

River to Sea TPO Board Meeting

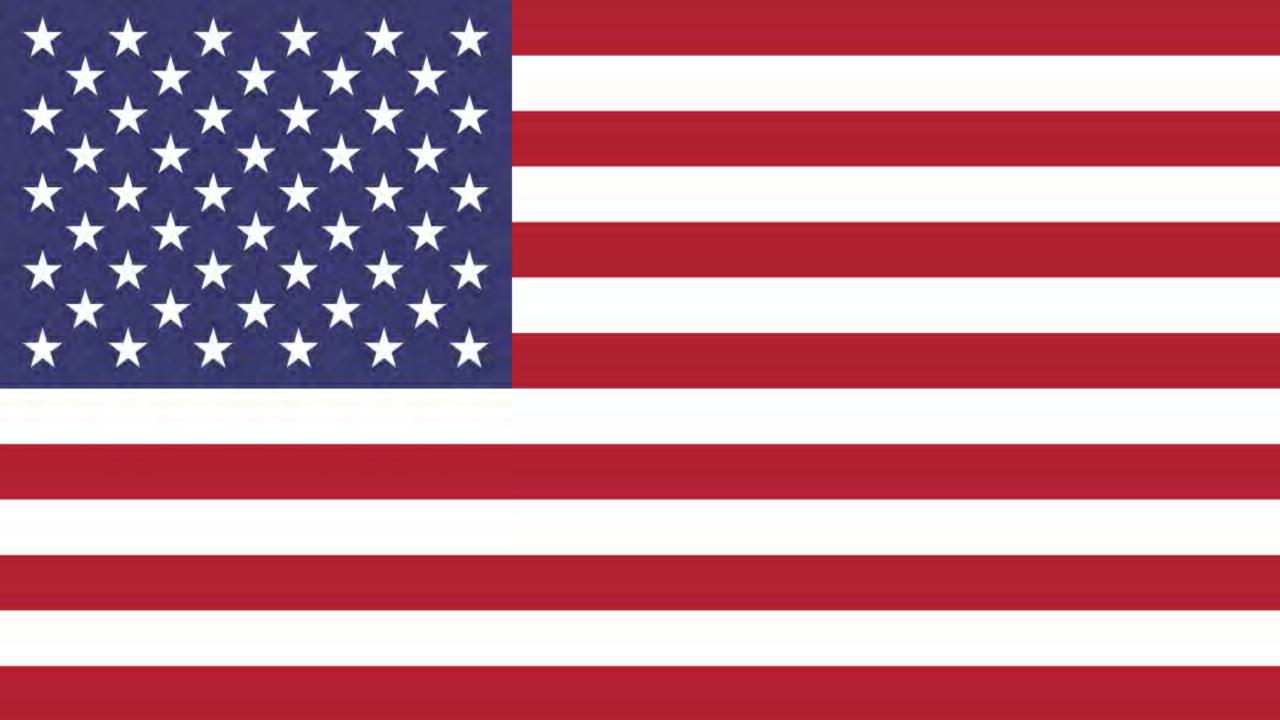
January 24, 2024 9:00 a.m.



I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Determination of Quorum



II. Pledge of Allegiance





III. Public Comment/Participation



IV. Consent Agenda

- A. DECEMBER 6, 2023 RIVER TO SEA TPO BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- **B.** TREASURER'S REPORTS
- C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- D. TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD REPORT
- E. BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
- F. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
- G. TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
- H. RIVER TO SEA TPO BOARD REPORT
- I. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TIMESHEET REVIEW REPORT
- J. APPROVAL (RATIFICATION) OF AMENDMENT TO SHARED USE NON-MOTORIZED (SUN) TRAIL PROJECT LIST
- K. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE FDOT CONSOLIDATED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS (CRISI) GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND MONITORING SYSTEM PROJECT

RESOLUTION 2023-27

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHARED-USE NONMOTORIZED (SUN) TRAIL PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the City of Flagler Beach desires to submit application to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Shared-Use Nonmotorized (Sun) Trail Program to extend this trail system through the City of Flagler Beach.

WHEREAS, approved projects will become part of the Adopted Work Program on July 1, 2025 and inclusion in the work program development cycle through Fiscal Years 2029/2030.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH, AS FOLLOWS:

<u>SECTION 1</u>. That the City of Flagler Beach hereby authorizes the filing of an application to the Florida Department of Transportation Shared-Use Nonmotorized (Sun) Trail Program. This program is 100% FDOT-funded.

<u>SECTION 2</u>. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage as provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF 100 Miles 2023.

ATTEST:

Penny Overstreet, City Clerk

CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH, FLORIDA CITY COMMISSION

Suzie Johnston, Mayor

ATTACHMENT 1



St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop

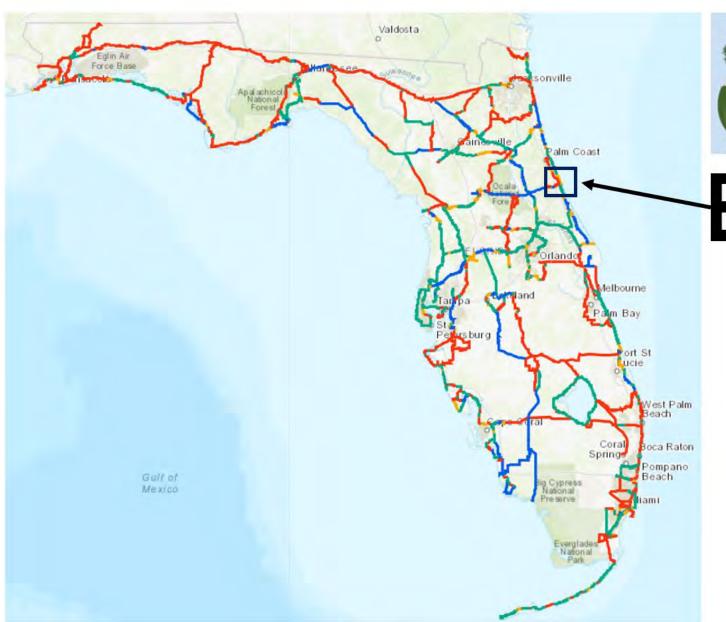
Connecting the Gaps



ATTACHMENT 2









PROJECT LOCATION

River to Sea TPO List of Shared Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Projects Adopted 6/28/2023 Amended 12/18/2023

| Tier "A" - Proj | Fier "A" - Projects in the SunTrail Work Program | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Regional Trail | | | | | | Project | | Unfunded | Estimated Total | | |
| System | FM# | County | Project Name | Project Limits | Description | Sponsor | Programmed Phase(s) | Phase(s) | Project Cost | Comments | |
| SJR2C | 4390396 | Volusia | Spring to Spring Gap: | W Highbanks Rd to | Trail | Volusia | CST-\$2,411,243 FY | None | \$1,500,000 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | DeBary (Phase 3C) | DeBary Plantation Bv | | County | 24/25 | | | | |
| C2C, HOF | 4391951 | Volusia | Coast to Coast Gap: | Fort Florida Rd to Coast | Trail | Debary | CST \$225,000 FY 20/21 | None | \$500,000 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | DeBary | to Coast Trail | | | | | | | |
| SJR2C | 4398622 | Volusia | Oak Hill to Edgewater: | US 1 to Dale Ave | Trail | Volusia | CST-\$5,889,944 FY | None | \$8,238,945 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | US 1 | | | County | 25/26 | | | | |
| SJR2C | 4398641 | Volusia | New Smyrna Gap: | 10 th St to SR 44/Lytle Av | Trail | New | CST-\$2,099,830 FY | None | \$4,111,232 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | Myrtle Av | | | Smyrna | 23/24 CEI-\$298,120 FY | | | | |
| | | | | | | Beach | 23/24 | | | | |
| SJR2C | 4398652 | Volusia | Palmetto Av Gap | Ridge Bv to Beville Rd | Trail | South | PE-\$50,000-FY 23/24 | None | \$3,068,898 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | | | | Daytona | CST-\$1,451,746 FY | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 24/25 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | CEI-\$156,100 FY 24/25 | | | | |
| SJR2C | 4398653 | Volusia | Spruce Creek Rd Gap | S of Selin Cir to Herbert | Trail | Port Orange | CST-\$421,600-FY 22/23 | None | \$468,320 | FULLY-FUNDED | |
| | | | | St | | | | | | | |
| SJR2C, HOF | 4102511 | Volusia | US 17 Trail | W. Baxter St to SR 40 | Trail | Volusia | PE-TBD | CST | TBD | Moved from Tier "B" | |
| | | | | | | County | | | | | |
| SJR2C | 447963-1 | Volusia | New Smyrna Gap: SR 44 | SR 44/Lytle Av to US 1 | Trail | New | PD&E-\$750,000 FY | PE, CST | TBD | PD&E Study | |
| | | | to US 1 | | | Smyrna | 22/23 | | | | |
| | | | | | | Beach | | | | | |

| Regional Trail System | FM # | County | Project Name | Project Limits | Description | Project Sponsor | Programmed Phase(s) | Unfunded Phase(s) | Estimated Total Project Cost | Comments |
|---|--------------------|---------|--|---|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| HOF | 4106761 | Volusia | SR 40 Black Bear Scenic Trail | Volusia/Lake County Line to US 17 | Trail | Volusia County | PD&E Study | PE, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398654 | Volusia | South Daytona Gap | Sauls St/McDonald Rd to Carmen Dr/Ridge Bv | Trail | South Daytona | | CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398655 | Volusia | US 1 Trail | South St to Nova Rd | Trail | Volusia County | | PE, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398721 | Volusia | Ormond Beach Gap: SR 40 | Cassen Park to A1A | Trail | Ormond Beach | | PE, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398742 | Volusia | Spring to Spring Gap: DeLand | Lake Beresford Park to Old New York Av | Trail | Volusia County | | ROW, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398743 | Volusia | Spring to Spring Gap: DeLand | Old New York Av to SR 44 | Trail | Volusia County | | ROW, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398744 | Volusia | Spring to Spring Gap: DeLand | SR 44 to Minnesota/Grand Av | Trail | Volusia County | | ROW, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4398761 | Volusia | SR 15 (US 17) | SR 40 to Putnam County Line | Trail | Volusia County | | CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | 4428741 4509461 | Volusia | SJR2C Loop Trail (A1A) | Plaza Dr to Volusia/Flagler County Line | Trail | Volusia County | | PE, CST | TBD | |
| SJR2C | | Volusia | Sauls St to Carmen Dr Shared Use Path | Sauls St to Carmen Dr | Trail | South Daytona | PE, CST | \$8,800,000 | | |
| SJR2C | | Volusia | Halifax River/East Coast Greenway Trail | Orange Ave to VM Bridge (Phase 1); VM Bridge to ISB (Phase 2) | Trail | Daytona Beach | | PE, CST | \$910,270 | AKA Sweetheart Trail Loop |
| Palm Coast to Ormond Trail Corridor | | Flagler | Graham Swamp Trail Gap, Phase 2 | Lehigh Trail to Graham Swamp Trail head | Trail | Palm Coast | | PE, CST | \$3,430,000 | |
| East Central Regional Rail Trail | | Volusia | Deering Park North Trail | SR 44 to East Central Regional Rail Trail | Trail | Edgewater | | PE, CST | TBD | East Central Regional Rail Trail connection to Florida Wildlife Corridor |
| Coast-to-Coast Trail | | Volusia | Florida Wildlife Corridor Trail in Volusia County | Coast-to-Coast Trail to SR 40 | Trail | Volusia County | | PD&E Study, PE, CST | TBD | Coast-to-Coast Trail connection to Florida Wildlife Corridor |
| Palm Coast to Bulow Trail Corridor | | Flagler | Old Kings Road Trail | Volusia/Flagler County line to Palm Coast Linear Park on Palm Coast Parkway | Trail | Flagler County and Palm Coast | | PE, CST | TBD | |
| East Palatka to Lehigh Trail Corridor | | Flagler | Old Brick Road Trail | Lehigh Trail to Flagler/St. Johns County line | Trail | Flagler County | | PD&E Study, PE, CST | TBD | Lehigh Trail connection to Florida Wildlife Corridor |
| SJR2C | | Flagler | SJR2C Flagler Beach Gap (A1A) | Volusia/Flagler County line to Ocean Marina Drive | Trail | Flagler Beach | | PD&E Study, PE, ROW, CST, CEI | TBD | |



January 24, 2024 FILE: CMC 2024-01

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), I am writing in support of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant application for the proposed *Railroad Crossing Safety Improvements and Monitoring System* project. This project aims to enhance safety and operations for critical at-grade railroad crossings in Central Florida by improving maintenance response time to railroad gate infrastructure, automating notifications to operators and the motoring public, preparing incident traffic leveraging plans, and reducing instances of vehicles queuing on railroad tracks.

The *Railroad Crossings Safety Improvements and Monitoring System* project was informed by a comprehensive study of more than 800 at-grade railroad crossings in Central Florida, which identified locations that were most affected by malfunctioning railroad gate infrastructure. Twenty-six (26) critically located crossings were selected for the proposed improvements. Additionally, a Railroad Preemption Study recommended established traffic infrastructure solutions to minimize track vehicle queuing.

Currently, the average response times to malfunctioning railroad crossing signals can exceed four (4) hours, which does not include the repair time. This can lead to excessive delays throughout the surrounding transportation network. Additionally, vehicle queuing has been observed on railroad crossings in Central Florida. Given the operations of existing freight and commuter rail in urban areas and the introduction of high-speed rail in the region, it is highly recommended to minimize presence of stopped vehicles on the tracks and to minimize maintenance response times for railroad crossings.

In conclusion, we anticipate this project will improve safety and mobility for the traveling public. We look forward to working with FDOT and the USDOT to implement the improvements proposed under the *Railroad Crossing Safety Improvements and Monitoring System* project.

Sincerely,

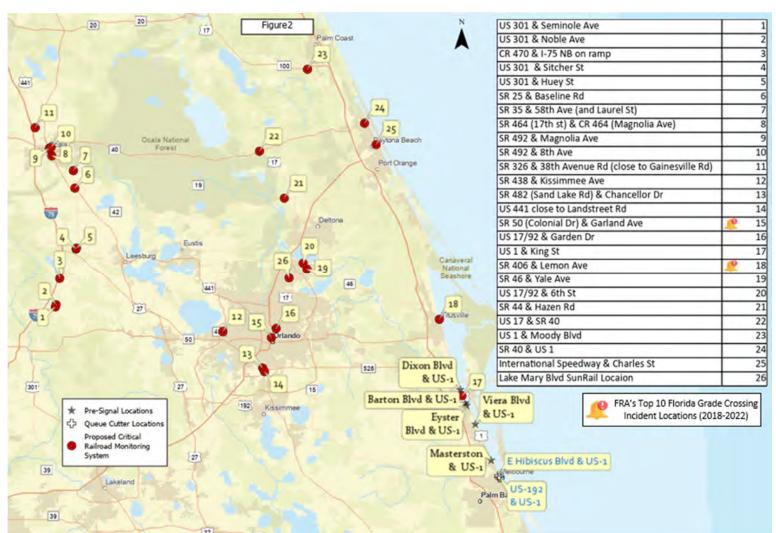
City of DeLand Mayor Christopher M. Cloudman Chairperson, River to Sea TPO

| Beverly Beach | DeBary | Flagler Beach | New Smyrna Beach | Palm Coast | South Daytona |
|----------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Bunnell | DeLand | Flagler County | Oak Hill | Pierson | Volusia County |
| Daytona Beach | Deltona | Holly Hill | Orange City | Ponce Inlet | |
| Daytona Beach Shores | Edgewater | Lake Helen 27 | Ormond Beach | Port Orange | |



RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND MONITORING SYSTEMS (FPID# 453453-1)

Project Location Map



Stakeholders

FDOT will perform all tasks required for the project through a coordinated process, which will involve the affected tenant railroads, contract operators, the local jurisdictions, and federal funding partner including, but not limited to: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), CSX Transportation, Florida East Coast Railroad (FEC), Florida Central Railroad (FCEN), Central Florida Rail Corridor (CFRC/Sunrail), City of Ocala, City of Titusville, City of Orlando, City of Winter Park, City of Daytona Beach, City of Palm Coast, Marion County, Sumter County, Volusia County, Seminole County, and Orange County.





RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND MONITORING SYSTEMS (FPID# 453453-1)

Project Description

This project will bring a mix of the latest in technology and proven strategies to improve safety at highway rail crosses across Central Florida. Seven (7) intersections which will see higher speed and higher volumes of traffic with Brightline service started up have been identified for implementation of: pre-signals and queue cutters.

Additionally at 26 at-grade state-owned rail crossings either on major state routes or located near interstate ramps will be instrumented to improve awareness of crossing status. Information will be provided via connected vehicle (CV) Roadside Units, FDOT's 511 system, FDOT's 3rd party data feed, and navigation applications like Waze. The system will be monitored by FDOT 24/7 Regional Transportation Management Center and confirmed via camera, quickly identifying faulty crossing gates that are not re-opening. This quick action will avoid traffic congestion by lessening the malfunction delay time and activating pre-determined incident traffic signal timing plans to effectively reroute traffic leveraging

Project Benefits

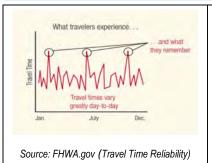
The project addresses the largest safety and operational impacts from highway rail crossings in Central Florida.

Pre-signals and queue cutters are proven safety measures that reduced stopped vehicles on tracks, preventing the blocking of high-speed rail traffic at key crossings. Both are featured in NCHRP Synthesis 271, *Traffic Signal Operations Near Highway-Rail Grade Crossings*.

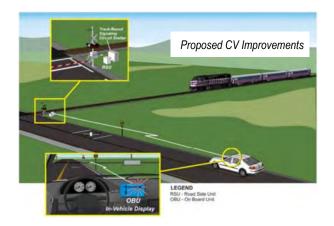
Currently the average response time from the maintaining railroad agency to a faulty railroad crossing signal is **four (4) hours and 22 minutes**, not including the malfunction repair time. The primary cause is the time it takes to identify an issue.

Other benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Improving road user travel time reliability
- Enhancing overall operations and safety on arterials and interstates close to at-grade railroad crossings







Grant Opportunity | Consolidated Rail Infrastructure Safety Improvements (CRISI). Track 3 – Final Design (FD)/Construction Fall 2023

Grant Agency | USDOT/FRA

Applicant | FDOT District #5, TSM&O

Total Project Cost | \$5.4 million

Grant Request | \$3.45 million (64%)

Other Federal Funds | \$0.0 million (0%)

State Match | \$1.95 million (36%)

Project Location | Rural and Urban, District 5-Wide, Florida.

Congressional Member(s) |

Michael Waltz, District 6, Cory Mills, District 7, Bill Posey, District 8, Darren Soto, District 9, Maxwell Frost, District 10

Previous Federal Discretionary Grant Application | No

Project Schedule |





V. ACTION ITEMS

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE RIVER TO SEA TPO'S FY 2022/23 INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT



River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization Audit for the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Overview

- Thank You
- Audit Process

Required Communications

- Our Responsibility in Relation to Financial Statement Audit
- Significant Risks Considered
 - Improper revenue recognition, management override of internal controls, improper use of restricted resources
- Significant Estimates and/or Disclosures:
 - Net Pension Liability (\$234,192) (Note 8)
- Corrected and/or Uncorrected Audit Adjustments:
 - Three entries to adjust to reconcile year-end balances
- ❖ Significant Difficulties Performing Audit, Disagreements with Management: None

Audit Reports

- Report on Financial Statements (page 2): Unmodified Opinion
- Report on Compliance for Major Federal Programs (page 38): Unmod. Opinion
- Report on Internal Control and Compliance (page 41):
 - 1 Significant Deficiency (Preparation of Financial Statements)
 - o Prior comment reduced from Material Weakness to SD, no new comments
- Management Letter Required by Auditor General (page 43): No Modifications or Findings
- ❖ Independent Accountant's Examination Report (page 45): TPO in Compliance

Financial Highlights

- Grant Revenues \$902,719
- ❖ Total Fund Balance \$609,745
- Governmental Activities
 - o Unrestricted \$402,081

Questions



Zach Chalifour, CPA
Partner
www.jmco.com
386.257.4100
Zach.Chalifour@jmco.com



Financial Snapshot

Balance Sheet (page 13)

| eet (page 13) | General Fund | | | Special Revenue Fund | Total Governmental Funds | | |
|--|-----------------|---------|----|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| ASSETS | | | | | | | |
| Equity in pooled cash | \$ | 264,226 | \$ | - | \$ | 264,226 | |
| Investments | | 140,258 | | - | | 140,258 | |
| Due from other governments | | - | | 228,994 | | 228,994 | |
| Due from other funds | | 189,566 | | - | | 189,566 | |
| Deposits | | 5,000 | | | | 5,000 | |
| Total assets | \$ | 599,050 | \$ | 228,994 | \$ | 828,044 | |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ | 14,149 | \$ | 14,584 | \$ | 28,733 | |
| Due to other funds | | - | | 189,566 | | 189,566 | |
| Total liabilities | | 14,149 | | 204,150 | | 218,299 | |
| FUND BALANCES | | | | | | | |
| Nonspendable: | | | | | | | |
| Deposits | | 5,000 | | - | | 5,000 | |
| Assigned for: | | | | | | | |
| Transportation | | - | | 24,844 | | 24,844 | |
| Unassigned | | 579,901 | | - | | 579,901 | |
| Total fund balances | | 584,901 | | 24,844 | | 609,745 | |
| Total liabilities and fund balances | \$ | 599,050 | \$ | 228,994 | \$ | 828,044 | |

Income Statement (page 15)

| | General Fund | | | Special Revenue Fund | Total Governmental Funds | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|----|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Revenues | | | | | | | |
| Charges for services | \$ | 62,971 | \$ | - | \$ | 62,971 | |
| Intergovernmental: | | | | | | | |
| Federal | | - | | 902,719 | | 902,719 | |
| Non-federal | | - | | 48,571 | | 48,571 | |
| Investment income | | 4,908 | | - | | 4,908 | |
| Miscellaneous | | 32 | | | | 32 | |
| Total revenues | | 67,911 | | 951,290 | | 1,019,201 | |
| Expenditures | | | | | | | |
| Current: | | | | | | | |
| General government | | 33,244 | | - | | 33,244 | |
| Transportation | | - | | 922,493 | | 922,493 | |
| Capital outlay | | - | | 11,151 | | 11,151 | |
| Debt service: | | | | | | | |
| Principal | | - | | 4,776 | | 4,776 | |
| Total expenditures | | 33,244 | | 938,420 | | 971,664 | |
| Net change in fund balances | | 34,667 | | 12,870 | | 47,537 | |
| Fund balances, beginning of year | | 550,234 | | 11,974 | | 562,208 | |
| Fund balances, end of year | \$ | 584,901 | \$ | 24,844 | \$ | 609,745 | |



V. ACTION ITEMS

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2024-01 AMENDING THE FY 2023/24 TO FY 2027/28 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

Resolution 2024-01 Attachment A

4542861 Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd and Orange Camp Road Intersection Improvements Managed By: Volusia County

Non-SIS

Project Type: Intersection Improvements

Length: N/A

County: Volusia

LRTP Ref: Pgs 2-3 to 2-5, 6-11 (Table 6-16), 6-18

| Fur | d Phase | <202 | 24 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 20 | 027 | | 20 | 28 | | >2028 | Total |
|-----|---------|------|----|---------------|---------|---------|----|-----|---|----|----|---|---------|---------------|
| SA | CST | | | \$ 552,642 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ | 4 | - | \$ | | - | | \$ 552,642 |
| LF | CST | | | \$ 70,000 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ | | - | \$ | | - | | \$ 70,000 |
| | TOTAL | \$ | - | \$ 622,642 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ | | - | \$ | | - | \$ - | \$ 622,642 |

5311 Capital - Volusia County

Managed By: Votran

Non-SIS

Project Type: Transit

4541861

Length: N/A

County: Volusia

Rural Transit Funding Project

LRTP Ref: Pgs 2-3 to 2-5, 6-10 and Appendix D

| Fund | l Phase | < | 2024 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2027 | 2028 | >2028 | Total |
|------|---------|----|------|---------------|---------|------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------------|
| DU | CAP | | | \$ 249,638 | \$ - | \$ | 4 | \$ - | \$ - | | \$ 249,638 |
| LF | CAP | | | \$ 62,410 | \$ - | \$ | 7 | \$ - | \$ - | | \$ 62,410 |
| Т | OTAL | \$ | - | \$ 249,638 | \$ | \$ | - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 249,638 |



V. ACTION ITEMS

C. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2024-02 ADOPTING THE 2024 RIVER TO SEA TPO SAFETY TARGETS

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization

Transportation Performance Measures 2024 Safety Targets

Safety Performance Measures

- Number of Fatalities
- Number of Serious Injuries
- Fatality Rate per 100 Million VMT
- Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million VMT
- Number of Non Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries

Safety Performance Targets

- FDOT Target of Vision Zero
- Adopt Independent Targets

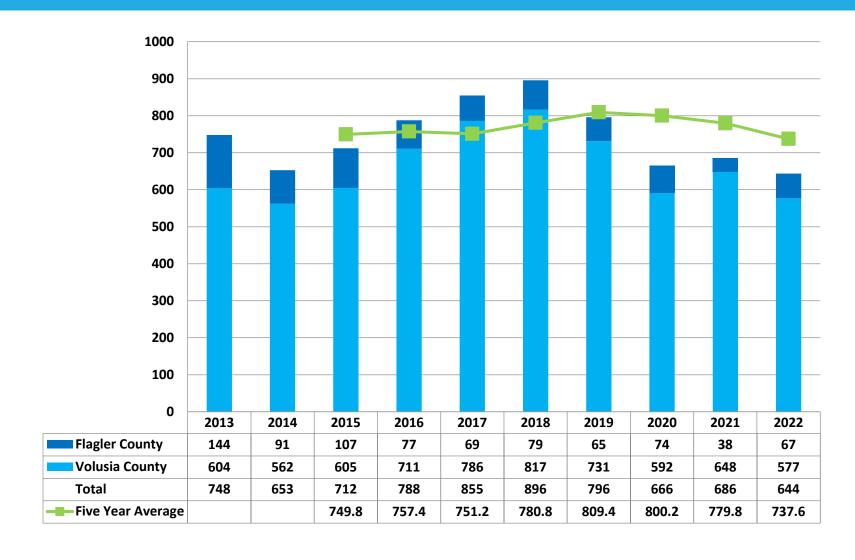
River to Sea TPO Safety Targets

- 2018, 2019, and 2020 Based on Two Percent Annual Reduction in the Number for Each Safety Performance Measure
- 2021 and 2022 Continue to reduce the target by two percent when measures are trending downward. However, if the measure is trending upward, the previous year's target is retained
- 2023 Adopted State Target of <u>Zero</u> for each Safety Performance Measure
- 2024 Continue to Support State Target of <u>Zero</u> for each Safety Performance Measure

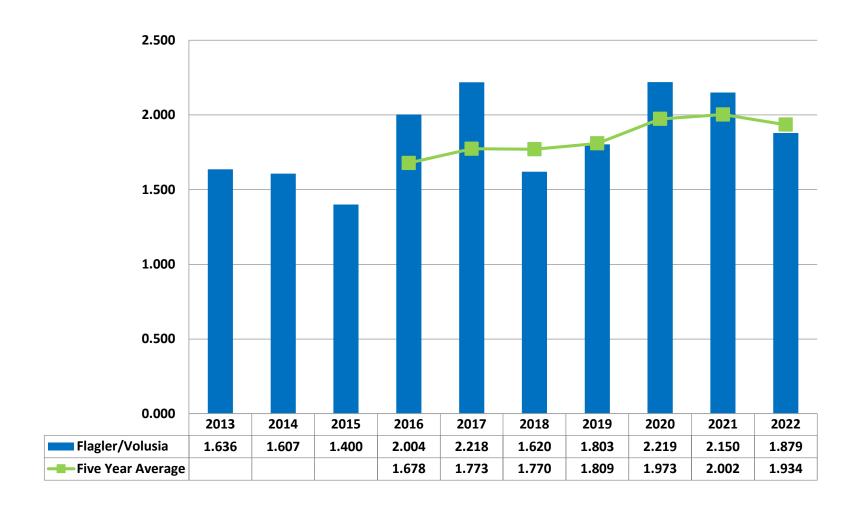
Number of Fatalities



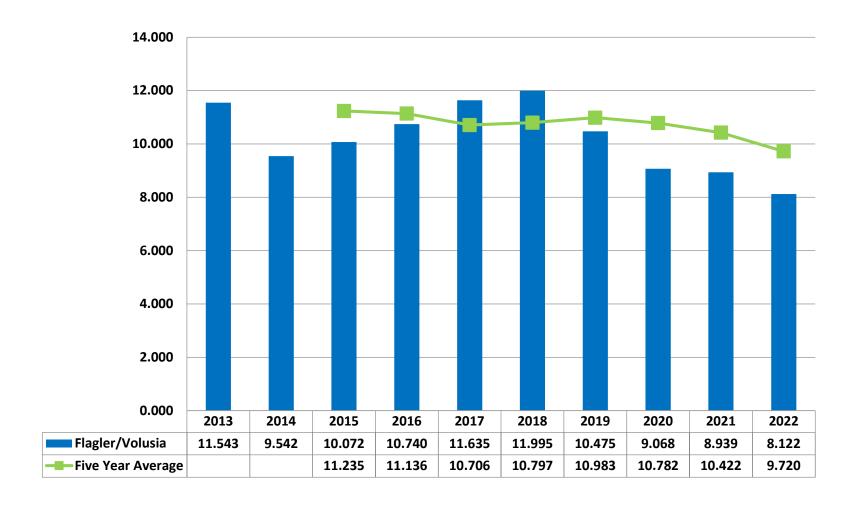
Number of Serious Injuries



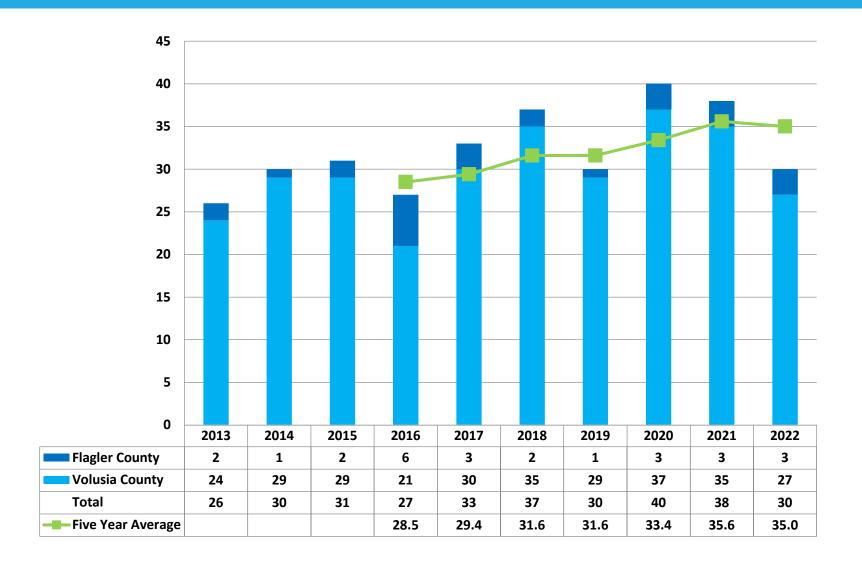
Fatality Rate



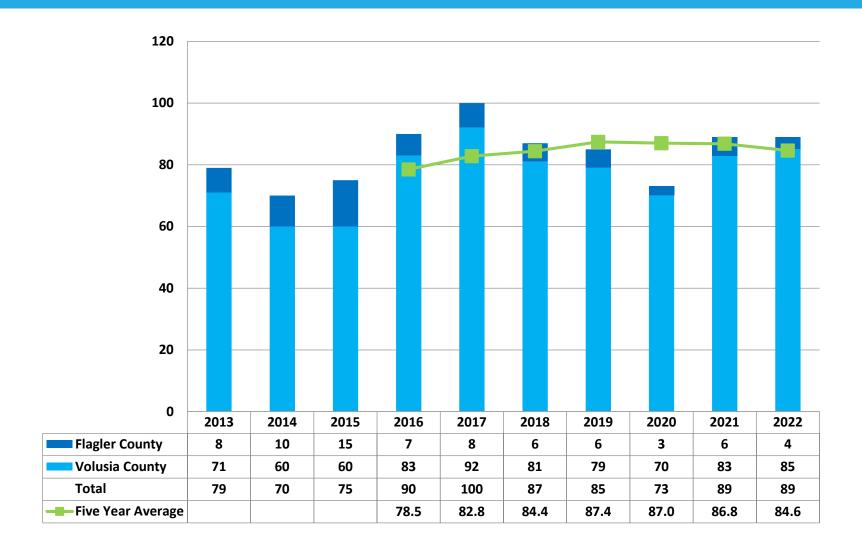
Serious Injury Rate



Bike Ped Fatalities



Bike Ped Serious Injuries



Safety Performance Targets

| Performance Measure | 2024 Proposed Target |
|--|----------------------|
| Number of Fatalities | 0 |
| Number of Serious Injuries | 0 |
| Fatality Rate per 100M VMT | 0 |
| Serious Injury Rate per 100M VMT | 0 |
| Total Number of Non- Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries | 0 |

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization

QUESTIONS?

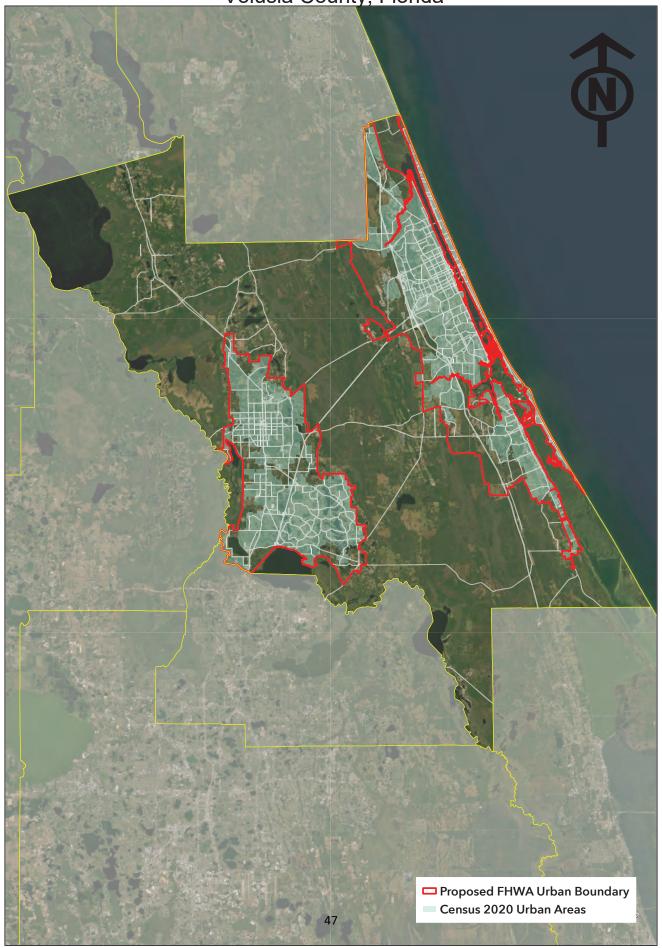
Transportation Performance Measures
2024 Safety Targets



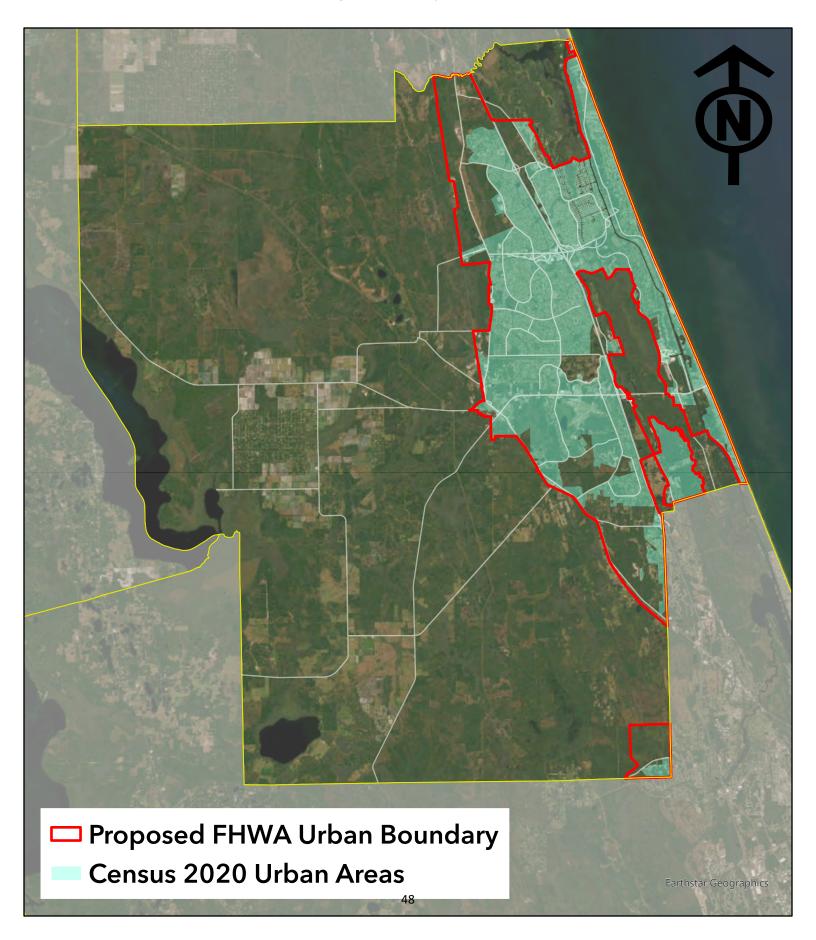
V. ACTION ITEMS

D. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2024-03 ADOPTING THE 2020 ADJUSTED URBAN AREA BOUNDARY

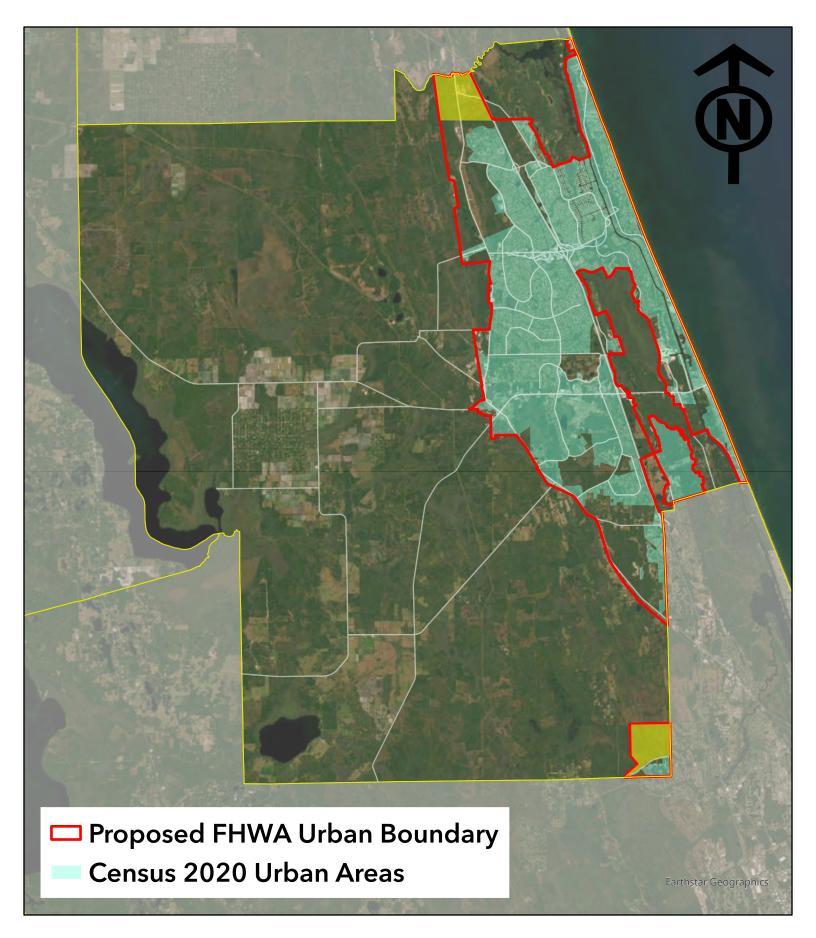
Proposed FHWA Smooth Urban Boundary Volusia County, Florida



Proposed FHWA Smooth Urban Boundary Flagler County, Florida



Proposed FHWA Smooth Urban Boundary Flagler County, Florida





VI. PRESENTATION, STATUS REPORTS, AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF FY 2024/25 AND FY

2025/26 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

| Current FY 2022/23 and FY 2023/24 UPWP Summary of Work Products | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Task # and Title | General Activities | Key Projects and Deliverables | |
| 1.0 – Administration and F | Program Support | | |
| 1.01 General Administration | Personnel and Policies Human Resources Financial Management Annual Audit Administrative Support Operating Expenses Training/Travel Board and Committee Administration Strategic Planning Contract Management Legal Services Professional Support Services Facility Upgrades (as needed) Office Relocation | Develop a Policies and Procedures Reference Manual Update the Employee Handbook Update the Purchasing Manual Update Personnel Study and Pay Classification Develop Strategic Business Plan Create a Desk Procedure/Manual of CFO Processes Host Annual Planning Retreat Develop Annual Operating Budget Complete a COOP Exercise and training Independent Audit for Financial Compliance Develop Legislative Positions/Priorities Issue RFPs for support services/consultants | |
| 1.02 Information Technology systems | Manage IT needs – equipment, software, internet access, inventory | Update TPO Website Procure/Replace Equipment as needed Electronic File Management (maintaining and archiving) | |
| 1.03 Public Involvement | Public Outreach Media Relations Public Notices and Advertising Provide responses to requests for information Public participation support of transportation related projects and activities | Review and Update the Public Participation Plan, if warranted Review and Update Title VI and LEP Documents Coordinate Helmets and Educational Material Distribution Complete Annual Title VI & LEP Training Develop Annual Public Involvement Matrix Summary Produce Transportation Talk, TPO Electronic Newsletter Develop Annual Report Develop and complete a community transportation survey Create and Distribute TPO Activities and Outreach Summaries Presentations to increase awareness of transportation issues Develop press releases, public service announcements, and legal advertisements | |

| 2.0 – Planning Projects and Programs | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| 2.01 Program Development (UPWP) | Develop, Monitor and Implement 2- YearPlanning Work Program Implement Consolidated Planning Grant | Develop and Adopt new 2-Year UPWP Manage Planning Activities, Deliverable and Budget Process UPWP Amendments and Modifications | |
| 2.02 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) | Develop and Maintain Five-Year Plan of Projects (TIP) Develop and Maintain List of Priority Projects | Issue Annual Call for Projects Convene Subcommittees for Project Ranking Update and Adopt List of Priority Projects Develop and Adopt a Five-Year TIP Process TIP Amendments and Modifications Coordinate with FDOT on Project Programming and Development of Annual TPO Work Program | |
| 2.03 Transportation Data Information Management | Collect, monitor and provide data analysis Implementation of Transportation Performance Measures | Update Transportation Systems Congestion Management/Performance Measures Report | |
| 2.04 State and Regional Planning and Coordination | Planning and Program Support for Regional, State and National Planning Activities Participation in FDOT-MPO Leadership Meetings | Development of Regional LOPP and Legislative Positions (CFMPOA) | |
| 2.05 Feasibility Studies- Traffic Operations/Safety | Coordination with project sponsors and consultants to conduct project feasibility studies | Complete planning level feasibility studies for Traffic Operations focused projects | |
| 2.06 General Planning Studies, Initiatives, Corridor Studies and Projects | Support general planning activities of the TPO Complete Streets Resiliency Planning TSMO strategies and projects Freight Planning Participation in local planning area meetings Participate in project public meetings Provide project development support Provide support for corridor studies, masterplans, PD&E studies and environmental analysis | Update Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA) guidelines Utilize heat maps to track recent crash data to identify hot spots Review and analysis crash data and contributing factors Regional Planning Sub-Area Studies The relationship between Food Deserts and Transportation Develop a program to conduct before and after studies for specific projects to analyze their effectiveness Implement Before and After Studies Program Conduct School Safety Studies for select schools to identify safety and traffic operations concerns | |

| 2.07 Long Range Transportation Plan 2.08 Community Safety Related Program | Management of the Long Range Transportation Plan Implement Community Safety Action Plan Participate in CTST Meetings Develop a Community Safety Events Schedule | Implement Connect 2045 Process Connect 2045 Amendments Initiate 2050 LRTP Speakers Bureau Presentations Develop and Educational and Awareness campaign for safety, speeding and distracted driving Create targeted and social media safety campaigns |
|---|--|--|
| 3.0 – Bicycle and Pedestria | n Programs | |
| 3.01 Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning and Implementation | Planning and promotion of safe, non-motorized travel options Participate in local and regional bicycle/pedestrian advisory groups | Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program Implementation Adopt a Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Implementation Update Bicycle Suitability Map Support Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Audits for focus areas Bicycle/Pedestrian Program project implementation |
| 3.02 Feasibility Studies Bicycle/Pedestrian | Coordination with project sponsors and consultants to conduct project feasibility studies | Complete planning level feasibility studies for Bicycle/Pedestrian focused projects |
| 4.0 – Transit and Transport | tation Disadvantaged Programs | |
| 4.01 Transit Related Activities and TD Program | Provide technical planning assistance for local government and transit agencies Identify transit development priorities Improve transit related safety & connectivity | Provide technical planning assistance and develop reports Votran Mobility of Demand (MOD) Expansion Area Studies Votran Park and Ride Facility Study Comprehensive Multi-Modal strategy planning for Flagler County Regional Transit Agency Partnership Study between Flagler County Public Transit, Votran and Coordination with St. John's County Produce annual quarterly reports and required plans Volusia County's AOR and AER Reports TDSP Annual update reports CTD quarterly program reports Other plans and report updates Coordinate and attend Florida TD Commission's Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Legislative Awareness Day |



VI. PRESENTATION, STATUS REPORTS, AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

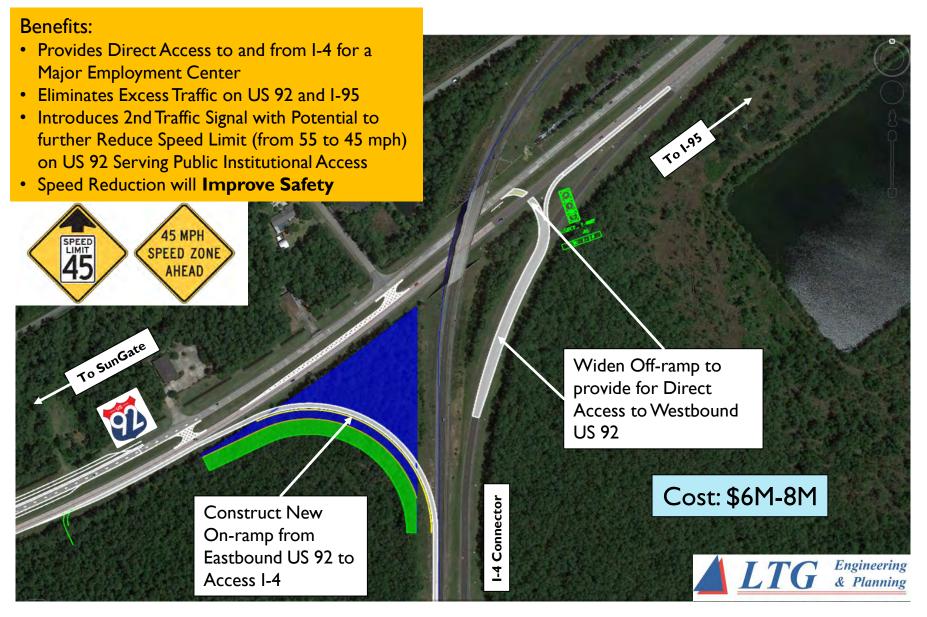
B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF AN AMENDMENT

TO THE CONNECT 2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION

PLAN (LRTP)

PROPOSED DIRECTIONAL INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT

(PROVIDE FOR FULL MOVEMENT INTERCHANGE)



RESOLUTION NO. 2023-487

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION ("TPO") ADD CERTAIN DEVELOPER-FUNDED MODIFICATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE I-4 CONNECTOR AND US 92 INTERCHANGE TO THE TPO LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Transportation Element of the City of Daytona Beach Comprehensive Plan sets forth the City of Daytona Beach's goal of promoting safe and efficient traffic circulation serving existing and future land uses; and

WHEREAS, the safe and efficient movement of people and cargo is the priority for transportation networks within the City's jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 4 (I-4) and US 92 corridors are major gateways into the City; and

WHEREAS, Sungate Logistic Park is a planned development on approximately 860 acres of land located northeast of West International Speedway Boulevard and Indian Lake Road, that was approved for development by City Ord. No. 2022-416; and

WHEREAS, Sungate Logistic Park is anticipated to have approximately 5.5 million square feet of commercial/industrial/institutional space, generate an estimated \$904.4 million in gross annual economic output in a typical year, and create at least 5,883 total permanent jobs; and

WHEREAS, Sungate Logistic Park will be a key economic driver whose success will be impacted by the I-4 and US 92 corridors; and

WHEREAS, the developer of Sungate Logistic Park has proposed to fund certain improvements and modifications to the I-4 connector and US 92 interchange; and

WHEREAS, in support of the Developer's efforts, the City has applied to the Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT") for an Interchange Access Request, with the Interchange Modification Report ("IMR") attached thereto describing the proposed improvements in further detail; and

WHEREAS, in addition to directly supporting the regionally significant economic benefit anticipated to result from the development of Sungate Logistic Park, these improvements would assist with future growth and traffic movements, potentially eliminate hazardous turning movements by truck traffic at US-92 and Old DeLand Road, eliminate dangerous high-speed weaving between the I-4 off-ramp and the median opening on US 92 at Old DeLand Road, and eliminate the high speed merging condition from the eastbound I-4 off ramp to US 92; and

WHEREAS, a need for these improvements is evidenced by safety and efficiency concerns associated with the existing interchange configuration; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these proposed improvements, development of the Sungate Logistic Park will provide upgrades to roadway infrastructure within a key corridor of the City; and

WHEREAS, the proposed reduction in speed limit on US 92 as part of the construction of the Sungate Logistics Park entrance will reduce speeds and improve safety; and

WHEREAS, the proposed traffic signal at the US 92 entrance to Sungate Logistics

Park will include safety improvements such as street lighting and signalized pedestrian crossing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, these modifications, when taken as a whole, will improve safety, provide enhancement of the region's transportation network, and bolster economic development efforts.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The City Commission of the City of Daytona Beach hereby requests that the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) add the I-4 Connector and US 92 interchange modifications and improvements to the TPO Long Range Transportation Plan included in the Interchange Access Request, with the Interchange Modification Report ("IMR") further described in the recitals, which modifications and improvements are to be funded by the Sungate Logistics Park developer, as a developer-funded Strategic Intermodal System improvement for the safety of the traveling public.

SECTION 2. All resolutions in conflict are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect upon adoption, and an executed copy of which shall be transmitted to the TPO Executive Director as soon as possible.

DERRICK L. HENRY

Mayor

ATTEST:

LETITIA LAMAGNA

City Clerk

Adopted: December 20, 2023



VI. PRESENTATION, STATUS REPORTS, AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

C. FDOT REPORT



RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 719 South Woodland Boulevard DeLand, Florida 32720-6834 JARED W. PERDUE, P.E. SECRETARY

Volusia and Flagler Counties Project Status Update as of December 31, 2023

The following is a brief status update on major FDOT road construction projects in Volusia and Flagler Counties as of the December cutoff. The next cutoff date is January 31, 2024. Information is also available on www.cflroads.com. For questions, please contact Jonathan Scarfe at 386-943-5791 or via email at D5-MPOLiaisons@dot.state.fl.us.

VOLUSIA COUNTY

Upcoming Projects:

445716-1: U.S. 17 (S.R. 15) Safety Improvements from Spring Garden Avenue (S.R. 15A) to Ponce Deleon Boulevard

Contract: T5799

Estimated Start: Late January/Early February 2024

• Estimated Completion: Early 2025

Project Cost: \$7 Million

Description: The purpose of this project is to provide median modifications on U.S. 17
(State Road 15) from Spring Garden Avenue (State Road 15A) to Ponce Deleon
Boulevard in De Leon Springs. Other improvements include repaving, drainage
modifications, sidewalk and pedestrian curb ramp reconstruction, updated signage and
striping, and lighting improvements.

Current Projects:

442907-1 & 448921-1 SR 415 Resurfacing from north of Acorn Lake Road to SR 44

Contract: E59B7

Project Start: October 2023

Estimated Completion: Summer 2024

• Update: The contractor is working on drainage and widening along S.R. 415 at Quail Ranch Road and Alligator Ranch Road. The contractor is also working on the extension of the northbound S.R. 415 right turn lane onto S.R. 44.

410251-3 U.S. 17 (S.R. 15) Widening from south of Spring Street to Lake Winona Road

• Contract: T5792

• Project Start: September 2023

• Estimated Completion: Summer 2025

• Update: The contractor is working on the drainage box culvert extension and pond near the north end of the project.

445300-1 S.R. 44 Resurfacing from N Hill Ave to Eastbound I-4 On Ramp

Contract: E50B5

Project Start: September 2023

• Estimated Completion: Summer 2024

 Update: The contractor is preparing to work on concrete sidewalk and minor widening near N Hill Avenue.

445208-1 U.S. 92 Resurfacing from north of Educators Rd to north of Tomoka Farms Rd

• Contract: E56B5

Project Start: August 2023

Estimated Completion: Summer 2024

• Update: The contractor is working on signalization and lighting.

437942-1 International Speedway Blvd (U.S. 92/S.R. 600) Safety Improvements from the Halifax River Bridge to S.R. A1A

Contract: E54B1

Project Start: June 2023

Estimated Completion: Spring 2024

 Update: The contractor is finishing water line work and has started installing a stormwater pipe. Partner agencies are also completing utility work at various locations within the project limits.

437133-1 U.S. 17-92/S.R. 15/600 (North Woodland Blvd) Drainage Improvements from Mandarin Ave to north of E Kentucky Ave

• Contract: T5781

Project Start: June 2023

Estimated Completion: Early 2024

• Update: The contractor is completing paving operations along U.S.17-92 and reconstructing the median.

443512-1 S.R. A1A Safety Improvements from Milsap Rd to S.R. 40 (Granada Blvd)

Contract: T5725

Project Start: May 2023

• Estimated Completion: Early 2024

• Update: The contractor is working on signalization and is preparing to begin paving operations.

439865-2 St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail - Palmetto Ave from Ridge Blvd to Beville Rd

- Contract: E54B0
- Project Start: April 2023
- Estimated Completion: Early 2024
- Update: The contractor is working on punch list items in preparation for final acceptance.

448922-1 S.R. 46 over the St. John's River and the Cabbage Slough waterway Bridge Maintenance

- Contract: E52B5
- Project Start: April 2023
- Estimated Completion: Early 2024
- Update: The contractor is working on pile jackets at the S.R. 46 bridge over the St. John's River.

437935-1 Barracuda Boulevard over the Canal Bradano Waterway Bridge Replacement

- Contract: T5743
- Project Start: December 2022
- Estimated Completion: Summer 2024
- Update: Barracuda Blvd is closed from The Middle Way to Quay Assisi. The contractor is continuing sea wall work.

438982-1 U.S. 1 (Ridgewood Ave) Signalization Improvements at 6th St, 8th St, Walker St, and Flomich St

- Contract: T5740
- Project Start: August 2022
- Estimated Completion: Early 2024
- Update: All signals on this project have been installed and are operational. The contractor is working on traffic loops and thermoplastic striping.

441682-1-72-04 Concrete Slab Replacement on U.S. 92 (S.R. 600), U.S. 1 (S.R. 5), U.S. 17-92 (S.R. 15), and S.R. 44

- Contract: E5X08
- Project Start: March 2022
- Estimated Completion: Early 2024
- Update: The contractor is working on concrete slab operations on US 17-92 (Woodland Boulevard) in DeLand.

427833-1-72-06 I-95 (S.R. 9) and Int'l Speedway Blvd (US 92/S.R. 600) Pavement Markings

- Contract: E5X35
- Project Start: April 2023
- Estimated Completion: Late 2023
- Update: This project has been final accepted.

427986-1-72-32 S.R. A1A Drainage Improvements at Driftwood Avenue

- Contract: E5X65
- Project Start: May 2023
- Estimated Completion: Early 2024
- Update: The contractor is working on lining the drainage pipe at Driftwood Avenue and Waverly Place.

429556-1 S.R. 44 Over the St. John's River Bridge Replacement

• Contract: T5706

• Project Start: July 2020

• Estimated Completion: Early 2024

 Update: The new State Road (S.R.) 44 Bridge has opened, and traffic has been shifted from the previous drawbridge to the newly constructed fixed span structure. Access to Ed Stone Park, St. Johns Marina, and other properties along Old New York Avenue have been modified to accommodate the realignment of the roadway to the new bridge. The contractor is currently working on demolition of the bascule bridge.

FLAGLER AND VOLUSIA COUNTIES

449765-1 ITS Advanced Incident Warning System along I-95 (S.R. 9)

Contract: T5785

• Project Start: September 2023

• Estimated Completion: Spring 2024

• Update: The contractor is working on setting advanced incident warning sign structures.

450227-1 I-95/SR-9 Wrong Way Vehicle Detection System Installation at Palm Coast Parkway interchange, I-95 at Matanzas Woods Parkway interchange, and at I-4 at SR 44 interchange

Contract: E59B4

Project Start: January 2024

• Estimated Completion: Fall 2025

• Update: The contractor is preparing to begin conduit work at the I-95/Palm Coast Parkway interchange.





ISSUE #1













ON THE HORIZON

JANUARY MOVE OVER, FLORIDA! MONTH

FEBRUARY HIT + RUN AWARENESS MONTH

MARCH BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CAMPAIGN

Welcome to District Five Compass Points, a quarterly newsletter from your Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Liaisons that will share innovations and feature best practices and projects from around District Five.

Planning Organizations are essential partners in the work we do at Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and our goal is to improve dialogue and elevate our collaboration to new levels. Whether you are an engineer, a planner, or a member of a committee, we hope you will find something here to spark your curiosity and challenge you to achieve new success in your own work.

Each issue will keep communities at the center of its focus and align with FDOT priorities such as Resiliency, Safety, Robust Supply Chain, Technology, Workforce Development, and other hot topics as they evolve.

This first issue will focus on Moving Florida Forward and the investment it represents. It will also highlight efforts we've seen that take public engagement to the next level of excellence.

John E. Tyler

Secretary
FDOT District Five



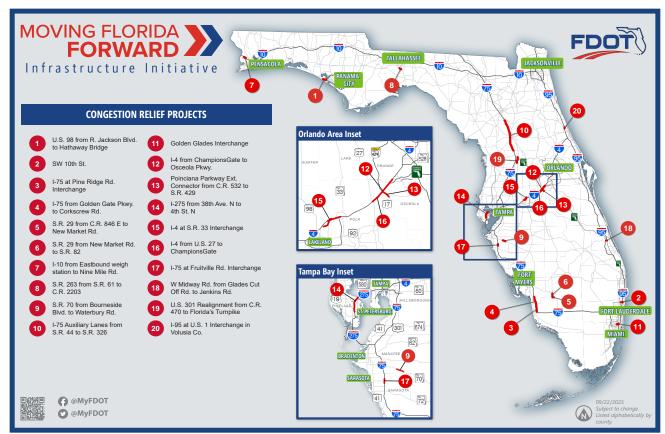
Congratulations the to Space Coast TPO which recently received the prestigious Image Award for its 2022 Annual Report from the Space chapter of Coast the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA).

This is a prestigious communications industry award and an example of excellence in conveying our mission to the public.

Communities are at the center of everything we do, and one of the most important ways we connect with the public is through MPOs and TPOs. The FDOT values the work you do, the opportunities you identify, and the issues you bring to light. You are an essential resource for our community and we are grateful to have you as partners.

If you have projects or stories to share across the District, submit your suggestions to this QR Code or contact your MPO/TPO Liaison directly. Thank you in advance for helping make this a valuable resource!





As we enter 2024, excitement for Moving Florida Forward is building. The importance of this massive investment cannot be understated. It represents a strong commitment to meeting the urgent needs that have emerged from Florida's unprecedented growth. As current and future residents and visitors use our transportation system, they will see that we are committed to maintaining the most efficient and safest infrastructure possible.

Moving Florida Forward aims to increase safety and user experience by addressing congestion, implementing infrastructure improvements, building on resiliency and focusing on construction safety.

In Volusia County, major improvements are planned at the Interstate 95 (I-95) and U.S. 1 Interchange, one of the oldest in the interstate system. Additionally, Broadway Avenue and Destination Daytona Lane will be widened from two lanes in each direction to three. This widening includes the addition of shared use paths to serve bicyclists and pedestrians. It is scheduled to begin in 2027. With massive growth projected in the region, these updates will make a big difference in interstate travel and commerce and improve safety and quality of life.

In Osceola County, the project also includes Interstate 4 (I-4) from Champions Gate to Osceola Parkway, I-4 at State Road (S.R.) 33 Interchange, and U.S. 27 to Champions Gate.

According to Secretary Tyler, "In fast-growing Osceola County, rebuilding the interstate and adding I-4 express lanes will substantially improve safety and travel time in one of the most congested segments of I-4." The Initiative also includes Poinciana Parkway Extension Connector from County Road (C.R.) 532 to State Road (S.R.) 429.

In Marion and Sumter counties, a monumental investment is planned to the I-75 corridor. The proposed improvements include the addition of auxiliary lanes and modifications to several interchanges including S.R. 326 and S.R. 40. U.S. 301 will also be reconstructed between C.R. 470 and Florida's Turnpike. These improvements are designed to reduce congestion and improve reliability. The Moving Florida Forward Infrastructure Initiative has allowed FDOT to advance these much needed improvements, with construction scheduled to start in Spring 2025.

At FDOT, strong, two-way communications with local communities is critical. Small towns and neighborhoods fear they may become alternate routes or bypasses. This investment addresses this concern. Fast-tracking these projects benefits both large cities as well as small communities and brings our region to new levels of safety and mobility.

Welcome to the new I-4 Corridors Program Office. Led by Director Keith Slater, P.E., the team of 10+ additional staff will focus on I-4 projects and Poinciana Parkway Extension Connector, For more details see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBlenwvRnkE



VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



VIII. RIVER TO SEA TPO BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS



IX. RIVER TO SEA TPO CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS



X. INFORMATION ITEMS

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Attendance Record – 2023

Citizens Advisory Committee Attendance Record – 2023

Technical Coordinating Committee Attendance Record – 2023

River to Sea TPO Outreach and Activities

Upcoming Events Flyer

Volusia and Flagler County Construction Reports

FDOT Correspondence on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance

Measure



For Immediate Release December 21, 2023

CONTACT FDOT: FDOT COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE (850) 414-4590 | FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us

ICYMI: Attorney General Moody and Governor DeSantis Challenge Biden Administration Rule Requiring States Set Targets to Reduce On-Road CO2 Emissions

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Attorney General Ashley Moody is pushing back against the Biden administration's federal overreach. Attorney General Moody, with the support of Governor Ron DeSantis, filed a lawsuit challenging a new Biden administration rule requiring all states with National Highway System mileage to set arbitrary emissions targets. In addition to today's announcement, Florida's foresight and prudent fiscal management practices are now the standard-bearer amongst states given FDOT being the sole state to take the responsible step by no longer participating in USDOT's carbon reduction program.

According to this new rule, states are required to set arbitrary targets for reduced CO2 emissions, to track progress towards said targets and report to the federal government goal progress. This rule forces states to spend an inordinate amount of time, resources and money with no clear guidance for what success looks like. The complaint argues that Congress has not given the U.S. Department of Transportation the authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "As if Biden's unfounded and reckless energy policies haven't devastated our economy enough, this new, foolhardy edict from the U.S. Department of Transportation will create even more financial hardships for our state and Floridians. We're taking action today to ensure that this misguided new-emissions rule does not stand."

Governor Ron DeSantis said, "Florida will not sit idly by while the Biden Administration tries to force the Green New Deal into existence through the U.S. Department of Transportation. Florida will always fight for freedom and against the federal government's unlawful efforts to control the American people."

Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared W. Perdue, P.E. said, "FDOT has continued to voice concerns about the rule for well over a year, yet never received complete answers before the rule was finalized—clearly showing it was done to push the federal government's agenda for the Green New Deal and is not reflective of a collaborative effort from states across the country. Operating in this manner is irresponsible and reckless, which is why Florida proudly stands united with these other states to safeguard the freedoms that this nation is so well known for."

In the complaint filed today in federal court, Attorney General Moody and a 21-state coalition of attorneys general assert that DOT's Federal Highway Administration overstepped its legal authority. The coalition writes, "Congress has not given FHWA or USDOT authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions ('GHG'). Nor can the Agencies compel the States to administer a federal regulatory program or mandate them to further Executive policy wishes absent some other authority to do so—which is lacking as to this rule."

The action also makes clear that the proposed measure violates the principles of federalism by requiring states to implement a federal regulatory program. The complaint explains: "The Constitution is also clear that action by the States cannot be mandated through federal action like the Final Rule. 'The Federal Government may not compel the States to enact or administer a federal regulatory program.' [because] 'the Constitution protects us from our own best intentions: It divides power among sovereigns and among branches of government precisely so that we may resist the temptation to concentrate power in one location as an expedient solution to the crisis of the day.'" Accordingly, "[e]ven if Congress believed the Final Rule was the best means of reducing CO2 in order to address climate change, the States could not be directed to implement the policy choices of the federal government."

Further, the attorneys general note that FHWA previously issued a similar rule, soon repealed after the agency determined that the measure may duplicate "existing efforts in some States" and imposed "unnecessary burdens on State DOTs and MPOs [metropolitan planning organizations] that were not contemplated by Congress."

In addition to Attorney General Moody, the following states signed onto the complaint: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, South Carolina, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Read the complaint here.

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www.fdot.gov | Twitter: @MyFDOT | Facebook: @MyFDOT

The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.



RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 605 Suwannee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450 JARED W. PERDUE, P.E. SECRETARY

December 22, 2023

Dear Metropolitan Planning Organization Partners,

As a valued partner and in an effort to continue to collaborate and support Florida's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) would like to provide information on recent news for clarity and transparency.

The Department deeply values the commitment and dedication each of your MPOs take to thoroughly develop, plan, and prioritize each region's transportation projects, including with your long-range transportation plans. With your input, Florida has the world's most diverse transportation portfolio. FDOT plans to continue to make responsible and strategic investments in every region of the state, including traffic congestion reduction, multimodal transportation (including bicycle and pedestrian facilities), truck parking, intelligent transportation systems, and energy-efficient alternatives.

After careful consideration, FDOT notified USDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the decision to not submit a formal Carbon Reduction Strategy document. This document required states to submit strategies to reduce carbon emissions by tracking and reducing emissions from vehicles. FDOT did not receive answers to all of our concerns prior to USDOT's strategy document submittal deadline.

Within a few days after that document was due, USDOT issued a final Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Rule. The final rule requires State DOTs and MPOs to establish declining carbon dioxide targets for reducing emissions and report biennially on progress toward achievements of those targets. However, in the final rule, FHWA acknowledges that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) does not explicitly authorize the agency to assess environmental performance. Performance, as used in the law, is intended to address physical issues with infrastructure, not CO₂ emissions.

FDOT believes that FHWA has exhibited broad overreach in their implementation of the rule. Congress used clear language to direct USDOT to establish performance measures to assess pavement condition, bridge condition, system performance, and serious injuries and fatalities. Notably absent is a reference to GHG. Last year, FDOT formally responded to the proposed FHWA GHG emissions rule. FHWA received approximately 40,000 comments on the proposed rule, but did not significantly alter the final rule, or take into consideration the unique characteristics of all 50 states.

With the uniqueness of Florida and this rule affecting beyond just our agency, the Department diligently considered impacts for our partners and the transportation industry as a whole. This was especially important due to the language in the rule that relates to MPOs, as Florida has the highest number of MPOs in the nation – 27 MPOs and 33 UZAs (urbanized areas with populations over 50,000). Through this rule, 25 of the 27 MPOs are required to create joint targets and comply with establishing targets. FDOT estimates a high level of effort and costs, in addition to imposed compliance costs, which far exceeds FHWA's cost estimate.

While it should be very apparent after working so closely with us through the years, I want to reaffirm FDOT's commitment to environmental preservation and resiliency. In fact, Florida has achieved the cleanest air on record and is the most populous state to meet or exceed the existing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) benchmarks for air quality. It is unfortunate that the new GHG rule penalizes states for population, tourism, and economic growth.

With factors such as these, FDOT has been left with no choice but to join 20 other states and file a complaint in federal court requesting injunctive relief from this rule. This action was filed yesterday, December 21, 2023.

As always, we appreciate working together to best serve our communities. FDOT remains committed to being transparent and working with our MPOs to deliver a successful transportation system. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Regards,

Jared W. Perdue, P.E.

Secretary



XI. ADJOURNMENT

The next TPO Board meeting will be on February 28, 2024