MPOAC

Staff Directors' Advisory Committee

Chair Dave Hutchinson, Presiding

October 24, 2024, Orlando, Florida

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Remarks by Chair Hutchinson

Self Introductions

Public Comments
(NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Action Items:

Chair Dave Hutchinson

Action Items:

- Approval of Minutes: July 27, 2024
- Final Approval of Strategic Directions Plan

MPOAC Freight and Rail Committee Report

Johnny Wong, Ph.D., Hillsborough TPO Executive Director

Vice-Chair Fright and Rail Committee

MPOAC

MPOAC Executive Director's Report

Mark Reichert
Executive Director, MPOAC

MPOAC Budget Report

Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council
FY 2024/2025 Budget
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Category	Annual Allocation (100% PL Funds)	1st Qtr Expenditures 7/1/24-9/30/24	2nd Qtr Expenditures 10/1/24-12/31/24	3rd Qtr Expenditures 1/1/25-3/31/25	4th Quarter Expenditures 4/1/25-6/30/25	Expenditures to Date	Percent of Budget Expended	Remaining Balance
Operating Budget (PL Funds)								
Salaries/Benefits	**$264,000.00**	**$52,153.10**				**$52,153.10**	**19.75%**	**$211,846.90**
Expenses	**$58,500.00**	**$9,901.75**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$9,901.75**	**16.93%**	**$48,598.25**
Travel		$5,896.58				$5,896.58		
Supplies		$41.23				$41.23		
Communications		$133.41				$133.41		
Property Rental						$0.00		
Equipment Rental		$1,677.50				$1,677.50		
Subscriptions/Registration/Training		$2,153.03				$2,153.03		
Contracted Services	**$27,500.00**	**$2,992.45**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$2,992.45**	**10.88%**	**$24,507.55**
General Counsel	$27,000.00	$2,925.39				$2,925.39		$24,074.61
Public Service (Meeting) Notices	$500.00	$67.06				$67.06		$432.94
Total Operating Budget	**$350,000.00**	**$65,047.30**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$65,047.30**	**18.58%**	**$284,952.70**
Work Program Budget (PL Funds)								
Consultant Services	**$250,000.00**	**$0.00**				**$0.00**	**0.00%**	**$250,000.00**
Renaissance Planning Group		$0.00						
MPOAC Membership Dues	**$200,000.00**	**$194,063.10**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$194,063.10**	**97.03%**	**$5,936.90**
AMPO	$113,563.10	$113,563.10				$113,563.10		$0.00
NARC	$80,000.00	$80,000.00				$80,000.00		$0.00
FBT	$1,000.00					$0.00		$1,000.00
ITS Florida	$500.00					$0.00		$500.00
FPTA	$500.00	$500.00				$500.00		$0.00
Total Work Program Budget	**$450,000.00**	**$194,063.10**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$194,063.10**	**43.13%**	**$255,936.90**
Total Budget	**$800,000.00**	**$259,110.40**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$259,110.40**	**32.39%**	**$540,889.60**

AMPO/NARC Conference Summaries

AMPO ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

Mark Reichert
Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC)
Mark.Reichert@dot.state.fl.us

Dear Mark,

On behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Awards Selection Committee, it is my pleasure to inform you that **Commissioner Mayra Uribe has been chosen to receive the 2024 Outstanding Elected Official Leadership award**. Congratulations! The submissions in this category were very competitive and showcased the impactful and dedicated efforts occurring across the MPO community. Despite the high quality of all nominees, your submission rose to the top when reviewed by the Selection Committee.

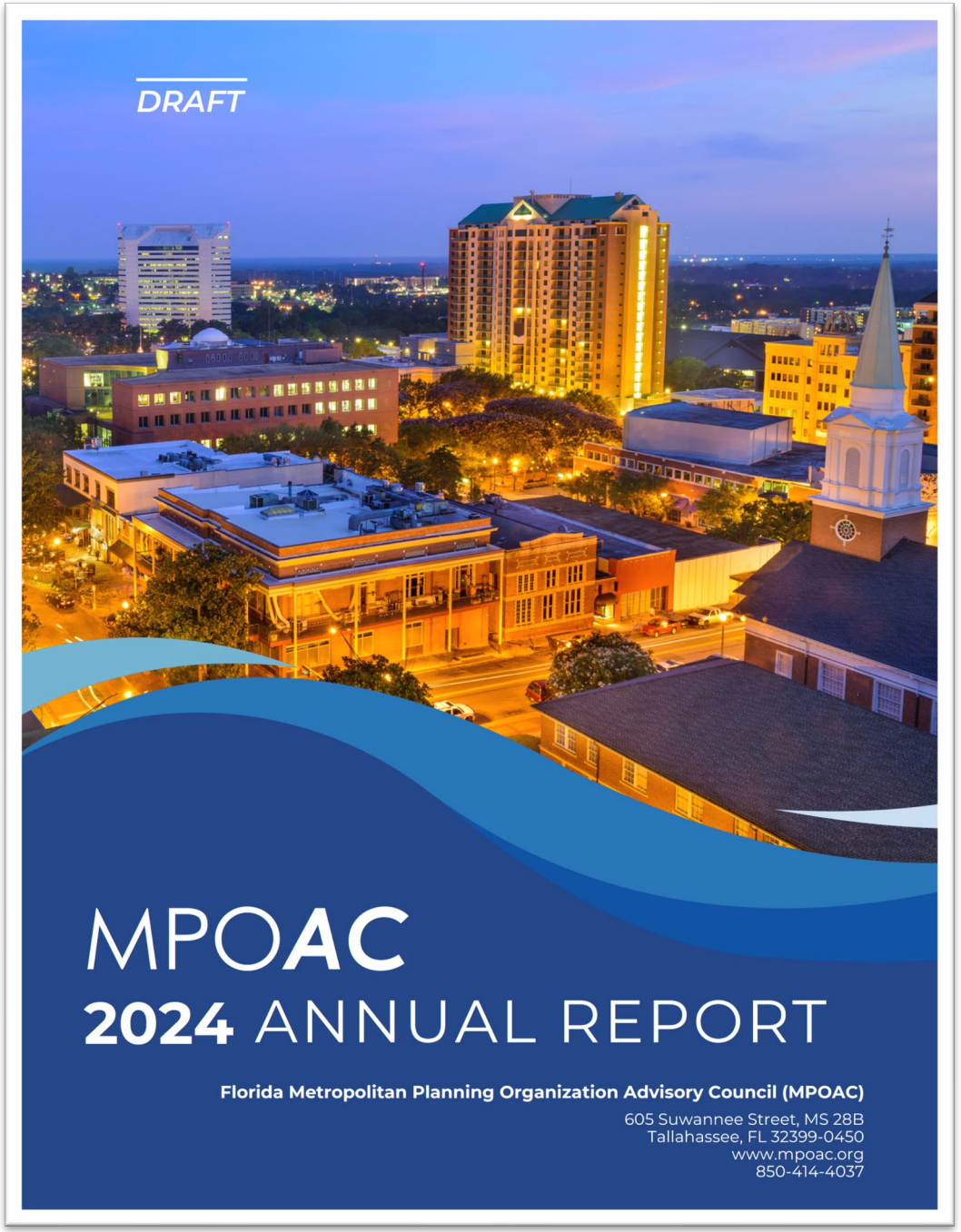
The award will be formally announced during the 2024 AMPO Annual Conference, on Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 12:00-1:30 pm, in Salt Lake City, UT. We are looking forward to presenting Commissioner Uribe with her award at the luncheon. We welcome her to give a brief two-minute acceptance speech.

Thank you,

William Keyrouze

William Keyrouze
Executive Director
Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

MPOAC 2024 Annual Report



Discussion Item: Survey on Key Features of Reorganized MPOAC

Feature Description	High Priority (%)	Medium Priority (%)	Low Priority (%)	Weighted Average
The MPOAC has dedicated staff to implement activities guided by the Strategic Directions Plan and UPWP.	77.14%	20.00%	2.86%	1.26
The MPOAC coordinates with FDOT on legislative and program decisions.	75.00%	16.67%	8.33%	1.33
The MPOAC has representation from USDOT and FDOT.	72.22%	22.22%	5.56%	1.33
The MPOAC in-person meetings are topically focused and are decision-driven.	69.44%	27.78%	2.78%	1.33
The MPOAC informs legislators on the work of the MPOs and the MPOAC as needed.	75.00%	13.89%	11.11%	1.36
The MPOAC has stable and predictable funding.	72.22%	19.44%	8.33%	1.36
The MPOAC informs partners of MPOs' requirements and preferences.	63.89%	33.33%	2.78%	1.39
The MPOAC creates opportunities for sharing information virtually.	63.89%	30.56%	5.56%	1.42
The MPOAC has a Staff Directors Committee that supports the Governing Board.	63.89%	27.78%	8.33%	1.44
The MPOAC provides education and training to local elected officials and MPO staff.	63.89%	27.78%	8.33%	1.44
The MPOAC has a Governing Board of Elected Officials that provides organizational direction.	58.33%	22.22%	19.44%	1.61
The MPOAC's office is located within an FDOT facility.	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%	2.44

High Priority

ALL RESPONSES

The MPOAC has dedicated staff to implement activities guided by the Strategic Directions Plan and UPWP.
The MPOAC coordinates with FDOT on legislative and program decisions.
The MPOAC has representation from USDOT and FDOT.
The MPOAC in-person meetings are topically focused and are decision-driven.

Low Priority

ALL RESPONSES

The MPOAC has a Governing Board of Elected Officials that provides organizational direction.*

The MPOAC's office is located within an FDOT facility.

** This item was scored by the Staff Director as a very low priority.*

Summary

Consensus on Core Priorities:

- Both groups strongly agreed on the importance of having ***dedicated staff***, ***representation from key agencies like USDOT and FDO***T, and the ***need for effective coordination with FDOT***.

Strategic vs. Operational Focus:

- Governing Board Members prioritize more strategic aspects, such as *informing legislators* and maintaining a *Governing Board of Elected Officials*.
- Staff Directors emphasized operational details like the *practicality and frequency of meetings.*

Importance of Independence:

- The MPOAC office being within an FDOT facility was a low priority for both groups which suggests a strong desire for organizational independence.

Discussion Item: Plan for LRTP Reviews of Contiguous MPOs

Responsibilities under HB 425:

Multiple MPO's within a contiguous urbanized area **must coordinate the development of LRTP to be reviewed by the MPOAC**.

The MPOAC must report annually to the FTC on the **alignment of MPO LRTP with the Florida Transportation Plan**.

Multiple MPOs within a contiguous urbanized area must **ensure the consistency of data used in the planning process.**

Task 1: Identifying MPOs within a Contiguous Urbanized Area

- Identify current and future MPOs in contiguous urbanized areas through a combination of inventorying existing coordination arrangements and GIS analysis.
- Timeline: Completion by January 2025.

Task 2: Survey of MPOs' alignment with the FTP and coordination in LRTP development and data consistency

- Web-based survey to MPOs on:
  - LRTP alignment with the 2045 FTP goals
  - Coordination efforts with other MPOs in developing their LRTP
  - Data consistency
- MPOAC may conduct initial and follow-up calls with the MPO-designated LRTP coordinator.

Task 3: Annual FTC Reporting

- MPOAC will prepare a draft report for review by members.
- MPOAC will report to FTC during their annual November meetings.

Draft Content

Included in Meeting Materials:

- Draft Survey
- Draft Schedule
  - Anticipate 8 adopted LRTPs before the end of 2024:
    - First Review – Miami Dade TPO, adoption: *September 17th, 2024*
    - Other reviews between November 2024 and October 2025

Agency Reports

Florida Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Florida Department of Transportation Report

Jennifer Fortunas, P.E., FDOT, Director, Office of Policy Planning
Donna Green, FDOT, Statewide MPO Administrator

FDOT Agency Report

October 24, 2024

Agenda

- MPOAC Coordination Workshop
  - MPO Interviews
  - Best Practices & Next Steps
- Florida Transportation Plan (FTP)
- Questions & Answers

MPO Interviews

Donna M. Green, Statewide MPO Administrator

Office of Policy Planning

Overview

January MPOAC

- FDOT and MPOs discussed how to enhance coordination and collaboration
- 1-hour workshop on project prioritization and programming

April MPOAC

- Recapped January MPOAC workshop
- Announced follow-up interviews with MPOs

October MPOAC

TODAY

- Recap MPO interviews
- Discuss best practices & next steps

About the Interviews

May – June 2024

12 MPO Executive Directors & Staff

- At least one MPO per District
- MPOs varied in size

Thank you for participating!

Question 1 Responses

Where are the opportunities for improvement in the project prioritization process with the District?

- *More frequent communication from FDOT*
- *Clarification on the process and MPO/District roles and responsibilities*
- *More information on funding availability*
- *More draft documents during programming*

Question 2 Responses

Have you seen improvements to the communication or process for project prioritization in recent years?

If so, what has improved recently, and what led to that change?

- *MPO meetings with MPO Liaison and local partners*
- *Increased frequency and trust in communication with FDOT*
- *More positive relationship with MPO Liaison*
- *Better understanding of Work Program because their staff come to meetings*
- *More transparency*

Question 3 Responses

How and when can communication be improved between MPO and the Department's MPO Liaisons?

- *Include District Work Program, Central Office, and local partners in communication to increase transparency while prioritizing projects*
- *Provide clarification for project selection*
- *Consistent communication with MPOs*
- *Threshold or milestones that trigger a meeting or notification during the process*

Question 4 Responses

How do you feel about the programming process?

Which step in the process do you agree with or have questions about?

Acceptable but can be enhanced

Consider adjusting timeframes to better meet MPO needs

Need to

- *Increase transparency*
- *Develop framework for formal and informal communication*

Question 5 Responses

Would you be in favor of FDOT providing a funding workshop during MPOAC? (Process, allocation of funds, education about process, distribution of funds)

- *All MPOs were in favor of a workshop*
- *FMPP is the most appropriate meeting*
- *Share topics early so MPOs can identify appropriate staff*
- *Request to tailor workshops to the Districts to accommodate local partners*
- *Consider making the workshop a recurring event*

Question 6 Responses

How do you feel about the MPO's role with FTP?

Do you feel it beneficial to update the MPO Board, Technical Committee and Citizens Committee as the plan is updated?

Many MPOs have representation in steering committee/focus groups

Regular updates and opportunities to provide input are appreciated

Mixed opinions on presenting to boards/committees

Support a regional approach

Best Practices & Next Steps

Jennifer Fortunas, PE, Director

Office of Policy Planning

CUTR LOPP Development Practices in Florida Report

Similarities with MPO Interviews

- Effective & continuous communication between MPOs/District is essential for aligning priorities
- Regular communication throughout the development of the LOPP and Tentative Work Program (TWP)
  - Meetings, discussions, and feedback sessions
  - District MPO Liaisons, District WP staff, & MPOs
- Coordination varies and is tailored to the needs of the MPO/District

Common Themes

Communication and collaboration have improved recently

- Regular/more frequent meetings
- Increased trust and more positive relationships

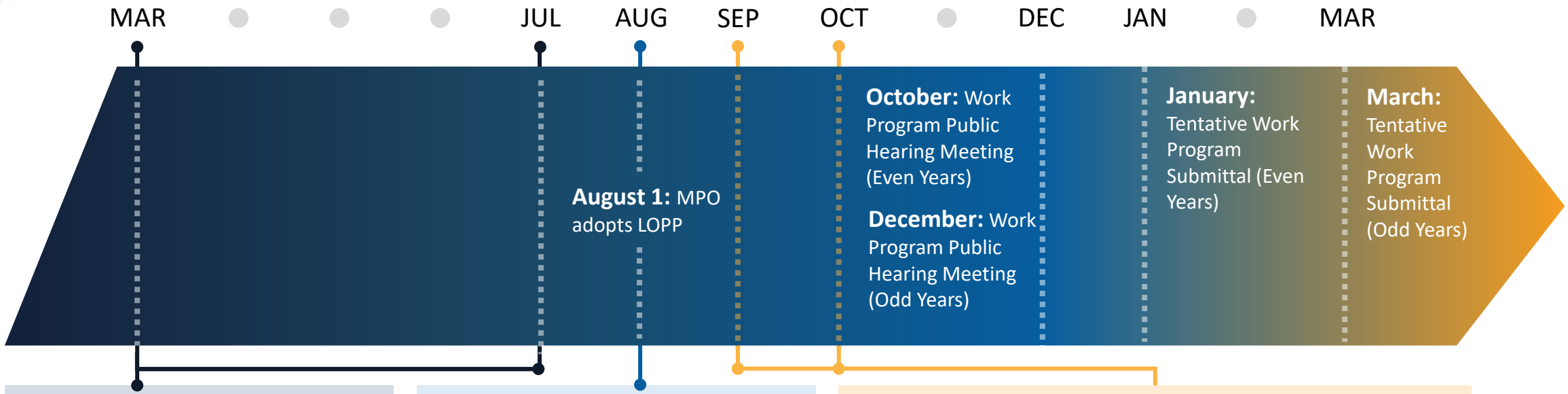
Best Practices

- Continue communicating with the District
- Include District Work Program staff in discussions
- Encourage and facilitate relationship-building

Opportunities for Enhancement

- Training on the Work Program process and other relevant topics
- Clarify roles and responsibilities, where needed
- Increase transparency through increased communication, coordination, and a better understanding of project selection

Best Practices for Communication



Meeting 1

- **Time:** Prior to MPO developing LOPP
- **Purpose:** Provide information on funding availability to prepare MPO for LOPP development

Meeting 2

- **Time:** When MPO submits LOPP
- **Purpose:** Discuss LOPP, project readiness, and other factors that can impact funding and priorities

Meeting 3

- **Time:** Prior to the Work Program Public Hearing Meetings
- **Purpose:** Provide information on the Preliminary Tentative Work Program and the context of funding decisions (i.e., understanding of which projects were funded from LOPP)

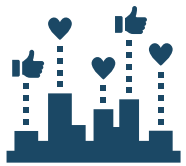
Poll Everywhere

Go to
PollEv.com/fdotopp449

-or-

Join by Text by sending
fdotopp449 to **22333**

Next Steps



Share best practices with MPOs, MPO Liaisons, and Districts

Schedule training

Spring MPOAC: Follow up to track progress in improved collaboration

2055 Florida Transportation Plan

MPOAC

October 24, 2024

2055 Florida Transportation Plan Update

SINGLE, OVERARCHING **PLAN**

GUIDES FLORIDA'S TRANSPORTATION **FUTURE**

FOUNDATION FOR FLORIDA'S WORK PROGRAM

UPDATED EVERY **5 YEARS**

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT WITH **PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERS**

2055 FTP Approach

Unique Communities

The FTP will recognize the uniqueness of communities across Florida's regions and include goals and objectives.

Key Elements of the FTP

May-August 2024

August - November 2024

September 2024 - June 2025

April – September 2025

November 2025

Vision → **Goals** → **Objectives** → **Actions** → **FTP**

The FTP guides our transportation future, but it is *not* a list of projects

Development of Draft Goals

SAFETY & SECURITY

Advance Safer and More Secure Travel for All Users

MULTIMODAL OPTIONS

Provide Efficient and Reliable Multimodal Transportation Options

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

Preserve Florida's Natural Resources and Quality of Life

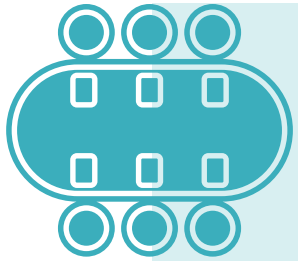
RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Provide Agile and Resilient Transportation Infrastructure

ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

Support Florida's Economic Competitiveness through Transportation Investments

Opportunities for Engagement



Steering Committee

16 key partners and stakeholders who provide input and guide the 2055 FTP

Statewide Webinars

Community webinars structured to receive public and partner feedback

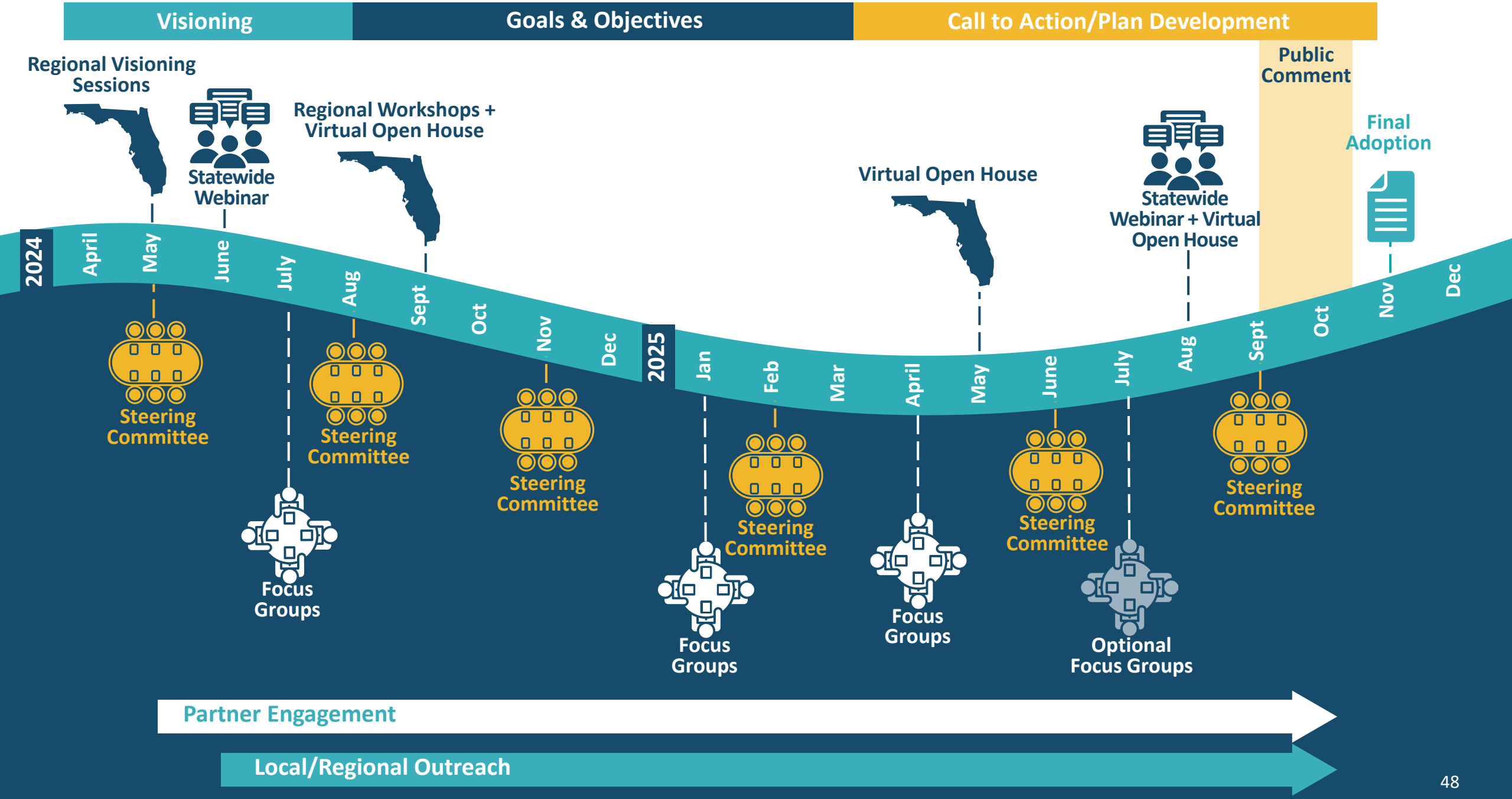
Focus Groups

5 Focus Groups will provide input to the Steering Committee at key milestones

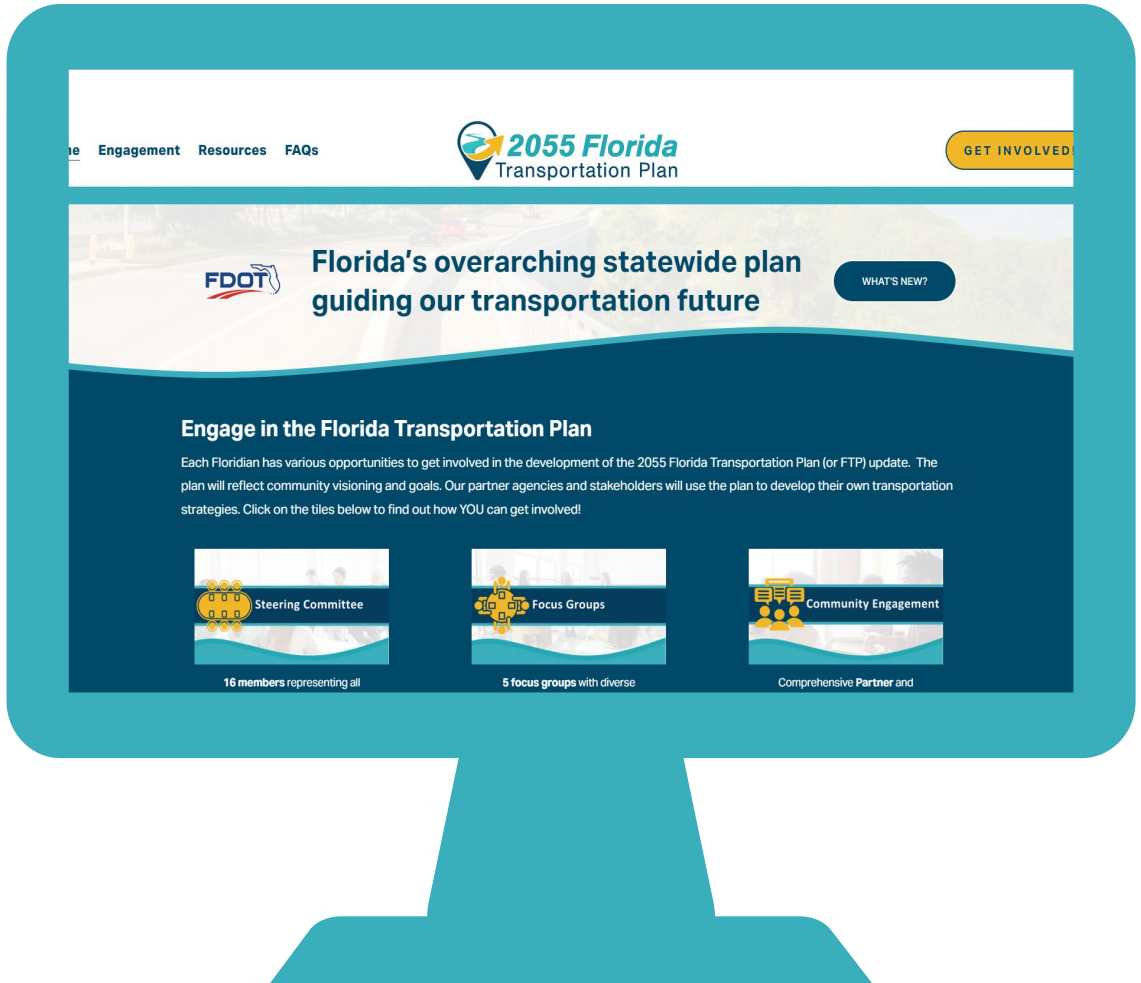
Safety, Resilient Infrastructure, Economic Development/Supply Chain, Technology, & Workforce Development

Regional Workshops + Virtual Open Houses

In-person and online open houses structured to receive regionally-focused public and partner feedback


Visioning
Goals & Objectives
Call to Action/Plan Development
Regional Visioning Sessions
Statewide Webinar
Regional Workshops + Virtual Open House
Virtual Open House
Statewide Webinar + Virtual Open House
Public Comment
Final Adoption
2024
April
May
June
July
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
2025
Jan
Feb
Mar
April
May
June
July
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov
Dec
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Steering Committee
Focus Groups
Focus Groups
Focus Groups
Optional Focus Groups
Partner Engagement
Local/Regional Outreach

Get Engaged Today!



Scan to learn more!

Jennifer Fortunas, PE, Director

Donna M. Green, Statewide MPO Administrator

Office of Policy Planning

Thank you!

2055 Florida Transportation Plan

Jennifer Fortunas, PE

Director, Office of Policy Planning

850-414-5396

jennifer.fortunas@dot.state.fl.us

SHARE THE ROAD

FDOT

Federal Highway Administration Report

Ronnique Bishop, FHWA, Acting Planning Team Leader
Curlene Thomas, FHWA, Senior Planner

Updates

MPO Advisory Council

October 2024

FLORIDA DIVISION

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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FY 2025 STIP Approval & Planning Findings

- Statewide Assessment Meeting - May 30, 2024
- Findings
  - No Corrective Actions
  - 3 Noteworthy Practices
  - 6 Recommendations

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

FY 2025 STIP Approval & Planning Findings

Noteworthy Practices

1. Opting out of Complete Streets Planning Requirements for FY24

2. Performance Data Integration Space

3. MPOAC Noteworthy Practice Portal

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

FY 2025 STIP Approval & Planning Findings Recommendations

1. STIP Documentation with Sufficient Descriptive Materials*
2. STIP Documentation of Flex Funds
3. Timely Submittal of STIP Related Documentation for Statewide Planning Finding*
4. Transparency and Consistency in the Programming of MPO Federal Funds*
5. Metropolitan Planning Areas Boundary Maps Update
6. Nonmetropolitan/Rural Planning Process

**Recommendation modified and carried forward from FY24 approval.*

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

2025 TMA Certification Review Site Visits

- Hillsborough TPO – 1/21/2025
- Pasco MPO – 1/28/2025
- Forward Pinellas MPO – 1/30/2025
- Capital Region TPA – 2/12/2025
- Martin MPO – 3/5/2025
- St Lucie TPO – 4/1/2025
- Sarasota Manatee MPO – 7/ 24/2025

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Upcoming Key Notices of Funding Opportunity (USDOT)

Program	Closing Date	Division POC	Link
Planning and Other Bridge Projects	Bridge: Nov 1, 2024	Rafiq Darji/ Hector Laureano	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/351567
Low Carbon Transportation Materials (LCTM)	Nov 25, 2024	Erika Thompson/ Joseph Sullivan	https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/356233
National Scenic Byways	Dec 16, 2024	Sarah Boggs	https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/356324

Division Grants Coordinator

Xiomara Nunez, xiomara.nunez@dot.gov

https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity

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Federal Highway Administration

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Federal Highway Administration

FLORIDA DIVISION

Public Service · Integrity · Family and Work-Life Balance · Respect · Personal Development · Diversity · Collaboration

MISSION STATEMENT

The Florida Division inspires transportation solutions in collaboration with our stakeholders to address community needs.

Research Project: List of Project Priorities (LOPP) Development in Florida

Jeff Kramer, AICP, Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), Principal Investigator

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) List of Project Priorities (LOPP) Development Practices in Florida

Project Manager: Mark Reichert

Principal Investigator: Jeff Kramer

University of South Florida

BED25-977-12

October 2024 | Presentation of Final Report to the Florida MPO Advisory Council

Problem Statement

A lack of standardization and great variability in LOPP development…

- Potentially hinders effective communication of project priorities
- May complicate development of the Tentative Work Program

Methodology

Literature Review

- Academic research articles, government regulations, state and federal guidance documents, and various reports and papers. Primary focus areas: noteworthy practices and emerging trends in project prioritization, particularly those related to safety, cost-effectiveness, and performance outcomes

Survey

- Representatives from each of Florida's 27 MPOs and seven FDOT districts. Questions covered various aspects of LOPP development including prioritization methodologies, coordination efforts, public engagement practices, LOPP format and structure, and communication of project priorities.

Case Example Interviews

- Representatives from four MPOs and their respective districts. Chosen based insights gathered from survey responses, notable elements in their LOPP documents, metropolitan planning area population and geographic location, and representation of MPOs of varying sizes.

Analysis

- Insights from the literature review, survey results, and case examples were combined to discern patterns, shared methodologies, and significant noteworthy practices.

Observations and Noteworthy Practices

1	Each MPO and district possesses its own distinctive characteristics, which inevitably shape the collaborative methodologies they cultivate.
2	Successful LOPP development involves building strong cross-agency relationships through open communication and mutual respect.
3	The LOPP document serves multiple functions beyond its initial purpose.

Observations and Noteworthy Practices

4	Different methods of organizing LOPPs offer varying levels of clarity, flexibility, and control, catering to diverse regional needs and stakeholder preferences.
5	MPOs and districts vary in their funding allocation strategies.
6	MPOs share similar factors when deciding which projects to include in their LOPPs.

Observations and Noteworthy Practices

7	Turnover is seen as manageable—OTJ training, institutional knowledge transfer, and training on fundamentals is used to mitigate effects of turnover on the LOPP development process.
8	Variations exist in LOPP timelines, and these variations may have an impact on planning efficiency.
9	MPOs noted challenges and adjustments related to LOPP development and implementation.

Suggestions for Improved Practice

1. Encourage enhanced communication
2. Encourage and facilitate relationship building
3. Define terminology for clarity and transparency

Suggestions for Improved Practice

4. Incorporate regional priority lists
5. Integrate prioritization methodology in LOPP
6. Enhance project application quality and program readiness

Suggestions for Improved Practice

7. Enhancing GAP system efficiency
8. Consider reassessing LOPP timelines
9. Enhance project stability and develop a process to address stymied projects

Suggestions for Improved Practice

10 Explore noteworthy strategies to overcome funding challenges

11 Develop and implement training and education programs

12 Consider adding clarity to LOPP ranking structure

Questions?

1. Encourage enhanced communication
2. Encourage and facilitate relationship building
3. Define terminology for clarity and transparency
4. Incorporate regional priority lists
5. Integrate prioritization methodology in LOPP
6. Enhance project application quality and program readiness
7. Enhancing GAP system efficiency
8. Consider reassessing LOPP timelines
9. Enhance project stability and develop a process to address stymied projects
10. Explore noteworthy strategies to overcome funding challenges
11. Develop and implement training and education programs
12. Consider adding clarity to LOPP ranking structure

CUTR
UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA
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813-974-1397

Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Cost Feasible Plan

Gerald Goosby, FDOT, Systems Implementation Office

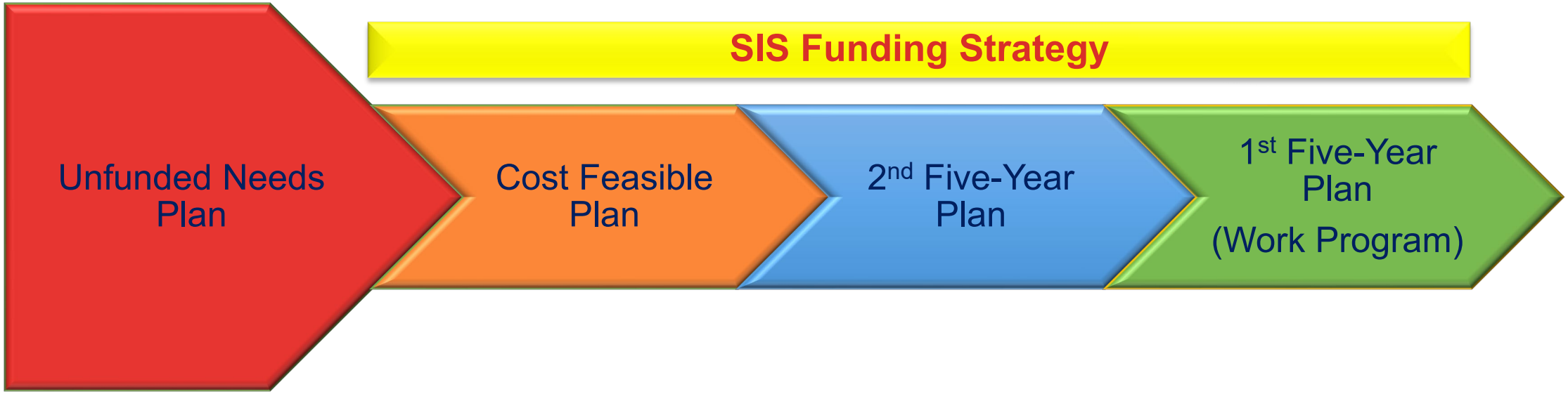
Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)

Cost Feasible Plan

Gerald Goosby, Systems Implementation Office, FDOT

Strategic development

SIS Planning Process



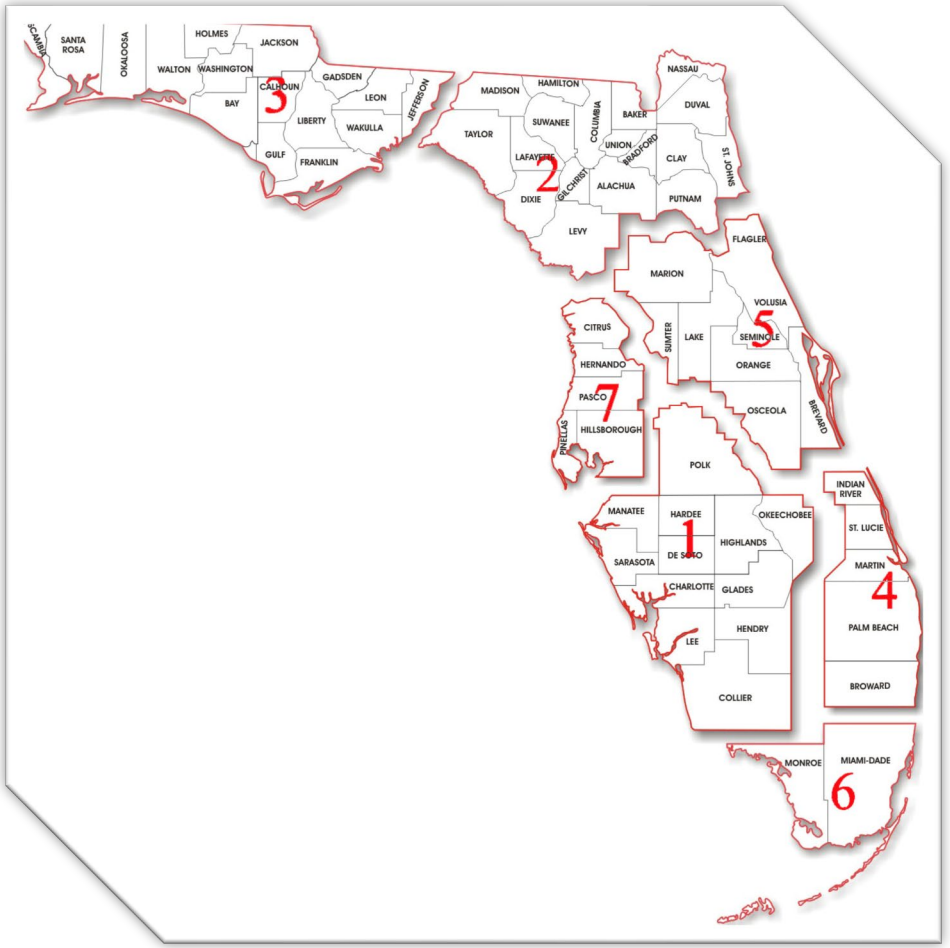
SIS 2050 Cost Feasible Plan (CFP)

Objective:

Develop a phased plan for capacity improvements to the 2050 Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) utilizing forecasted revenues ($28.5 billion), guided by objectives set forth in the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP).

Process Overview:

- District SIS staff coordinated with MPOs to provide project information
- Statewide analysis determined network connectivity and priorities
- Projects were shared with district SIS teams and MPOs for review and comment
- Revisions were made based on district recommendations
- Projects were presented to district & central office leadership for concurrence



MPO/TPO Coordination

- Coordination with MPO/TPO was a priority
- The CFP is critical to the development of Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTP)

Modal Reserve

- 20% set-aside for non-highway SIS modes; “modal reserve”
- To be allocated during the 1st Five-Year/SIS Work Program

Aviation

Public Transit

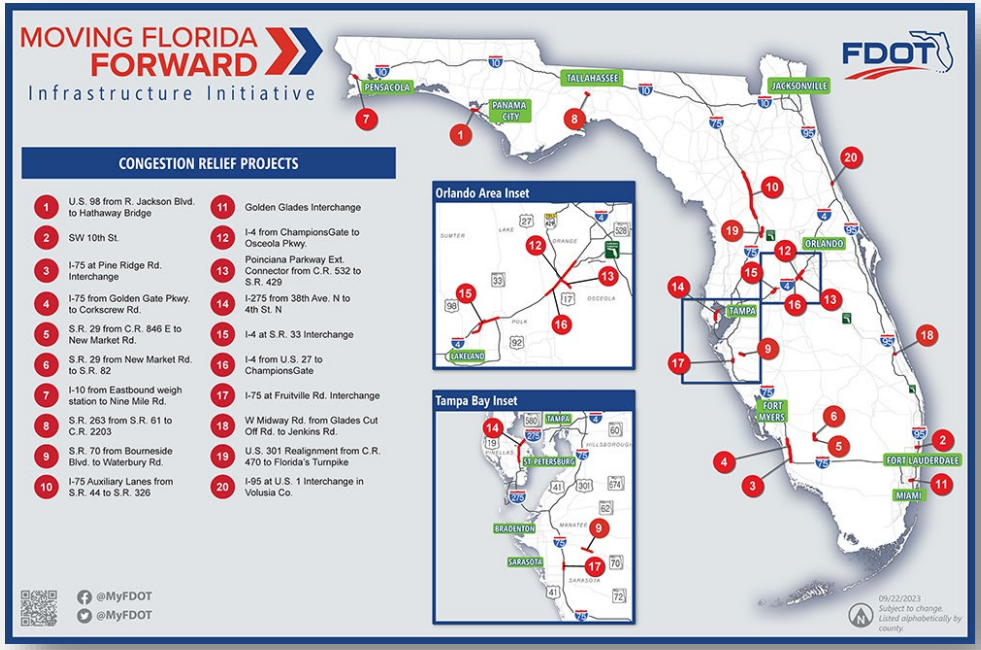
Spaceport

Freight and Rail

Seaport

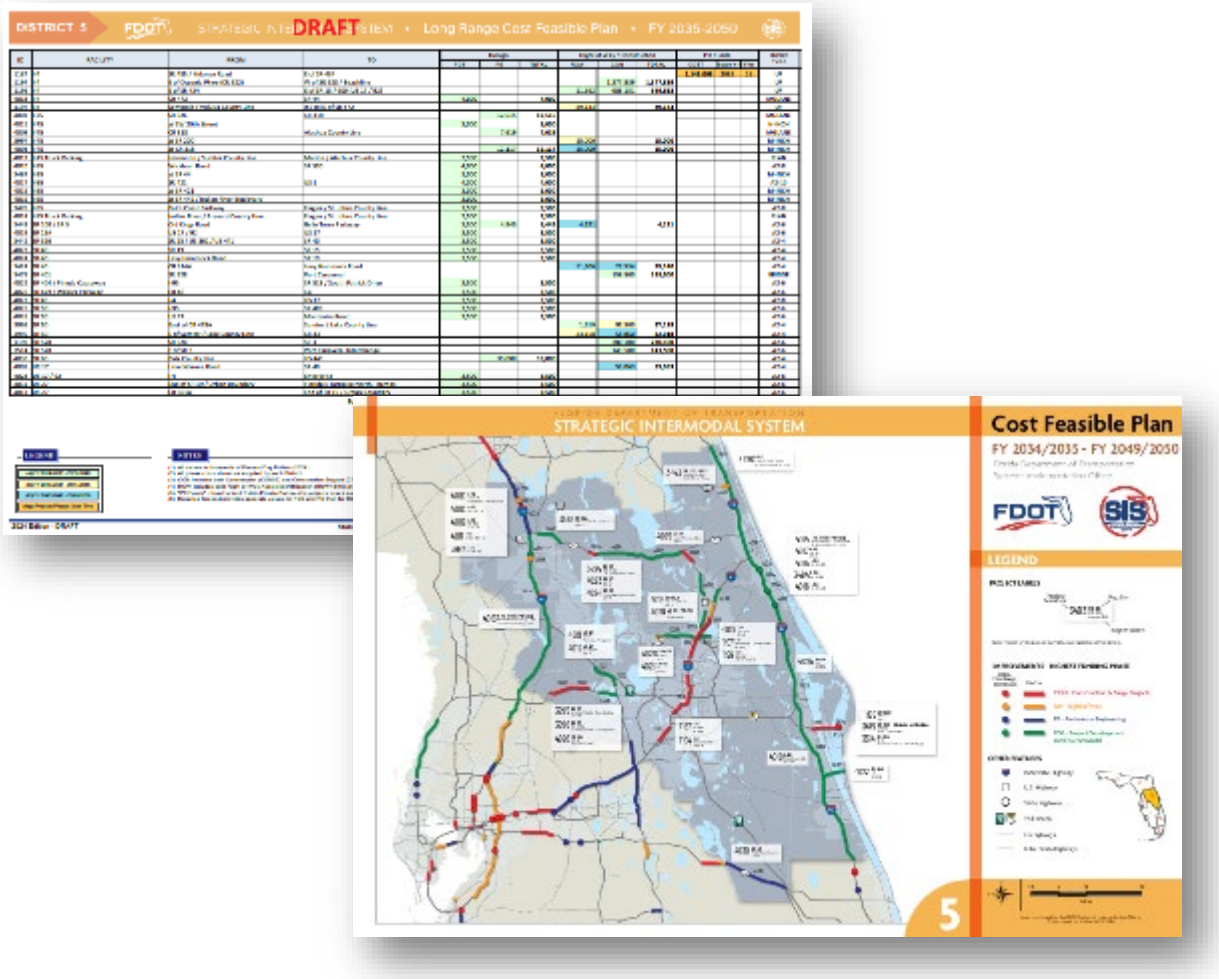
Moving Florida Forward

- Identified projects from the final MFF list to remove from the draft CFP
- Re-allocated funding to other CFP projects
- Additional review and coordination



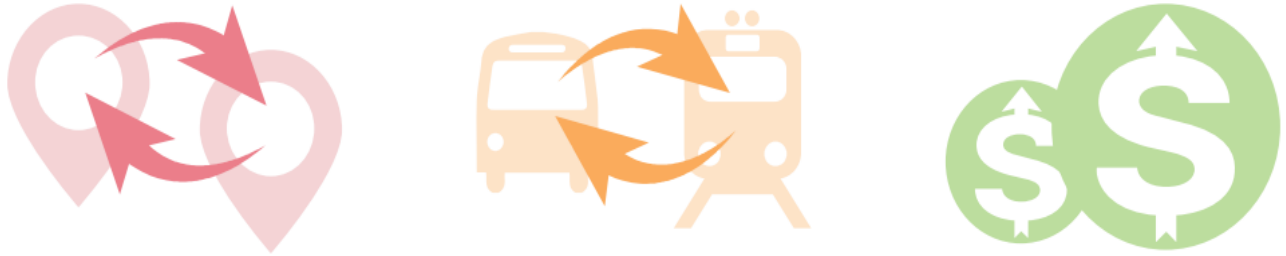
CFP Highlights

- $20.4 billion (PDC) for SIS Highway Corridors/Connectors
  - 233 projects
  - P3 repayments
- Additional 20% modal reserve
- Additional contingency funds



Next Step: SIS Multi-modal Unfunded Needs Plan

Interegional Connectivity • Intermodal Connectivity • Economic Development



- Projects not feasible for funding
- SIS multimodal facilities
- Capacity projects

- District and local partner coordination
- Statutorily required

Questions

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Strategic development

MPO/TPO Open Mic

Staff Directors' Open Discussion Session

MPO Member Comments

Adjournment

Next Meeting – January 23, 2025
Orlando, Florida