



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, September 29, 2017

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

AECOM Offices

7650 West Courtney Campbell Parkway

Tampa Florida

Meeting Objectives:

- Provide input and guidance to the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan Study on corridor evaluation
- Provide input on key regional transportation governance issues (for on-going coordination study and for future TMA consideration)
- Begin review of TMA project prioritization process for 2017-2018
- Begin consideration of a TMA-wide LRTP
- Receive brief updates on the Regional Transportation Coordination study, TBARTA reorganization, and other issues as needed

9:30 Welcome and Introductions

**Summary of June 2, 2017 Tampa Bay TMA Meeting
Public Comment**

9:45 Regional Transit Feasibility Plan – Katharine Eagan CEO HART, Scott Pringle, Jacobs Engineering

- Update
- TMA Leadership Group guidance on corridor evaluation

10:45 Regional transportation planning and governance – polling and discussion

11:15 Priorities

- What does “regional priority” mean?
- Review purpose and history of TMA Leadership Group

11:45 Exploring the possibility of a TMA-wide LRTP - Beth Alden, Executive Director Hillsborough MPO and Whit Blanton, Executive Director Forward Pinellas

12:15 Brief Updates

- Regional Transportation Governance and Coordination Study
- TBARTA reorganization
- Dates and locations for 2018 meetings

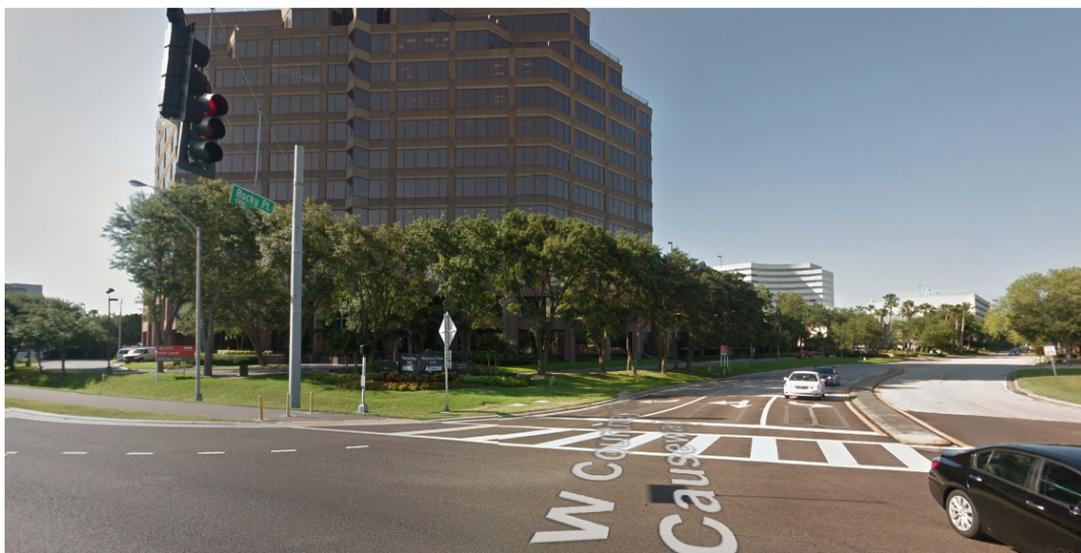
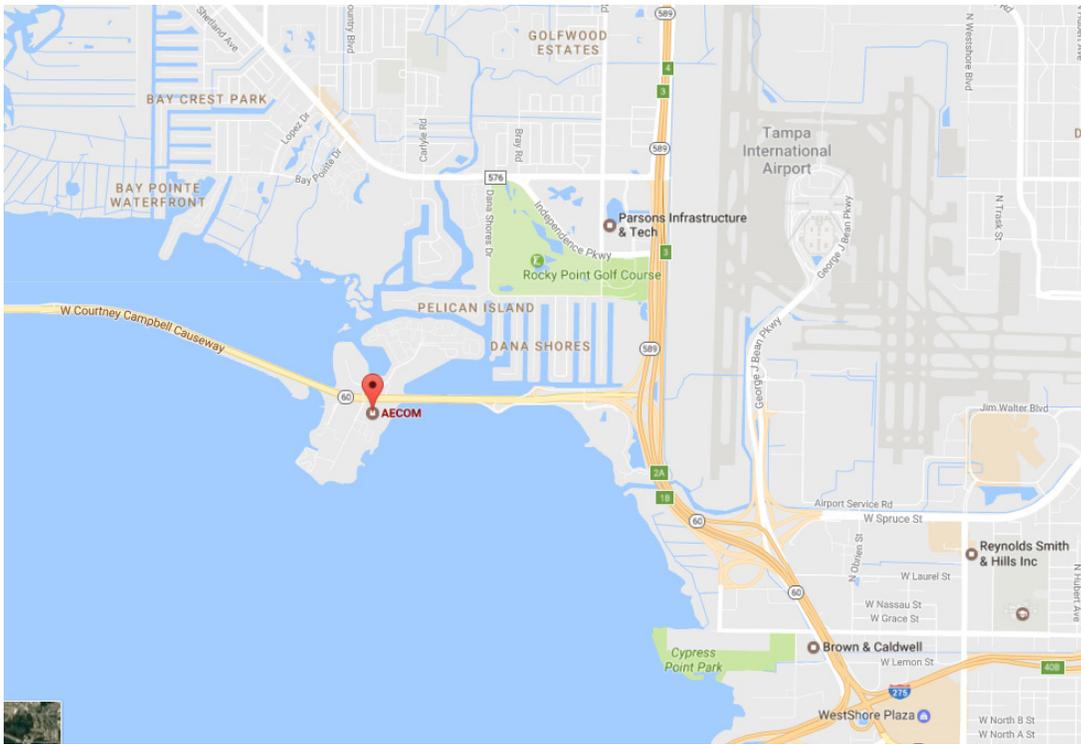
Next Steps

12:30 Adjourn

AECOM Offices - 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL 33607

Visitors may park in any unreserved space in the parking garage; there are designated spaces on the ground floor and overflow spaces are usually available on the top deck.

Upon arrival, all visitors should proceed directly to the 5th floor for the meeting.



**Highlights of the June 2, 2017
Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group
Meeting – 9:30 a.m.
AECOM Offices – 7650 West Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL**

Meeting Objectives:

- Review update on Regional Express Bus
- Discuss and approve updates to TMA Leadership Group Priorities for 2017
- Review and discuss Atlanta Regional Commission experience with long-range priorities
- Review and discuss update for Regional Transit Feasibility Plan
- Review outcomes of May 12, 2017 Regional Transportation Leadership Workshop
- Briefly review legislative updates as needed

Welcome and Introductions:

Rafael Montalvo called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and pointed out that it was the 22nd meeting of the group. He welcomed everyone and introduced himself to first time attendees. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves. Mr. Montalvo provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

Public Comment:

- Christopher Vela, a resident of Ybor City, recommended the removal of the Tampa Bay Next project from the TIP. He would like the TIP to fund transit options. He stated that Tampa Bay Next is impacting 45 neighborhood associations.
- Sharon Calvert, Hillsborough County citizen, spoke in support of the Tampa Bay Next project. Ms. Calvert referenced Florida Statute 339.175(4)(c) and (5) in which the Metropolitan Planning Organization is governed to preserve the existing transportation system. She also noted that the Statute states that technology and innovation should be considered in solutions.

Regional Express Bus

Discussion of this item was scheduled for the April meeting; however, there was not enough time. Mr. Whit Blanton, Forward Pinellas, provided information on the project and sought direction from the group about moving forward with project development. Better choices for commuters are needed for commuters soon; in addition to the development of a regional transit market. Due to the lack of regional transit funds in the state of Florida, there is a struggle in finding revenue.

There were several comments from the group about regional express bus services.

- Marco Sanduski, HART Representative, who was filling in for Katharine Eagan suggested rethinking how express service works and how regional trips are served with express service. He noted that HART is adjusting its route 200X due to poor productivity.
- Commissioner Murman indicated that there is opportunity for the service in the future. The Commissioner mentioned that FDOT previously assisted in funding express services, but the services are now funded by HART's general revenue. She feels that this is an opportunity for HART, PSTA, and Pasco to meet with FDOT, plan something that would work and then be taken to the legislature for legislative support.
- Mr. Blanton stated that some of the same routes have existed since the 90's and it is difficult to run and fund regional service.

- Councilmember Caudell mentioned that depending on the outcome of Senate Bill 1672, it could be another funding source for FTA dollars.
- Commissioner Eggers wanted to know how much effort is being put into companies to encourage their employees to use the services and suggested incentivizing services. Mr. Blanton mentioned that they are working with the business community and referenced that there are management companies that provide promotional services.
- Commissioner Kemp said there's limited access to regional bus service and it's not productive. More services are needed to make it productive.
- Commissioner Murman referenced that Hillsborough County learned a lot from the Ferry Project and made adjustment to the schedule based on ridership. The adjustments created flexibility within the project.
- Commissioner Starkey suggested another presentation from Polk County since they have been successful.
- Councilmember Caudell recommended looking at omni-modal transit options, new technology, and support van pools.
- Commissioner Murman suggested working with TBARTA.

Staff will focus on a potentially productive route and incentives. In addition, staff will gather more information on costs and aspects and will bring back to the group later.

Discussion and Approval of Potential Updates to Priorities

There was a very lengthy discussion on potential updates suggested by members at the February and April 2017 TMA Leadership Group meetings. Waterborne Transportation, I-75/Big Bend Interchange, I-75/Overpass Interchange, and others were discussed.

Mr. Montalvo distributed worksheets intended to assist the group for the discussion to update the priorities for 2017. He requested that the group use the consensus testing scale to show support for their changes to the priorities. A consensus-testing scale was used to evaluation reactions to the updates.

There were several comments from members:

- Councilmember Caudell felt that staff's draft list that was compiled from discussion at the April 7, 2017 meeting was spot on. She also stated that Waterborne Transportation Projects are more than just the Cross-Bay Ferry. There are several other waterborne projects going on in the region.
- Councilman Harry Cohen made comments on the language shown under I-275 Capacity Projects. There are aspects of the Tampa Bay Next project that are controversial. The project has been reset to look at broader options. The language should be clear that it is not all originally planned segments and reflect commitment to public.
- Ray Chiaramonte stated that I-75 is not that controversial and should be included in top priorities instead of "Below the Line."
- Beth Alden agreed on the importance of consensus for the I-275/SR 60 interchange and support for the need to fund the project. Bring forward as a significant I-275 construction project and reflect reevaluation of the Tampa Interstate Study EIS. She also suggested utilizing FDOT's language for a supplemental SEIS.
- Ed McKinney from FDOT suggested keeping reference to specific interchanges and replace Regional Express Bus analysis.

- Commissioner Murman commented on Interstate Interchanges in High Growth Areas and stated the wording should reflect safety issues and economic development opportunities. There's also no mention of the Regional Transit Study in the priorities and that should be amended. She also suggested rewording of Waterborne Transportation Projects since there is no sure funding that has been voted on by Hillsborough or Pinellas counties. Wording should state potential regional project funding.
- Marco Sanduski suggested asking for funding for a project that could be quickly implemented. He also suggested being clearer about funding that is needed. May be broadened out to speak to funding initiatives, regional transit effort to improve travel experiences among counties.
- Commissioner Kemp suggested moving CSX Rail to its own place.
- Commissioner Eggers agreed that the Regional Farebox System does not fit by itself.
- Kris Hughes – confirmed regional Farebox System should be listed under the Regional Transit Catalyst Projects.
- There was agreement to move the Regional Farebox System under Regional Transit Catalyst Projects.
- Ray Chiaramonte agrees with moving the Regional Farebox System and stated that CSX interferes with the Regional Transit project that is going on.
- Commissioner Starkey suggested focus on the major urban core and agreed with the Regional Farebox system being moved. She also cautioned about adding too many items under the Regional Transit Catalyst Project section.
- Ed McKinney – FDOT's looking at interstate modernization and express bus service on I-275. Need to keep interchanges as a high priority for the region.
- US 41 should be "Below the Line"
- BRT in St. Petersburg should be "Above the Line"
- Brad Miller stated that it's important to keep advocating in DC for funding
- There was a suggestion to move Regional Express Bus from under the Regional Transit Catalyst Projects items.
- It was suggested that language changes be made to the CSX Rail Corridor items and that it should become a free-standing item
- Commissioner Murman suggested that the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan should be placed "Below the Line" and amend the priorities when it come out. She does not want to take away from the I-275 Capacity Projects.
- Ed McKinney stated that I-75 from Fletcher to Moccasin is an ongoing PD&E Study.
- Commissioner Kemp suggested being specific when adding language about I-275 Premium Transit.
- Kris Hughes wanted SR56 added to the corridor list.
- It was suggested that I-275 Capacity Projects should be Interstate Modernization Projects.
- It was recommended for next year, that it may be better to plan more time to work with priorities more intensively.
- Kris Hughes stated that the Ridge Road project should be "Above the Line". The road is utilized for hurricane evacuation.
- Commissioner Eggers agreed with the comment and stated that waterborne transportation is great, but it should not be raised as a priority. Waterborne projects should not be ahead of projects that have been on the list for years. SR54/56 and US19 are hugely critical projects.
- Commissioner Starkey expressed the importance of SR54/56 and stated that it's not just a Pasco road.
- Majority consensus to add SR54/56 to make the priority list six points.

Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Montalvo conducted a round table for voting members only wanting to know if they were comfortable in moving forward with staff's document with the suggested changes.

- Commissioner Starkey – Yes
- Kris Hughes – Yes
- Commissioner Kemp – Yes
- Beth Alden – Yes
- Councilman Cohen – Yes
- Commissioner Murman – Yes
- Councilmember Caudell – Yes
- Whit Blanton – Yes
- Commissioner Eggers – Supported four of the items
- Councilman Kennedy – As long as staff gets wordsmithing correct

Long-Range Priorities in Uncertain Times: Atlanta's Approach

Mr. David Haynes, Long-Range Planning Manager of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) was scheduled to present the information; however, due to a family emergency, he was unable to attend. Mr. John Orr, the Manager of the Transportation and Mobility Division of the ARC provided the overview. ARC serves as the MPO for twenty counties and are forecasting a lot of growth by 2040. The Commission is focusing on key drivers of change, like autonomous vehicles and the aging population in the Atlanta Region.

Following the presentation, Commissioner Kemp wanted to know how was the community engaged? Mr. Orr referenced holistic planning and use of a regional gaming tool, in which a lot of responses were received from citizens regarding preferences.

Commissioner Eggers wanted Mr. Orr to elaborate on collaboration with the business community. Mr. Orr stated that the Chamber of Commerce focused on bringing regional goals for businesses and regional planning bodies together.

Commissioner Starkey inquired about the impact of autonomous vehicles. Mr. Orr stated that there is a broad consensus that the benefit is going to outweigh consequences. There will be a lower user error in crashes and a lot of lives will be saved and serious injuries will be avoided. There's a hope to allow people to live alone longer.

Regional Transit Feasibility Plan Status Report

Scott Pringle with Jacobs Engineering presented an update. The data used in the plan and additional information is available on the website, <http://tbregionaltransit.com>

Jeff Boothe, the President of Booth Transit Consulting LLC, joined Mr. Pringle during his presentation and provided information on Federal Transportation Funding and Budget Caps by Congress.

Following the presentation, there were inquiries about success of projects, funding on state and local basis, and funding for local bus systems.

Mr. Boothe provided information on catalyst projects and stated how the process for financial plans is managed is critical. He also stated Florida has not historically put money into transit, and other

regions step up to get matches and that's how they get funding for Capital Investment Programs. Mr. Boothe also stated that a bus system with ridership has to be in place in order to qualify for funding, because the FDA looks at that during the funding process.

Commissioner Murman suggested that the group meet in August since the group is at a critical point in the priorities process. Although the majority was open to meet in August, the group decided not to meet during the month of August.

Next Steps:

The next meeting is September 8, 2017.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 a.m.

Attendees:

Members:

Commissioner Dave Eggers	Forward Pinellas (Pinellas County BOCC)
Commissioner John Tornga	Forward Pinellas (Dunedin City Commission)
Councilmember Doreen Caudell	Forward Pinellas (Clearwater City Council)
Commissioner Pat Kemp	Hillsborough MPO (Hillsborough County BOCC)
Commissioner Sandra Murman	Hillsborough MPO (Hillsborough County BOCC)
Councilmember Harry Cohen	Hillsborough MPO (Tampa City Council)
Commissioner Kathryn Starkey	Pasco MPO (Pasco County BOCC)

Others:

Rob Cursey	AECOM
Ed Turanchik	Akerman
John Orr	ARC
Diane Jones	B2 Communications
Jeff Boothe	Boothe Transit
Councilmember Bill Jonson	City of Clearwater/PSTA
Councilmember Darden Rice	City of St. Petersburg/PSTA/Forward Pinellas
Kyle Simpson	City of St. Petersburg
Cheryl Stacks	City of St. Petersburg
Cal Hardie	City of Tampa
Rafael Montalvo	Consensus Center (Facilitator)
Lisa Frank	FCAN
Brian Beaty	FDOT
Stephen Benson	FDOT
Bob Esposito	FDOT
Ed McKinney	FDOT
Whit Blanton	Forward Pinellas
Hillary Lehman	Forward Pinellas
Sarah Ward	Forward Pinellas
Chelsea Favero	Forward Pinellas
Steve Calvert	HART
Steve Feigenbaum	HART

Marco Sandusky
John Patrick
Beth Alden
Wanda West
Sharon Calvert
Chris Vela
George Walton
Scott Pringle
Kris Hughes
Ali Atefi
Cassandra Borchers
Brad Miller
Heather Sobush
Gina Evans
Janet Zink
Dave Sobush
Andy Nuñez
Sean Sullivan
Ray Chiaramonte
Meredith Wheeler
Ann Kulig
Bob Clifford
Jim Davison
Ron Kitchen

HART
Hillsborough County
Hillsborough MPO
Hillsborough MPO
Hillsborough County Resident
Historic Ybor City Resident
HNTB
Jacobs
Pasco County
Pasco County MPO
PSTA
PSTA
PSTA
Tampa International Airport
Tampa International Airport
Tampa Bay Partnership
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
TBARTA
VFO
Westshore Alliance
WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff



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2017 Top Priorities

Approved by consensus June 2, 2017

Underlined Sections Identify Formatting Changes Made by Pinellas

❖ Interstate Modernization Projects

Status: Funding is requested for reconstruction of two interchanges, I-275/SR 60 and I-275/I-4; interstate modernization including technology; reevaluation of Tampa Interstate Study EIS; and for locational studies for transit centers in the Gateway and Fletcher/Fowler areas. Environmental impact studies are underway, and construction is funded for the Howard Frankland Bridge replacement.

❖ Regional Transit Catalyst Project(s) which may include:

- a. Central Avenue BRT, St. Petersburg downtown to beaches;
- b. Westshore Multimodal Center with fixed guideway connections to downtowns and airports;
- c. Further development of the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan;
- d. Regional Express Bus - opportunities include SR 60/Gulf-to-Bay Blvd, the Veterans Exwy/Suncoast Pkwy, the Gandy/Selmon Exwy corridor, the SR 54/56 corridor, and as a part of Tampa Bay Next; and expansion of regional farebox system to adjoining counties;
- e. Elevated transit in the SR 60 corridor – pilot project from downtown Clearwater to Clearwater Beach.
- f. CSX Rail Corridors – Funding is requested for right-of-way preservation for development of potential commuter routes.
- g. Waterborne Transportation Projects – Funding is requested for regional waterborne transportation priority projects, which could include the Cross-Bay Ferry, waterborne service from south Hillsborough County to MacDill Air Force Base, and other regional projects.

- ❖ **SR 54/56 Corridor, from US 19 to Bruce B. Downs** – Funding is requested to complete a Multimodal Concept and Corridor Assessment/Impact Study.

❖ I-75 Improvements:

- a. I-75 at Overpass Road – new interchange(Funding requested for Construction)
- b. I-75 at Big Bend Road – interchange reconfiguration

Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group

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PROPOSED 2018 MEETING DATES

D R A F T

January 19, 2018

March 9, 2018

May 11th, 2018

July 13, 2018 (if needed)

September 7, 2018

November 2, 2018

PROPOSED 2018 MEETING LOCATION

PSTA HEADQUARTERS

3201 Sherer Dr.

St. Petersburg, FL 33716