



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Vince Wang
386-226-0422 ext. 20427
Email: VWang@r2ctpo.org

**“2017 DESIGNATED OFFICIAL PLANNING AGENCY OF THE YEAR”
AWARDED TO THE
RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)**

On August 30, 2017, the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) awarded the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) the “2017 Designated Official Planning Agency of the Year Award” for the state of Florida during the 25th Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Best Practices & Training Workshop/EXPO held in Orlando, Florida. This award recognizes the River to Sea TPO as a planning agency that goes above and beyond to assist transportation disadvantaged citizens.

"The River to Sea TPO has always made it a priority to improve safety and accessibility for its transportation disadvantaged citizens." said TPO Chairperson and Volusia County Council Vice Chair Deb Denys "Through the years, we have worked collaboratively with local agencies to improve the quality of life for all of the citizens in our planning area. This is a well-deserved acknowledgement of the TPO's commitment to the community."

For many years, the River to Sea TPO has played a vital role in supporting public transportation and transportation disadvantaged residents of Volusia County. The TPO has produced numerous planning studies that address safety and accessibility for transportation disadvantaged citizens including the recently completed Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS) Action Study which assessed intersections for safety and accessibility for disabled and visually impaired residents throughout our community. The TPO also sets aside funding each year to support public transit and to make infrastructure improvements that aid the disadvantaged.

The River to Sea TPO ensures the voices of the community are heard and taken into consideration when important decisions are being made. Public participation is extremely important and intrinsic to this organization. Over the years, the TPO has also been actively involved in community safety events, such as White Cane Awareness Day. It is the dedication, hard work and strong desire to improve transportation for everyone who lives, works and visits Volusia County that has made the River to Sea TPO effective in achieving positive results for the transportation disadvantaged.

For additional information, please contact:
Vince Wang, Transit Program Manager
River to Sea TPO
2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 100
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
VWang@r2ctpo.org
386-226-0422 ext. 20427

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