



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 7, 2020
2:00 pm

This meeting will be accessible in person and by webconference subject to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines and the Governor's Executive Orders pertaining to the COVID-19 Pandemic that are in effect as of the date of the meeting.

Participation in Person: Public comments may be provided at the meeting at the St. Lucie TPO located at 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida. Social distancing and face mask requirements will be observed at the meeting.

Participation by Webconference: Using a computer or smartphone, register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8209223603189675275>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webconference. Public comments may be provided during the meeting through the webconference chatbox.

Written and Telephone Comments: Comment by email to TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org; by regular mail to the St. Lucie TPO, 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953; or call 772-462-1593 until 2:00 pm on October 7, 2020.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Comments from the Public
5. Comments from Advisory Committee Members (TAC/CAC/BPAC)
6. Approval of Agenda
7. Approval of Meeting Summary
 - *August 5, 2020 Virtual Board Meeting*
8. Consent Agenda
 - 8a. Appointments to the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC):
Appointments to the BPAC to fill vacancies.

Action: Appoint or do not appoint.

9. Action Items

- 9a. Title VI Plan Update: Review and adoption of the update to the St. Lucie TPO's **guidance document to ensure nondiscrimination in the transportation** decision-making process.

Action: Adopt the Title VI Plan Update, adopt with conditions, or do not adopt.

- 9b. SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Development: Review of the draft Transportation Alternatives for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP.

Action: Approve one of the draft Transportation Alternatives for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP, approve with conditions, or do not approve.

- 9c. Transit Representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees: Review the current and future transit representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees.

Action: Adopt the proposed plan for current and future transit representation on the St. Lucie TPO Boards and Advisory Committees, adopt with conditions, or do not adopt.

10. FDOT Comments

11. Recommendations/Comments by Members

12. TPO Staff Comments

13. Next Meeting: The next St. Lucie TPO Board Meeting is a regular meeting scheduled for 2:00 pm on Wednesday, **December 2, 2020**.

14. Adjourn

NOTICES

The St. Lucie TPO satisfies the requirements of various nondiscrimination laws and regulations including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is welcome without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, income, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns about nondiscrimination should contact Marceia Lathou, the Title VI/ADA Coordinator of the St. Lucie TPO, at 772-462-1593 or via email at lathoum@stlucieco.org.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Marceia Lathou at 772-462-1593 at least five days prior to the meeting. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may use the Florida Relay System by dialing 711.

Items not included on the agenda may also be heard in consideration of the best interests of the **public's health, safety, welfare, and as necessary to protect every person's right of access**. If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the St. Lucie TPO with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, that person shall need a record of the proceedings, and for such a purpose, that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Kreyòl Ayisyen: Si ou ta renmen resevwa enfòmasyon sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen, tanpri rele nimewo 772-462-1593.

Español: Si usted desea recibir esta información en español, por favor llame al 772-462-1593.



Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd. Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
772-462-1593 www.stlucietpo.org

VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, August 5, 2020

TIME: 2:00 pm

In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines and the Governor's Executive Orders pertaining to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was conducted by web and teleconference with opportunities provided for the public to view the meeting, participate, and provide comments through the internet, by telephone, in writing, and in person at the St. Lucie TPO.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to Order

Chairman Drummond called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Drummond led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Buchwald explained a variety of housekeeping items related to the conduct of the virtual meeting. The roll then was called, and a quorum was confirmed with the following members present virtually:

Members Present

Darrell Drummond, Chairman
Kathryn Hensley, Vice Chairwoman
Commissioner Linda Bartz
Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky
Mayor Linda Hudson

Representing

Community Transit
St. Lucie County School Board
St. Lucie County
St. Lucie County
City of Fort Pierce

Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson
 Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson
 Councilwoman Stephanie Morgan
 Mayor Gregory Oravec
 Commissioner Cathy Townsend

St. Lucie County
 City of Fort Pierce
 City of Port St. Lucie
 City of Port St. Lucie
 St. Lucie County

Others Present

Kyle Bowman
 Peter Buchwald
 Yi Ding
 Marceia Lathou
 Rachel Harrison
 Christine Fasiska

Jackie Fitzpatrick
 Dan Hiden
 Lisa Juan

Eric Penfield
 Stewart Robertson
 Gus Schmidt
 Mira Skoroden

Representing

St. Lucie TPO
 St. Lucie TPO
 St. Lucie TPO
 St. Lucie TPO
 Recording Specialist
 Florida Department of
 Transportation (FDOT)
 Indian River Drive Resident
 FDOT
 Kimley-Horn & Associates
 (KHA)
 RS&H
 KHA
 TY Lin
 FDOT

Note: A full list of meeting attendees is on file.

4. Comments from the Public – Ms. Fitzpatrick asked whether the emails she had sent to TPO staff regarding the Lennard Road extension would be read aloud during the meeting. Mr. Buchwald explained that the concerns raised in the emails would be addressed during the discussion of agenda item 9a.
5. Comments from Advisory Committee Members (TAC/CAC/BPAC) – None.
6. Approval of Agenda
- * MOTION by Commissioner Johnson to approve the agenda.
- * * SECONDED by Mayor Hudson Carried UNANIMOUSLY

7. Approval of Meeting Summary
 - June 3, 2020 Virtual Board Meeting

* MOTION by Mayor Hudson to approve the Meeting Summary.

* * SECONDED by Vice Chairwoman Hensley Carried UNANIMOUSLY

8. Consent Agenda

8a. Amendment to the FY 2020/21 – FY 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Notification of an administrative amendment to the TIP to incorporate the 2020 Roll-Forward Report.

* MOTION by Commissioner Hutchinson to adopt the Consent Agenda.

* * SECONDED by Councilwoman Morgan Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9. Action Items

9a. SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Development: Approval of the draft Needs Assessment and the Financial Resources Analysis for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP.

Mr. Buchwald introduced the agenda item and invited Mr. Robertson to continue the presentation. Mr. Robertson provided an overview of the topics to be covered before describing the purpose and scope of the LRTP and sharing highlights from the ongoing developmental workshops. Moving on to the draft Needs Plan, Mr. Robertson described how future growth would affect St. Lucie County's transportation network and then presented the needs forecast for various multimodal facilities which included the expected improvements needed for the Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) infrastructure. He continued with a discussion of the projected revenues for 2021 to 2045, outlined the next steps in the process, and concluded by clarifying the items up for approval.

Commissioner Dzadovsky initiated a discussion regarding the increasingly heavy traffic on Indian River Drive and the possibility of incorporating a parallel route into the Needs Plan citing the previously studied Lennard Road extension as one option. Commissioner Dzadovsky and Mr. Buchwald explained the history of the extension project and the reasons for its removal from the FDOT Work Program in

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2010 with Mr. Buchwald indicating that it had not been included in the draft under discussion due to a lack of projected need. Commissioner Dzadovsky, along with several other members, noted the Indian River Drive residents' increasing concern over the speed and volume of traffic and requested that both short- and long-term mitigation strategies be explored.

Discussion ensued regarding ways to proceed in addressing the Indian River Drive issues with Mr. Buchwald explaining that items could be added to the Needs Plan at the Board's discretion but that prioritizing the needs for funding might become challenging. Mayor Oravec observed that locals may still choose Indian River Drive over an alternate route because of its scenic beauty suggesting that traffic calming strategies, such as those deployed by the City of Port St. Lucie on Westmoreland Boulevard, be evaluated instead along with education and enforcement activities. Commissioner Dzadovsky noted the availability of funding for traffic calming and expressed his appreciation for the enforcement efforts of the Sheriff's office.

In response to Commissioner Dzadovsky's question, Mr. Buchwald explained how the funding for the 2010 Lennard Road extension project was redistributed after its removal from the Work Program.

- * MOTION by Commissioner Dzadovsky to approve the draft Needs Assessment as presented with a separate item within the LRTP that examines traffic issues on Indian River Drive and potential alternatives with recommendations for further study and inclusion in the Needs Plan based on that study.

- * * * * * SECONDED by Commissioner Townsend

A roll call vote was conducted and the motion was passed unanimously.

- * MOTION by Vice Chairwoman Hensley to approve the draft Financial Resources Analysis.

- * * * * * SECONDED by Commissioner Bartz Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9b. Revised Draft I-95 Multimodal Master Plan: Presentation of the revised draft I-95 Multimodal Master Plan by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Mr. Buchwald explained that FDOT had revised the draft Multimodal Master Plan based on changes to FDOT policy and on input from the TPO

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Advisory Committees, the TPO Board, and the general public. He further explained that FDOT was returning to present the completed draft and introduced Ms. Fasiska. Ms. Fasiska provided an overview of the project and described the objectives of the Master Plan before inviting Mr. Penfield to continue. Mr. Penfield noted the project's status relative to the overall developmental process, detailed the eight interchange study areas within St. Lucie County, and described the improvements planned for the I-95 mainline. He presented the short- and long-term work program needs along with their estimated costs and concluded with recommendations for next steps and the project schedule. Mr. Buchwald then clarified the staff's recommendation for endorsement as including the two conditions that the southbound braided ramps at the I-95/Crosstown Parkway interchange be deferred and programmed as long-term improvements and that the new I-95 interchange north of Indrio Road for the Northern/Airport Connector project be added.

In response to Mayor Hudson's question, Mr. Buchwald clarified that the Northern Connector project would be constructed south of Indrio Road.

- * MOTION by Mayor Hudson to endorse the revised draft Master Plan with the conditions that the southbound braided ramps at the I-95/Crosstown Parkway interchange be deferred and programmed as long-term improvements and that the new I-95 interchange south of Indrio Road for the Northern/Airport Connector project be added.

- * * SECONDED by Commissioner Hutchinson Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9c. Revised Draft 2020/21 List of Priority Projects (LOPP):
Adoption of the revised draft 2020/21 LOPP for the St. Lucie TPO.

Mr. Buchwald explained the LOPP as being part of the annual process of development for the Transportation Improvement Program noting that the initial draft of the 2020/21 LOPP had been reviewed by the TPO Advisory Committees and Board at their May and June meetings, respectively. Mr. Buchwald reported that the draft had been revised to include the comments from those meetings and then detailed the changes made to the Master List, the Transit List, and the Transportation Alternatives List based on the comments.

- * MOTION by Commissioner Townsend to adopt the revised draft 2020/21 LOPP.

- * * SECONDED by Commissioner Johnson Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9d. Executive Director's Performance Review: Review of the Executive Director's performance for FY 2019/20.

Chairman Drummond explained that the Executive Committee had requested Board members to review the Executive Director's 2019/20 performance using the Performance Review Form send to the Board members the previous week. He summarized the results, noting that the average score indicated the respondents' satisfaction with the Executive Director's performance and reported the Executive Committee's recommendation that any salary increase for the Executive Director be kept consistent with that of the TPO staff.

* MOTION by Mayor Hudson to accept the results of the Executive Director's Performance Review

* * SECONDED by Vice Chairwoman Hensley Carried UNANIMOUSLY

9e. 2020 Staff Performance Bonus Program and Cost of Living Adjustment: Consideration of the proposed Performance Bonus Program and Cost of Living Adjustment for the TPO Staff for 2020.

Mr. Buchwald explained that the TPO Board approves both a cost of living adjustment and a performance multiplier for the staff each year based on the TPO's overall performance during the previous fiscal year and on the current fiscal year's budget. He reported that the current budget allowed for a 3.7 percent total increase in staff salaries for FY 2020/21 and indicated that a 2.0 performance multiplier was being proposed in recognition of the staff's significant contributions over the previous year especially in consideration of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Buchwald added that a 1 percent cost of living adjustment was being proposed for 2020 based on several standard inflation indices, which, combined with the multiplier, would result in total salary increases ranging from 1 to 5 percent. He concluded with the TPO Executive Committee's recommendation that the Board approve up to a 3 percent total salary increase for each staff member.

* MOTION by Commissioner Johnson to approve a salary increase for staff members of up to 3 percent based on their performance as determined by the Executive Director.

* * SECONDED by Mayor Hudson Carried UNANIMOUSLY

- * MOTION by Vice Chairwoman Hensley to approve a 3 percent salary increase for the TPO Executive Director.
- ** SECONDED by Mayor Oravec Carried UNANIMOUSLY

10. Discussion Items

10a. Transit Representation on the TPO Board and Advisory Committees: Discussion of the current and future transit representation on the TPO Board and Advisory Committees.

Chairman Drummond introduced the agenda item and invited Mr. Buchwald to continue. Mr. Buchwald explained that the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. (COASL) had long been the sole operator of the public transportation system in St. Lucie County through the entity known as Community Transit and had therefore served as the Transit Representative on the TPO Board, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB). Effective July 2020, Mr. Buchwald continued, MV Transportation, Inc. (MV) had assumed the contract for the fixed-route and demand-response segments of the County's public transportation necessitating a review of the transit representation on the TPO's governing and advisory bodies. Mr. Buchwald noted the various legal provisions pertaining to the composition of the TPO Board, TAC, and LCB and described the lengthy process required to amend them. He further noted that State law required the TPO to review and possibly reapportion its membership in conjunction with the 2020 Census suggesting that it may be expedient to conduct both reviews at the same time. Mr. Buchwald ended with the Executive Committee's recommendation that the issue be brought to the Board for preliminary consideration in August before staff presented more options for transit representation at the October meeting.

In response to Commissioner Townsend's comment regarding the possibility of both transit operators having representation, Mr. Buchwald described the membership provisions specified by the TPO's Creation Agreement and By-Laws, Rules and Procedures; the process for amendments; and options for how the Board might proceed.

Commissioner Townsend suggested that a membership position be created for MV in addition to the one occupied by COASL. Vice Chairwoman Hensley remarked on the lack of urgency to do so considering how recently MV began its contract and how soon the Census review would have to be undertaken. Several members

concurred, and the Board agreed to request the staff for a formal presentation of the issue at the October meeting.

11. Information Items

11a. Responses to Board Member Inquiries at the June 3, 2020, TPO Board Meeting: Responses from FDOT pertaining to the statuses of the Midway Road Project from 25th Street to U.S. Highway 1 and of the State Route 70 Pedestrian Bridge and a response from the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise pertaining to the accident clearing protocol on Florida's Turnpike.

Mr. Buchwald noted that the agenda packet included responses for three of the questions raised at the Board's June meeting.

12. FDOT Comments – None.

13. Recommendations/Comments by Members – Councilwoman Morgan remarked on the removal of vegetation from the land to the east of I-95 south of St. Lucie West Boulevard reporting that residents had voiced concern over its impact on the view and road noise. Mr. Buchwald noted that such issues would be studied in the upcoming I-95 PD&E that was referenced earlier in the meeting with Mr. Hiden explaining that the plants in question had been invasive and according to statute had to be removed. He indicated that he would research the plans for replacement landscaping, if any, and share his findings with the Board.

14. TPO Staff Comments – Mr. Buchwald indicated the staff's intent to delay the traffic counts typically conducted during the fall season until travel patterns had returned as much as possible to their pre-pandemic routines. Members did not voice any objections and it was agreed that traffic counts would be postponed until late 2020 or early 2021.

Mr. Buchwald provided an update on the construction of the Jobs Express Terminal scheduled to begin in late August 2020 and described the facility's planned features. He recognized the efforts of Ms. Lathou along with those of the various organizations involved in the facility's development and thanked the Board for its support of the project.

15. Next Meeting: The next St. Lucie TPO Board Meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Wednesday, October 7, 2020.
15. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Rachel Harrison
Recording Specialist

Darrell Drummond
Chairman



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 772-462-1593 www.stlucietpo.org

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee	St. Lucie TPO Board
Meeting Date:	October 7, 2020
Item Number:	8a
Item Title:	Appointments to the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Item Origination:	St. Lucie TPO By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures
UPWP Reference:	Task 6.1: Public Involvement
Requested Action:	Appoint or do not appoint
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that Anna Santacroce and Jackie Fitzpatrick be appointed to the BPAC to fill vacancies.

Attachments

- Applications



APPLICATION FOR SERVING ON COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

1. Name Anna Santacroce
2. Home or Mobile Phone [REDACTED] 3. Email Address anna.santacroce@aol.com
4. Home Address 3226 Naylor Terrace Fort Pierce, FL 34982
5. How long have you lived at this location? 2 1/2 years
6. Business Address (optional) _____
7. Business Phone (optional) _____
8. Are you employed by a government agency? Yes _____ No ☒
9. Do you now serve on a government committee or board? Yes _____ No ☒
10. If Yes to Questions 9/10, which one(s)? _____
11. Brief summary of your education Bachelor's Degree of Urban and Regional Planning, Florida Atlantic University
12. Brief summary of your experience Member/Alternate Delegate
13. Please select each St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board or Committee you are interested in serving on (more than one may be selected):

- ☐ Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB)
- ☐ Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)
- ☐ Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
- ☒ Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

14. May your application be submitted to the TPO Board whenever vacancies occur on the selected Board/Committee(s) until you are appointed? Yes ☒ No _____
15. Will you be able to attend LCB meetings, TCSHC meetings quarterly, CAC, BPAC meetings every other month? Yes ☒ No _____

SIGNATURE Anna Santacroce **Date** 9/23/20

Please submit a completed application by mail or email to:

MAIL: St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization
466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

EMAIL: TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org

TITLE VI STATEMENT: The St. Lucie TPO satisfies the requirements of various nondiscrimination laws and regulations including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is welcome without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, income, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns about nondiscrimination should contact Marceia Lathou, the Title VI/ADA Coordinator of the St. Lucie TPO, at 772-462-1593 or via email at lathoum@stlucieco.org.

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St. Lucie Transportation
Planning
Organization

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APPLICATION FOR SERVING ON COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

1. Name Jackie Fitzpatrick
2. Home or Mobile Phone [REDACTED] 3. Email Address jackie@irdalliance.org
4. Home Address 1003 S. Indian River Dr, Fort Pierce, FL 34982
5. How long have you lived at this location? 3 years
6. Business Address (optional) same as above
7. Business Phone (optional) [REDACTED]
8. Are you employed by a government agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
9. Do you now serve on a government committee or board? Yes ☐ No ☒
10. If Yes to Questions 9/10, which one(s)? _____
11. Brief summary of your education BA in Political Science @ FAU, Masters (not complete)
12. Brief summary of your experience have worked w/ local and state leadership, representatives, have served as VP on Commercial Boards
13. Please select each St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board or Committee you are interested in serving on (more than one may be selected):
☐ Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB)
☒ Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC) *** #1 choice
☐ Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
☒ Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
14. May your application be submitted to the TPO Board whenever vacancies occur on the selected Board/Committee(s) until you are appointed? Yes ☒ No ☐
15. Will you be able to attend LCB meetings, TCSHC meetings quarterly, CAC, BPAC meetings every other month? Yes ☒ No ☐

SIGNATURE _____

Date 08.19.2020

Please submit a completed application by mail or email to:

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EMAIL: TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org

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AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie TPO Board
Meeting Date:	October 7, 2020
Item Number:	9a
Item Title:	Title VI Plan Update
Item Origination:	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
UPWP Reference:	Task 5.1 - Public Participation, Education & Outreach
Requested Action:	Adopt the Title VI Plan Update, adopt with conditions, or do not adopt.
Staff Recommendation:	Based on the recommendations of the TPO Advisory Committees and because the Title VI Plan assists the TPO in ensuring nondiscrimination in TPO plans, programs, and activities, it is recommended that the Title VI Plan Update be adopted.

Attachments

- Staff Report
- Draft Title VI Plan Update



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MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie TPO Board

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Marceia Lathou
Transit Program Manager

DATE: September 24, 2020

SUBJECT: Title VI Plan Update

BACKGROUND

All agencies that receive Federal funds are required to incorporate Title VI, Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) considerations into their missions. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Environmental Justice identifies and addresses the effects of programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. LEP relates to the development of systems to ensure meaningful participation by persons who are limited in their ability to understand English. The purpose of a Title VI Program is to establish guidelines to effectively monitor and ensure that an agency is in compliance with all Title VI, Environmental Justice, and LEP access requirements and regulations.

ANALYSIS

A significant component of the TPO's mission is to ensure non-discrimination, Environmental Justice, and access for LEP persons in the transportation planning process. The TPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) is designed to provide equal opportunities for the public to express its views and to become active participants in the decision-making process regardless of race, color, religion, income status, national origin, age, family status, gender, or disability.

The TPO's Title VI Plan is reviewed by staff at least annually and updated as needed. The last major update occurred in 2016. The current update includes analyses based on the most recent Census data, a list of Title VI accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2019/20, and a Title VI Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020/21.

A four factor analysis was conducted to determine the level of assistance to be provided for LEP persons. The analysis considered the following four factors:

- 1) Number/proportion of LEP persons in the TPO area;
- 2) Frequency of contact with LEP persons;
- 3) Consequences of language barriers; and,
- 4) Resources required to eliminate the language barriers.

After conducting the analysis, it was confirmed that language assistance is required primarily for persons whose native language is Spanish or Haitian Creole and who are limited in their ability to understand English. The TPO's Title VI Plan includes Spanish and Haitian Creole translations of vital information. The TPO will take reasonable steps to provide language assistance through the use of volunteer and/or paid interpreters/translators for these and other languages.

The draft Title VI Plan Update was reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Civil Rights, Florida Division and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Equal Opportunity Office, Civil Rights Programs Division. The draft Title VI Plan was revised to incorporate the comments received from FHWA and FDOT.

At their meetings during the week of September 14th, the TPO Advisory Committees reviewed the revised draft Title VI Plan Update and recommended it for adoption.

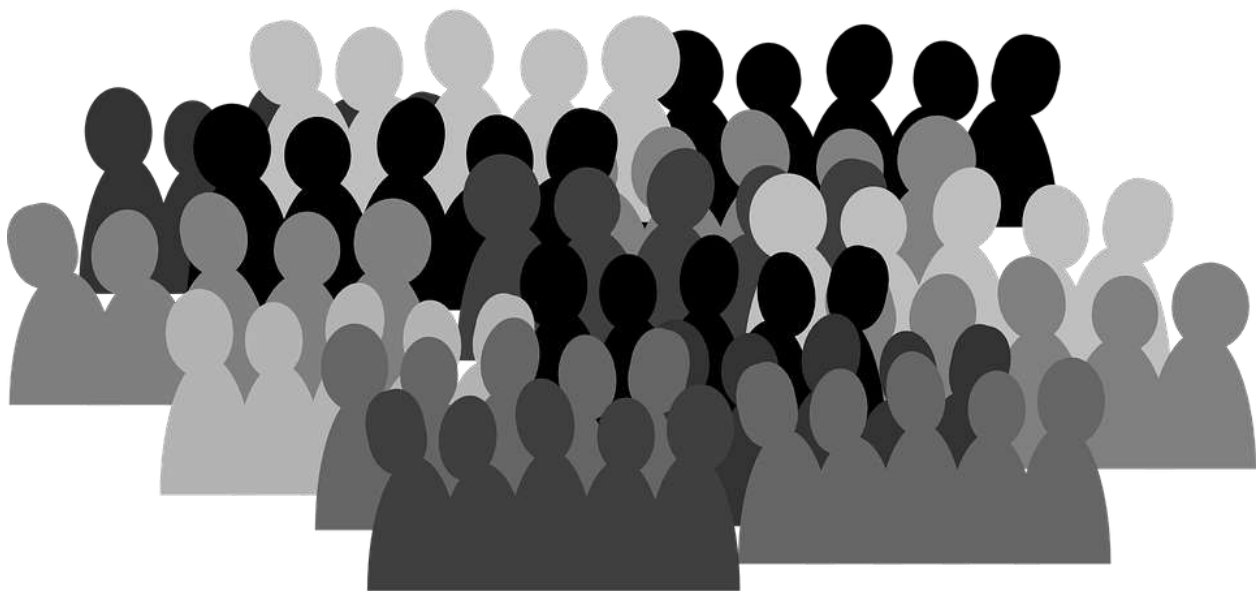
RECOMMENDATION

Based on the recommendations of the TPO Advisory Committees and because the Title VI Plan assists the TPO in ensuring nondiscrimination in TPO plans, programs, and activities, it is recommended that the Title VI Plan Update be adopted.



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TITLE VI PROGRAM



Marceia Lathou, Title VI/ADA Coordinator
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711 Florida Relay System

Title VI Program Activity Log

Date	Activity (Review/Update/ Addendum/ Adoption/Distribution)	Responsible Person	Remarks
October 7, 2020	Adoption		



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1.0 TITLE VI /NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT AND MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT TO TITLE VI PROGRAM

The St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) assures the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, family or religious status, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any program or activity undertaken by the TPO.

The St. Lucie TPO further agrees to the following responsibilities with respect to its programs and activities to comply with the above-mentioned laws and regulations:

1. Designate a Title VI Coordinator that has a responsible position within the organization and access to the recipient's Chief Executive Officer or authorized representative.
2. Issue a policy statement signed by the Executive Director or authorized representative, which expresses its commitment to the nondiscrimination provisions of Title VI. The policy statement shall be circulated throughout the Recipient's organization and to the general public. Such information shall be published where appropriate in languages other than English.
3. Insert a nondiscrimination clause into every contract subject to the Acts and the Regulations.
4. Develop a complaint process and attempt to resolve complaints of discrimination against the St. Lucie TPO.
5. Participate in training offered on Title VI and other nondiscrimination requirements.
6. If reviewed by FDOT or any other state or federal regulatory agency, take affirmative actions to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed ninety (90) days.
7. Have a process to collect racial and ethnic data on persons impacted by the agency's programs.

THIS ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all federal funds, grants, loans, contracts, properties, discounts or other federal financial assistance under all programs and activities and is binding. The person whose signature appears below is authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the TPO.

Signature

Peter Buchwald
Executive Director, St. Lucie TPO
Date: October 7, 2020



2.0 INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The St. Lucie TPO submits this Title VI Program in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 49 CFR Part 21, and the guidelines of FHWA and FTA.

The St. Lucie TPO is a “metropolitan planning organization,” a federally-funded local agency tasked with planning, project selection, and prioritizing of State and Federal funding for transportation improvements. The St. Lucie TPO is governed by a Board which is comprised of elected officials from St. Lucie County, City of Fort Pierce, City of Port St. Lucie, and the St. Lucie County School Board as well as a public transportation representative. Three Advisory Committees provide direction and recommendations to the TPO Board. These are the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), and the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). The TPO also is the designated official planning agency to receive Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds for planning for the transportation disadvantaged population in the urbanized area through the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) for the Transportation Disadvantaged.



The St. Lucie TPO must designate a Coordinator for Title VI issues and complaints within the organization. The Coordinator is the focal point for Title VI implementation and monitoring of activities receiving federal financial assistance. Key responsibilities of the Title VI Coordinator include:

- Maintain knowledge of Title VI requirements.
- Attend training, as appropriate, on Title VI and other nondiscrimination authorities when offered by FHWA, FTA, FDOT or any other regulatory agency.
- Disseminate Title VI information to the public including in languages other than English, when necessary.
- Develop a process to collect data related to race, gender, and national origin of the service area population to ensure low income, minorities, and other traditionally underserved groups are included and not discriminated against.
- Implement procedures for the prompt processing of Title VI complaints.
- Maintain direct and easy access to the TPO Executive Director.

Title VI Coordinator: Marceia Lathou
 Title VI-ADA Coordinator, St. Lucie TPO
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
 772-462-1593, lathoum@stlucieco.org
 Hearing/Speech Impaired:
 711 Florida Relay System

2.1 ANNUAL CERTIFICATES AND ASSURANCES

In accordance with 49 CFR Section 21.7(a), every application for financial assistance from FHWA and FTA must be accompanied by an assurance that the applicant will carry out the program in compliance with Title VI regulations. This requirement shall be fulfilled when the applicant/recipient submits its annual certifications and assurances.

The St. Lucie TPO will remain in compliance with this requirement by annual submission of certifications and assurances to FDOT as part of the annual joint certification process.

2.2. TITLE VI PROGRAM ADOPTION

This Title VI Program was approved and adopted by the St. Lucie TPO's Board at a meeting held on October 7, 2020.

3.0 TITLE VI NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

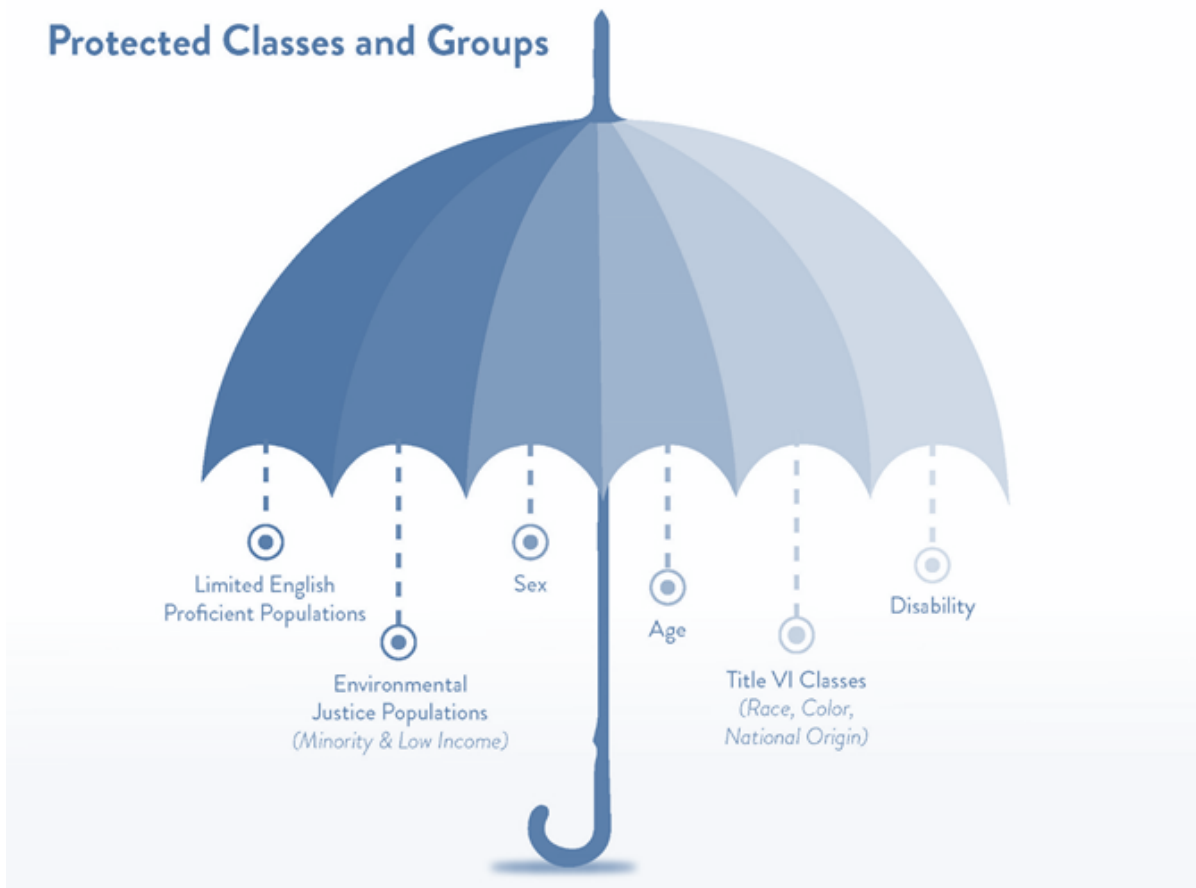
3.1 NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Recipients of federal funds must notify the public of its rights under Title VI and include the notice and where it is posted in the Title VI Program. The notice must include:

- A statement that the agency operates programs without regard to race, color and national origin.
- A description of the procedures members of the public should follow in order to request additional information on the agency's nondiscrimination obligations.
- A description of the procedure members of the public should follow in order to file a discrimination complaint against the agency.

The TPO's Title VI notice to the public appears on the following pages.

Protected Classes and Groups



Notice to the Public:

The St. Lucie TPO operates its transportation programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with the St. Lucie TPO.

For more information on the St. Lucie TPO civil rights program, and the procedures to file a complaint about the transportation program, contact Marceia Lathou, Title VI Coordinator, at (772) 462-1593 lathoum@stlucieco.org or at our administrative office at 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953 or our website at www.stlucietpo.org.

Alternatively, a complainant may file a complaint directly with the Florida Department of Transportation by filing a complaint with the Florida Dept. of Transportation, District 4 Title VI Coordinator, Sharon Singh Hagyan, 3400 W. Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309, Sharon.SinghHagyan@dot.state.fl.us.

In addition, a complainant may also file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration by filing a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Complaint Team, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.

If information is needed in another language, contact Marceia Lathou at (772) 462-1593; lathoum@stlucieco.org.

Kreyol Ayisyen: Si ou ta renmen resevwa enfòmasyon sa a nan lang Kreyòl Aysiyen, tanpri rele nimewo (772) 462-1593.

Español: Si usted desea recibir esta información en Español, por favor llame al 772-462-1593.

El título VI aviso de St. Lucie TPO al público:

St. Lucie TPO opera sus programas de transporte y servicios, sin importar la raza, color, origen nacional y de conformidad con lo dispuesto en el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964. Cualquier persona que cree que ella o él ha sido agraviada por cualquier práctica discriminatoria ilegal en virtud del Título VI puede presentar una queja con St. Lucie TPO.

Para obtener más información sobre el St. Lucie TPO programa de derechos civiles, y los procedimientos para presentar una queja sobre el programa de transporte, contactar con Marceia Lathou, Título VI Enlace, a (772) 462-1593, lathoum@stlucieco.org o en nuestra oficina administrativa 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953, o nuestro sitio web en www.stlucietpo.org.

El demandante puede presentar una queja directamente con el Departamento de Transporte de la Florida mediante la presentación de una queja ante el Distrito 4 Título VI Coordinador (Sharon Singh Hagyan, Sharon.SinghHagyan@dot.state.fl.us).

Un demandante también puede presentar una queja directamente con la Administración Federal de Transporte mediante la presentación de una queja ante la Oficina de Derechos Civiles, Atención: Queja Team, East Building , 5th Floor - TCR , 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Si necesita información en otro idioma, contactar a Marceia Lathou al (772) 462-1593; lathoum@stlucieco.org.



TPO's Tit VI St. Lucie bay piblik la:

TPO St. Lucie a opere pwogram ak sèvis transpò li yo san konsiderasyon ba ras, koulè, ak orijin nasyonal dapre Tit VI nan Lwa sou Dwa Sivil 1964 (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964). Nenpòt moun ki kwè li te leze poutèt nenpòt pratik diskriminasyon ilegal selon Tit VI kapab pote yon plent avèk TPO St. Lucie a.

Pou jwenn plis enfòmasyon sou pwogram dwa sivil TPO St. Lucie a, ak pwosedi yo pou pote yon plent kont pwogram transpò a, kontakte Marceia Lathou, Koòdonatè Tit VI, nan nimewo (772) 462-1593 lathoum@stlucieco.org oswa nan biwo administratif nou ki chita nan 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953 oswa nan sitwèb nou lè ou ale nan www.stlucietpo.org.

Yon pleyan kapab pote yon plent avèk Depatman Transpò nan Eta Florida (Florida Department of Transportation) dirèkteman lè yo pote yon plent avèk Koòdonatè Tit VI Distri 4 la (Sharon Singh Hagyan, Sharon.SinghHagyan@dot.state.fl.us).

Epitou yon pleyan kapab pote yon plent dirèkteman avèk Administrasyon Federal Transpò Piblik (Federal Transit Administration) la lè yo pote yon plent avèk Biwo sou Dwa Sivil la (Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Complaint Team, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590).

Si yo bezwen jwenn enfòmasyon nan yon lòt lang, kontakte Marceia Lathou nan nimewo (772) 462-1593; lathoum@stlucieco.org.



3.2 NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

The Notice to the Public will be posted at strategic locations to apprise the public of the St. Lucie TPO’s obligations under Title VI and to inform them of the protections afforded them under Title VI. At a minimum, the notice will be posted in public areas of the St. Lucie TPO office.

The Notice to the Public will be posted in the following public areas of the St. Lucie TPO office:

Location Name	Address	City
St. Lucie TPO Office Reception Area	466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111	Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
St. Lucie TPO Office Boardroom	466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111	Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

The Title VI notice and program information will also be provided on the St. Lucie TPO’s website at stlucietpo.org.



4.0 TITLE VI PROCEDURES AND COMPLIANCE



4.1 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination based upon race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, family or income status initially files a complaint with the TPO's Title VI Coordinator, Marceia Lathou, at lathoum@stlucieco.org or by mail to 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953. The St. Lucie TPO investigates complaints received no more than 180 days after the alleged incident. If possible, the complaint should be submitted in writing and contain the identity of the complainant; the basis for the allegations (e.g., race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, family or income status); and a description of the alleged discrimination with the date of occurrence. If the complaint cannot be submitted in writing, the complainant should contact the TPO's Title VI Coordinator for assistance: Marceia Lathou, St. Lucie TPO, 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953, 772-462-1593, lathoum@stlucieco.org.

The Title VI Coordinator will respond to the complaint within thirty (30) days and will take reasonable steps to resolve the matter. Reasonable steps could include coordinating multiple agency response, facilitating access to information, etc. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Equal Opportunity Office, Statewide Title VI Coordinator shall be notified of the complaint. Should the TPO be unable to satisfactorily resolve the complaint, the Title VI Coordinator will forward the complaint, along with a record of its disposition, to the FDOT Statewide Title VI Coordinator. FDOT will assume jurisdiction over the complaint for continued processing.

The complaint procedures and forms, examples of which are provided in Section 4.2, will be made available to the public on the St. Lucie TPO's website (stlucietpo.org). The forms are also available in other formats and languages upon request.

4.2 COMPLAINT FORM

Section I:				
Name:				
Address:				
Telephone (Home):			Telephone (Work):	
Electronic Mail Address:				
Accessible Format Requirements?	Large Print		Audio Tape	
	TDD		Other	
Section II:				
Are you filing this complaint on your own behalf?			Yes*	No
*If you answered "yes" to this question, go to Section III.				
If not, please supply the name and relationship of the person for whom you are complaining:				
Please explain why you have filed for a third party:				
Please confirm that you have obtained the permission of the aggrieved party if you are filing on behalf of a third party.			Yes	No
Section III:				
I believe the discrimination I experienced was based on (check all that apply):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Race <input type="checkbox"/> Color <input type="checkbox"/> National Origin <input type="checkbox"/> Age				
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Family or Religious Status <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain)				

Date of Alleged Discrimination (Month, Day, Year): _____				
Explain as clearly as possible what happened and why you believe you were discriminated against. Describe all persons who were involved. Include the name and contact information of the person(s) who discriminated against you (if known) as well as names and contact information of any witnesses. If more space is needed, please use the back of this form.				

Section IV				
Have you previously filed a Title VI complaint with this agency?			Yes	No

Section V	
Have you filed this complaint with any other Federal, State, or local agency, or with any Federal or State court?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, check all that apply:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Court _____	<input type="checkbox"/> State Agency _____
<input type="checkbox"/> State Court _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Agency _____
Please provide information about a contact person at the agency/court where the complaint was filed.	
Name: _____	
Title: _____	
Agency: _____	
Address: _____	
Telephone: _____	
Section VI	
Name of agency complaint is against: _____	
Contact person: _____	
Title: _____	
Telephone number: _____	

You may attach any written materials or other information that you think is relevant to your complaint. Signature and date required below.

Signature
Date

Please submit this form in person at the address below, or mail this form to:

Marceia Lathou, Title VI Coordinator
 St. Lucie TPO
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953

Forma De Queja

Seccion I : Escribir en forma legible				
Nombre:				
Direccion:				
Telefono:		Telefono secundario(opcional):		
Direccion de correo electronico: :				
Reuistos de forma accesible?	Impresion grande		Cinta de audio	
	TDD		Otros	
Section II :				
Esta presentando esta queja en su propio nombre?		Si*	No	
Si usted contesto "Si", vaya a la Seccion III				
Si usted contesto "No", Nombre(s) del Individuo(s) Quien(es) Usted Allega Discrimino (naron) Contra Usted Si lo(s) Conoce:				
Cual es su relacion con este individuo:				
Por favor, explique por que han presentado para una tercera parte:				
Por favor, confirme que ha obtenido el permiso de la parte agraviada en el archivo en su nombre..		Si	No	
Section III:				
Creo que la discriminacion que he experimentado fue basado en (marqu todas las que correspondan):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Raza <input type="checkbox"/> Color <input type="checkbox"/> Origin Nacional <input type="checkbox"/> Edad <input type="checkbox"/> Impedimento <input type="checkbox"/> Familia o Estatus Religioso <input type="checkbox"/> Otro (explicar) _____				
Fecha de supuesta discriminacion: (mm/dd/aaaa)_____				
Explica lo mas claramente posible lo que ocurrio y por que usted cree que son objeto discriminacion. Describir todas las personas que han participado. Incluir el nombre y la informacion de contacto de la(s) persona(s) que discrimina contra usted (si se conoce), asi como los nombres y la informacion de contacto de los testigos. Si se necesita mas espacio, por favor adjunte hojas adicionales de papel.				
Section IV				
Anteriormente ha presentado un Titulo VI denuncia con esta agencia?		Si	No	

Section V	
Ha presentado esta queja con cualquier otro local, estado o federal, o con cualquier Federal o Estado??	
[] Si [] No	
Si la respuesta es si, Marque todo lo que aplica	
[] Agencia Federal: _____	
[] Federal Tribunal _____	[] Agencia Estatal _____
[] Tribunal Estatal _____	[] Agencia Local _____
Proporcionan informacion acerca de una persona de contacto en la agencia/tribunal donde se presento la denuncia	
Nombre: _____	
Titulo: _____	
Organismo: _____	
Direccion: _____	
Telefono: _____	Correo electronico: _____
Section VI	
Nombre de organismo Transito denuncia es contra: _____	
Persona de contacto: _____	
Título: : _____	
Telefono: _____	

Usted puede adjuntar cualquier material escrito u otra información que considere relevante para su reclamación.

Firma y fecha son necesarios para completar la forma siguiente:

Firma: _____

Fecha: _____

Por favor, envíe este formulario en persona o por correo este formulario a la siguiente dirección:

Marceia Lathou, Título VI Coordinador
 St. Lucie TPO
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953

Fòmilè pou Pote Plent

Seksyon I :				
Non:				
Adrès:				
Nimewo Telefòn (Lakay):			Nimewo Telefòn (Travay):	
Adrès Imèl:				
Egzijans pou Fòma Aksèsib?	Gwo Lèt		Kasèt Odyo	
	TDD		Lèt	
Seksyon II :				
Èske ou ap pote plent sa a sou non pwòp tèt ou?			Wi*	No
*Si ou te bay yon repons "wi" pou kesyon sa a, ale nan Seksyon III.				
Si se non, tanpri bay non ak relasyon moun an sou non ou ap pote plent la:				
Tanpri eksplike rezon an poutèt ou ap pote yon plent sou non yon twazyèm pati:				
Tanpri konfime ke ou te jwenn pèmasyon leze pati a si ou ap pote plent la sou non yon twazyèm pati.			Wi	Non
Seksyon III :				
Mwen kwè ke diskriminasyon an mwen te eksperyans te baze sou (tcheke ti kare a pou tout rezon yo ki aplikab):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Ras <input type="checkbox"/> Koulè <input type="checkbox"/> Orijin Nasyonal <input type="checkbox"/> Laj <input type="checkbox"/> Enfimite <input type="checkbox"/> Kondisyon Familyal oswa Relijye <input type="checkbox"/> Lòt (eksplike) _____				
Dat Diskriminasyon Swadizan an te Rive (Mwa, Jou, Ane): _____				
Eksplike nan fason pi klè ke posib kisa ki te rive ak rezon poutèt ou kwè ou te eksperyans diskriminasyon. Dekri tout moun yo ki te enplike. Enkli non ak enfòmasyon kontak moun an (yo) ki te fè diskriminasyon kont ou (si ou konnen yo), osi byenke non ak enfòmasyon kontak nenpòt temwen. Si ou bezwen plis espas pou ekri, tanpri sèvi avèk do fòmilè sa a. _____ _____				
Seksyon IV				
Èske ou te pote yon plent Tit VI avèk ajans sa a deja?			Wi	Non

Seksyon V	
Èske ou te pote yon plent avèk nenpòt lòt ajans Federal, Leta, oswa ajans lokal, oswa avèk nenpòt lòt tribinal Federal oswa Leta?	
[] Wi [] Non	
Si se wi, tcheke ti kare tout ki aplikab:	
[] Ajans Federal: _____	
[] Tribinal Federal _____	[] Ajans Leta _____
[] Tribinal Leta _____	[] Ajans Lokal _____
Tanpri bay enfòmasyon sou yon moun yo kapab kontakte nan ajans / tribinal la kote yo te pote plent.	
Non:	
Tit:	
Ajans:	
Adrès:	
Nimewo Telefòn:	
Seksyon VI	
Non ajans la kont ki yo pote plent la:	
Non moun yo kapab kontakte:	
Tit:	
Nimewo Telefòn:	

Ou kapab kole nenpòt materyèl alekri oswa lòt enfòmasyon ou panse ki enpòtan konsènan plent ou nan dokiman sa a. Yo egzije siyati ak dat la anba a

Siyati Dat

Tanpri soumèt fòmilè sa a nan adrès anba a, oswa voye li pa lapòs nan:

Marceia Lathou, Title VI Coordinator
St. Lucie TPO
466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953

4.3 RECORD RETENTION AND REPORTING POLICY

The St. Lucie TPO will submit Title VI Program information to FDOT as requested as part of the annual certification process or any time a major change in the Program occurs. Compliance records and all Title VI related documents will be retained for a minimum of three (3) years.

5.0 TITLE VI INVESTIGATIONS, COMPLAINTS, AND LAWSUITS

In accordance with 49 CFR 21.9(b), the St. Lucie TPO must record and report any investigations, complaints, or lawsuits involving allegations of discrimination. The records of these events shall include the date the investigation, lawsuit, or complaint was filed; a summary of the allegations; the status of the investigation, lawsuit, or complaint; actions taken by the St. Lucie TPO in response; and final findings related to the investigation, lawsuit, or complaint. The records for the previous three (3) years shall be included in the Title VI Program when it is submitted to FDOT.

The St. Lucie TPO has had no investigations, complaints, or lawsuits involving allegations of discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin over the past three (3) years.



6.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The [Public Participation Plan](#) (PPP) for the St. Lucie TPO was developed to ensure that all members of the public, including minorities and Limited English Proficient (LEP) populations, are encouraged to participate in the decision making process for the St. Lucie TPO. Policy and service delivery decisions need to take into consideration community sentiment and public opinion based upon well-executed outreach efforts. The public outreach strategies described in the PPP are designed to provide the public with effective access to information about the St. Lucie TPO plans, programs, and services and to provide a variety of efficient and convenient methods for receiving and considering public comment prior to implementing changes to plans, programs, and services. The St. Lucie TPO also recognizes the importance of many types of stakeholders in the decision-making process, including other units of government, community based organizations, major employers, and the general public, including low-income, minority, LEP, and other traditionally underserved communities.

Traditionally-underserved populations, also known as Environmental Justice (EJ) or Title VI populations, are identified by the federal government as low-income and minority populations. As part of its planning process, the TPO is required to evaluate the impact its projects have on these populations. The essence of effective environmental justice practice is summarized in three fundamental principles:

- Avoid, minimize, and lessen negative effects
- Ensure full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities
- Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations

The TPO is committed to ensuring the full and fair participation of all potentially affected communities by striving for continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive public involvement in transportation decision-making. The TPO uses various data tools and maps to assist in identifying and building better relationships with the community. The composition of the TPO's boards and committees reflects the demographics of the community which enhances the TPO's community relations.

The TPO's outreach includes persons with disabilities and their service groups. The Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB) includes persons with disabilities and disability group representatives. Several TPO advisory committee members also identify as persons with disabilities. In addition, a disability service group hosted the TPO's SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Transportation Equity Focus Group. TPO staff often provides technical assistance to local agencies on ADA and Title VI matters.

Some TPO workshops are specifically designed to attract racial/ethnic minority and low-income populations and are thus held at times and locations that are most convenient for the communities served. In addition, members of these communities are recruited to participate in community-wide events.

In response to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the TPO's in-person workshops have been replaced by virtual workshops. The TPO collects demographic data on participation in its online events and social media sites via surveys. Because the U.S. Census estimates that 18 percent of St. Lucie households lack broadband Internet subscriptions, telephone-only access is provided for all TPO online meetings and workshops.

7.0 ADA/504 STATEMENT

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and related Federal and State laws and regulations forbid discrimination against those who have disabilities. Furthermore, these laws require federal aid recipients and other government entities to take affirmative steps to reasonably accommodate disabled persons and ensure that their needs are equitably represented in transportation programs, services, and activities.

The St. Lucie TPO will make every effort to ensure that its facilities, programs, services, and activities are accessible to those with disabilities. The TPO will make every effort to ensure that its Advisory Committees, public involvement activities and all other programs, services, and activities include representation by the disabled community and disability service groups.

The TPO encourages the public to report any facility, program, service or activity that appears inaccessible to disabled persons. Furthermore, the TPO will provide reasonable accommodation to disabled persons who wish to participate in public involvement events or who require special assistance to access facilities, programs, services, or activities. Because providing reasonable accommodation may require outside assistance, organizations, or resources, the TPO asks that requests be made at least five (5) business days prior to the need for accommodation. Questions, concerns, comments or requests for accommodation should be made to the St. Lucie TPO ADA Officer: Marceia Lathou, Title VI-ADA Coordinator, St. Lucie TPO, 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111 Port St. Lucie, FL 34953; 772-462-1593; lathoum@stlucieco.org; Hearing/Speech Impaired: 711 Florida Relay System.

8.0 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) PLAN

8.1 OVERVIEW

The first part of this section describes the purpose of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan. The second part of this section provides the four-factor LEP analysis used to identify LEP needs and assistance measures.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. One critical concern addressed by Title VI is the language barrier that LEP persons face with respect to accessing information and service. Government agencies must ensure that this group has adequate access to the agency's programs and activities, including public participation opportunities.

Executive Order 13166, titled "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," forbids grant funding recipients from "restricting an individual in any way in the enjoyment of any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others receiving any service, financial aid, or other benefit under the program," or from using "criteria or methods of administration which have the effect of subjecting individuals to discrimination because of their race, color, or national origin, or have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of the program as respects to individuals of a particular race, color, or national origin."

Safe Harbor Provision, The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published guidance that directed its recipients to ensure meaningful access to the benefits, services, information, and other important portions of their programs and activities for LEP customers. This guidance includes a Safe Harbor Provision, which outlines circumstances that can provide a “safe harbor” for recipients regarding translation of written materials for LEP populations. The Safe Harbor Provision stipulates that, if a recipient provides written translation of vital documents for each eligible LEP language group that constitutes **five percent (5%) or 1,000 persons**, whichever is less, of the total population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected or encountered, then such action will be considered strong evidence of compliance with the recipient’s written translation obligations. Translation of non-vital documents, if needed, can be provided orally. If there are fewer than 50 persons in a language group that reaches the five percent (5%) trigger, the recipient is not required to translate vital written materials but should provide written notice in the primary language of the LEP language group of the right to receive competent oral interpretation of those written materials, free of cost. These safe harbor provisions apply to the translation of written documents only. They do not affect the requirement to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals through competent oral interpreters where oral language services are needed and are reasonable.



8.2 FOUR FACTOR ANALYSIS

The DOT guidance outlines four factors recipients should apply to the various kinds of contacts they have with the public to assess language needs and decide what reasonable steps they should take to ensure meaningful access for LEP persons:

1	The number or proportion of LEP persons in the service area who may be served or are likely to encounter the St. Lucie TPO's programs, activities or services.
2	The frequency with which LEP persons come in contact with the St. Lucie TPO's programs, activities or services.
3	The nature and importance of programs, activities or services provided by the St. Lucie TPO to the LEP population.
4	The resources available to the St. Lucie TPO and overall cost to provide LEP assistance.

1. Number and Proportion of LEP Persons Serviced or Encountered: According to the U.S. Census 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates of Limited English Speaking Households, the Spanish-speaking population exceeds the threshold for the Safe Harbor Provision in the St. Lucie TPO area. The ACS analyzes the following categories of limited English speaking households:

- Spanish
- Other Indo-European Languages
- Asian and Pacific Islander Languages
- Other Languages

Table B16003 "Age by Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Over in Limited English Speaking Households" estimates that approximately 6,900 persons aged 18 years and older speak Spanish in LEP households in St. Lucie County.

Although the Census data concludes that Spanish is the only LEP population of significance in St. Lucie County, local knowledge indicates the presence of a sizeable Haitian-Creole LEP population as well.

2. Frequency with which LEP Individuals Come into Contact with Programs, Activities, and Services: The Federal guidance for this factor recommends that agencies should assess the frequency with which they have contact with LEP individuals from different language groups. The more frequent the contact with a particular LEP language group, the more likely enhanced services will be needed.

The TPO Board, committees, and staff are most likely to encounter LEP individuals through office visits, phone conversations, and attendance at Board and Advisory Committee meetings. TPO staff reviewed the frequency with which Board, committee members, and staff have had contact with LEP persons. This includes documenting phone inquiries or office visits.

The TPO frequency of contact with LEP populations is somewhat limited especially when compared to providers of government social services which have higher instances of contact. These providers include the St. Lucie County Community Services Department and the County's contracted public transportation provider. Also, most of the TPO Board and committee meetings occur every other month or quarterly, and project-specific public input meetings occur on an as-needed basis.

3. Nature and Importance of the Program, Activity, or Service Provided: The TPO undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to encourage a more sustainable region now and in the future. The transportation improvements resulting from these initiatives have an impact on all residents of the metropolitan planning area.

The impact of proposed transportation investments on under-served and under-represented populations is part of the evaluation process in the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Because the TPO must ensure that all segments of the population, including LEP persons, have been involved or have the opportunity to be involved in the transportation decision-making process, the TPO will provide translation of vital documents — including meeting agendas, brochures, and portions of the LRTP, UPWP, and TIP into other languages as requested.

In general, the TPO's planning process affects residents in the long-term and not in an immediate manner. Therefore, there has not been a significant demand from LEP residents to participate in TPO planning and policy-oriented discussions compared with the demand from LEP residents for social and community services provided by other government agencies.



4. Resources Available and Costs: The TPO assessed its available resources that could be used for providing LEP assistance and which of its documents would be most valuable to be translated if the need should arise. The TPO currently provides materials in Spanish and Haitian-Creole such as factsheets, web content through an online language translator, and certain advertising notices.

The TPO has contacted various agencies to secure language translation as needed. St. Lucie County staff will provide voluntary Spanish and Haitian-Creole translation if needed and if notified within a reasonable timeframe. Other language assistance, if needed, will be provided through private sector translators and telephone interpreter lines for which the TPO would pay costs that are not considered to be exorbitant or onerous. The TPO has contracted with ALTA Language Services, Inc., a company which provides document translation and telephone interpretation services.

Persons requiring language assistance would be self-identified, meaning they would initiate contact with the TPO for assistance. All TPO board and committee agendas include a concise statement in Spanish and Haitian Creole notifying readers about the existence of language assistance. All TPO staff have access to "I Speak" cards to assist in identifying the type of language interpretation needed if the occasion arises.

The greater the number or proportion of eligible LEP persons; the greater the frequency with which they have contact with a program, activity, or service; and the greater the importance of that program, activity, or service, the more likely enhanced language services will be needed. Smaller recipients with more limited budgets are typically not expected to provide the same level of language service as larger recipients with larger budgets. The intent of DOT's guidance is to suggest a balance that ensures meaningful access by LEP persons to critical services while not imposing undue burdens on small organizations and local governments.

8.3 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) PLAN

In developing a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, federal guidance recommends the analysis of the following five elements, which are addressed below:

- 1 { • Identifying LEP individuals who need language assistance
- 2 { • Providing language assistance measures
- 3 { • Training staff
- 4 { • Providing notice to LEP persons
- 5 { • Monitoring and updating the plan

1. Identifying LEP Individuals Who Need Language Assistance:

The Federal guidance provides that there should be an assessment of the number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be serviced or encountered and the frequency of encounters pursuant to the first two factors in the four-factor analysis.

Using Census data, the TPO has identified the number and proportion of LEP individuals within its service area who need language assistance. As presented earlier, the largest non-English spoken language in the service area is Spanish. Other residents whose primary language is not English or Spanish are divided into a wide variety of language groups throughout the service area population. However, the TPO has determined, based on local knowledge, that a more significant number of Haitian-Creole speakers may also be present. The TPO may identify specific language assistance needed for an LEP group by examining records to see if requests for language assistance have been received in the past, either at meetings or over the phone, to determine whether language assistance might be needed at future events or meetings.

2. Providing Language Assistance Measures: Federal guidance suggests that an effective Language Assistance Plan should include information about the ways in which language assistance will be provided. This refers to listing the different language services an agency provides and how staff can access this information. For this task, Federal guidance recommends that agencies consider developing strategies that train staff as to how to effectively serve LEP individuals when they either call agency offices or otherwise interact with the agency.

The St. Lucie TPO has undertaken the following actions to improve access to information and services for LEP individuals:

- Provide bilingual staff at community events, public meetings and committee meetings, where appropriate.
- Survey front-line staff on their experience concerning any contacts with LEP persons during the previous year.
- Provide Language Identification Flashcards ("I speak" cards) in the St. Lucie TPO office.
- When an interpreter is needed in person or on the telephone, staff will attempt to access language assistance services from a professional translation service or qualified community volunteers. The TPO has contracted with ALTA Language Services, Inc., a company which provides document translation and telephone interpretation services.

The TPO will use demographic maps and other tools in order to better understand and serve the LEP community.

3. Training Staff: Federal guidance states that staff members of an agency should know their obligations to provide meaningful access to information and services for LEP persons and that all employees in public contact positions should be properly trained.

Suggestions for implementing Element 3 of the Language Assistance Plan, involve: (1) identifying agency staff likely to come into contact with LEP individuals; (2) identifying existing staff training opportunities; (3) providing regular training for staff dealing with LEP individual needs; and (4) designing and implementing LEP training for agency staff.

The following training will be provided for all TPO staff:

- Information on Title VI procedures and LEP responsibilities
- Use of language identification flashcards and online resources
- Documentation of language assistance requests
- Procedures for handling a potential Title VI/LEP complaint

4. Providing Notice to LEP Persons: The St. Lucie TPO will make Title VI information available in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole on the TPO website. Key documents are written in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole upon request. Notices are also posted at the reception desk and in the Boardroom at the St. Lucie TPO office. Additionally, when staff prepares a document or schedules a meeting, for which the target audience is expected to include a significant number of LEP individuals, then documents, meeting notices, flyers, and agendas will be printed in an alternative language based on the known LEP population.

5. Monitoring and Updating the Plan: The plan will be reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis. Updates will consider the following:

- The number of documented LEP person contacts encountered annually
- How the needs of LEP persons have been addressed
- Determination of the current LEP population in the service area
- Determination as to whether the need for translation services has changed
- Determination as to whether the TPO's financial resources are sufficient to fund language assistance resources needed



The St. Lucie TPO understands the value that its programs, activities, or services play in the lives of individuals who rely on them, and the importance of enhancing public participation. The TPO is open to suggestions from all sources, including partner agencies, TPO staff, other agencies with similar experiences with LEP communities, and the general public regarding additional methods to improve accessibility for LEP communities.

9.0 PLANNING AND ADVISORY BODIES

The St. Lucie TPO is governed by a Board which is composed of elected officials from the three jurisdictions and representatives from the St. Lucie County School Board and the public transportation provider. There are twelve (12) voting members on the TPO Board. The TPO also maintains three committees and one other board: the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), and the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB) to provide opportunities for additional public involvement in the transportation planning process.

The St. Lucie TPO will make efforts to encourage minority participation on its boards and committees. These efforts are made by distributing information about participation on the committee at public meetings and through the website and social media. The TPO will use minority population demographic maps and other tools in order to focus on the areas in which board/committee participation information should be distributed.

Racial Composition of TPO Board

Position	Race	Gender
Chair	African American	Male
Vice Chair	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male

Racial Composition of CAC

Position	Race	Gender
Chair	White	Female
Vice Chair	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	African-American	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	African-American	Male
Member	African-American	Male
Member	African-American	Female
Member	White	Male

Racial Composition of TAC

Position	Race	Gender
Chair	White	Female
Vice Chair	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Member	White	Female
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Female

Racial Composition of LCB

Position	Race	Gender
Chair	White	Female
Vice Chair	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	African-American	Female
Member	African-American	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Member	White	Female
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Member	African-American	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	African-American	Male
Member	African-American	Female
Member	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Member	White	Male

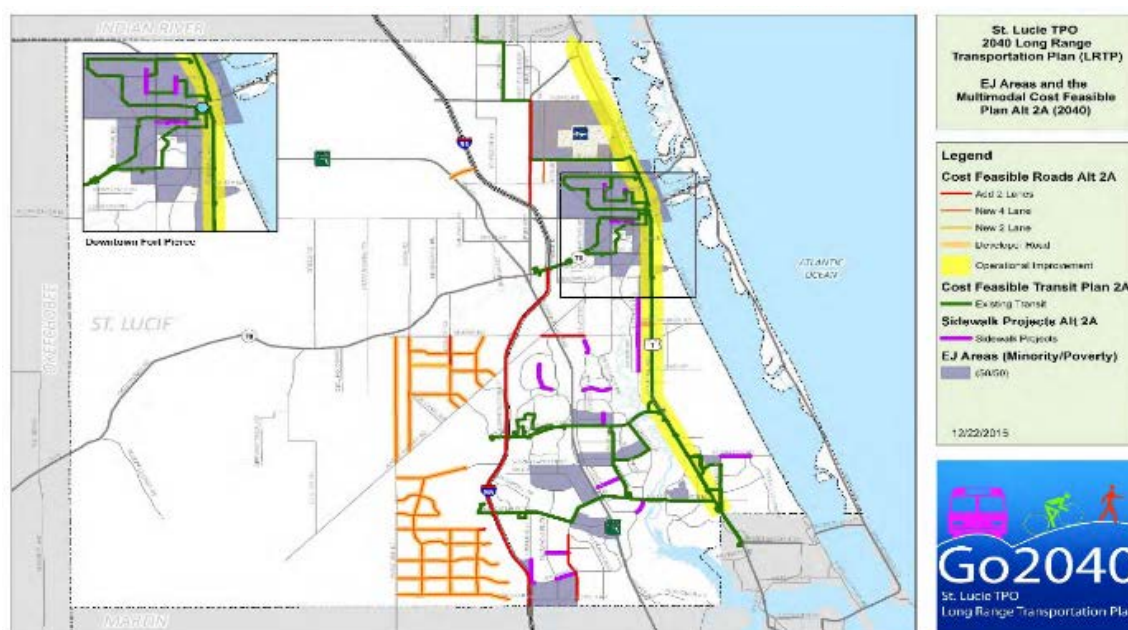
Racial Composition of BPAC

Position	Race	Gender
Chair	African-American	Male
Vice Chair	White	Female
Member	White	Female
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male
Member	White	Male

10.0 TITLE VI / ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS

Outreach to Title VI/Environmental Justice (EJ) communities was conducted during the development of the Go2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and an EJ analysis was conducted. The EJ analysis sought to determine the existence of disproportionately high and adverse effects on these communities as well as the equitable distribution of benefits to these communities. It was determined that disproportionately high and adverse effects were not present and that EJ communities benefitted from many of the transportation improvements in the LRTP. The SmartMoves 2045 LRTP, currently in development, will likewise include a Title VI/EJ analysis.

The following map taken from the Go2040 LRTP shows the EJ areas overlaid with the 2040 Cost Feasible Plan for roadways, transit and sidewalks. This map shows that the existing transit routes provide service to the EJ areas. The existing transit routes connect almost all of the TPO area today, and the Cost Feasible Plan includes more frequent headways and extended hours for several of the routes. Several of the candidate sidewalk gap projects shown on the map will provide improved access from EJ areas throughout the TPO area. Finally, Cost Feasible roadway projects shown on the map will enhance accessibility throughout EJ areas.





11.0 DATA COLLECTION

Federal aid recipients are required to collect and analyze racial, ethnic, and other similar demographic data on beneficiaries of or those affected by transportation programs, services and activities. The TPO accomplishes this through the use of Census data, Environmental Screening Tools (EST), driver and ridership surveys, and other methods. TPO staff has developed community profiles using current Census data. To supplement the Census data, the TPO uses demographic data from its transportation and social services partners. Demographic analysis is also conducted during the development of major planning documents such as the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP).

From time to time, the TPO may find it necessary to request voluntary identification of certain racial, ethnic or other data from those who participate in its public involvement events. This information assists the TPO with improving its targeted outreach and measures of effectiveness. Self-identification of personal data to the TPO will always be voluntary and anonymous. Moreover, the TPO will not release or otherwise use this data in any manner inconsistent with federal regulations.

12.0 TITLE VI ACCOMPLISHMENTS – FISCAL YEAR 2019/20

This section shall be revised annually to provide an update on the status of the previous fiscal year's goals and work plan. During Fiscal Year 2019/20, the St. Lucie TPO completed:

Accomplishment	Completion Date
Title VI training for Title VI Coordinator	June 26, 2020
Title VI training for TPO staff	June 30, 2020
Public Participation Plan adoption	February 5, 2020
Comprehensive review of current Title VI Plan and ADA policies and practices	June 30, 2020
Finalization of community engagement dashboard for use in all major plans and studies	June 30, 2020
Title VI Work Plan development	Ongoing
Conduct of virtual board/committee meetings in response to the Covid-19 pandemic	Beginning April 2020
Posting of information on website/social media	Ongoing
Collection and analysis of public involvement data	Ongoing
Participation in continuing education opportunities related to Title VI and public involvement	Various



13.0 TITLE VI ANNUAL WORK PLAN – FISCAL YEAR 2020/21

This section outlines annual goals set forth by the TPO to comply with Title VI requirements and statutes. This list will be monitored continually for updates and additions.

Goal	Completion Date
Title VI Implementation Plan Major Update Adoption	October 7, 2020
SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Environmental Justice Analysis	February 2021
Federal Certification Review	April 2021
Title VI Training for Title VI Coordinator	TBD
Title VI Training for TPO staff	TBD
Comprehensive review of current Title VI Plan and ADA policies and practices	TBD
Presentation of 3D animation	June 2021
Completion of community engagement dashboards	As needed
Title VI Work Plan development	Ongoing
Posting of information on website and social media	Ongoing
Collection and analysis of public involvement data	Ongoing
Alignment of public involvement strategies with Covid-19 pandemic guidance from local and state governments	Ongoing
Annual PPP Evaluation of Effectiveness and Update	February 2021
Participation in continuing education opportunities related to Title VI and public involvement	Various



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
 772-462-1593 www.stlucietpo.org

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie TPO Board
Meeting Date:	October 7, 2020
Item Number:	9b
Item Title:	SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Development
Item Origination:	2045 LRTP Development Process
UPWP Reference:	Task 3.1 – Long Range Transportation Planning
Requested Action:	Approve one of the draft Transportation Alternatives for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP, approve with conditions, or do not approve.
Staff Recommendation:	Based on the recommendations of the TPO Advisory Committees, it is recommended that the draft Transportation Alternative known as Scenario 2-Balanced be approved for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP.

Attachments

- Staff Report
- SmartMoves 2045 LRTP Presentation



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
 772-462-1593 www.stlucietpo.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie TPO Board

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Yi Ding
Transportation Systems Manager

DATE: September 30, 2020

SUBJECT: SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Development

BACKGROUND

At the meeting in August 2020, the TPO Board reviewed and approved the Needs Assessment and Financial Resources Analysis of the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP that were prepared by Kimley-Horn & Associates. Since then, the Transportation Alternatives of the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP has been developed for review and approval.

ANALYSIS

The Needs Plan identifies the transportation infrastructure that is essential for accommodating future travel demand, addressing safety issues, and meeting community needs for the next 25 years. The Revenue Projections provides an overview of how transportation improvements will be funded.

As the Needs Plan is fiscally unconstrained and the cost of the Needs Plan exceeds the available revenues allocated to the St. Lucie TPO, various transportation alternatives and scenarios are developed which address as much of the Needs Plan as can be funded by the Revenue Projections.

To build the various transportation alternatives and scenarios, the Needs Plan projects were scored using the proposed Project Prioritization Criteria which was developed to align project selection with the Goals, Objectives, and

Performance Measures that previously were reviewed and approved by the TPO Board. Based on the project scores, revenue projections and public input received to date, three scenario planning alternatives were developed to address the needs differently. The three scenario planning alternatives differ in the proportion of funding allocated to non-motorized transportation improvements such as sidewalks and bicycle lanes. The alternative that is approved by the TPO Board will serve as the basis for the development of the Cost Feasible Plan which will represent a fiscally constrained plan for improvements to best address the transportation needs within the St. Lucie TPO area.

The TPO Advisory Committees reviewed the draft Transportation Alternatives at their meetings during the week of September 14th. All three Advisory Committees recommended the approval of Scenario 2-Balanced with the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee recommending approval with the condition of prioritizing improvements of pedestrian and bicycle facilities adjacent to schools when programming the funding for non-motorized transportation improvements.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the recommendations of the TPO Advisory Committees, it is recommended that the draft Transportation Alternative known as Scenario 2-Balanced be approved for the SmartMoves 2045 LRTP.



SMART MOVES 2045

St. Lucie TPO Long Range Transportation Plan

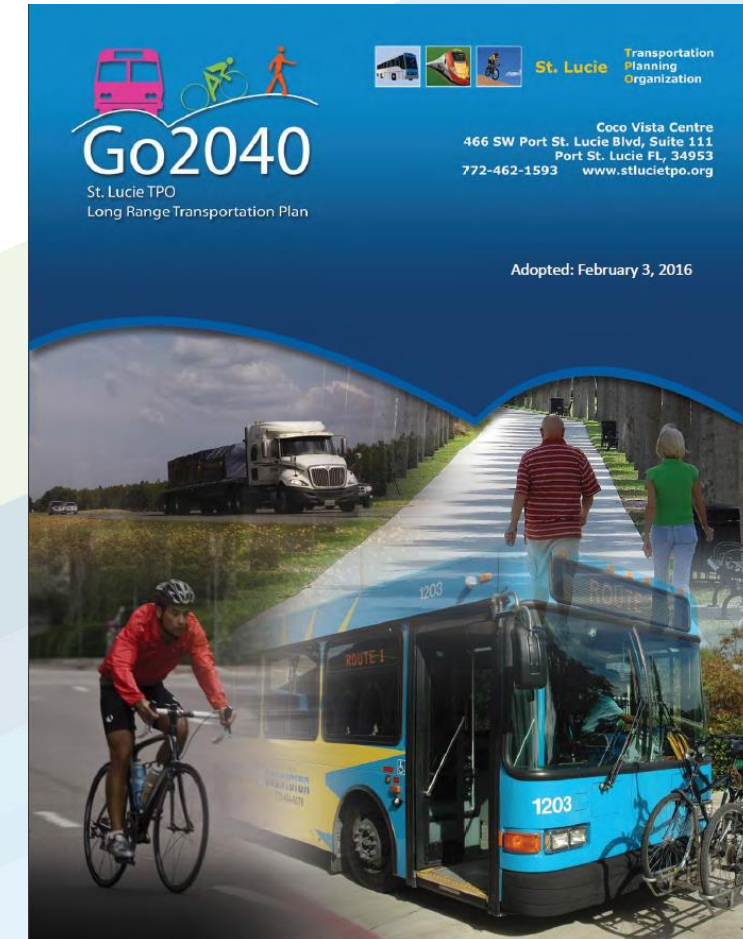
October 2020
Board Meeting

Agenda

- » Background
- » Public Engagement
- » Multimodal Needs Plan
- » Revenue Projections
- » Transportation Alternatives
- » Next Steps

Background

- » The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) 2045 describes how St. Lucie County's multimodal transportation system will evolve over the next 25 years.
- » The St. Lucie TPO is required by federal law to review and update its transportation plan every five (5) years.
- » The St. Lucie 2040 LRTP, referred to as *Go2040*, was adopted by the TPO Governing Board in February 2016.





Public Engagement



193 Needs Plan Projects
1 Comment

Smart Moves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

We are developing the Smart Moves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Please take a look at potential projects to vote or comment on them. The most liked rise to the top of the priority list.

- Filter Map Comments
- Filter Map Needs Plan Projects

Map Layers

- ☒ Roadway Projects
Developer roads denoted in blue
- ☒ Sidewalks
- ☒ Proposed New Transit Service
- ☒ Microtransit Operations
- ☒ Transit Operations
Increase Frequency, Extend Weekday Service Hours
- ☒ Bicycle Facilities
Remove all layers

Needs Plan Projects

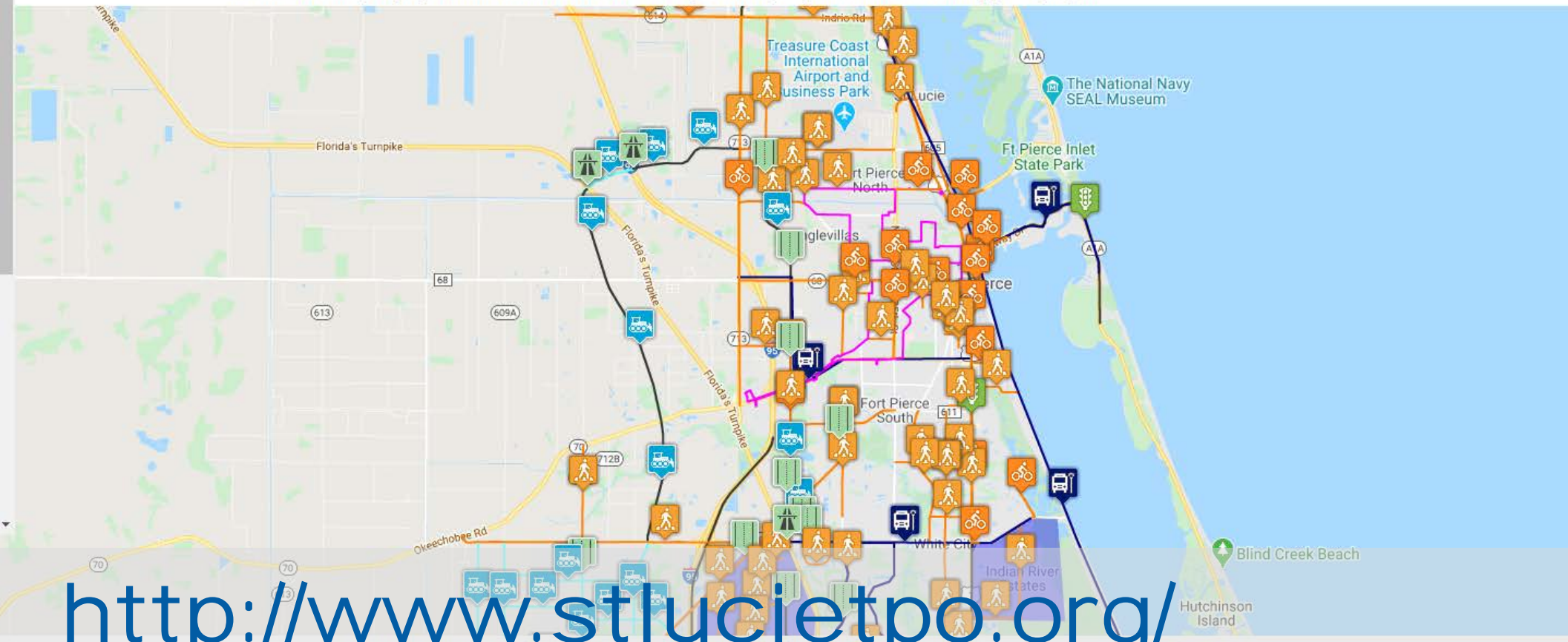
- Add Lanes
- Bicycle Facilities

Map Menu

SMART MOVES 2045

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Click on a needs plan project to comment and vote. You may also drop a pin on a location to suggest a project.



<http://www.stlucietpo.org/>

SMART MOVES 2045

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Check the slides below for potential transportation projects and vote on your favorite transportation alternative scenario

Name (if left blank your name will appear as "Anonymous")

*5 Digit Zip Code of Your Residence (required)

*Which of the 3 scenarios do you support? (required)

Submit

<http://www.stlucietpo.org/>

St. Lucie TPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Survey

The St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is currently developing the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Please take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to fill out the survey below, which will help the TPO to identify public priorities. Surveys are anonymous. We appreciate your input.

OK

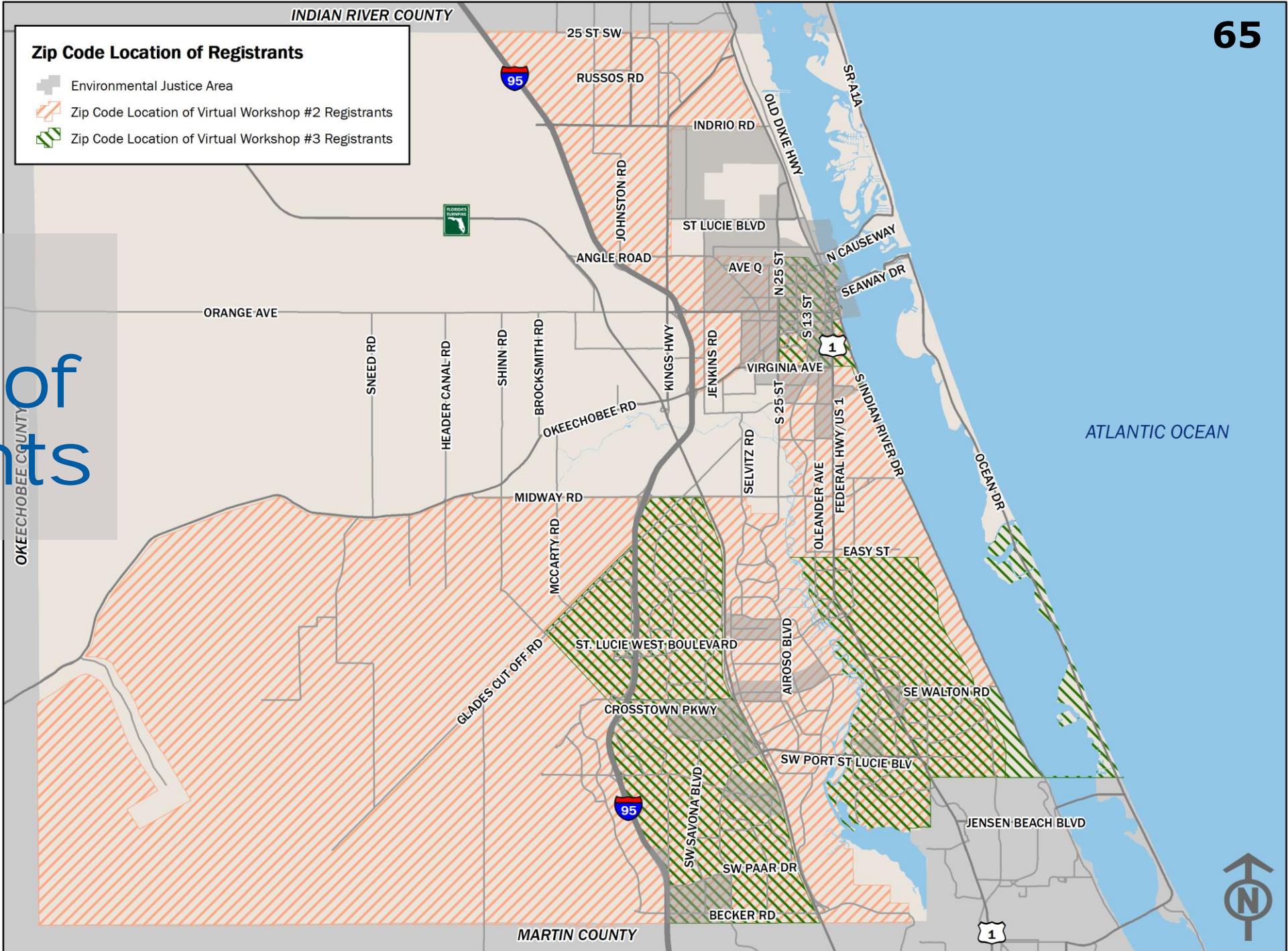
* 1. What is your home zip code?

<http://www.stlucietpo.org>

Zip Code Location of Registrants

Zip Code Location of Registrants

-  Environmental Justice Area
-  Zip Code Location of Virtual Workshop #2 Registrants
-  Zip Code Location of Virtual Workshop #3 Registrants

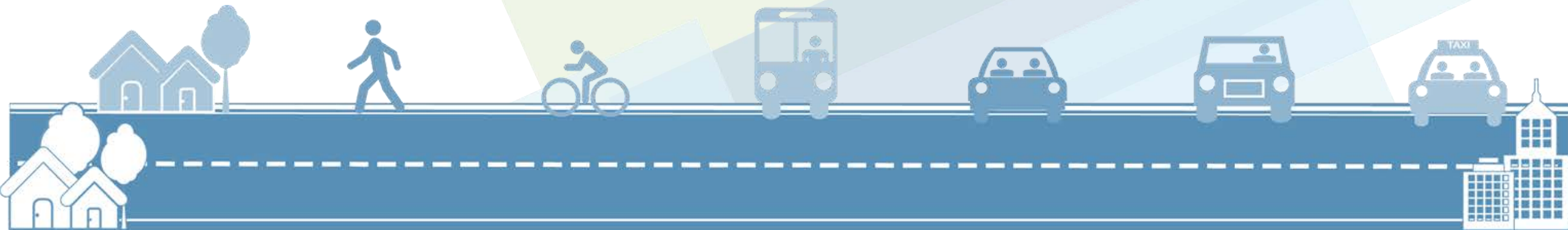




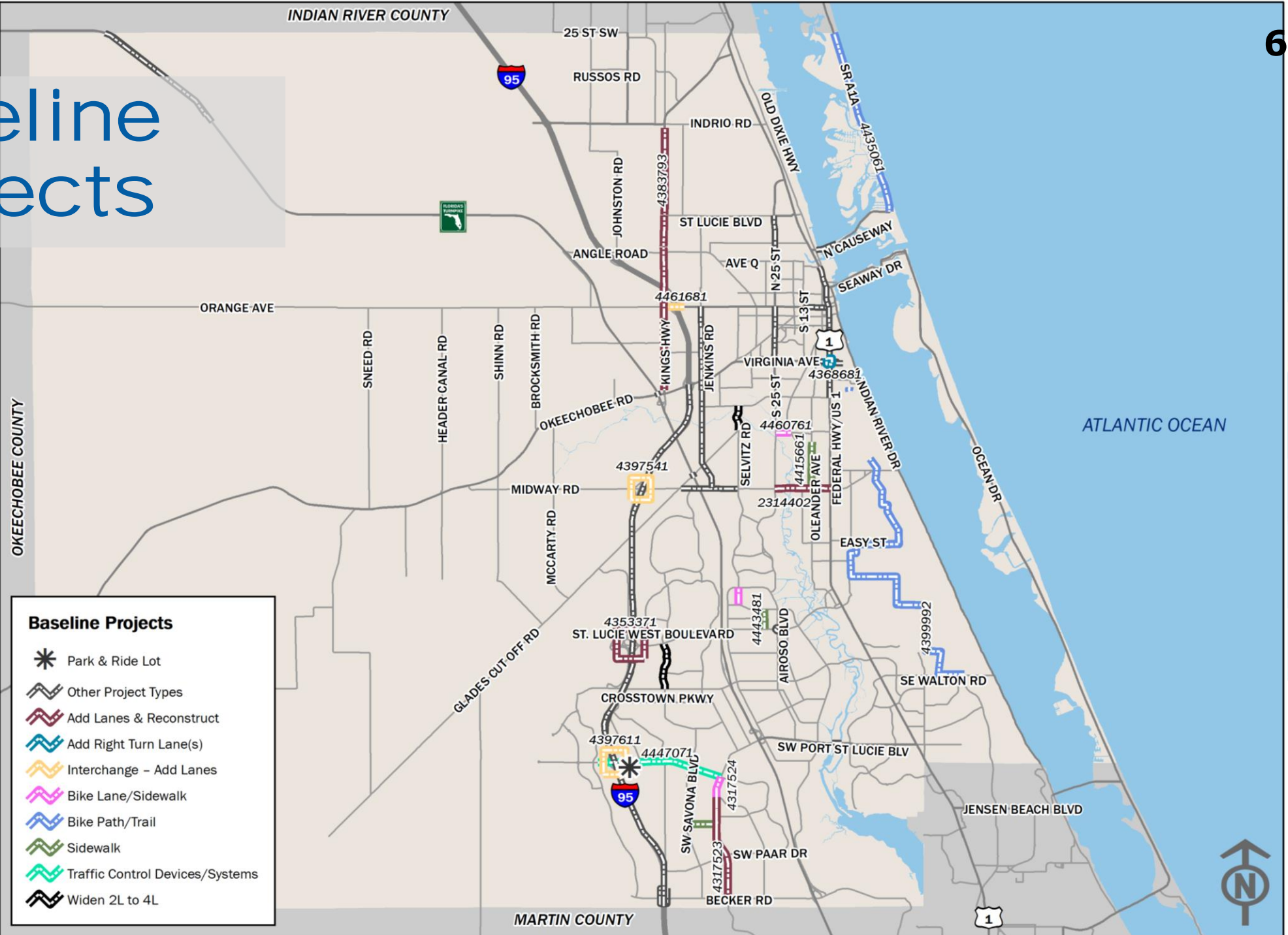
Multimodal Needs Plan

Multimodal Needs Plan

- » Focuses on all modes such as pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists
- » Accommodates future travel demand, addressing safety issues, and meeting community needs for the next 25 years
- » Incorporates technology through the Automated, Connected, Electric, and Shared (ACES) concept



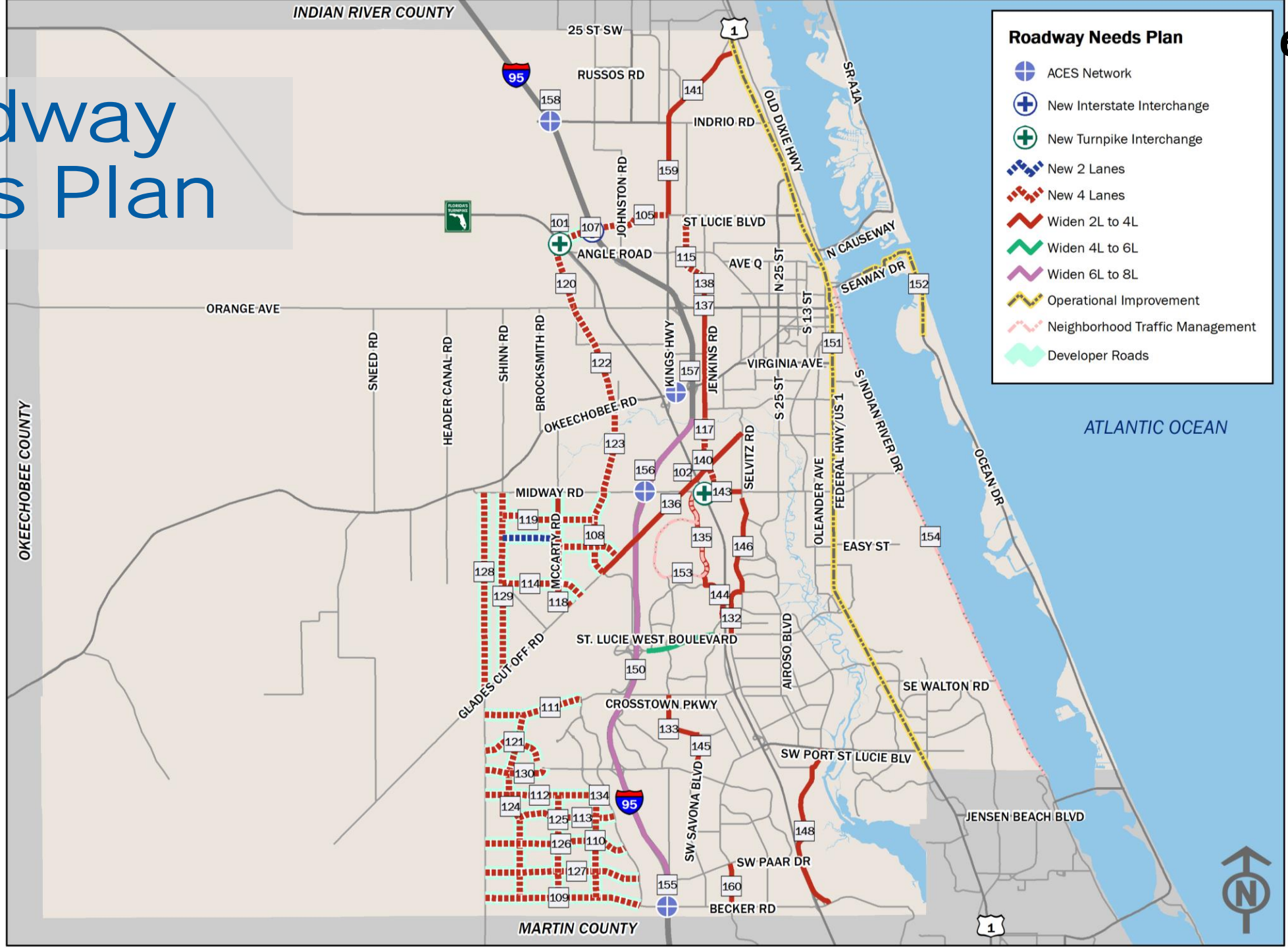
Baseline Projects



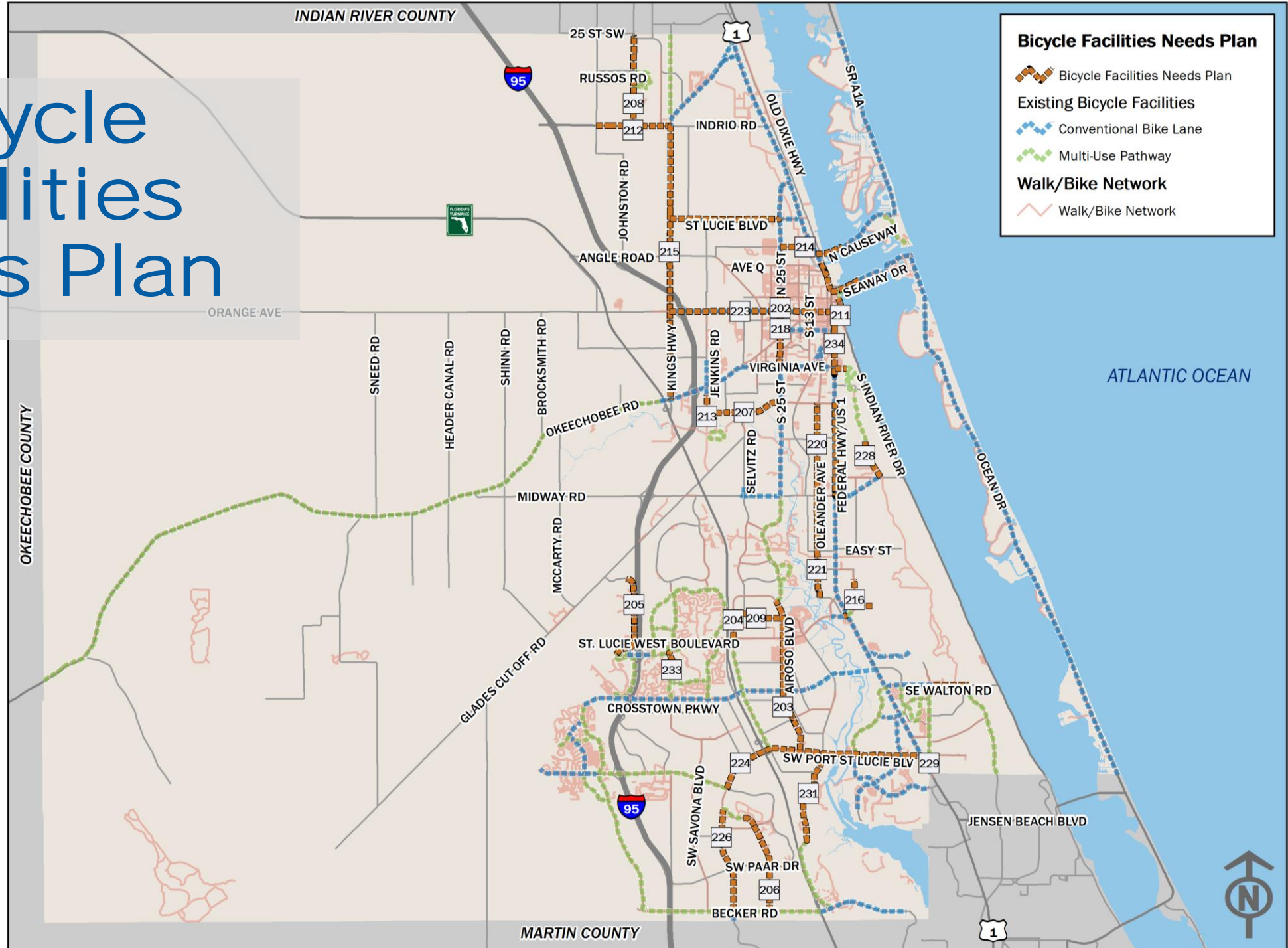
» TIP FY 2020/21 to 2024/25

» Locally Funded projects

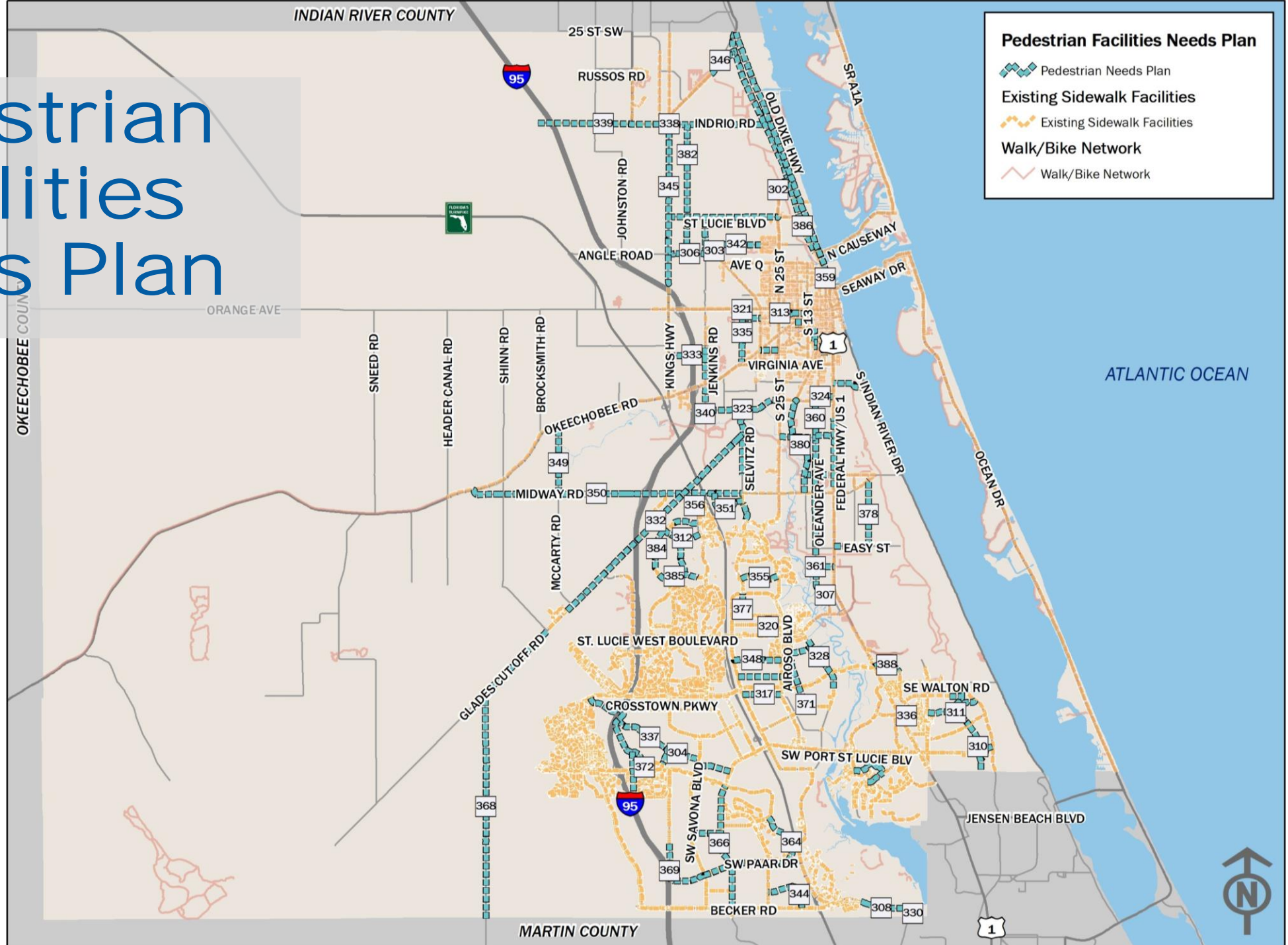
Roadway Needs Plan



Bicycle Facilities Needs Plan

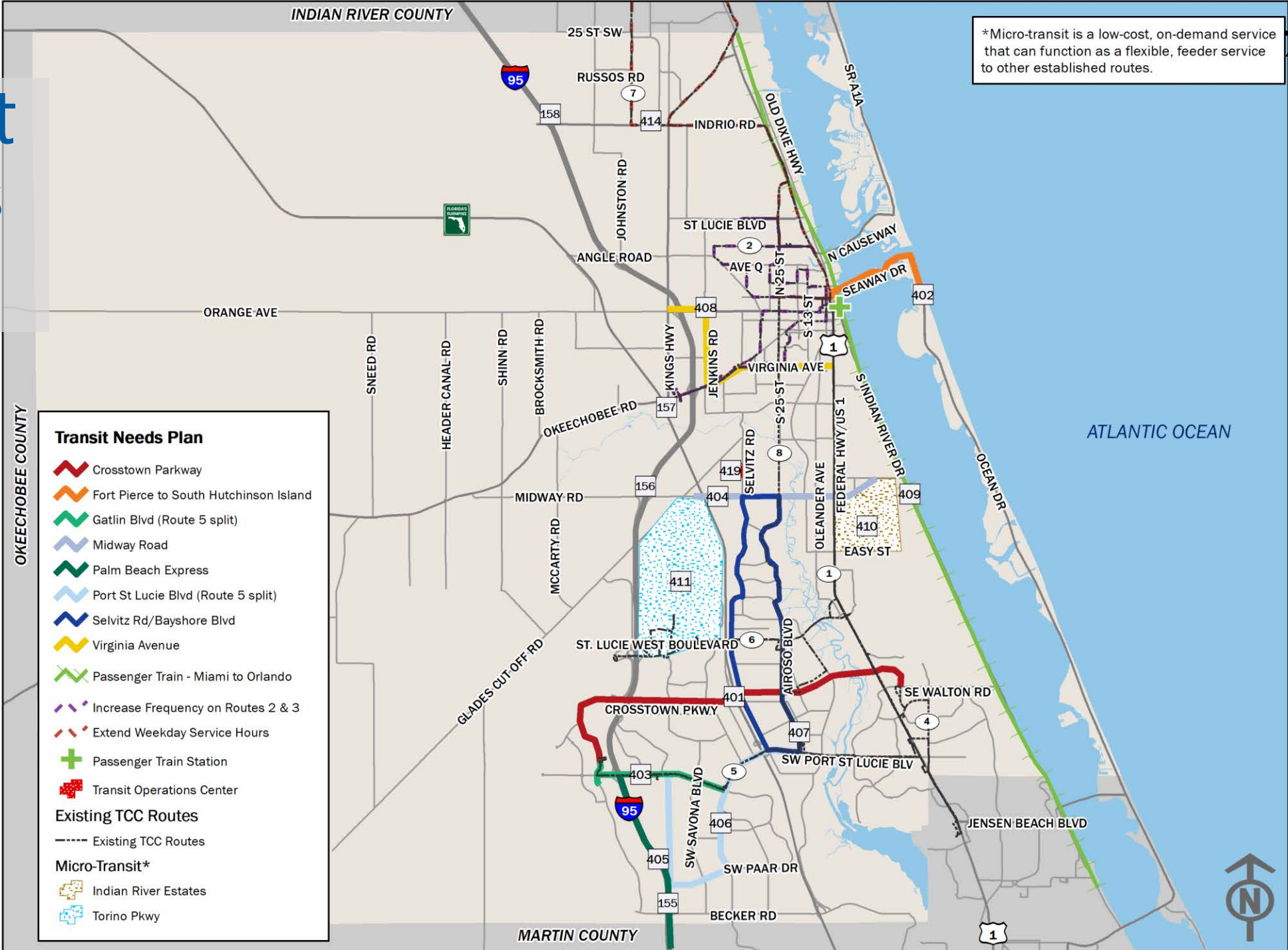


Pedestrian Facilities Needs Plan



Transit Needs Plan

*Micro-transit is a low-cost, on-demand service that can function as a flexible, feeder service to other established routes.



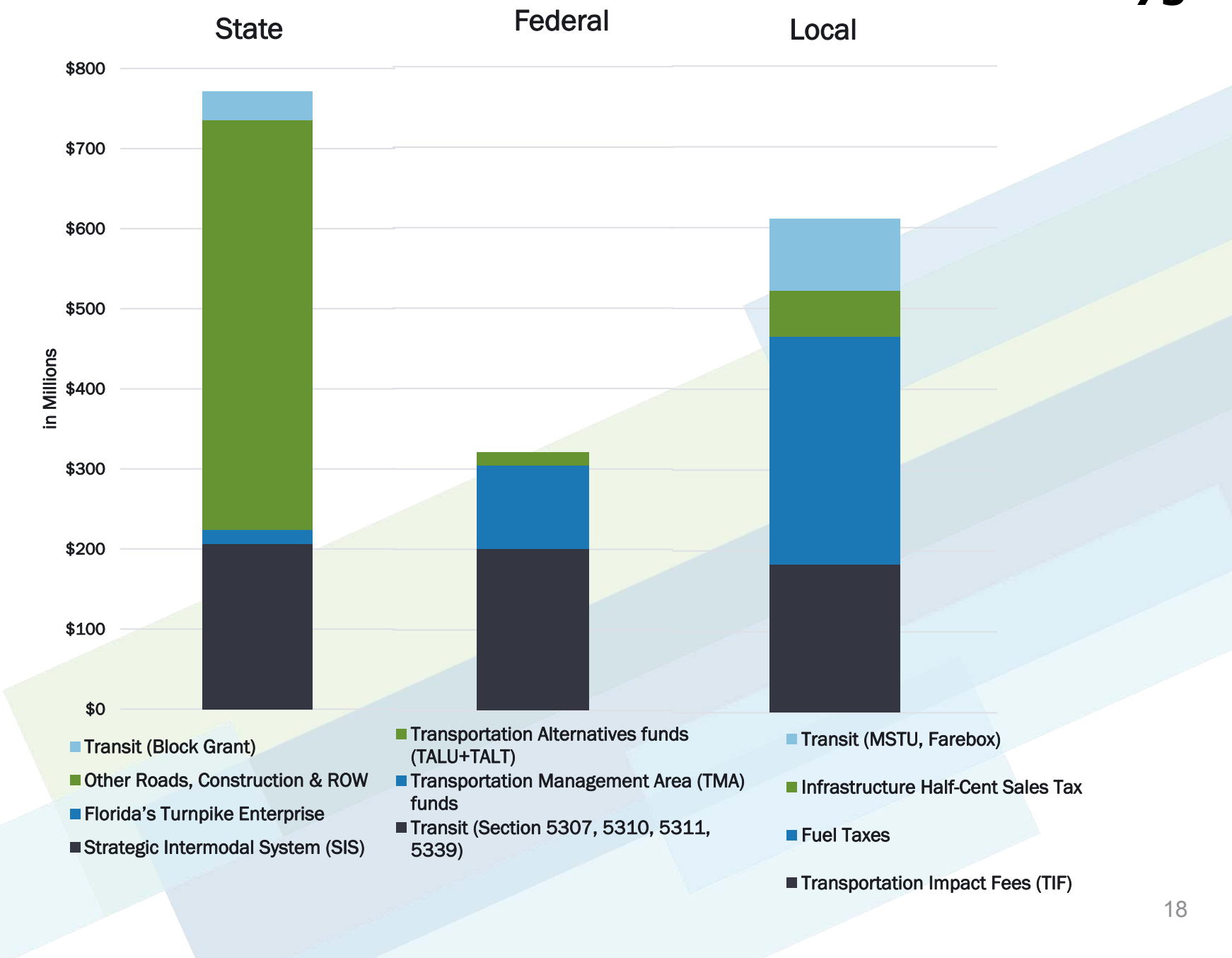


Revenue Projections

- » Provides an overview of how transportation investment will be funded
- » Lays the framework in prioritizing the Multimodal Needs Plan to develop a Cost Feasible Plan
- » Gives a snapshot in time of the current revenue picture and anticipated trends

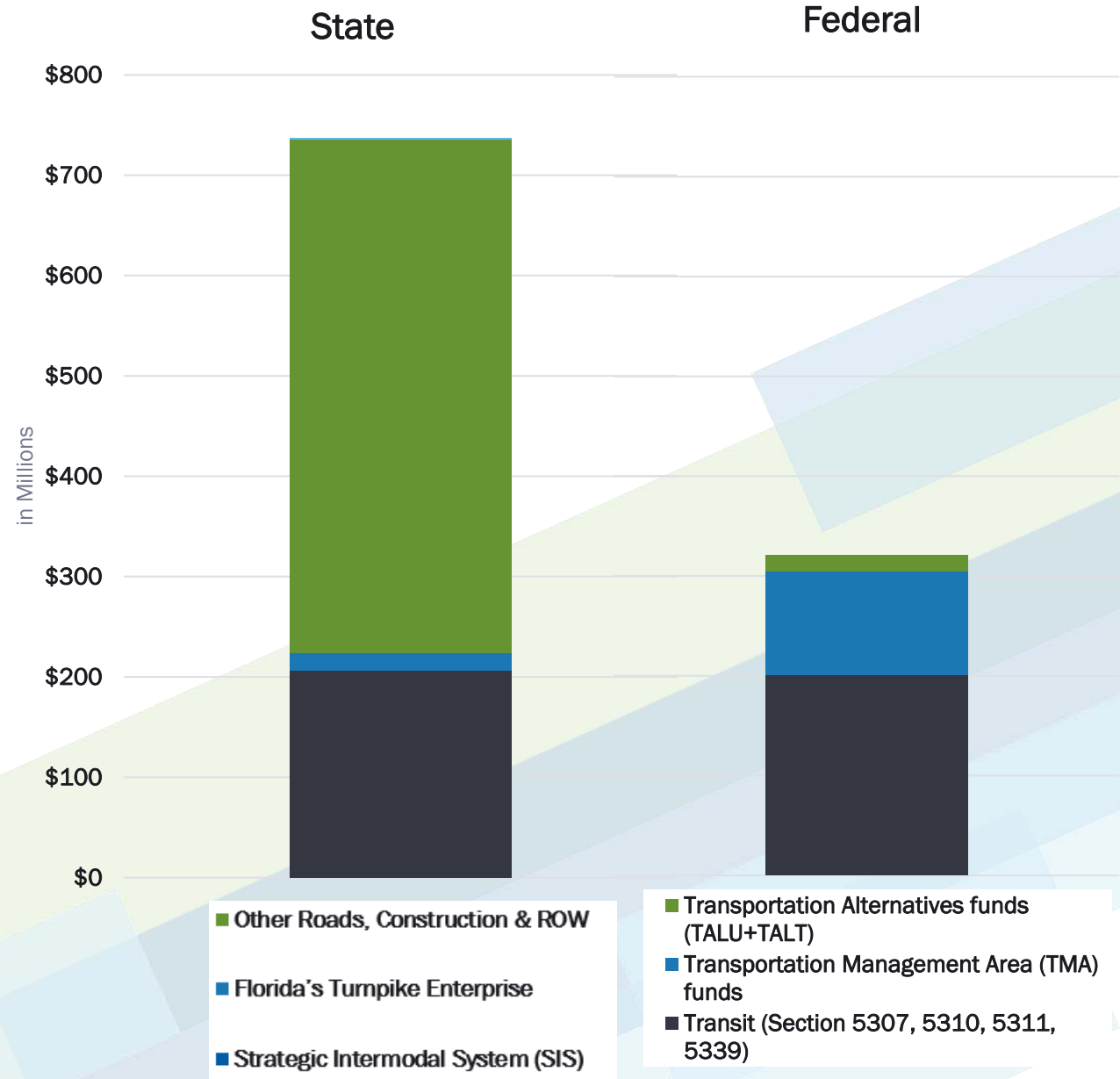
Projected Revenues, 2021 to 2045 in Millions (Year of Expenditure)

» 10% of the Other Roads Construction & ROW can be used for off-system roads.



Projected Revenues, 2021 to 2045 in Millions (Year of Expenditure) available to *SmartMoves 2045*

- » 10% of the Other Roads Construction & ROW can be used for off-system roads.
- » The Transportation Alternatives and Cost Feasible Plan does not account for Local Projected Revenues and State Transit (Block Grant).



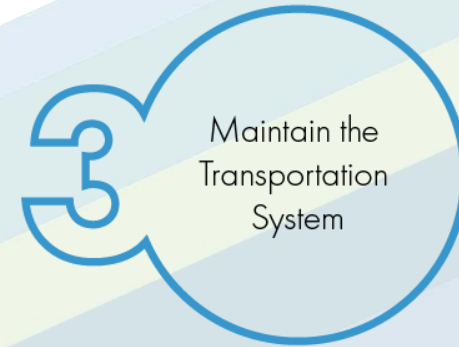


Transportation Alternatives

- » The Multimodal Needs Plan exceeds the available projected revenues.
- » The Transportation Alternatives address travel demand/mobility needs and the community, goals, objectives, and performance targets.

Multimodal Project Priorities

- » Project ranking criteria is linked to the goals, objectives, and performance measures.
- » Each project ranking criterion has a corresponding point value and a project can score a maximum of 100 points.



Goals	Objectives	Project Ranking Criteria	Score
Support Economic Activity	Enable the efficient movement of people and goods on the roadway network	0.85 - 1.00 volume-to-capacity ratios	1
		1.00 - 1.20 volume-to-capacity ratios	3
		Greater than 1.20 volume-to-capacity ratios	5
		Is the project on the Designated Freight Network? Yes	5
	Optimize the management and operations of the transportation system	Is the project on the TSM&O Strategic Network/ATMS Network? Yes	4
	Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the current transit system and improve access to destinations that support economic growth	Does project increase service hours or frequency? Yes	3
Is the project within ¼ mile of a Major Activity Center(s)? Yes		3	
Provide travel choices	Encourage walking, cycling, and other micromobility options	Does project fill a gap/enhance existing sidewalk infrastructure? Yes	3
		Does project fill a gap/enhance existing multi-use pathways infrastructure? Yes	4
		Does project fill a gap/enhance existing bike lanes infrastructure? Yes	3
		Is the project on a transit route? Yes	5
	Improve transit accessibility	Is the project within 1/4 mile of a shared bike locations and/or within the area for designated areas for e-scooter riding? Yes	5
Maintain the transportation system	Maintain condition of existing roadway transportation assets	Does project improve pavement condition? Yes	5
		Does project improve bridge condition? Yes	5
	Maintain condition of existing transit assets	Does project replace aging fleet? Yes	10
Provide equitable, affordable, and sustainable urban mobility	Support healthy living strategies, programs, and improvements to create more livable communities	Does project add a sidewalk/multi-use pathways? Yes	3
		Does project add a bicycle lane? Yes	3
		Does project increase service hours or frequency? Yes	3
	Ensure community participation is representative	Attendance in public engagement from an Environmental Justice area? Yes	2
	Provide for transportation needs of transportation disadvantaged	Is project in an Environmental Justice area? Yes	5
	Make transportation investments that minimize impacts to natural environment and allocate resources toward mitigation	Project is not in an environmentally-sensitive area	2
		Project is in environmentally-sensitive area	1
	Improve transportation system’s stability/resiliency in event of climate change, emergencies, or disasters	Is project a vulnerable roadway due to sea level rise? Yes	2
Improve safety and security	Improve safety and security in the Highway System	Does project address a motorized safety issue? Yes	10
	Improve safety and security in the Transit System (if applicable)		
	Improve safety and security in the Non-Motorized System	Does project address a non-motorized safety issue? Yes	10

Project Ranking Criteria

80

Top 10 Projects (all modes)

81

Rank	Project Type	Roadway Name	From	To	Points
1	Operational Improvement	US-1	Martin County Line	Indian River County Line	74
2	Bicycle Facilities	Orange Avenue	Kings Highway	US-1	65
2	Bicycle Facilities	US-1	Seaway Drive	Old US Highway 1	65
4	Bicycle Facilities	US-1	Gardenia Avenue	Orange Avenue	60
5	Bicycle Facilities	Port St. Lucie Boulevard	Gatlin Boulevard	US-1	56
6	Bicycle Facilities	N 25th Street	Virginia Avenue	Avenue E	55
6	Bicycle Facilities	US-1	Baysinger Avenue	Edwards Avenue	55
8	New Transit Services	Fort Pierce to South Hutchinson Island			53
9	Widen 4L to 6L	St. Lucie West Boulevard	E of I-95	Cashmere Boulevard	52
10	New Transit Services	Port St. Lucie Boulevard (Route 5 split)			50

Top 10 Projects (roadway)

82

Rank	Project Type	Roadway Name	From	To	Points
1	Operational Improvement	US-1	Martin County Line	Indian River County Line	74
9	Widen 4L to 6L	St. Lucie West Boulevard	E of I-95	Cashmere Boulevard	52
17	Neighborhood Traffic Management	Indian River Drive	Martin/St. Lucie County Line	Seaway Drive	47
18	Widen 2L to 4L	Kings Highway	St. Lucie Boulevard	South of Indrio Road	40
18	Widen 2L to 4L	Port St. Lucie Boulevard	Becker Road	Paar Drive	40
24	Widen 2L to 4L	Kings Highway	South of Indrio Road	US-1	37
28	Operational Improvement	Seaway Drive	Harbor Isle Marina	north of Blue Heron Boulevard	34
40	New 4L	Airport Connector	Florida's Turnpike	Kings Highway	30
40	Widen 2L to 4L	Midway Road	East Torino Parkway	Selvitz Road	30
46	Widen 2L to 4L	Jenkins Road	Altman Road	Orange Avenue	29

Top 10 Projects (bicyclists)

83

Rank	Roadway Name	From	To	Points
2	Orange Avenue	Kings Highway	US-1	65
2	US-1	Seaway Drive	Old US Highway 1	65
4	US-1	Gardenia Avenue	Orange Avenue	60
5	Port St. Lucie Boulevard	Gatlin Boulevard	US-1	56
6	N 25th Street	Virginia Avenue	Avenue E	55
6	US-1	Baysinger Avenue	Edwards Avenue	55
13	Port St. Lucie Boulevard	Becker Road	Darwin Boulevard	49
13	Prima Vista Boulevard	Banyan Drive	US-1	49
27	Indrio Road	Johnston Road	Kings Highway	35
28	25th Street	Orange Avenue	Avenue F	34

Top 10 Projects (pedestrian)

84

Rank	Roadway Name	From	To	Points
10	US-1	North Causeway Bridge	St. Lucie County/Indian River County Line	50
10	US-1	Traub Avenue	High Point Boulevard	50
13	Port St. Lucie Boulevard	Becker Road	Gatlin Boulevard	49
20	Old Dixie Highway	US-1 Junction	Kings Highway	39
28	Indrio Road	Kings Highway	Old Dixie Highway	34
28	Indrio Road	Aico Road	Kings Highway	34
35	25th Street	Industrial Avenue	US-1	32
35	Kings Highway	north of I-95	Indrio Road	32
51	53rd Street	Angle Road	Juanita Avenue	27
51	Floresta Drive	Southbend Boulevard	Prima Vista Boulevard	27

Top 10 Projects (transit)

85

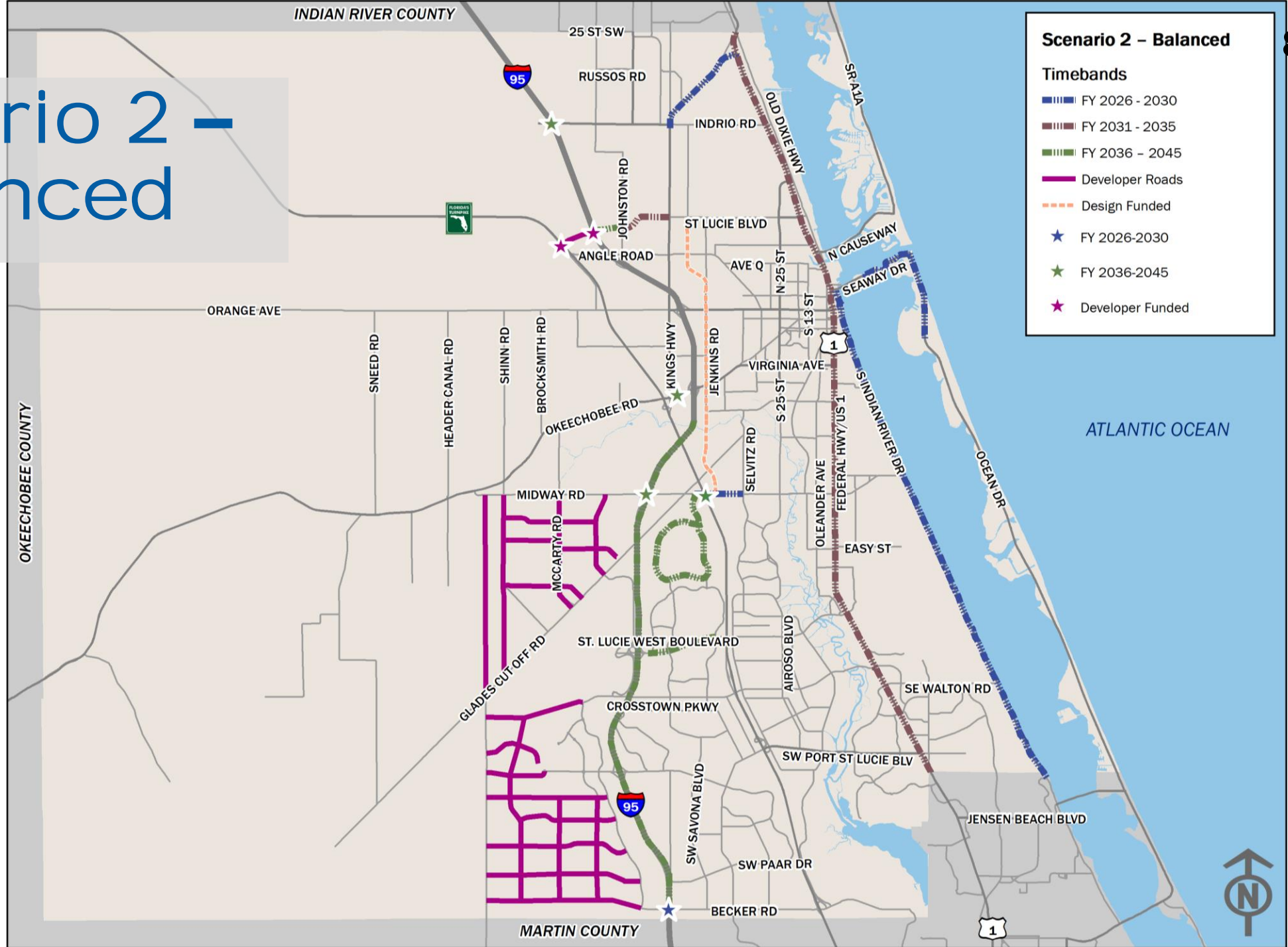
Rank	Project Type	Roadway Name	Points
8	New Transit Services	Fort Pierce to South Hutchinson Island	53
10	New Transit Services	Port St. Lucie Boulevard (Route 5 split)	50
16	New Transit Services	Selvitz Road/Bayshore Boulevard	48
20	Improvements to Existing Service	Increase frequency from 60 minutes to 30 minutes on Route 2 & Route 3	39
20	Improvements to Existing Service	Expand service hours on Route 7 to reflect the other route schedules (currently 7 am – 6 pm)	39
20	Improvements to Existing Service	Expand Saturday service hours to reflect weekday span of service (currently 8 am – 12 pm/1 pm – 4 pm)	39
25	New Transit Services	Crosstown Parkway	36
25	New Transit Services	Passenger Train – Miami to Orlando	36
34	New Transit Services	Virginia Avenue	33
48	New Transit Services	Midway Road	28

- » Mix of investment in modes (Roadway, Bike, Walk, Transit).
- » Three funding scenarios considered
 - » Historical Trend
 - » Balanced
 - » Max Multimodal
- » Aspects common to all funding scenarios
 - » Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)
 - » Continued investment in partially-funded projects in the current TIP
 - » Transit operations and maintenance
 - » ACES Network – park-and-ride lots, EV charging stations, and transit connectivity
 - » Public-private partnerships

	Scenario 1 – Historical	Scenario 2 – Balanced	Scenario 3 – Max Multimodal 87
Roadway – Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I-95 from Martin/St. Lucie County Line to south of Okeechobee Road – Widen 6L to 8L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I-95 from Martin/St. Lucie County Line to south of Okeechobee Road – Widen 6L to 8L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I-95 from Martin/St. Lucie County Line to south of Okeechobee Road – Widen 6L to 8L
Roadway – continued investment in Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Midway Road from East Torino Parkway to Selvitz Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Kings Highway from St. Lucie Boulevard to south of Indrio Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Port St. Lucie Boulevard from Becker Road to Paar Drive – Widen 2L to 4L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Midway Road from East Torino Parkway to Selvitz Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Kings Highway from St. Lucie Boulevard to south of Indrio Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Port St. Lucie Boulevard from Becker Road to Paar Drive – Widen 2L to 4L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Midway Road from East Torino Parkway to Selvitz Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Kings Highway from St. Lucie Boulevard to south of Indrio Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ Port St. Lucie Boulevard from Becker Road to Paar Drive – Widen 2L to 4L
Local Roadway projects (funded)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selvitz Road from Glades-Off Road to Edwards Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ California Boulevard from Crosstown Parkway to St. Lucie West Boulevard – Widen 2L to 4L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selvitz Road from Glades-Off Road to Edwards Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ California Boulevard from Crosstown Parkway to St. Lucie West Boulevard – Widen 2L to 4L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selvitz Road from Glades-Off Road to Edwards Road – Widen 2L to 4L ▪ California Boulevard from Crosstown Parkway to St. Lucie West Boulevard – Widen 2L to 4L
Transit Needs Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain existing transit system – Fixed Route (Routes 1 – 8) and ADA/Paratransit ▪ Improvements to existing services ▪ New routes identified in TDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain existing transit system – Fixed Route (Routes 1 – 8) and ADA/Paratransit ▪ Improvements to existing services ▪ New routes identified in TDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain existing transit system – Fixed Route (Routes 1 – 8) and ADA/Paratransit ▪ Improvements to existing services ▪ New routes identified in TDP
Operational Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US-1 from Martin County Line to Indian River County Line ▪ Seaway Drive from Harbor Isle Marina to north of Blue Heron Boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US-1 from Martin County Line to Indian River County Line ▪ Seaway Drive from Harbor Isle Marina to north of Blue Heron Boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US-1 from Martin County Line to Indian River County Line ▪ Seaway Drive from Harbor Isle Marina to north of Blue Heron Boulevard

	Scenario 1 – Historical	Scenario 2 – Balanced	Scenario 3 – Max Multimodal 88
Neighborhood Traffic Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Torino Parkway Indian River Drive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Torino Parkway Indian River Drive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Torino Parkway Indian River Drive
Roadway Needs Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida's Turnpike at Midway Road – New Interchange (ROW cost TBD) Airport Connector from I-95 to Kings Highway – New 4 Lanes Kings Highway from south of Indrio Road to US-1 – Widen 2L to 4L Jenkins Road from Midway Road to Orange Avenue – New 4L/ Widen 2L to 4L (design funding) St. Lucie West Boulevard from I-95 to Cashmere Boulevard – Widen 4L to 6L California Boulevard from Savona Boulevard to Crosstown Parkway – Widen 2L to 4L ACES Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-95 at Becker Road I-95 at Midway Road Okeechobee Road between Florida's Turnpike and I-95 I-95 at Indrio Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida's Turnpike at Midway Road – New Interchange (ROW cost TBD) Airport Connector from I-95 to Kings Highway – New 4 Lanes Kings Highway from south of Indrio Road to US-1 – Widen 2L to 4L Jenkins Road from Midway Road to Orange Avenue – New 4L/ Widen 2L to 4L (design funding) St. Lucie West Boulevard from I-95 to Cashmere Boulevard – Widen 4L to 6L ACES Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-95 at Becker Road I-95 at Midway Road Okeechobee Road between Florida's Turnpike and I-95 I-95 at Indrio Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida's Turnpike at Midway Road – New Interchange (ROW cost TBD) Airport Connector from I-95 to Kings Highway – New 4 Lanes Kings Highway from south of Indrio Road to US-1 – Widen 2L to 4L Jenkins Road from Midway Road to Orange Avenue – New 4L/ Widen 2L to 4L (design funding) ACES Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-95 at Becker Road I-95 at Midway Road Okeechobee Road between Florida's Turnpike and I-95 I-95 at Indrio Road
Bicycle & Pedestrian Needs Plan	<p>\$10 million investment</p> <p>15 miles of bicycle facilities</p> <p>20 miles of sidewalks</p>	<p>\$40 million investment</p> <p>60 miles of bicycle facilities</p> <p>80 miles of sidewalks</p>	<p>\$60 million investment</p> <p>90 miles of bicycle facilities</p> <p>120 miles of sidewalk</p>

Scenario 2 – Balanced



Next Steps

- » Continue the refinement of the Cost Feasible Plan
- » Prepare for the adoption of *SmartMoves 2045* by February 2021



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 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593 www.stlucietpo.org

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee: St. Lucie TPO Board

Meeting Date: October 7, 2020

Item Number: 9c

Item Title: Transit Representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees

Item Origination: St. Lucie TPO Board

UPWP Reference: Task 1.1 - Program Management

Requested Action: Adopt the proposed plan for current and future transit representation on the St. Lucie TPO Boards and Advisory Committees, adopt with conditions, or do not adopt.

Staff Recommendation: Based on the consideration of the Federal Requirements and Florida Statutes; the time and resources necessary to amend the Creation Agreement and the By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures; the timing of the upcoming statutorily-required review of the composition of the TPO Board; and the discussion at the August 5th TPO Board Meeting, it is recommended that the proposed plan to address current and future transit representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees be adopted.

Attachments

- Staff Report
- Florida Department of Transportation Correspondence, January 11, 2013



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MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie TPO Board

FROM: Peter Buchwald
 Executive Director

Heather Young
 TPO Attorney

DATE: September 30, 2020

SUBJECT: Transit Representation on the TPO Boards and
 Advisory Committees

BACKGROUND

Until July 2020, St. Lucie County contracted with the Council On Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. (COASL) as the sole operator of the public transportation system in St. Lucie County through COASL's Community Transit division. As the transit operator, COASL/Community Transit has served as members on the TPO Board, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the St. Lucie Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB) with the representative for the COASL on the TPO Board currently serving as the TPO Board Chairman. Effective July 1st, MV Transportation, Inc. (MV) assumed the contract for the fixed-route and demand-response portions of the County's public transportation system necessitating a review of the transit representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees. COASL continues to operate, through Community Transit, a fleet of buses that provide other public transportation services in St. Lucie County including those funded by Medicaid.

This review was initiated at the TPO Executive Committee on July 30th when the Committee recommended that a discussion regarding transit representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees be conducted at the August 5th Board Meeting. At this meeting, the various legal provisions pertaining to the composition of the members of the TPO Board, TAC, and LCB and the process required to amend the various relevant legal documents were summarized. In addition, the Florida Statute requiring the TPO to

review and possibly reapportion its membership in conjunction with the 2020 Census was summarized. The Board discussed the possibility of both transit operators, COASL and MV, having representation on the TPO Board. The lack of urgency to add MV as a Board member considering how recently MV began its contract and how soon the statutorily-required review of the TPO Board would be undertaken also was discussed. At the conclusion of the discussion, consensus was obtained by the Board to request a formal presentation of the issue at the October 7th Board meeting. TPO Staff and the TPO Attorney have completed an analysis of the issue and have developed a plan to present to the TPO Board for approval regarding the current and future transit representation on the TPO Board and Advisory Committees.

ANALYSIS

The Florida Statutes (F.S. 339.175(3)) and Federal requirements (23 CFR 450.310(d)) provide for voting members of the TPO to include an official of an agency that operates or administers a major mode of transportation, including representation by providers of public transportation.

Community Transit is specified as a voting member on the TPO Board in the Interlocal Agreement for Creation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization dated September 13, 2006 (Creation Agreement). In addition, COASL is a party to the Agreement. Any changes in the membership of the TPO Board to reflect changes in the operations of the County public transportation system require amendments to the Creation Agreement. Any amendments to the Creation Agreement require approval by all of the parties to the Creation Agreement including the Florida Department of Transportation, the local governments, the St. Lucie County School Board, and the COASL and may require approval by the Governor. It is anticipated that the development and approval of any amendments to the Creation Agreement will be a lengthy and resource-consuming process.

The voting membership of Community Transit on the TAC and LCB are provided by the St. Lucie TPO By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures and the St. Lucie LCB By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures, respectively. Any changes in the membership of the TPO Board and/or Advisory Committees to reflect changes in the operations of the County public transportation system require amendments to the TPO/LCB By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures. Because the TPO/LCB By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures may be amended at any meeting of the TPO/LCB, development and approval of any amendments to the TPO/LCB By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures will be a much less lengthy and resource-consuming process than amending the Creation Agreement.

According to Florida Statute 339.175(4), the TPO must review the composition of its membership in conjunction with the decennial census. Therefore, the TPO will complete such a review after the completion of the 2020 Census. If such a review suggests a reapportionment, the Creation Agreement would require amendment by written agreement by all of the parties and approval by the Governor.

According to the US Census Bureau, the Bureau will deliver apportionment counts to the President and Congress in December 2020 as required by law. Then by March 31, 2021, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to the states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes. The redistricting files contain housing unit counts and population data by race/ethnicity, voting age, and gender with other products released through 2022.

The formal review process of the TPO Board membership completed after the last decennial census in 2010 was started in January 2013 with a deadline for completion of July 1, 2013, as identified in the attached correspondence, dated January 11, 2013, from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). If the formal review process after the completion of the 2020 Census incorporates a similar schedule, it appears that the formal process for review of the TPO Board membership after the 2020 Census will be requested by FDOT to be completed in the first half of 2023.

Based on this analysis, a proposed plan was developed for approval by the TPO Board to address current and future transit representation on the TPO Board, TAC, and LCB. The proposed plan takes into account the following:

- Ø COASL/Community Transit still operates public transportation in St. Lucie County consistent with Federal Requirements and Florida Statutes;
- Ø The time and resources necessary to amend the Creation Agreement compared to amending the TPO/LCB By Laws, Rules, and Procedures;
- Ø The anticipated timing of the upcoming statutorily-required review of the composition of the TPO Board after the completion of the 2020 Census that may require amendments to the Creation Agreement; and,
- Ø The discussion at the August 5th TPO Board Meeting pertaining to the lack of urgency to add MV as a Board member and how recently MV began its contract with the County.

The plan to address current and future transit representation on the TPO Board, TAC, and LCB is proposed as follows:

- Ø COASL/Community Transit maintain their existing memberships on the TPO Board, TAC and LCB;
- Ø After July 1, 2021, and upon which MV will have been a public transportation operator in St. Lucie County for a year, the TPO/LCB By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures are revised by the TPO and LCB, respectively, to add MV as a voting member to the TAC and LCB;
- Ø Effective July 1, 2022, the FY 2022/23 - FY 2023/24 Unified Planning Work Program includes resources for the statutorily-required review of TPO Board Member composition, including transit representation, based on the 2020 Census and to amend the Creation Agreement and redesignate the TPO, as necessary;
- Ø After July 1, 2022, the statutorily-required review of the TPO Board Member composition, including transit representation, based on the 2020 Census is initiated;
- Ø By January 1, 2023, the draft amendments to the Creation Agreement, if necessary, based on the statutorily-required review of the composition of the TPO Board are submitted to the local parties to the Creation Agreement for consideration of adoption; and,
- Ø By July 1, 2023, the amendments to the Creation Agreement, if necessary, are adopted by the local agencies and the redesignation documents, if necessary, are submitted to FDOT.

It should be noted that the above-summarized schedule may require revision based on the schedule established by FDOT in their formal request to the TPO Board to review the composition of its Members based on the 2020 Census.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the consideration of the Federal Requirements and Florida Statutes; the time and resources necessary to amend the Creation Agreement and the By-Laws, Rules, and Procedures; the timing of the upcoming statutorily-required review of the composition of the TPO Board; and the discussion at the August 5th TPO Board Meeting, it is recommended that the proposed plan to address current and future transit representation on the TPO Boards and Advisory Committees be adopted.



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

January 11, 2013

The Honorable Reginald Sessions
St. Lucie Transportation Planning
Organization
2300 Virginia Avenue
Ft. Pierce, Florida 34982

Dear Commissioner Sessions:

Federal and state laws require that a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) be designated for each urbanized area with a population of more than 50,000 individuals, as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. To the extent possible only one MPO shall be designated for each urbanized areas or group of contiguous urbanized areas. Where more than one MPO exists in an urbanized area, state law requires the MPOs to coordinate in developing regionally significant priorities.

The results of the 2010 Census illustrate the population growth in our urbanized areas have experienced over time and reveal the continued pattern of our urbanized areas growing together and, in many cases, sharing boundaries such as the Port St. Lucie and Sebastian-Vero Beach South-Florida Ridge urbanized areas. These patterns of regional growth require that we plan our transportation systems on a regional scale and effectively address regional transportation issues critical to supporting Florida's economic competitiveness and quality of life.

The designation or redesignation of a MPO requires agreement between the Governor and local governments representing 75 percent of the affected population including the largest incorporated city. The Governor and the MPO must also agree to the metropolitan planning area boundary and the voting membership of the MPO, which is reviewed in conjunction with the decennial census. Accordingly, based on the expected growth and development of the region, the department is requesting the St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization, Indian River MPO, and Martin MPO review and evaluate whether having multiple MPOs representing the shared urbanized areas is warranted. If it is determined that the existing MPOs should be consolidated, the local governments representing 75 percent of the affected population should adopt resolutions of support for a redesignation of the existing MPOs. Otherwise, if it can be substantiated that the size and complexity of the existing MPO planning areas make designation of more than one MPO appropriate, then the existing metropolitan planning area boundaries and Board membership apportionment plans should be reviewed to determine if any modifications are needed based on the 2010 Census.

The Honorable Reginald Sessions
January 11, 2013
Page 2

In addition, the MPOs should identify how the current coordinated planning processes can be enhanced, including agreement on transportation priorities for regionally significant projects.

On behalf of the Governor, the department will consult with representatives of existing MPOs regarding these important issues. The input received as a result of this consultation process ensures that the views of all affected parties are given full consideration as the Department develops final recommendations to the Governor.

Enclosed are relevant excerpts of federal and state laws, federal regulations, and other information to assist in this effort. The Department of Transportation's district staff will be contacting your staff in the near future to initiate the consultative process requested by the Governor. Any needed modifications to MPO designations, boundary maps, membership apportionment plans, and coordinated planning activities should be forwarded no later than July 1, 2013, to Ms. Yvonne Arens, 605 Suwannee Street, M.S., 28, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Yvonne Arens, MPO Administrator at (850) 414-4816, or by email at yvonne.aren@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,



Ananth Prasad, P.E.
Secretary

AP:kn

Enclosures

cc: Jim Wolfe, District Four Secretary
Peter Buchwald, Director, St. Lucie MPO
JoAnn M. Faiella, Mayor, City of Port St. Lucie
Gregory J. Oravec, Manager, City of Port St. Lucie
Yvonne Arens, MPO Administrator
Howard Glassman, MPOAC