



Hillsborough MPO
Metropolitan Planning
for Transportation



**FORWARD
PINELLAS**
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group

Representing the MPOs in Pasco, Pinellas, & Hillsborough Counties

Friday, April 5, 2019

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Headquarters

3201 Sherer Drive

St. Petersburg, FL 33716

Chair: Forward Pinellas

Meeting Objectives

- Complete Discussion on Regional Priorities
- Discuss MPOAC Activities and MPO Related Legislation
- Review Options and Next Steps for Strengthened Regional Coordination

9:30 Welcome and Introductions
Public Comment

9:45 Approval of Regional Priorities – Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas

10:00 MPOAC Updates and Legislation Relevant to MPOs – Carl Mikyska, MPOAC

10:30 Approaches to Regional Coordination– MPO Directors

11:15 Multi-Use Trail Projects in the TMA – MPO Staff

11:35 Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit – PSTA Staff

11:50 Updates

TBARTA Transit Development Plan – TBARTA Staff

Regional Approach to Environmental Mitigation – Allison Yeh, Hillsborough MPO

Next Steps and Future Agenda Items

12:00 Adjourn

Appeals: Certain public meetings result in actions taken by the public board, commission or agency that may be appealed; in such case persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at a public meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Next Meeting:

Friday, June 7th

9:30 – 12:00

Land O' Lakes Recreation Complex

3032 Collier Parkway

Land O' Lakes, FL 34639



Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group Executive Summary

Representing the MPOs in Pasco, Pinellas, & Hillsborough Counties

Summary for 2.8.19 meeting

Based on the importance and reach of the conversations that happen at the TMA Leadership Group, we are looking to keep our stakeholders aware of the outcomes of these meetings. The following is a summary of the most recent meeting highlights; you can find the full agenda [online](#). A video of the meeting can be [viewed on YouTube](#).

The vast majority of the meeting discussion was devoted to approaches to regional coordination and the future structure of the TMA Leadership Group

- Hillsborough MPO Executive Director Beth Alden presented a number of options for how regional coordination could proceed in future
 - The staff recommendation was to continue the current TMA meeting schedule this year, and in 2020 use the TBARTA MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) as a base group for regional coordination and restart quarterly CCC meetings
 - The CCC has a voting structure and existing processes for dispute resolution, joint approval of plans, sharing of financial resources among MPOs to create regional documents, and public participation, as well as an existing interlocal agreement
 - In addition, it includes Hernando/Citrus MPO, Polk County TPO, and Sarasota/Manatee MPO as members
 - Staff recommended that after the Tri-County LRTP approval in late 2019, the TMA could move to annual meetings, with supplemental joint board meetings among at least two MPO boards as needed
 - In 2020, the regional plan could also be expanded to the larger CCC area
- The consensus among the group was that members found value in continued regular meetings as a core three-county region, with the TMA potentially structured as a named subcommittee of the CCC to eliminate redundancies and unnecessary bureaucracy
 - Using the CCC structure could streamline the number of interlocal agreements needed, manage the overall number of regional groups, and allow the TMA to use existing CCC processes
 - It would eliminate the need for new interlocal agreements
 - A formal interlocal agreement for regional planning coordination is federally required not only among the TMA MPOs but also between the Pasco and

Hernando/Citrus MPOs and between Hillsborough MPO and both Polk TPO and (soon) Sarasota/Manatee MPO

- The existing CCC Interlocal Agreement satisfies the federal requirements
- To streamline the number of regional meetings, the TMA could in 2020 meet on the same days as the CCC, immediately before or after the CCC, adding focus to the core area of this mini-super-region
- There was discussion of the CCC's relationship with TBARTA, which has evolved over time
 - The CCC predates TBARTA, but CCC members agreed to merge with TBARTA when the two groups' missions and geographic areas were nearly identical
 - In 2017, the legislature revised TBARTA's mission and area to be narrower than the CCC's
 - There were differing opinions about whether TBARTA or the MPOs – through the CCC – should lead regional multimodal planning
- There was significant discussion of the need to speak with one voice as a tri-county region to successfully pursue funding for the federally recognized urbanized area of Hillsborough/Pasco/Pinellas
 - There was also some discussion of how to balance local needs vs. regional needs, and of whether regional coordination was necessary to advance the needs of local communities
 - The Central Avenue BRT was cited as a local project that is on a path to success in its quest for federal funding because it was supported by the region as a whole
- There was also recurring discussion of the merits of the Regional Transit Feasibility catalyst project, which has not thus far received consensus of support among the group, but that was ultimately tabled to a future meeting after concerns were raised about Tampa core neighborhoods
 - The project will be studied further by TBARTA in an upcoming PD&E study, and can be considered by the TMA as a potential priority when it has been better defined

Hillsborough MPO Executive Planner Allison Yeh presented on the Regional Vulnerability Assessment

- The pilot program is a joint project between Hillsborough MPO, Forward Pinellas, Pasco County MPO, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and FDOT District 7.
 - It is funded by a Federal Highway Administration Resilience and Durability to Extreme Weather Grant, one of 11 awarded throughout the country
- The program addresses FAST Act requirements for long-range planning, including improving the resilience and reliability of the transportation system
 - The program's findings will be incorporated into the 2045 LRTP, with a final report being issued later this year
 - 29% of the region's lane miles are affected by a Category 3 storm and sea level rise

- Each county picked two representative corridors to analyze for vulnerability because a region-wide analysis is daunting
 - Hillsborough: Big Bend Rd from US-41 to I-76; Gandy Blvd from 4th St to Dale Mabry Hwy
 - Pasco: US 19 from SR 54 to SR 52; SR 54 from US 19 to Suncoast Pkwy
 - Pinellas: Gulf Blvd. from Bath Club Cir. to 125 Ave. & Tom Stuart Cswy Bridge; Roosevelt Blvd/SR 686 from Ulmerton Rd/SR 688 to Gandy Blvd.
 - 11 factors went into the selection of those critical projects, including evacuation route, projected traffic volume, proximity to activity centers, projected population density, and more
- The project is currently in the adaptation strategies phase, which examines how the region can adapt its physical assets, natural landscapes, and water management to mitigate sea level rise and land loss
 - Next steps include econometric modeling, another round of stakeholder engagement, and incorporating the findings into the LRTP
- Members thanked Yeh for her presentation and emphasized the importance of the project

The group heard staff recommendations for the annual priority project list

- Previous priorities have been inconsistently defined in the past, and often were not specific projects that could be advanced
- Staff recommended five top regional priorities to advance immediately:
 - SR60/I-275 interchange in Hillsborough County
 - I-75 at Overpass Road in Pasco County
 - I-75 at Gibsonton in Hillsborough County
 - I-275 operational improvements from north of downtown Tampa to the I-275/I-75 apex
 - Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit in Pinellas County
- The priority list will be brought back to the group in April for final approval

The group received a brief update on the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan development

- Next steps for the plan development include regional modeling for travel demand and project selection, cost/revenue estimates, cost feasibility for projects, and local outreach by each MPO this summer

For future agenda items, group members requested a presentation on the mechanics of how transportation/transit funding occurs at the state level, and that the group revisit a voting structure as members had not come to agreement on one in past meetings



Hillsborough MPO
Metropolitan Planning
for Transportation



FORWARD
PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group

Recommended 2019 Top Priorities

Funded Priorities

- ❖ Howard Frankland Bridge Replacement
- ❖ Gateway Expressway
- ❖ I-75 interchange at Overpass (Phase I)
- ❖ I-275 Express Lanes from I-375 to Gandy Blvd.
- ❖ I-75 Interchange at Big Bend Road

Top Priorities for the Tampa Bay Region

- ❖ I-275/SR 60/Westshore Interchange
- ❖ I-75 Interchange at Gibsonton
- ❖ I-75 Interchange at Overpass (Phase II)
- ❖ Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit
- ❖ I-275 Operational Improvements north of downtown Tampa



Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group

2019 Top Priorities for Multi-Use Trails

- ❖ **Duke Energy Trail** - The trail is partially funded with one remaining gap needing design and construction, from the San Martin Bridge to 126th Avenue North. Once completed, the Duke Energy Trail will link with the Pinellas Trail to create a 75-mile loop that includes a connection to Hillsborough County via the Courtney Campbell Trail.

- ❖ **South Coast Greenway** - Part of the Gulf Coast Trail, the South Coast Trail would go from Adamo Drive and extend south the Manatee County line. The entire South Coast Greenway trail has been broken into seven phases. Phase I is funded with construction expected to begin in 2019. Phase II will be constructed as the Waterset DRI builds out. Part of Phase III is entering design and the other portion is seeking funding for construction. Request/Status: funding for PD&E and design of remaining Phases.

- ❖ **Bypass Canal Trail** – A 17+ mile trail southward from Flatwoods Park, on the banks of the Bypass Canal per agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Using existing parks in Temple Terrace and the Florida State Fairgrounds areas as trailheads, the corridor expands future access to the Old Fort King and Withlacoochee State Trail. Request/Status: Hillsborough County requests funding for the design and construction of the next phase.

- ❖ **Orange Belt Trail** – The approximately 37 mile long trail would extend from the Starkey Trail (C2C connector) in the Trinity area of southwest Pasco County to the existing Withlacoochee State Trail trailhead (connects to Good Neighbor/South Sumter Connector) at U.S. Highway 301 in Trilby in northeast Pasco County. The planned trail alignment generally follows the historic Orange Belt Railroad line that crosses Pasco County in a southwest to northeast direction. The Orange Belt Trail is scheduled for a route study which will determine exact alignment and preliminary engineering funded (\$1.9M) in 2019/20. Request/Status: Pasco County requests \$15.5M for right-of-way acquisition and construction.

----- Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group Purpose -----

There is a role for a TMA-focused group, not currently performed by any existing transportation organization. That role includes developing regional consensus priorities for the TMA, especially in the allocation of federal & state funds. The group will focus on major cross-county transportation markets and traffic movements, and on helping the Tampa Bay metropolitan area speak with one voice in discussions of regional transportation prioritization issues and financial resources.



Hillsborough MPO
Metropolitan Planning
for Transportation



**FORWARD
PINELLAS**
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group

Representing the MPOs in Pasco, Pinellas, & Hillsborough Counties

2019 Meeting Dates/Locations

June 7th

Land O' Lakes Recreation Complex
3032 Collier Parkway
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

Sept 13th

Hillsborough Planning Commission Board Room
18th Floor, Hillsborough Government Center
601 E. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33602

Nov 8th

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Headquarters
3201 Sherer Drive
St. Petersburg, FL 33716