, to read:

316.20655 Electric bicycle regulations.—

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

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

Section 5. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section 316.2128, Florida Statutes, to read:

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

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

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92 (8) A local government may provide training on the safe
93 operation of motorized scooters and micromobility devices and
94 compliance with the traffic laws of this state that apply to
95 motorized scooters and micromobility devices.

96 **Section 6. Section 320.0849, Florida Statutes, is created**
97 **to read:**

98 320.0849 Expectant mother parking permits.—

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

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

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

109 (a) Certification provided by a physician licensed under
110 chapter 458 or chapter 459 that the applicant is an expectant
111 mother.

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

113 (c) The physician's certification number.

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

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(e) The signatures of:

1. The certifying physician.

2. The applicant.

3. The employee of the department processing the application.

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

Section 7. Subsection (14) of section 331.3051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:

~~(14) Partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council to coordinate and specify how aerospace planning and programming will be part of the state's cooperative transportation planning process.~~

Section 8. Subsection (6) of section 334.044, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(6) To acquire, by the exercise of the power of eminent domain as provided by law, all property or property rights, whether public or private, which it may determine are necessary to the performance of its duties and the execution of its

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142 powers, including advance purchase of property or property
143 rights to preserve a corridor for future proposed improvements.

144 **Section 9. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 334.065,**
145 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

146 334.065 Center for Urban Transportation Research.—

147 (1) There is established within ~~at~~ the University of South
148 Florida the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, ~~to~~
149 ~~be administered by the Board of Governors of the State~~
150 ~~University System.~~ The responsibilities of the center include,
151 but are not limited to, conducting and facilitating research on
152 issues related to urban transportation problems in this state
153 and serving as an information exchange and depository for the
154 most current information pertaining to urban transportation and
155 related issues.

156 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically ~~and~~
157 ~~objectively~~ review and advise the center concerning its research
158 program. ~~Except for projects mandated by law, state-funded base~~
159 ~~projects shall not be undertaken without approval of the~~
160 ~~advisory board.~~ The membership of the board shall consist of
161 nine experts in transportation-related areas, as follows:

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

163 (b) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
164 Representatives.

165 (c) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her
166 designee.

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

(e) A member of the Florida Transportation Commission.

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

Section 10. Section 334.63, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

334.63 Project concept studies; project development and
environmental studies.—

(1) All project concept studies and project development
and environmental studies for capacity improvement projects on
limited-access facilities must include the evaluation of
alternatives that provide transportation capacity using elevated
roadways above existing lanes.

(2) All project development and environmental studies for
new alignment projects and new capacity improvement projects
must be completed within 18 months after commencement to the

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192 maximum extent possible.

193 **Section 11. Subsections (4), (7), and (15) of section**
194 **337.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

195 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids;
196 emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders;
197 combined design and construction contracts; progress payments;
198 records; requirements of vehicle registration.—

199 (4)(a) The department may award the proposed construction
200 and maintenance work to the lowest responsible bidder, or in the
201 instance of a time-plus-money contract, the lowest evaluated
202 responsible bidder, or it may reject all bids and proceed to
203 rebid the work in accordance with subsection (2) or otherwise
204 perform the work.

205 (b)1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
206 contrary, if the department intends to reject all bids on any
207 project after announcing but before posting official notice of
208 such intent, the department must provide to the lowest
209 responsive and responsible bidder the opportunity to negotiate
210 the scope of work with the corresponding reduction in price, as
211 provided in the bid, to provide a reduced bid without filing a
212 protest or posting a bond under paragraph (5) (a). Upon reaching
213 a decision regarding such bidder's reduced bid, the department
214 must post notice of final agency action to either reject all
215 bids or accept the reduced bid.

216 2. This subsection does not prohibit the filing of a

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217 protest by any bidder or alter the deadlines in s. 120.57.

218 3. Notwithstanding ss. 120.57(3)(c) and 287.057(25), upon
219 receipt of a timely filed formal written protest, the department
220 may continue with the process provided for in this subsection
221 but may not take final agency action as to the lowest responsive
222 and responsible bidder, except as part of the department's final
223 agency action in the protest or if the protesting party
224 dismisses the protest.

225 (7)(a) If the department determines that it is in the best
226 interests of the public, the department may combine the design
227 and construction phases of a project into a single contract.
228 Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. For
229 design-build contracts, the department must receive at least
230 three letters of interest, and the department shall request
231 proposals from no fewer than three of the design-build firms
232 submitting such letters of interest. If a design-build firm
233 withdraws from consideration after the department requests
234 proposals, the department may continue if at least two proposals
235 are received.

236 (b) If the department determines that it is in the best
237 interests of the public, the department may combine the design
238 and construction phases of a project fully funded in the work
239 program into a single contract and select the design-build firm
240 in the early stages of a project to ensure that the design-build
241 firm is part of the collaboration and development of the design

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as part of a step-by-step progression through construction. Such a contract is referred to as a phased design-build contract. For phased design-build contracts, selection and award must include a two-phase process. For phase one, the department shall competitively award the contract to a design-build firm based upon qualifications, provided that the department has received at least three statements of qualifications from qualified design-build firms. If the department elects, during phase one, to enter into contracts with more than one design-build firm based on qualifications, the department shall competitively select a single design-build firm to perform the work associated with phase two. For phase two, the design-build firm may independently perform portions of the work and shall competitively bid construction trade subcontractor packages and, based upon the design-build firm's estimates of its independently performed work and these bids, negotiate with the department a ~~fixed firm price or~~ guaranteed maximum price that meets the project budget and scope as advertised in the request for qualifications.

~~(c) Design-build contracts and phased design-build contracts may be advertised and awarded notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However, construction activities may not begin on any portion of such projects for which the department has not yet obtained title to the necessary rights-of-way and easements for the construction of that portion~~

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~~of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental entity and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. Title to rights-of-way shall be deemed to have vested in the state when the title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription.~~

(c)~~(d)~~ The department shall adopt by rule procedures for administering design-build and phased design-build contracts. Such procedures shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Prequalification requirements.
2. Public announcement procedures.
3. Scope of service requirements.
4. Letters of interest requirements.
5. Short-listing criteria and procedures.
6. Bid proposal requirements.
7. Technical review committee.
8. Selection and award processes.
9. Stipend requirements.

(d)~~(e)~~ For ~~design-build contracts and~~ phased design-build contracts, the department must receive at least three letters of interest, and in order to proceed with a request for proposals.~~the department shall request proposals from no fewer than three of the design-build firms submitting such letters of interest.~~ If a design-build firm withdraws from consideration after the department requests proposals, the department may continue if at least two proposals are received.

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(15) Each contract let by the department for performance of bridge construction or maintenance on ~~over~~ navigable waters must contain a provision requiring marine general liability insurance, including protection and indemnity coverage, in an amount to be determined by the department, which covers third-party personal injury and property damage caused by vessels used by the contractor in the performance of the work. Protection and indemnity coverage may be covered by endorsement on the marine general liability insurance policy or may be a separate policy.

Section 12. Subsections (1), (2), and (8) of section 337.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

(1)(a) A ~~Any~~ contractor desiring to bid for the performance of a ~~any~~ construction contract in excess of \$250,000 which the department proposes to let must first be certified by the department as qualified pursuant to this section and rules of the department. The rules of the department must address the qualification of contractors to bid on construction contracts in excess of \$250,000 and must include requirements with respect to the equipment, past record, experience, financial resources, and organizational personnel of the applying contractor which are necessary to perform the specific class of work for which the contractor seeks certification.

(b) A ~~Any~~ contractor who desires to bid on contracts in

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317 excess of \$50 million and who is not qualified and in good
318 standing with the department as of January 1, 2019, must first
319 be certified by the department as qualified and must have
320 satisfactorily completed two projects, each in excess of \$15
321 million, for the department or for any other state department of
322 transportation.

323 (c) The department may limit the dollar amount of any
324 contract upon which a contractor is qualified to bid or the
325 aggregate total dollar volume of contracts such contractor is
326 allowed to have under contract at any one time.

327 (d)1. Each applying contractor seeking qualification to
328 bid on construction contracts in excess of \$250,000 shall
329 furnish the department a statement under oath, on such forms as
330 the department may prescribe, setting forth detailed information
331 as required on the application.

332 2. Each application for certification must be accompanied
333 by audited, certified financial statements prepared in
334 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and
335 auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in
336 this state or another state. The audited, certified financial
337 statements must be for the applying contractor and must have
338 been prepared within the immediately preceding 12 months.

339 3. The department may not consider any financial
340 information of the parent entity of the applying contractor, if
341 any.

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342 4. The department may not certify as qualified any
343 applying contractor who fails to submit the audited, certified
344 financial statements required by this subsection.

345 5. If the application or the annual financial statement
346 shows the financial condition of the applying contractor more
347 than 4 months before the date on which the application is
348 received by the department, the applicant must also submit
349 interim audited, certified financial statements prepared in
350 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and
351 auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in
352 this state or another state. The interim financial statements
353 must cover the period from the end date of the annual statement
354 and must show the financial condition of the applying contractor
355 no more than 4 months before the date that the interim financial
356 statements are received by the department. However, upon the
357 request of the applying contractor, an application and
358 accompanying annual or interim financial statement received by
359 the department within 15 days after either 4-month period under
360 this subsection shall be considered timely.

361 6. An applying contractor desiring to bid exclusively for
362 the performance of construction contracts with proposed budget
363 estimates of less than \$2 million may submit reviewed annual or
364 reviewed interim financial statements prepared by a certified
365 public accountant.

366 (e) The information required by this subsection is

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confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1).

(f) The department shall act upon the application for qualification within 30 days after the department determines that the application is complete.

(g) The department may waive the requirements of this subsection for:

1. A push-button contract or a task work order contract that has a contract price of \$1 million or less; or

2. A project that has ~~projects having~~ a contract price of \$500,000 or less if the department determines that the project is of a noncritical nature and the waiver will not endanger public health, safety, or property.

(2) Certification shall be necessary in order to bid on a road, bridge, or public transportation construction contract of more than \$250,000. However, the successful bidder on any construction contract must furnish a contract bond before ~~prior~~ to the award of the contract. The department may waive the requirement for all or a portion of a contract bond for contracts of \$250,000 ~~\$150,000~~ or less under s. 337.18(1).

(8) This section does not apply to maintenance contracts. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contractor seeking to bid on a maintenance contract for which the majority of the work includes repair and replacement of safety appurtenances, including, but not limited to, guardrails, attenuators, traffic signals, and striping, must possess the prescribed

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392 qualifications, equipment, past record, and experience required
393 to perform such work.

394 **Section 13. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 337.185,**
395 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

396 337.185 State Arbitration Board.—

397 (4) The contractor may submit a claim greater than
398 \$250,000 up to \$2 million ~~\$1 million~~ per contract or, upon
399 agreement of the parties, greater than up to \$2 million per
400 contract to be arbitrated by the board. An award issued by the
401 board pursuant to this subsection is final if a request for a
402 trial de novo is not filed within the time provided by Rule
403 1.830, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. At the trial de novo,
404 the court may not admit evidence that there has been an
405 arbitration proceeding, the nature or amount of the award, or
406 any other matter concerning the conduct of the arbitration
407 proceeding, except that sworn testimony given in connection with
408 ~~at~~ an arbitration hearing may be used for any purpose otherwise
409 permitted by the Florida Evidence Code. If a request for trial
410 de novo is not filed within the time provided, the award issued
411 by the board is final and enforceable by a court of law.

412 (5) An arbitration request may not be made to the board
413 before final acceptance but must be made to the board within 820
414 days after final acceptance or within 360 days after written
415 notice by the department of a claim related to a written
416 warranty or defect after final acceptance, whichever is later.

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Section 14. Subsection (2) of section 337.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.19 Suits by and against department; limitation of actions; forum.—

(2) Suits by and against the department under this section shall be commenced within 820 days after ~~of~~ the final acceptance of the work or within 360 days after written notice by the department of a claim related to a written warranty or defect after final acceptance, whichever is later. ~~This section shall apply to all contracts entered into after June 30, 1993.~~

Section 15. Subsection (10) of section 339.175, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (11), subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (i), and (j) of subsection (6), paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of subsection (7), and present subsection (11) are amended, and a new subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

(1) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of multimodal ~~surface~~ transportation systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight and foster economic growth and development within and through urbanized areas of this state in accordance with the department's mission statement ~~while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas~~

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~~emissions through metropolitan transportation planning processes~~
~~identified in this section.~~ To accomplish these objectives,
metropolitan planning organizations, referred to in this section
as M.P.O.'s, shall develop, in cooperation with the state and
public transit operators, transportation plans and programs for
metropolitan areas. The plans and programs for each metropolitan
area must provide for the development and integrated management
and operation of transportation systems and facilities,
including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation
facilities that will function as an intermodal transportation
system for the metropolitan area, based upon the prevailing
principles provided in s. 334.046(1). The process for developing
such plans and programs shall provide for consideration of all
modes of transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative,
and comprehensive, to the degree appropriate, based on the
complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed. To
ensure that the process is integrated with the statewide
planning process, M.P.O.'s shall develop plans and programs that
identify transportation facilities that should function as an
integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis
to facilities that serve important national, state, and regional
transportation functions. For the purposes of this section,
those facilities include the facilities on the Strategic
Intermodal System designated under s. 339.63 and facilities for
which projects have been identified pursuant to s. 339.2819(4).

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(2) DESIGNATION.—

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

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

~~a. Consult with every other M.P.O. designated for the urbanized area and the state to coordinate plans and~~

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~~transportation improvement programs.~~

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

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

(6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers, privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in the planning and programming of transportation facilities, including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not perform project production or delivery for capital improvement projects on the State Highway System.

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

1. Support the economic vitality of the contiguous

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517 urbanized metropolitan area, especially by enabling global
518 competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

519 2. Increase the safety and security of the transportation
520 system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

521 3. Increase the accessibility and mobility options
522 available to people and for freight.

523 4. Protect and enhance the environment, conserve natural
524 resources ~~promote energy conservation~~, and improve quality of
525 life.

526 5. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the
527 transportation system, across and between modes and contiguous
528 urbanized metropolitan areas, for people and freight.

529 6. Promote efficient system management and operation.

530 7. Emphasize the preservation of the existing
531 transportation system.

532 8. Improve the resilience of transportation
533 infrastructure.

534 9. Reduce traffic and congestion.

535 ~~(i) By December 31, 2023, the M.P.O.'s serving~~
536 ~~Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties must submit a~~
537 ~~feasibility report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,~~
538 ~~and the Speaker of the House of Representatives exploring the~~
539 ~~benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single~~
540 ~~M.P.O. serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which~~
541 ~~would be to:~~

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

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

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

~~(i)-(j)~~1. To more fully accomplish the purposes for which M.P.O.'s have been mandated, the department shall, at least annually, convene M.P.O.'s for the purpose of exchanging best practices. M.P.O.'s may shall develop committees or working groups as needed to accomplish such purpose. Training for new M.P.O. governing board members shall be provided by the department or, at the discretion of the department, by an entity pursuant to a contract with the department, by the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, or by the Implementing Solutions from Transportation Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technologies (I-STREET) living lab coordination mechanisms with one another to expand and improve transportation within the state. The appropriate method of coordination between M.P.O.'s shall vary depending upon the project involved and given local and regional needs. Consequently, it is appropriate to set forth a flexible methodology that can be used by M.P.O.'s to coordinate with other M.P.O.'s and appropriate political subdivisions as circumstances demand.

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2. Any M.P.O. may join with any other M.P.O. or any individual political subdivision to coordinate activities or to achieve any federal or state transportation planning or development goals or purposes consistent with federal or state law. When an M.P.O. determines that it is appropriate to join with another M.P.O. or any political subdivision to coordinate activities, the M.P.O. or political subdivision shall enter into an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01, which, at a minimum, creates a separate legal or administrative entity to coordinate the transportation planning or development activities required to achieve the goal or purpose; provides the purpose for which the entity is created; provides the duration of the agreement and the entity and specifies how the agreement may be terminated, modified, or rescinded; describes the precise organization of the entity, including who has voting rights on the governing board, whether alternative voting members are provided for, how voting members are appointed, and what the relative voting strength is for each constituent M.P.O. or political subdivision; provides the manner in which the parties to the agreement will provide for the financial support of the entity and payment of costs and expenses of the entity; provides the manner in which funds may be paid to and disbursed from the entity; and provides how members of the entity will resolve disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal agreement or disputes relating to the operation of the entity.

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Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its recordation in the official public records of each county in which a member of the entity created by the interlocal agreement has a voting member. Multiple M.P.O.'s may merge, combine, or otherwise join together as a single M.P.O.

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

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617 (a) Identify transportation facilities, including, but not
618 limited to, major roadways, airports, seaports, spaceports,
619 commuter rail systems, transit systems, and intermodal or
620 multimodal terminals that will function as an integrated
621 metropolitan transportation system. The long-range
622 transportation plan must give emphasis to those transportation
623 facilities that serve national, statewide, or regional
624 functions, and must consider the goals and objectives identified
625 in the Florida Transportation Plan as provided in s. 339.155. If
626 a project is located within the boundaries of more than one
627 M.P.O., the M.P.O.'s must coordinate plans regarding the project
628 in the long-range transportation plan. ~~Multiple M.P.O.'s within~~
629 ~~a contiguous urbanized area must coordinate the development of~~
630 ~~long-range transportation plans to be reviewed by the~~
631 ~~Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council.~~

632 (b) Include a financial plan that demonstrates how the
633 plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and
634 private sources which are reasonably expected to be available to
635 carry out the plan, and recommends any additional financing
636 strategies for needed projects and programs. The financial plan
637 may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that
638 would be included in the adopted long-range transportation plan
639 if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in
640 the financial plan were available. For the purpose of developing
641 the long-range transportation plan, the M.P.O. and the

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642 department shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that
643 will be available to support the plan implementation. Innovative
644 financing techniques may be used to fund needed projects and
645 programs. Such techniques may include the assessment of tolls,
646 public-private partnerships, the use of value capture financing,
647 or the use of value pricing. Multiple M.P.O.'s within a
648 contiguous urbanized area must ensure, to the maximum extent
649 possible, the consistency of data used in the planning process.

650 (d) Indicate, as appropriate, proposed transportation
651 enhancement activities, including, but not limited to,
652 pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails or facilities that are
653 regionally significant or critical linkages for the Florida
654 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network, scenic easements,
655 landscaping, integration of advanced air mobility, and
656 integration of autonomous and electric vehicles, electric
657 bicycles, and motorized scooters used for freight, commuter, or
658 micromobility purposes ~~historic preservation, mitigation of~~
659 ~~water pollution due to highway runoff, and control of outdoor~~
660 ~~advertising.~~

661
662 In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each
663 M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies,
664 representatives of transportation agency employees, freight
665 shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private
666 providers of transportation, representatives of users of public

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transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan. The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the M.P.O.

(10) AGREEMENTS; ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(a) Each M.P.O. may execute a written agreement with the department, which shall be reviewed, and updated as necessary, every 5 years, which clearly establishes the cooperative relationship essential to accomplish the transportation planning requirements of state and federal law. Roles, responsibilities, and expectations for accomplishing consistency with federal and state requirements and priorities must be set forth in the agreement. In addition, the agreement must set forth the M.P.O.'s responsibility, in collaboration with the department, to identify, prioritize, and present to the department a complete list of multimodal transportation projects consistent with the needs of the metropolitan planning area. It is the department's responsibility to schedule projects in the state transportation improvement program, in collaboration with the M.P.O.'s, considering the annual M.P.O. list of priority projects, as available funding allows.

(b) The department must establish, in collaboration with each M.P.O., quality performance metrics such as safety, infrastructure condition, congestion relief, and mobility. Each M.P.O. must, as part of its long-range transportation plan, in

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692 direct coordination with the department, develop targets for
693 each performance measure within the metropolitan planning area
694 boundary. The performance targets must support efficient and
695 safe movement of people and goods both within the metropolitan
696 planning area and between regions. Each M.P.O. must report
697 progress toward establishing performance targets for each
698 measure annually in its transportation improvement plan. The
699 department shall evaluate and post on its website whether each
700 M.P.O. has made significant progress toward its target for the
701 applicable reporting period.

702 ~~(11) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.~~

703 ~~(a) A Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council~~
704 ~~is created to augment, and not supplant, the role of the~~
705 ~~individual M.P.O.'s in the cooperative transportation planning~~
706 ~~process described in this section.~~

707 ~~(b) The council shall consist of one representative from~~
708 ~~each M.P.O. and shall elect a chairperson annually from its~~
709 ~~number. Each M.P.O. shall also elect an alternate representative~~
710 ~~from each M.P.O. to vote in the absence of the representative.~~
711 ~~Members of the council do not receive any compensation for their~~
712 ~~services, but may be reimbursed from funds made available to~~
713 ~~council members for travel and per diem expenses incurred in the~~
714 ~~performance of their council duties as provided in s. 112.061.~~

715 ~~(c) The powers and duties of the Metropolitan Planning~~
716 ~~Organization Advisory Council are to:~~

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717 ~~1. Establish bylaws by action of its governing board~~
718 ~~providing procedural rules to guide its proceedings and~~
719 ~~consideration of matters before the council, or, alternatively,~~
720 ~~adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement~~
721 ~~provisions of law conferring powers or duties upon it.~~

722 ~~2. Assist M.P.O.'s in carrying out the urbanized area~~
723 ~~transportation planning process by serving as the principal~~
724 ~~forum for collective policy discussion pursuant to law.~~

725 ~~3. Serve as a clearinghouse for review and comment by~~
726 ~~M.P.O.'s on the Florida Transportation Plan and on other issues~~
727 ~~required to comply with federal or state law in carrying out the~~
728 ~~urbanized area transportation and systematic planning processes~~
729 ~~instituted pursuant to s. 339.155. The council must also report~~
730 ~~annually to the Florida Transportation Commission on the~~
731 ~~alignment of M.P.O. long range transportation plans with the~~
732 ~~Florida Transportation Plan.~~

733 ~~4. Employ an executive director and such other staff as~~
734 ~~necessary to perform adequately the functions of the council,~~
735 ~~within budgetary limitations. The executive director and staff~~
736 ~~are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and serve at the~~
737 ~~direction and control of the council. The council is assigned to~~
738 ~~the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation~~
739 ~~for fiscal and accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise~~
740 ~~function independently of the control and direction of the~~
741 ~~department.~~

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~~5. Deliver training on federal and state program requirements and procedures to M.P.O. board members and M.P.O. staff.~~

~~6. Adopt an agency strategic plan that prioritizes steps the agency will take to carry out its mission within the context of the state comprehensive plan and any other statutory mandates and directives.~~

~~(d) The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council may enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287 to support the activities described in paragraph (c). Lobbying and the acceptance of funds, grants, assistance, gifts, or bequests from private, local, state, or federal sources are prohibited.~~

Section 16. Subsection (4) of section 339.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.65 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridors.—

(4) The department shall develop and maintain a plan of Strategic Intermodal System highway corridor projects that are anticipated to be let to contract for construction within a time period of at least 20 years. The department, in collaboration with each M.P.O., shall prioritize projects that address gaps in a corridor so that the corridor becomes contiguous. The plan shall also identify when segments of the corridor will meet the standards and criteria developed pursuant to subsection (5).

Section 17. Section 339.84, Florida Statutes, is amended

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767 **to read:**

768 339.84 Workforce development.—

769 (1) Beginning in the 2023-2024 fiscal year and annually
770 thereafter for 5 years, \$5 million shall be allocated from the
771 State Transportation Trust Fund to the workforce development
772 program as provided in s. 334.044(35) to promote career paths in
773 Florida's road and bridge industry.

774 (2) In fiscal years 2025-2026 through 2029-2030, the
775 department may expend up to \$5 million each fiscal year for
776 grants to Florida College System institutions and high schools
777 for the purchase of equipment simulators with authentic original
778 equipment manufacturer controls. Each grant recipient must offer
779 an elective course in heavy civil construction the curriculum of
780 which is specifically designed to use an equipment simulator and
781 other instructional aides to, at a minimum, provide the student
782 with OSHA 10 Construction certification and an equipment
783 simulator certification. In awarding such grants, the department
784 shall give priority to Florida College System institutions and
785 high schools in rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656(2).

786 **Section 18. Section 339.85, Florida Statutes, is created**
787 **to read:**

788 339.85 Next-generation Traffic Signal Modernization
789 Program.—

790 (1) The department shall implement the Next-generation
791 Traffic Signal Modernization Program. The Next-generation

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Traffic Signal Modernization Program shall consist of retrofitting existing traffic signals and controllers and providing a communication backbone for remote operations and management of such signals on the State Highway System and the nonstate highway system. Such signal upgrades shall be prioritized based on average annual daily traffic and the impact of adding to an existing interconnected system.

(2) The program shall consist of an advanced traffic management platform that uses radar-camera fusion to deliver accurate detection in all weather conditions, offering fully integrated stop bar and advance detection, alongside dilemma zone and pedestrian protection. In addition to supporting time-of-day signal timing plans, the program shall provide real-time traffic optimization to improve flow and enhance safety. The program must comply with leading cybersecurity standards, such as SOC 2 and ISO 27001, ensuring robust data protection.

Section 19. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 331.310, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.310 Powers and duties of the board of directors.—

(2) The board of directors shall:

(e) Prepare an annual report of operations as a supplement to the annual report required under s. 331.3051(15) ~~s. 331.3051(16)~~. The report must include, but not be limited to, a balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in financial position, a reconciliation of changes in equity

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accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, the auditor's report, a summary of the status of existing and proposed bonding projects, comments from management about the year's business, and prospects for the next year.

Section 20. The Legislature finds that the widening of that portion of Interstate 4 between U.S. Highway 27 in Polk County and Interstate 75 in Hillsborough County is in the public interest and in the strategic interest of the region to improve the movement of people and goods. The Department of Transportation shall develop a report that includes, but is not limited to, detailed costs for project development and environmental studies, design, acquisition of rights-of-way, and construction and a schedule to complete the widening as expeditiously as possible. Such report shall identify funding shortfalls and strategies to address such shortfalls, including, but not limited to, using express lane toll revenues generated on the Interstate 4 corridor and other available department funds for public-private partnerships. The department shall submit the report by December 31, 2025, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 21. By October 31, 2025, the Department of Transportation shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report that provides a comprehensive review of the boundaries of

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each of the department's districts and whether any district's boundaries should be redrawn as a result of population growth and increased urban density.

Section 22. Section 332.136, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

332.136 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; airport pilot program.—

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

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

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

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

Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 348.0304, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0304 Greater Miami Expressway Agency.—

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(3) (a) The governing body of the agency shall consist of nine voting members. Except for the district secretary of the department, each member must be a permanent resident of a county served by the agency and may not hold, or have held in the previous 2 years, elected or appointed office in such county, except that this paragraph does not apply to any initial appointment under paragraph (b) or to any member who previously served on the governing body of the former Greater Miami Expressway Agency. Each member may only serve two terms of 4 years each, except that there is no restriction on the term of the department's district secretary. Four members, each of whom must be a permanent resident of Miami-Dade County, shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate at the next regular session of the Legislature. Refusal or failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment shall create a vacancy. Appointments made by the Governor and board of county commissioners of Miami-Dade County shall reflect the state's interests in the transportation sector and represent the intent, duties, and purpose of the Greater Miami Expressway Agency, and have at least 3 years of professional experience in one or more of the following areas: finance; land use planning; tolling industry; or transportation engineering. Two members, who must be residents of an unincorporated portion of the geographic area described in subsection (1) and residing within 15 miles of an ~~area with the highest amount of agency toll~~ road ~~roads~~, shall be

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appointed by the board of county commissioners of Miami-Dade County. Two members, who must be residents of incorporated municipalities within a county served by the agency, shall be appointed by the metropolitan planning organization for a county served by the agency. The district secretary of the department serving in the district that contains Miami-Dade County shall serve as an ex officio voting member of the governing body.

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove lines 2-143 and insert:

An act relating to transportation; creating s. 218.3215, F.S.; requiring counties to annually by a date certain provide the Office of Economic and Demographic Research with certain information; requiring counties to report such information in the format specified by the office; requiring the office to compile the information into a report and submit the report to the Legislature and the Department of Transportation; amending s. 316.183, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to determine certain speed limits; amending s. 316.187, F.S.; increasing certain speed limits; amending s. 316.20655, F.S.; authorizing a local government to adopt certain ordinances and provide certain training

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relating to the safe operation of electric bicycles;
amending s. 316.2128, F.S.; authorizing a local
government to adopt certain ordinances and provide
certain training relating to the safe operation of
motorized scooters and micromobility devices; creating
s. 320.0849, F.S.; requiring the department to issue
expectant mother parking permits; specifying the
validity period thereof; providing design requirements
for expectant mother parking permit placards or
decals; providing application requirements;
authorizing such permitholders to park in certain
spaces; amending s. 331.3051, F.S.; conforming
provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
334.044, F.S.; revising conditions under which the
Department of Transportation may acquire property
through eminent domain; amending s. 334.065, F.S.;
revising membership of the Center for Urban
Transportation Research advisory board; creating s.
334.63, F.S.; providing requirements for certain
project concept studies and project development and
environmental studies; amending s. 337.11, F.S.;
providing competitive bidding and award requirements
for contracts for certain projects; providing
construction; revising requirements for requests for
proposals for design-build contracts; revising

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942 requirements for selection and award of phased design-
943 build contracts; removing provisions relating to
944 design-build and phased design-build contracts and
945 construction; requiring contracts to contain;
946 protection and indemnity coverage; amending s. 337.14,
947 F.S.; authorizing the department to waive certain
948 requirements for push-button or task work order
949 contracts; revising the amount of contracts for which
950 the department may waive bonding requirements;
951 requiring a contractor seeking to bid on a certain
952 maintenance contract to possess certain
953 qualifications; amending s. 337.185, F.S.; revising
954 the amount of a contract that may be subject to
955 arbitration; revising the timeframe in which
956 arbitration requests must be made to the State
957 Arbitration Board; amending s. 337.19, F.S.; revising
958 the timeframe in which certain suits by and against
959 the department must commence; removing an obsolete
960 provision; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; revising
961 legislative intent; revising requirements for the
962 designation of additional M.P.O.'s; revising projects
963 and strategies to be considered in developing an
964 M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan and
965 transportation improvement program; removing obsolete
966 provisions; requiring the department to convene

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M.P.O.'s to exchange best practices; authorizing such
M.P.O.'s to develop committees or working groups;
requiring training for new M.P.O. governing board
members to be provided by the department or another
specified entity; removing provisions relating to
M.P.O. coordination mechanisms; including public-
private partnerships in authorized financing
techniques; revising proposed transportation
enhancement activities that must be indicated by the
long-range transportation plan; authorizing each
M.P.O. to execute a written agreement with the
department regarding state and federal transportation
planning requirements; providing that the department
is responsible for scheduling projects in the state
transportation improvement program in collaboration
with the M.P.O.'s; requiring the department and
M.P.O.'s to establish certain quality performance
metrics and develop certain performance targets;
requiring the department to evaluate and post on its
website whether each M.P.O. has made significant
progress toward such targets; removing provisions
relating to the Metropolitan Planning Organization
Advisory Council; amending s. 339.65, F.S.; requiring
the department, in collaboration with each M.P.O., to
prioritize certain Strategic Intermodal System highway

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992 corridor projects; amending s. 339.84, F.S.;

993 authorizing the department to expend certain funds for

994 grants for the purchase of certain equipment within a

995 specified timeframe; providing requirements for grant

996 recipients; requiring the department to give certain

997 priority in awarding grants; creating s. 339.85, F.S.;

998 requiring the department to implement the Next-

999 generation Traffic Signal Modernization Program;

1000 providing requirements for such program; amending s.

1001 331.310, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing

1002 legislative findings regarding widening of a certain

1003 roadway; requiring the department to develop and

1004 submit to the Governor and Legislature a report with

1005 certain specifications; requiring the department to

1006 submit to the Governor and Legislature a report

1007 regarding department districts; creating s. 332.136,

1008 F.S.; establishing an airport pilot program at the

1009 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; providing purpose

1010 of the pilot program; requiring the department to

1011 adopt rules; requiring the department, by a specified

1012 date, to submit a report to the Governor and the

1013 Legislature for specified purposes; providing for

1014 repeal on a specified date; amending s. 348.0304,

1015 F.S.; revising membership of the governing body of the

1016 Greater Miami Expressway Agency;

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