

ST. LUCIE LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (LCB)

Regular Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 2:00 pm

Location: St. Lucie TPO
Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida

Public Participation/Accessibility

Participation in Person: Public comments may be provided in person at the meeting. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the St. Lucie TPO 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.

Participation by Webconference: Using a computer or smartphone, register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/108825699324550491>. After the registration is completed, a confirmation will be emailed containing instructions for joining the webconference. Public comments may be provided through the webconference chatbox during the meeting.

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 1:00 pm on February 21, 2024.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call/Self-Introductions
4. Comments from the Public
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of Meeting Summary
 - *November 29, 2023 Regular Meeting*

7. Discussion Items

7a. City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station Proposal: A representative from Marlin Engineering, a member of the City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station proposal team, will present the design of the proposed station.

Action: *Discuss and provide comments to Staff.*

7b. Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand Update: A representative from ART will describe the On Demand system and provide recent ridership numbers.

Action: *Discuss and provide comments to Staff.*

7c. 2023 Public Participation Plan Evaluation: The annual analysis of the effectiveness of methods used by the TPO to involve the public in transportation decision-making.

Action: *Discuss and provide comments to Staff.*

7d. Community Profiles Update: An analysis of data that informs and guides the TPO's public outreach to disadvantaged communities.

Action: *Discuss and provide comments to Staff.*

8. Recommendations/Comments by Members

9. Staff Comments

10. Comments from the Public

11. Next Meeting: The next St. Lucie LCB meeting is a regular meeting scheduled for 2:00 pm on May 8, 2024.

12. 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, Title VI/ADA Coordinator, St. Lucie TPO, 772-462-1593 or 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 Advisory Committees with respect to any matter considered at a 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.

Kreyol 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.



ST. LUCIE LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (LCB)

REGULAR MEETING

Date: Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: St. Lucie TPO
Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida

MEETING SUMMARY

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairwoman Townsend led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call**

Self-introductions were made, and a quorum was noted with the following members present:

Members Present

Commissioner Cathy Townsend, Chair
Noah Brown
Robert Dadiomoff
Dalia Dillon
Robert Driscoll

Zachary Hoge

Representing

Elected Official, TPO-appointed
FDOT
Veterans Community
Florida Dept. of Elder Affairs
Local Private For-Profit
Transportation Industry
Florida Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation

Gregory McDonald
 Stefanie Myers
 Kelly Santos
 Milory Senat

CareerSource Research Coast
 Local Medical Community
 Children at Risk
 Agency for Persons with
 Disabilities

Others Present

Kyle Bowman
 Marceia Lathou
 Stephanie Torres
 Rachel Harrison
 Ciara Forbes
 Lakeshia Brown
 Adolfo Covelli
 Melody Hearn
 Tracy Jahn
 Anthony Johnson
 Cathi Petagno
 Anthony Rodriguez
 Niccole Smith (via web)

Representing

St. Lucie TPO
 St. Lucie TPO
 St. Lucie TPO
 Recording Specialist
 St. Lucie County
 MV Transportation
 St. Lucie County
 Family Care Council
 St. Lucie County
 MV Transportation
 St. Lucie County
 MV Transportation
 Area Agency of Aging
 Palm Beach

4. **Comments from the Public** – Ms. Hearn introduced herself as the co-chair of the local Family Care Council regional office, which she described as an advocacy organization for developmentally disabled persons. She reported that there were several members of her community who were interested in serving on the LCB and indicated she would continue to discuss the position with them. Ms. Hearn thanked the TPO staff for participating in the Transition Services Expo hosted by the Treasure Coast Interagency Transition Council the previous month and thanked the LCB for providing transportation assistance to the disabled community.

5. **Approval of Agenda**

* **MOTION** by Ms. Myers to approve the agenda.

** **SECONDED** by Mr. Driscoll

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **Approval of Meeting Summary**

- August 16, 2023 Regular Meeting

DRAFT

* **MOTION** by Mr. Dadiomoff to approve the Meeting Summary.

** **SECONDED** by Ms. Myers Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

7. Action Items

7a. Election of Vice Chairperson: The election of the Vice Chairperson for 2024.

Ms. Lathou noted that alternates could not be elected as Vice Chairperson for the LCB. In response to Mr. Driscoll's question, Ms. Lathou named the member for whom he served as an alternate. Ms. Dillon inquired about the current Vice Chairperson, and Chairwoman Townsend explained that Vice Chairwoman Niemczyk had indicated she was unable to serve another year. Ms. Lathou then invited the LCB secretary to conduct the election.

* **MOTION** to nominate Robert Dadiomoff to serve as LCB Vice Chairman for 2024.

** **SECONDED** by Mr. Driscoll

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

** **MOTION** to elect Robert Dadiomoff to serve as LCB Vice Chairman for 2024. Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

7b. 2024 Meeting Schedule: The determination of dates and times of LCB meetings for 2024.

Ms. Lathou presented the proposed dates and times for LCB meetings in 2024, noting specifically the date for the Annual Public Hearing and Training Workshop.

* **MOTION** by Ms. Dillon to approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule.

** **SECONDED** by Mr. Driscoll Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

7c. Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP)/Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan): A review of the draft TDSP/Coordinated Plan, which addresses the transportation needs

of older adults, persons with disabilities, low-income persons, and children at risk.

Ms. Lathou indicated that Florida law required the planning agency and Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) to jointly develop a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) every five years, with annual updates required for the intervening years. She explained the purpose and scope of the TDSP, describing how it differed from the Transit Development Plan (TDP), and outlined the TDSP's various components. Ms. Jahn continued the presentation by summarizing the primary changes included in the present update, which pertained to service improvements, coordinated contractors, vehicle inventory, and Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) reimbursement rates.

In response to Ms. Senat's question, Ms. Jahn explained that the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (FCTD) increased the reimbursement rate for TD trips each year.

* **MOTION** by Ms. Myers to approve the TDSP/Coordinated Plan.

** **SECONDED** by Mr. McDonald

** **A roll-call vote was conducted, and the motion was approved by all members except Mr. Brown, who abstained.**

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Brown's decision to abstain and whether it would cause the quorum to be revoked. Mr. Brown explained that he had abstained due to a conflict of interest in connection with his job, and Ms. Lathou noted that FDOT had historically participated in the LCB without having to declare a conflict of interest. Ms. Forbes was asked to consult on the matter, and in response to her question, Mr. Bowman produced the previous year's TDSP voting record to show that the FDOT representative had not abstained. Ms. Santos, who had been sitting in the audience rather than at the dais with the other members, then declared her presence and her approval of the TDSP, thereby ending the discussion of the quorum issue.

**Mr. Brown's conflict of interest declaration is appended to this document and is required to be read publicly during the next LCB meeting.*

7d. 2023 Annual Operating Report (AOR): A review of the results of the 2023 Annual Operating Report (AOR), which summarizes trip-related statistics for the coordinated system.

DRAFT

Ms. Petagno explained the purpose and scope of the Annual Operating Report and then provided statistics related to the provision of services in 2023, noting that the FCTD had approved the AOR as submitted the previous day.

In response to Chairwoman Townsend's comment, Ms. Petagno remarked on the efficiency and popularity of the County's microtransit service.

* **MOTION** by Mr. McDonald to approve the 2023 AOR.

** **SECONDED** by Vice Chairman Dadiomoff Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

7e. Area Regional Transit (ART) Title VI Program: A presentation of the program to ensure nondiscrimination in ART activities.

Ms. Jahn described the objectives of the Title VI Plan along with its major components before summarizing the changes that had been made during the present update.

Chairwoman Townsend commended Mr. Covelli, Ms. Petagno and Ms. Jahn for their efforts to improve the Transit system and congratulated them on having been elected the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) of the Year by the FCTD. She noted that the award should have been presented at the annual FCTD meeting had it not been canceled due to inclement weather but would now be presented at the December 12 Board of County Commissioners meeting. Mr. Covelli commended the MV Transportation staff for their role in earning the award, and Chairwoman Townsend likewise offered them her congratulations.

Vice Chairman Dadiomoff thanked Ms. Petagno for her recent presentation at a meeting for Korean War veterans, and Mr. Covelli noted that Ms. Petagno had personally spoken to more than 7,000 individuals about the County's Transit services in 2023 alone.

Ms. Petagno announced that Transit had received a first-place Florida Public Transportation Association marketing award and thanked Chairwoman Townsend for her role in the department earning that recognition. Chairwoman Townsend explained that she and the other commissioners took turns leading a television segment and that Ms. Petagno had previously appeared as a guest on the show to promote transit. Chairwoman Townsend then invited the LCB members to contact her if they were interested in representing their organizations on a future segment.

DRAFT

* **MOTION** by Mr. Driscoll to approve the Title VI Program.

** **SECONDED** by Ms. Senat Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

8. **Discussion Items**

8a. FY 2024/25 – 2025/26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Call for Planning Projects: The initial discussion of the development of the FY 2024/25 – 2025/26 two-year business plan for the St. Lucie TPO.

Ms. Lathou described the scope and purpose of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) before listing the current UPWP planning priorities that would be continued during the next two-year plan. She then enumerated several projects already proposed for inclusion in the draft UPWP, summarized the remaining steps in the UPWP development process, and invited the members to suggest additional projects for inclusion. Ms. Lathou concluded with several examples of past UPWP suggestions that had led to completed projects and programs.

Ms. Myers inquired about the Advanced Air Mobility study referenced in the staff report. Ms. Lathou explained that it pertained to vehicles capable of vertical takeoff, such as air taxis, that would travel above traditional vehicles on the existing roadway network. Chairwoman Townsend further clarified that such vehicles would fly below the level of airplanes, noting that there were still several regulatory issues to be considered. In answer to Ms. Dillon's question, Chairwoman Townsend indicated that some of the vehicles could be autonomous.

Ms. Senat initiated a discussion regarding carsharing programs. She noted that she and her husband had used one such program in West Palm Beach, while Vice Chairman Dadiomoff cited his associates' positive experiences with a similar program in Washington, D.C. Ms. Lathou remarked on the relative prevalence of such programs in cities around the country, and Chairwoman Townsend commented on the availability of the free, on-demand microtransit service Freebee operating in downtown Fort Pierce. Mr. Covelli reported that the Freebee program had provided approximately 7,000 trips during its first six months and would possibly be expanded thanks to an FDOT grant. Ms. Santos explained that the cost of carsharing services she used in New York depended upon various factors, like time of day and demand.

Chairwoman Townsend noted the County's initiative to require developers to include electric vehicle charging in their site plans.

8b. Transit Development Plan (TDP) Major Update Status Report: A presentation of the results of the TDP Major Update public involvement efforts and preliminary data collection.

Ms. Lathou explained the purpose of the Transit Development Plan (TDP) along with its components and parameters before outlining the activities comprising the Public Involvement Plan. She described the *Reimagine Transit* branding of the TDP, summarized the results of the baseline data analysis and review of existing services, and provided a progress report on the various public outreach efforts. Ms. Lathou presented the preliminary findings from the public input activities and concluded with an overview of the next steps in the process.

Mr. Covelli provided additional details regarding the public involvement process and the remaining steps in the development of the TDP Major Update.

Ms. Lathou thanked CareerSource Research Coast for participating in the TDP Major Update review committee.

9. Recommendations/Comments by Members – None.

10. Staff Comments – Ms. Lathou reminded the members to appoint alternates who could attend LCB meetings in the event of a member's absence.

Ms. Forbes clarified that a member's decision to abstain from a vote would effectively render that member absent for quorum purposes, meaning that a quorum could be lost if only the minimum number of members were in attendance. She indicated that there had been no need for Mr. Brown to abstain from the vote earlier in the meeting, but because he had, he would need to file a completed declarations form with the LCB secretary within 15 days for it to be included in the meeting minutes.

Ms. Lathou introduced Ms. Torres as the TPO's new Bicycle Pedestrian Program Manager.

Chairwoman Townsend reiterated the need for the members to designate alternates and then wished everyone a happy holiday season.

DRAFT

- 11. Comments from the Public** – None.

- 12. Next Meeting:** The next St. Lucie LCB meeting is a regular meeting and public hearing scheduled for 2:00 pm on February 21, 2024.

- 13. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Rachel Harrison
Recording Specialist

Commissioner Cathy Townsend
Chairwoman

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Noah Anthony Brown, hereby disclose that on November 29th, 20 23 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

South Florida Commuter Services (SFCS) is a program of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), specifically District 4 and District 6. As a member of the SFCS team, is it our directive not to formerly vote on any matters on behalf of ourselves or of FDOT, being there representative program of the department.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

December 13th, 2023
Date Filed


Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie LCB
Meeting Date:	February 21, 2024
Item Number:	7a
Item Title:	City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station Proposal
Item Origination:	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
UPWP Reference:	Task 3.2 – Transit Planning
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments to Staff
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station Proposal.

Attachments

- TPO Staff Report
- City of Fort Pierce Brightline Proposal Excerpts

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Marceia Lathou
Transit/ACES Program Manager

DATE: February 13, 2024

SUBJECT: City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station Proposal

BACKGROUND

Brightline is an intercity passenger rail route that operates in the United States. In Florida, Brightline connects Miami with Orlando. The closest Brightline stop to St. Lucie County is in West Palm Beach. In a settlement agreement resulting from a Martin County lawsuit, Brightline agreed to build a Brightline station on the Treasure Coast, either in Martin County or in St. Lucie County.

In 2023, Brightline released a Request for Proposals for the design of a Treasure Coast station. The City of Fort Pierce submitted a proposal for a station in downtown Fort Pierce. The St. Lucie TPO provided funding and project support for the City of Fort Pierce proposal.

ANALYSIS

The City of Fort Pierce Brightline station proposal highlights the City's commitment to fostering connectivity, economic growth, and community development for all St. Lucie County residents and visitors. The conceptual design of the proposed Brightline station was developed by Zyscovich, the architectural firm that designed Brightline's Boca Raton, Aventura, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Miami stations.

Marlin Engineering, one of the TPO's General Planning consultants, provided project oversight for the proposal. The following tasks were included:

-
- Documentation of stakeholder support
 - Conceptual station area plans with renderings for a preferred alternative
 - Architectural concepts, including siting options and building massing, for a passenger rail station/mobility hub suitable for Brightline and potential other rail providers including Amtrak and Tri-Rail
 - Graphic renderings for presentation purposes at meetings and submittals

A representative from Marlin Engineering will present the City of Fort Pierce Brightline station proposal at the LCB meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the City of Fort Pierce Brightline Station Proposal.



FORT PIERCE: **PERFECTLY** **POSITIONED FOR** **BRIGHTLINE**

TREASURE COAST STATION LOCATION
PROJECT NO. 2023-TC

DECEMBER 22, 2023





SITE ACCESS

Locally, the station is well-connected with multiple access points. There are three (3) points of access to the station, two (2) points from South 2nd Street via Atlantic Avenue and Boston Avenue in the east/west direction and a third access point from Orange Avenue from north to south. These entry points will provide excellent access to the station. The site circulation has been designed to accommodate all types of ground transportation. There is a pickup and drop off traffic circle for rideshare and the local bus/trolley shelter are both located directly at the main entrance to the station. The site design also includes EV charging stations at parking stalls, EV

bicycle-share racks, and EV scooter stations near the main entrance of the station.

Overall, this site offers a high level of accessibility both regionally, with its proximity to major transportation routes, and locally, with multiple access points and pedestrian-friendly features.





Atlantic Avenue

Sunrise Theatre

Garage

City Hall

Orange Avenue

Boston Ave Site

US-1

SERVICE

DROP-OFF

PROPOSED STATION

ENTRY

platform

Fort Pierce Station Area and Platform Design

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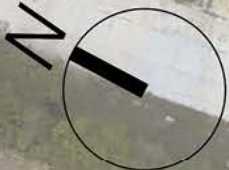
S 2nd Street

Boston Avenue

County Garage

platform

Citrus Avenue



1" = 100'

December 19, 2023

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OVERALL SITE PLAN

The proposed Brightline (Fort Pierce) Station will be located directly adjacent to FEC Right of Way in the heart of Downtown Fort Pierce on South Depot Drive between Orange Avenue and Citrus Avenue overpass. The site is comprised of four (4) parcels totaling 2.37 acres.





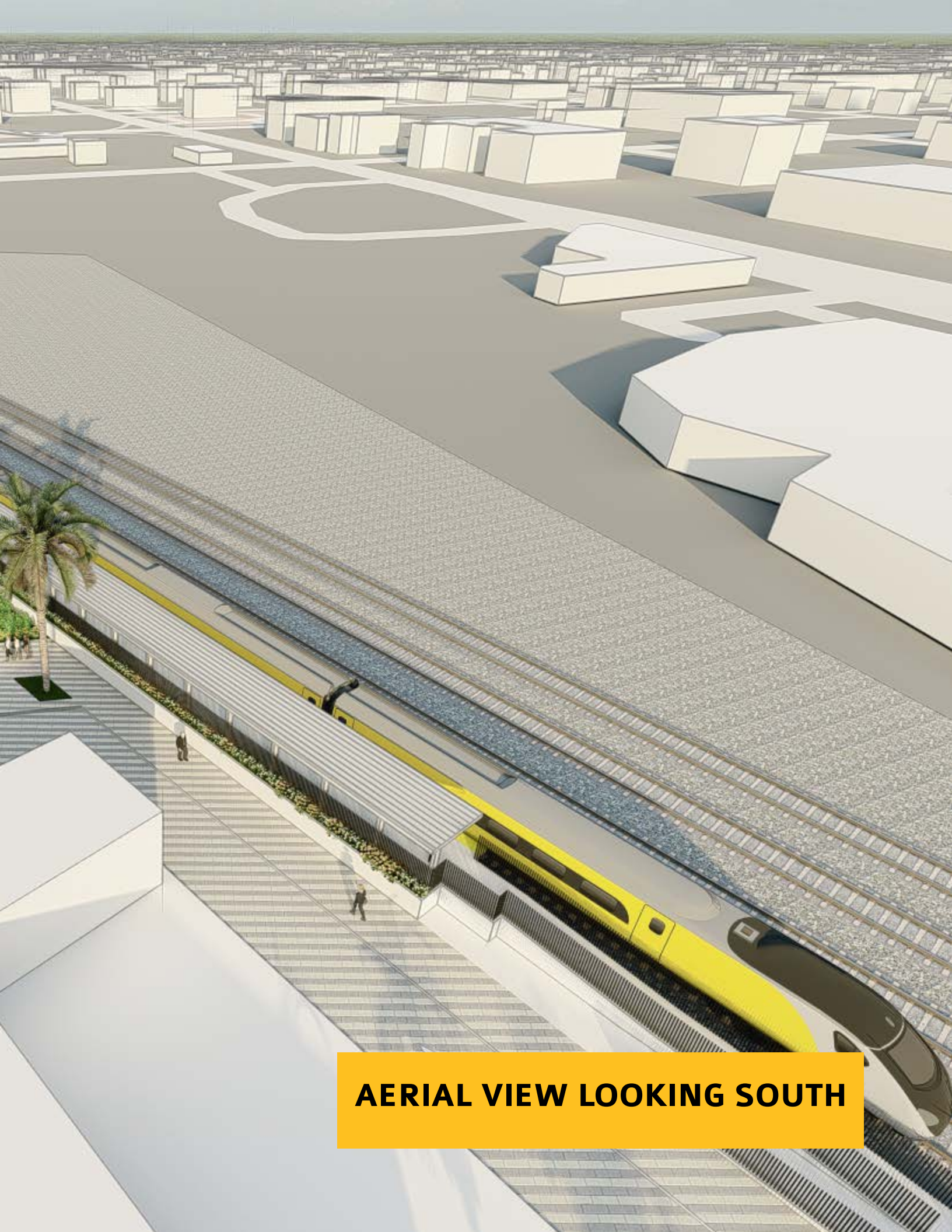
STATION ENTRY





**STATION & EXPANDED PARKING
GARAGE ON BOSTON AVENUE**





AERIAL VIEW LOOKING SOUTH



S Depot Drive



PLATFORM AND CANOPY

The platform, located directly on the FEC Right of Way, is elevated 4 feet above the top of rail and is 568 feet long by 15' to 18' wide for a total of 9,400 Square Feet with egress ramps at both the north and south end. A metal canopy system will be provided along the entire length of the platform for weather protection. The station building is elevated to meet the required platform height, so a grand staircase and two (2) ADA ramps will be provided for access to a plaza at the Station's main entrance.



**ACCESS FROM ORANGE
AVENUE PEDESTRIAN
PROMENADE**







**AERIAL VIEW ALONG SUNRISE
THEATRE/ATLANTIC AVENUE**



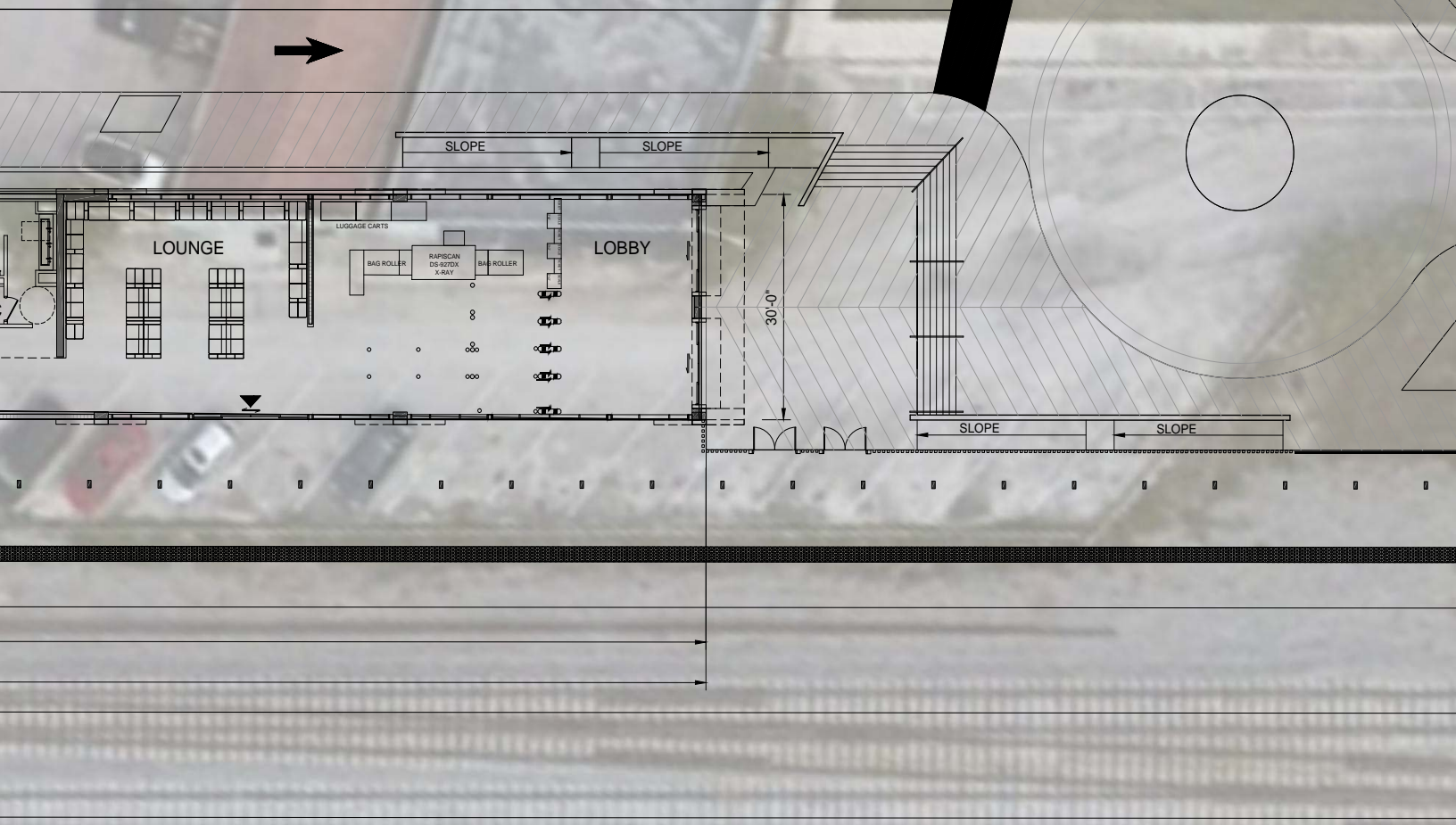


**STATION, SURFACE
PARKING, EV CHARGING**





STATION WAITING AREA

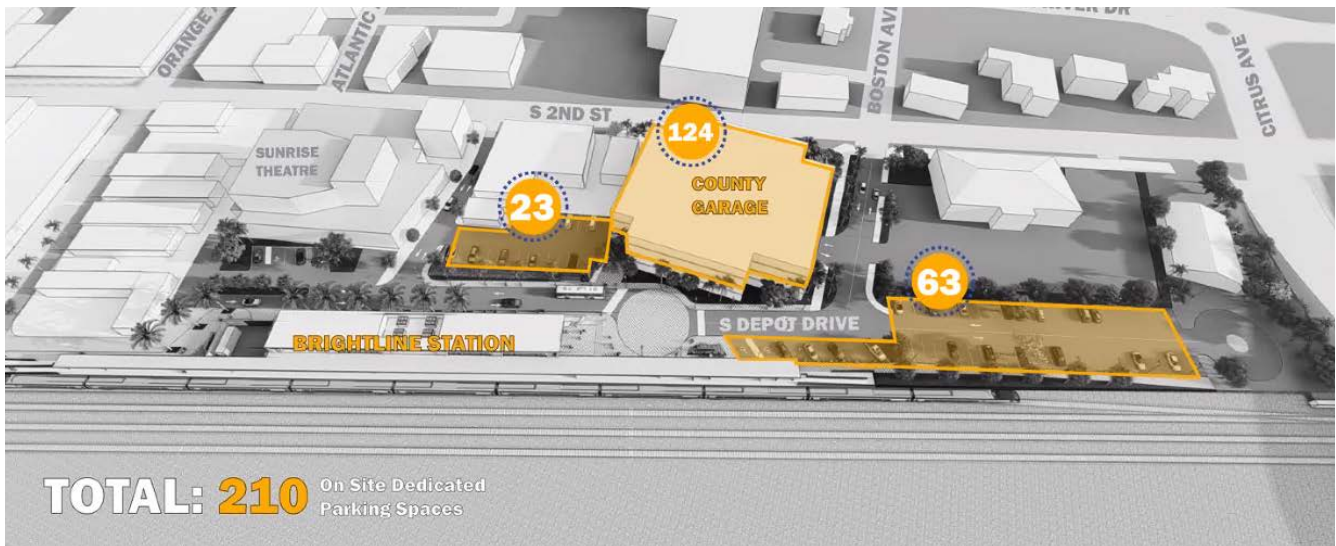




PARKING

The Fort Pierce Brightline Station site plan will exceed the Request for Proposals' criteria to accommodate 200 parking spaces. Our proposed site plan shows a total of 210 parking spaces on-site which will be dedicated for Brightline passengers, employees and Brightline's shared-use vehicles once the station opens. The plan, as depicted below, includes a convenient and simple access and circulation plan with parking located just steps away from the station.

The site plan is multimodal providing for local bus/trolley stop with a shelter, pedestrian connections to 2nd Street and a pedestrian plaza and paseo connection to Orange Avenue. The plan will be state-of-the-art providing for electric charging stations, micro-mobility docking stations and curbside rideshare pick-up drop-off area.





AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie LCB
Meeting Date:	February 21, 2024
Item Number:	7b
Item Title:	Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand Update
Item Origination:	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
UPWP Reference:	Task 3.2 – Transit Planning
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments to Staff
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand service.

Attachment

- TPO Staff Report

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Marceia Lathou
Transit/ACES Program Manager

DATE: February 13, 2024

SUBJECT: **Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand Update**

BACKGROUND

Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand is a microtransit service providing curb-to-curb public transportation often described as a “public Uber”. One of the differences between On Demand and private services like Uber/Lyft is that On Demand is a shared ride service using vans instead of passenger cars. Another difference is that Uber/Lyft require a smartphone app whereas On Demand can be accessed by either a smartphone app or by calling the ART call center. Yet another difference is that On Demand is fare free.

The On Demand service is currently operated in two zones: the southwestern portion of Port St. Lucie (South Zone) and the St. Lucie West/Torino Area (North Zone). On Demand vans are ADA compliant and can pick up passengers anywhere within these two zones. Riders can travel from one zone to another by connecting at one of several transfer points.

ANALYSIS

On Demand is experiencing increased ridership. The South Zone launched in 2019. The North Zone was added in 2023. A representative from ART will describe the On Demand system and provide recent ridership milestones.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the Area Regional Transit (ART) On Demand service.



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie LCB
Meeting Date:	February 21, 2024
Item Number:	7c
Item Title:	2023 Public Participation Plan (PPP) Annual Evaluation
Item Origination:	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Federal and State requirements
UPWP Reference:	Task 5.1 - Public Participation, Education & Outreach
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments to Staff.
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the 2023 PPP Annual Evaluation.

Attachments

- TPO Staff Report
- Draft 2023 PPP Annual Evaluation

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Marceia Lathou
Transit/ACES Program Manager

DATE: February 13, 2024

SUBJECT: 2023 Public Participation Plan (PPP) Annual Evaluation

BACKGROUND

The TPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes substantial public involvement efforts within a continuous and ongoing task which includes compliance with all Title VI/Environmental Justice and nondiscrimination requirements. These efforts are advanced through the TPO's PPP. Annual evaluations of the PPP quantify the effectiveness in meeting or implementing the PPP outreach strategies.

A major update to the PPP was adopted by the TPO Board in February 2020. A 2020 evaluation of the PPP was conducted which initially served as the base year for subsequent annual evaluations.

ANALYSIS

Major outreach efforts during 2023 were conducted during the development of the Sustainable Transportation Plan, Transit Development Plan Major Update, Port St. Lucie-West Palm Beach bus survey, and UPWP Call for Planning Projects. The attached 2023 PPP Evaluation demonstrates the effectiveness of outreach for these projects and other efforts.

The PPP Evaluation uses 2020, 2021, and 2022 data as baselines, where applicable. For instance, if in 2021, a baseline 2020 target was met then the 2021 data became the new baseline. If in 2021 or 2022, a baseline 2020 target was not met, then the 2020 data remained the baseline. Similarly, if in 2021 or 2022, baseline targets were met, then 2021 or 2022 became the new baselines.

It should be noted that the 2020 baseline data may have been skewed by the major public participation efforts of the SmartMoves 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Nevertheless, public participation in 2023 exceeded previous years efforts in numerous categories. Highlights of the 2023 PPP Evaluation include:

- 383% increase, online survey engagements (5% target)
- 349% increase, social media engagements (5% target)
- 75% increase, interactions at in-person events hosted by other organizations (5% target)
- 15% increase, in-person interactions at TPO galleries/kiosks (5% target)
- 12% increase, eblast opens (5% target)
- 37% increase, online community engagement dashboard visitors (5% target)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the 2023 PPP Annual Evaluation.

**Public Participation Plan
2023 Annual Evaluation**

Environmental Justice/Title VI Participation

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Baseline Performance Measures*	2023 Targets	2023 Actual	2023 % Change
Online Activities	Electronic Tracking	161 engagements from targeted zip codes with significant EJ/Title VI populations****	5% increase	No tracking available	N/A
In-Person Activities	Manual Tracking	116/502 (23%) EJ/Title VI attendees***	5% increase	95/434 (22%)	4% decrease

Online Activities

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Baseline Performance Measures	2023 Targets	2023 Actual	2023 % Change
Community Engagement Dashboard	Electronic Tracking	51 visitors***	5% increase	70 visitors	37% increase
Eblasts	Electronic Tracking	261 subscribers; 33% opens; 7 eblasts****	5% increase	231 recipients; 37% opens; 4 eblasts	12% increase
Email	Electronic Tracking	26****	5% increase	12	53% decrease
Interactive Maps	Electronic Tracking	625 visitors; 136 comments**	5% increase	397 visitors, 95 total survey responses for EV Charge & Micro-Mobility surveys	37% decrease
Online Surveys	Electronic Tracking	153 engagements****	5% increase	95 Beep Survey, PSLX 503, TDP 136, UPWP 5 responses	383% increase

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Baseline Performance Measures	2023 Targets	2023 Actual	2023 % Change
Social Media	Facebook Twitter YouTube	7,483 Facebook reached, 468 engaged, 5 boosted posts, 15 Twitter likes ****	5% increase	33,581 reached, 838 engaged, 502 comments, 5 Twitter likes	349% increase
Virtual Workshop	Electronic Tracking	29 attendees**	5% increase	Not applicable	N/A
Website	Electronic Tracking	16,000 page views 13,332 unique page views.***	5% increase	Analytics no longer tracks unique page views, tracks new visitors. 15,346 page views, 4,380 new visitors	4% decrease

In-Person Activities

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Baseline Performance Measures	2023 Targets	2023 Actual	2023 % Change
Mail, Telephone, In-Person	Manual Tracking	206 inquiries***	5% increase	124	40% decrease
Events	Manual Tracking	416 interactions****	5% increase	728	75% increase
Surveys	Completed Surveys	297 completed surveys****	5% increase	197	34% decrease
Gallery & Kiosks	Attendance Records, Sign-in Sheets	104 public comments****	5% increase	120	15% increase

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Baseline Performance Measures	2023 Targets	2023 Actual	2023 % Change
Public events/ presentations	Attendance Records, Meeting Summaries, Sign-in Sheets	207 attendees***	Maintain	100	52% decrease
Public Meetings	Attendance Records, Meeting Summaries, Sign-in Sheets	482 attendees***	5% increase	434	10% decrease
Press Releases	Manual Tracking	1 press release**	Not applicable	2	Not applicable
Radio & Television	Manual Tracking	3 shows/interviews**	Not applicable	1	Not applicable
Workshops, Forums, Open Houses	Attendance Records, Meeting Summaries, Sign-in Sheets	140 attendees**	5% increase	54	61% decrease

* If in 2021 a target for a particular activity category was met, then 2021 became the new baseline year. If in 2021 a target for a particular activity category was not met, the performance metrics from 2020 remained the baseline for calculating the 2022 metrics.

** 2020 Baseline Measure

*** 2021 Baseline Measure

**** 2022 Baseline Measure

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	St. Lucie LCB
Meeting Date:	February 21, 2024
Item Number:	7d
Item Title:	Community Profiles Update
Item Origination:	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Federal Title VI Requirements
UPWP Reference:	Task 6.1: Public Involvement
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments to Staff.
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the Community Profiles Update.

Attachments

- TPO Staff Report
- Community Profiles Maps

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Lucie Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Yi Ding
Transportation Systems Manager

DATE: February 13, 2024

SUBJECT: Community Profiles Update

BACKGROUND

A Federal Title VI requirement for metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) is to ensure traditionally underserved communities are provided with various opportunities to meaningfully engage in the transportation planning process. In addition, it is required that there is not a significant disparity of impacts in accessibility to and delivery of transportation facilities/services in a MPO area.

Community Profiles of the TPO area were initially developed in 2013. The FY 2022/23 - FY2023/24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes an update of the Community Profiles.

ANALYSIS

The attached map series was developed for the St. Lucie TPO area to identify disadvantaged communities and ensure these populations are provided with various opportunities to meaningfully engage in the transportation planning process and that there is not a significant disparity of impacts in accessibility to and delivery of transportation facilities/services.

Census 2020 data and American Community Survey 2018-2022 data were utilized in the Geographic Information System (GIS) to identify Census Block Groups where one or more of the following thresholds (1.5 times of the County

average) was met. Thresholds are set based on industry standards, previous studies, and a certain amount of discretion. Generally, larger multipliers result in smaller areas selected. Setting a threshold of 1.5 times the County average ensured the selected areas had statistical significance and resulted in a reasonable number of block groups selected.

Variables	County Average	1.5x Threshold
% minority population	46.2%	69%
% limited English proficiency (LEP) population	7.3%	11%
% population with incomes below poverty line	12.5%	19%
% population 20-64 years old with disabilities	11.5%	17%
% households without a vehicle	4.5%	7%
% senior (65+) population	24.4%	37%

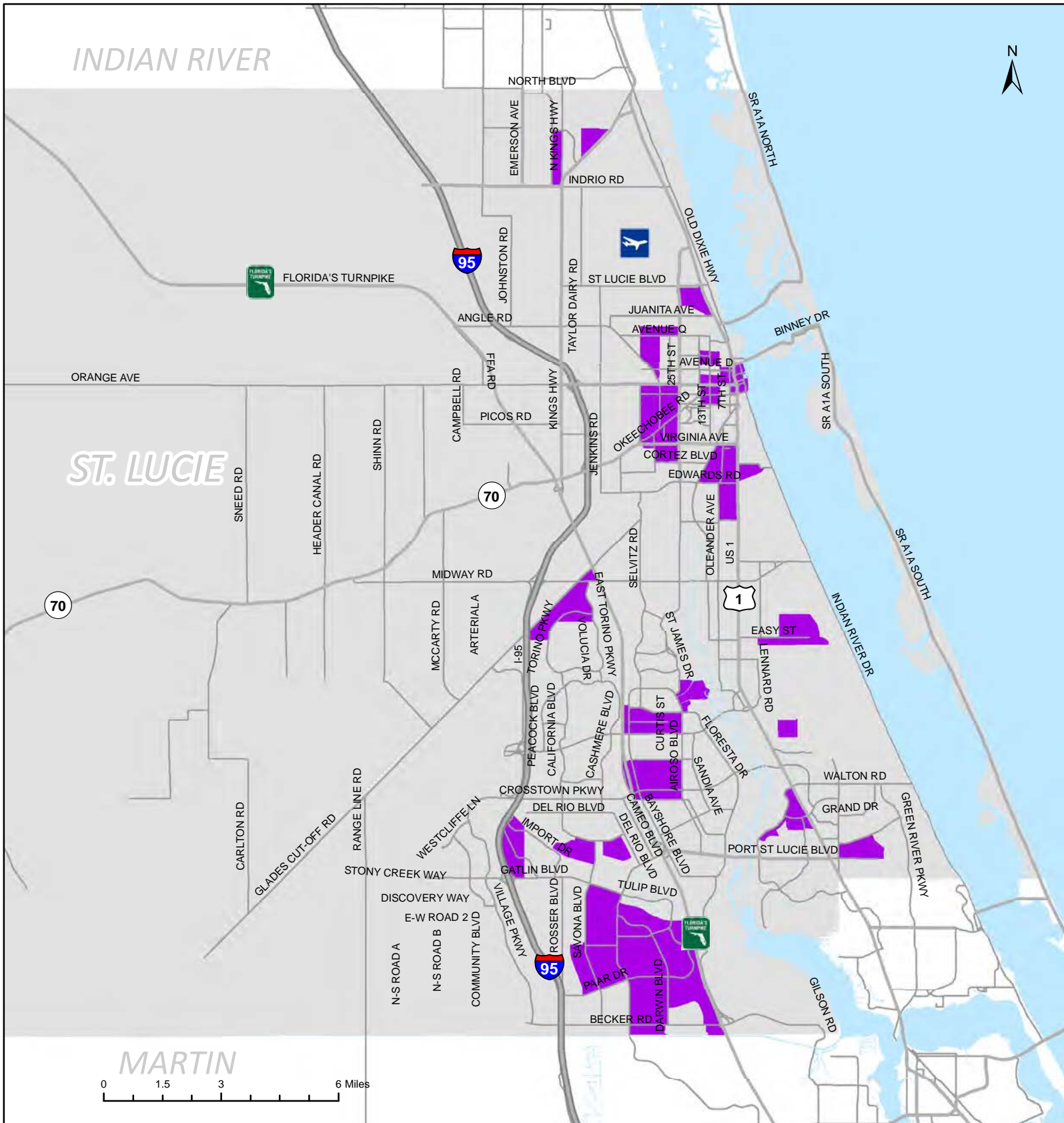
The above six layers were overlain to determine the disadvantaged score for each Census Block Group as depicted on the attached Disadvantaged Communities map.

By overlaying proposed projects from the TPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) on the map of disadvantaged communities, it may be determined if significant disparities of impacts in accessibility to and delivery of transportation facilities/services exist among these communities. In addition, the maps allow future outreach efforts to be tailored to specific communities to optimize the results of these efforts and to obtain relevant public input.


RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that comments be provided regarding the Community Profiles Update.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Population

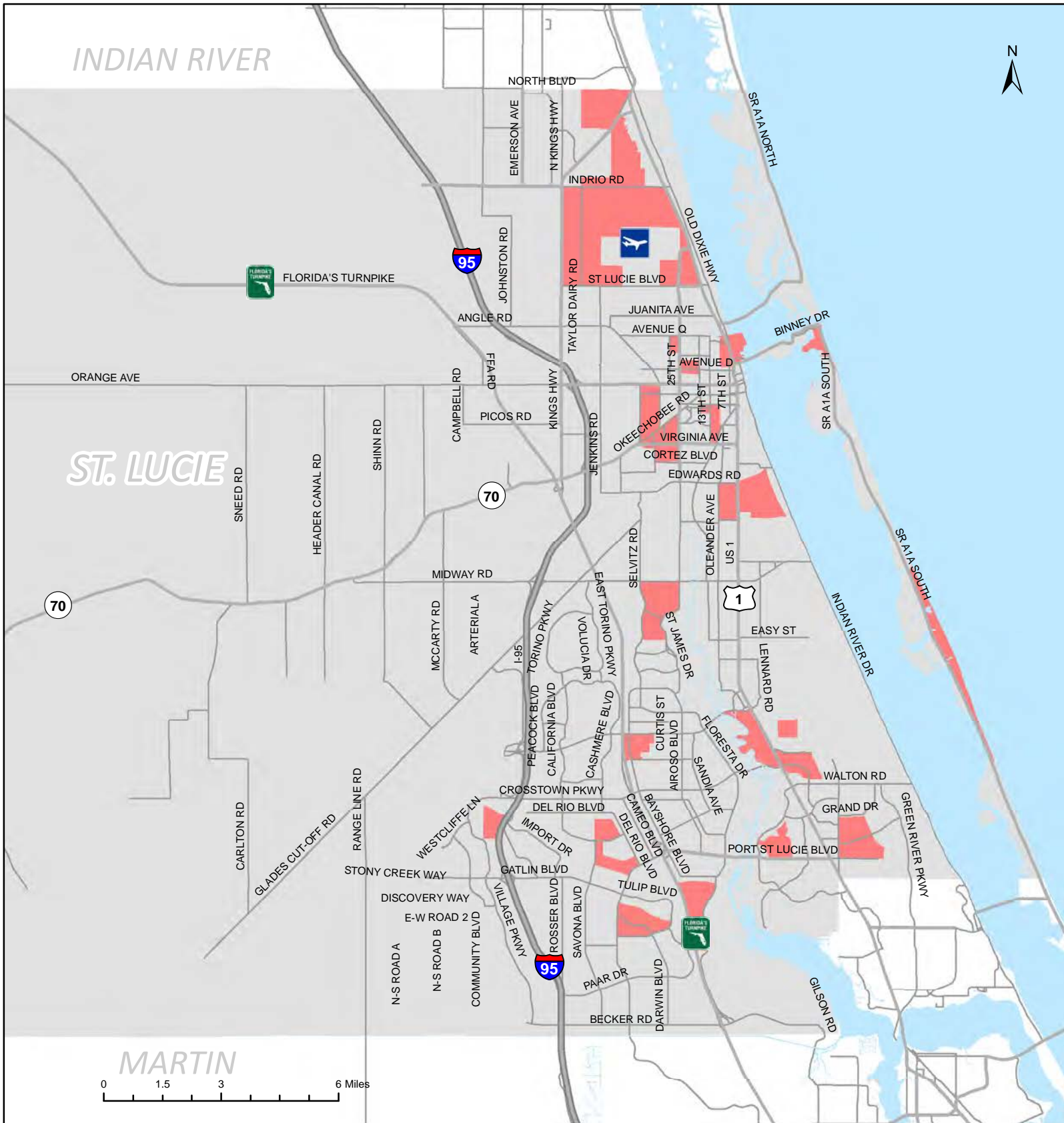



St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization

 Percentage of "LEP Population" meet the threshold of 10.9%

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates (2018-2022)

Population 20-64 Years with Disabilities



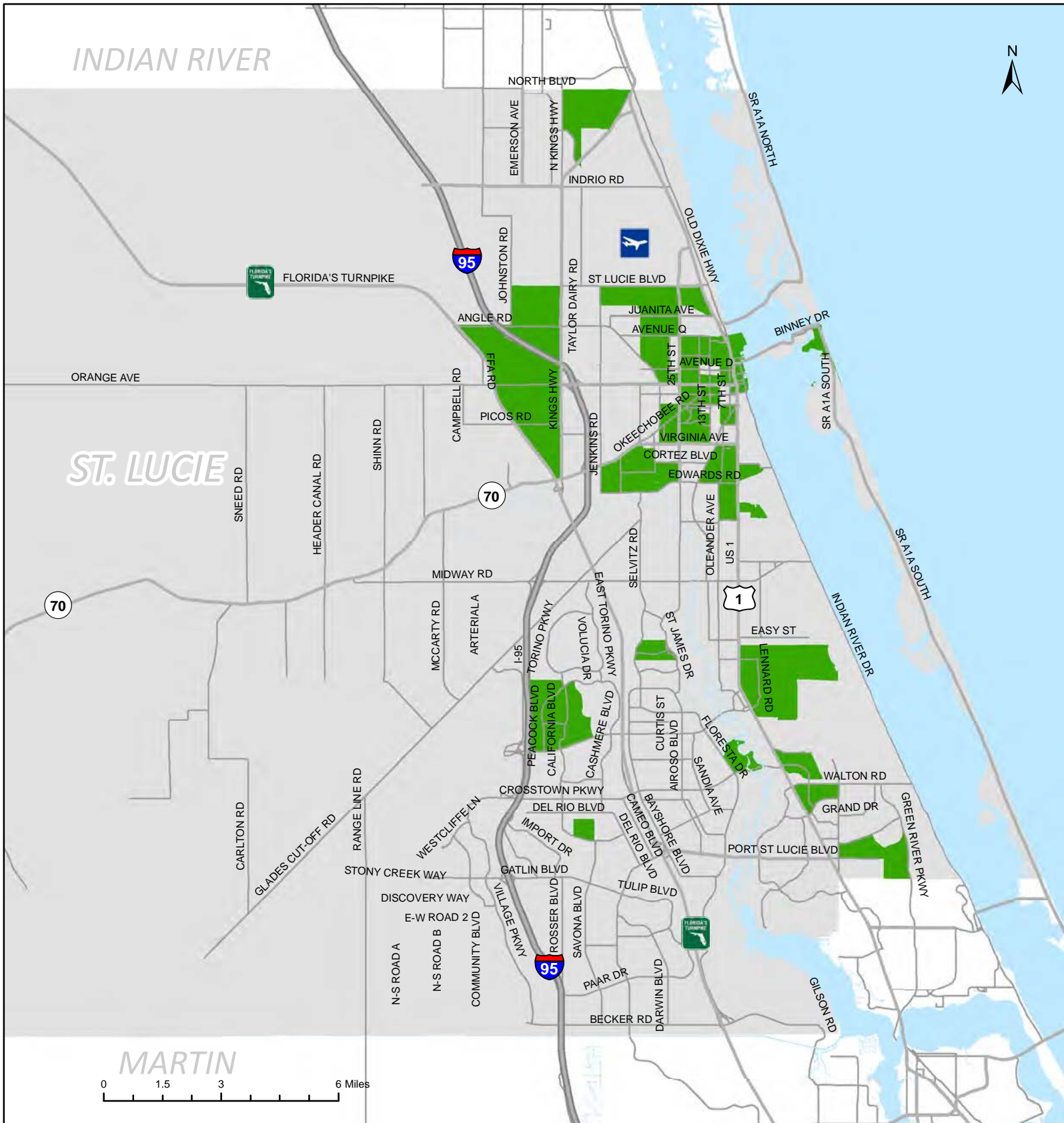
 Percentage of "Population with Disabilities" meet the threshold of 17.3%

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates (2018-2022)




Transportation
St. Lucie Planning
Organization

Households without Vehicle

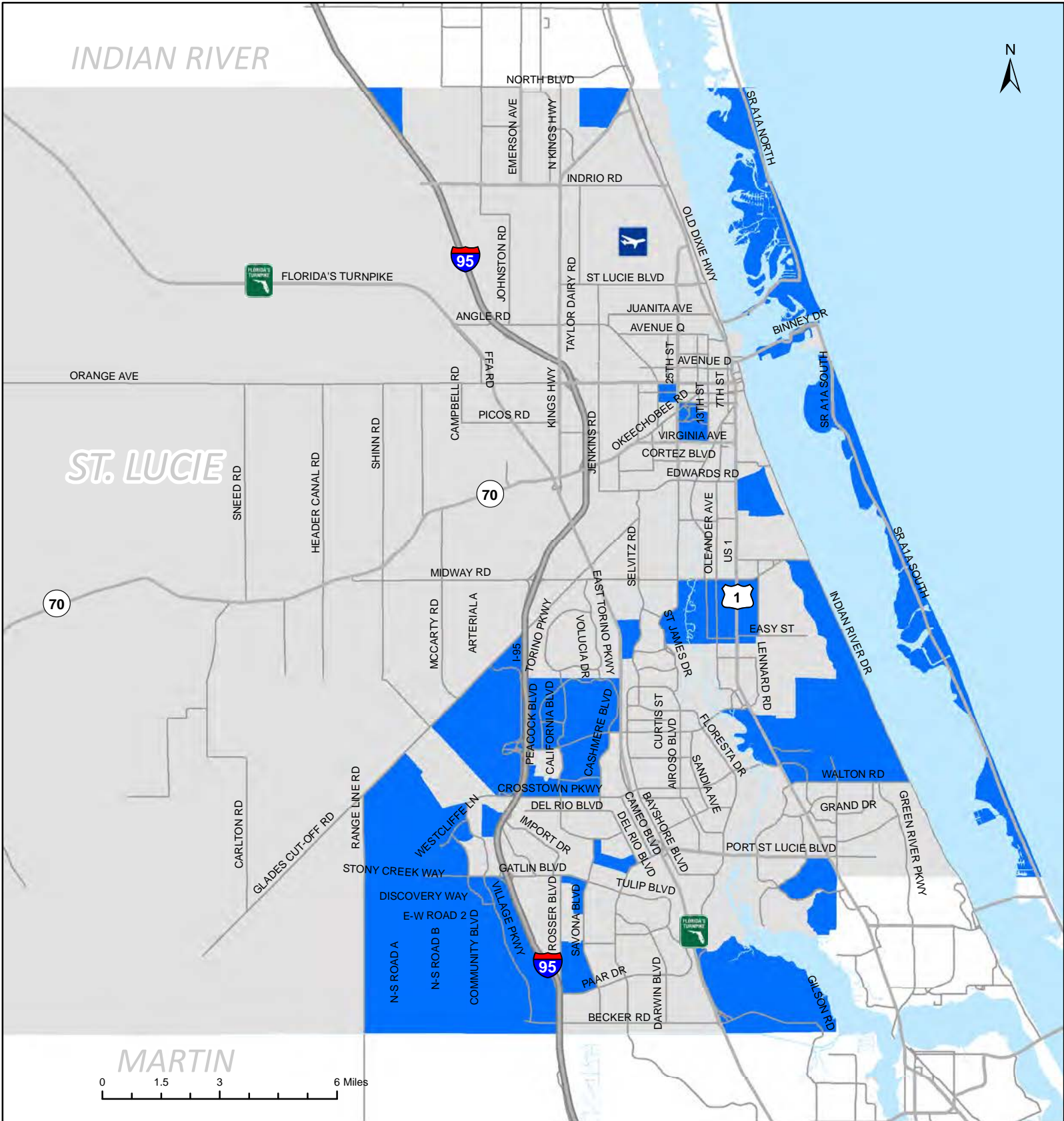



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 Percentage of "Household without Vehicle" meet the threshold of 6.8%

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates (2018-2022)

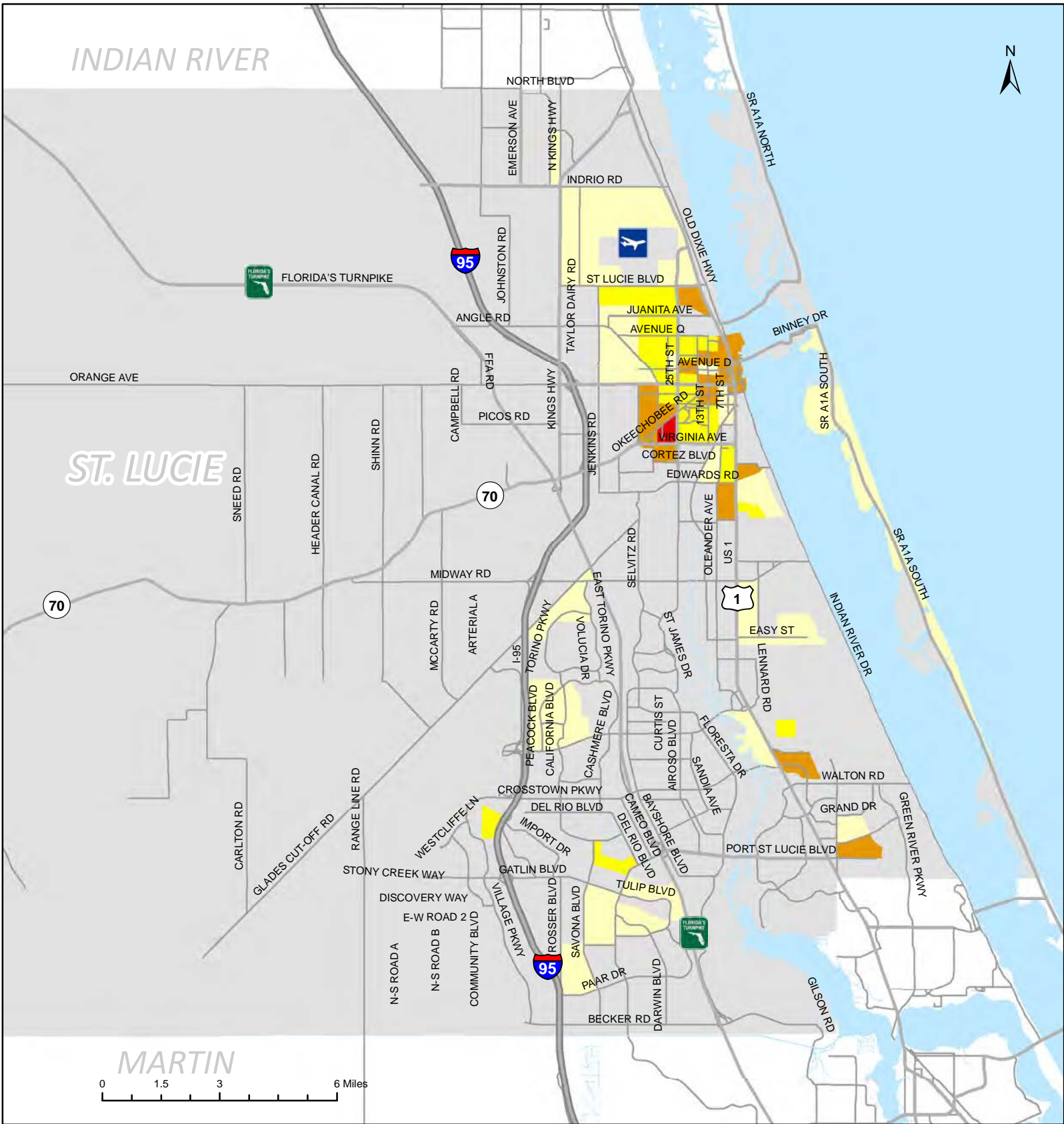
Senior Population (65 years and older)



Percentage of "Senior Population" meet the threshold of 36.6%

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates (2018-2022)

Disadvantaged Communities



Disadvantaged Score



Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates (2018-2022)

ST. LUCIE LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED (LCB)

Public Hearing/Training Workshop

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time: 2:00 pm; immediately following the LCB Regular Meeting

Location: St. Lucie TPO
Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Port St. Lucie, Florida

Participation/Accessibility

Participation in Person: Public comments may be provided in person at the meeting. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the St. Lucie TPO 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.

Participation by Webconference: Using a computer or smartphone, register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/108825699324550491>. After the registration is completed, a confirmation will be emailed containing instructions for joining the webconference. Public comments may be provided through the webconference chatbox during the meeting.

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 1:00 pm on February 21, 2024.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Opening Public Comment
4. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (FCTD)/Local Coordinating Board (LCB)

TPO staff will present an overview of the FCTD and LCB.

5. Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)/Coordinated Transportation

The Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) will present an overview of the coordinated transportation system.

6. South Florida Commuter Services (SFCS)

A representative from SFCS will present an overview of shared-ride options for employment transportation.

7. Voting Conflicts of Interest

A representative from the St. Lucie County Attorney's Office will present an overview regarding the appropriate separation between the roles of persons who are both committee members and private citizens.

8. Closing Public Comment

9. 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 welcomed 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, 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 LCB 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.

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

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