

# Finding Flexible Funding

## Investing in Transportation

Finding flexible solutions to fund transportation needs in our community



In the next 20 years, Pinellas County will be losing out on more than

**\$300** Million

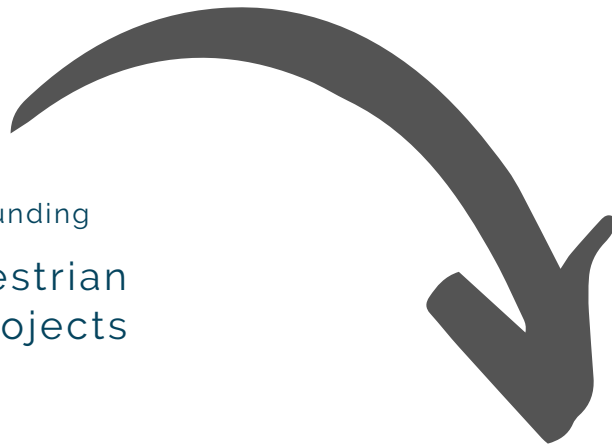
in funding available to our communities, because we do not have enough transportation projects that meet the restrictions of state funding programs.

Our residents asked us to invest

**80%**

of our funding

on transit, bicycle, pedestrian and technology projects



But due to restrictions, we can only invest

**35%**

of our funding

on these projects over the next 20 years





Transportation is about more than just cars. We need many modes of travel—walking, biking, transit, micromobility—to meet the needs of all our residents, regardless of age, gender, economic status or ability.

**~Darden Rice**

Forward Pinellas Chair  
St. Petersburg Councilmember

**Forward Pinellas is responsible for setting transportation funding priorities throughout Pinellas County so we can receive state and federal funding. Though funding is widely available for transportation projects, each funding program comes with its own set of restrictions that affect our ability to fund the projects we believe are best for our redeveloping communities.**

## **Flexible Solutions**

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Most state funding programs require that projects add capacity to a roadway and are not able to be spent on multiuse trails, pedestrian overpasses or for replacing aging transit vehicles. The state developed these restrictions many years ago to help communities keep up with growing demand on the roadways. In Pinellas County, our communities are already highly developed and increasing roadway capacity is difficult without significant negative impacts to established properties. The current funding restrictions designed to meet transportation demand, are no longer working in urbanized areas where meeting that demand requires more than simply widening roadways. We need flexible funding solutions so that we can fund transportation improvements that our community needs and wants, like more public transit service, better bicycle and pedestrian facilities and investments in technological solutions to improve the flow of traffic.