

# Public Participation Plan (PPP)

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#### 1.0 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

The St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is responsible for short and long-range transportation planning for all of St. Lucie County. The TPO's governing body, the TPO Board, is comprised of elected officials and a representative of the public transit agency. The TPO is the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for planning and prioritizing funding for the development of sidewalks, roadways, bridges, and bicycle facilities for the TPO area depicted on the map in Appendix A.



The TPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) represents the process the TPO uses to help ensure the greatest degree of public input, involvement, and education when considering transportation priorities and funding. Methods of public outreach are continually evolving. With the broad adoption of social media, community engagement occurs both formally and informally, and online strategies offer opportunities to reach larger, more diverse audiences. Consequently, the goals and strategies for the TPO's PPP have evolved and will be achieved by weaving online efforts with face-to-face engagement. A list of acronyms is included in Appendix B.

#### 1.2 Public Participation Plan Requirements

Federal requirements set forth in 23 CFR 450.316 outline specific procedures for conducting transportation planning in an open process. The



requirements are summarized as follows along with how the TPO will comply with these federal requirements on a continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative basis with the details provided in the referenced sections of this PPP:

Provide adequate public notice of public participation activities and time for public review and comments at key decision points, including a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Input is sought from all interested parties (Section 4). Input may be sought through regular TPO Board and advisory committee meetings, surveys, focus groups, and any other effective means of communication with the public. Notices for meetings are posted at the site of the meeting and on the TPO's website (Section 3). Major transportation documents, as well as information on current events and studies, are made available on the TPO's website for review at key decision points (Section 5.1).

Provide timely notice and reasonable access to information about transportation issues and processes.

Public meetings are held for review and consideration of the LRTP and the TIP at key decision points (Section 5.1), and notices for them are posted generally one week prior to the meetings. Notices also are posted at the site of the meeting and on the TPO's website (Section 3). The LRTP process also uses public open houses/input sessions, with notices of times and locations published and posted. The LRTP development uses focus groups which include interested members of the public (Sections 5.1 and 7).

> Employ visualization techniques to describe LRTPs and TIPs.

Numerous graphs, charts, maps, and photographs are used in the LRTP and TIP to enhance understanding of the information being presented. The TPO also uses a Geographic Information System (GIS) for analysis and presentation of information (Sections 5.1 and 7).

Make public information (technical information and meeting notices) available in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web.



Meeting notices and agendas, as well as major documents and information on current projects and studies, are available on the TPO's website (Sections 3, 5.1, and 7).

➤ Hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times.

TPO Board, LCB, and TPO advisory committee meetings are held at various times for convenience at the TPO Office at 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida, which is accessible by multiple forms of transportation including transit (Section 3). Public open houses and input sessions are held at accessible locations on public transit routes and at different times of day to attract a broader audience (Section 3.8 and 7).

Demonstrate explicit consideration and response to public input received during the development of the LRTP and TIP.

Comments received on either document are distributed to and discussed by the TPO Board and advisory committees at key decision points (Section 5.1). Comments are responded to and documented (Section 5.2).

Seek out and consider the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services.

Notices of meetings are sent to organizations serving these populations (Section 4.3). Sight, reading, and language assistance will be provided at public input sessions, open houses, and public hearings for individuals who request it at least 48 hours in advance (Section 5.1).

Provide an additional opportunity for public comment, if the final LRTP or TIP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the TPO and raises new material issues that interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts.

In cases of major changes to the either of the documents, the TPO will allow for additional time for the public to view said changes and offer comments (Section 5.2).



➤ Coordinate with the statewide transportation planning public involvement and consultation processes.

The TPO's public participation processes shall be coordinated with the Statewide public participation processes wherever possible to enhance public consideration of the issues, plans, and programs and reduce redundancies and costs (Section 7).

Periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process.

The PPP is reviewed annually and updated as needed (Section 8).

Minimum public comment period of 45 days before the public participation process is initially adopted or revised.

The TPO provides the public at least 45 days to comment on the PPP adoption or revisions (Section 5.1).

Coordinate with agencies involved in tourism and natural disaster risk reduction.

The TPO while developing the LRTP, TIP and PPP will consult at key decision points with the agencies affected by transportation. This includes agencies associated economic development, tourism, natural disaster risk reduction, freight movements, airport, and environmental protection operations (Sections 4 and 5.1).

The above procedures are reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration during certification reviews for the St. Lucie TPO to ensure that full and open access is provided throughout the TPO decision-making process.

#### 1.3 Development of the Public Participation Plan

The PPP was developed in cooperation with the member agencies of the TPO (Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County, St. Lucie County School District, and Community Transit). In addition, the PPP was developed in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) as well as the general public. The PPP is approved by the TPO Board and the appropriate state and federal agencies.



The TPO used the principles of nondiscrimination and equity in the preparation of the PPP and is responsive to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as well as the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The principles of nondiscrimination and equity, also known as environmental justice, are as follows:

- ➤ To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations
- ➤ To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process
- ➤ To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations

The draft PPP was made available for public review through the TPO website, the TPO advisory committees, an open public comment period, social media, and other means. This comment period was posted on the TPO web site (www.stlucietpo.org). All notices mentioned when and where copies of the draft documents were available for viewing and also mentioned how and where to send comments. As an example of the public input received during the development of the PPP, the results of a PPP survey conducted during its development are provided in Appendix C.





In addition, TPO staff coordinated with local government media specialists to continue taping and airing TPO meetings, where the PPP was discussed and considered, on local government and public access television channels. TPO meeting broadcasts are available for viewing at the TPO website and are closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.



Once the public review period ended, the staff reviewed all public comments. All public comments and staff recommendations were presented to the TPO Board for review and appropriate action. This meeting of the TPO Board adhered to the meeting format identified for TPO Board meetings in Section 4.

# 2.0 TPO Roles and Responsibilities

An effective public involvement process is important for ensuring successful implementation of TPO plans, not the least of which is eliminating transportation projects with fatal flaws due to lack of community support or significant environmental impacts, and for meeting Federal and State requirements. The following sections describe the function of the St. Lucie TPO so that the public can better understand the transportation planning process.

The St. Lucie TPO is a metropolitan planning organization (MPO), an association of local agencies that coordinate transportation planning and development activities within a metropolitan area. The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962 created the Federal requirement for urban transportation planning largely in response to the construction of the Interstate Highway System and the planning of routes through and around urban areas. The Act required that transportation projects in urbanized areas with populations of 50,000 or more be based on a continuing, comprehensive, urban transportation planning process undertaken cooperatively by the states and local governments.



Ensuring public input is one of the key reasons the federal government established the metropolitan transportation planning process. The process must provide for adequate, timely public notices; visualization techniques; information made available in electronic formats; meetings held at convenient and accessible locations and times; and explicit consideration and response granted to public input received.

The St. Lucie TPO is the designated MPO serving the City of Fort Pierce, City of Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie Village and unincorporated areas of St. Lucie County. The TPO is responsible for ensuring that funding allocated to transportation projects and programs is based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive planning process. Public involvement is an important component of this process.

The TPO Board is the decision-making body for the TPO. Decisions are made based on recommendations from the general public, interested



parties, and the TPO's advisory committees, some of which are open to membership from the general public.

The day-to-day operations of the TPO are conducted by a staff of transportation planners and other professionals that provide technical assistance and services on a wide variety of issues facing the TPO area.



The staff collects, analyzes, and evaluates demographic, land use, and transportation data to gain better а understanding of the transportation needs of the Staff prepares materials for use at TPO Board and committee meetings and administers planning, public involvement and Environmental **Justice** processes for the TPO. In addition, staff members

represent the TPO at other meetings of importance to planning activities within the region.



#### 3.0 TPO Boards and Committees

Prior to review and action by the TPO Board, all plans, programs, and major actions are subject to review and comment by the following standing committees: the Technical Advisory Committee, the Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The TPO also serves as the planning agency for the Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

Not every meeting conducted by the St. Lucie TPO will contain policy actions. Nevertheless, the public will be afforded opportunities to participate regardless of the topic of discussion. This section further describes the TPO Board and committees and details these opportunities and outlines the format of the various board and committee meetings conducted by the TPO.

The public's participation on committees is welcomed and encouraged. To participate on a TPO advisory committee or the LCB, an application must be completed and submitted to the TPO for consideration by the TPO Board. The application for serving on a TPO advisory committee or the LCB can be found in Appendix D.

#### 3.1 TPO Board

The TPO is governed by a board, which is composed of elected officials from the three municipalities and representatives from the St. Lucie School Board and the public transportation provider. There are twelve (12) voting members on the TPO Board:

- (4) County Commissioners
- (4) City of Port St. Lucie Councilmembers
- (2) City of Fort Pierce Commissioners
- (1) St. Lucie County School Board Member
- (1) Public Transportation Member

When: Bimonthly Where: TPO Offices

Participate: The meeting will begin with an opportunity for all persons

to address the Board.

Notification: 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)



7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-mail notice to member government public information

officers.

#### 3.2 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TPO has established a broad-based TAC for the purpose of advising and providing technical expertise as part of the decision-making process. The TAC represents all modes of transportation as well as various levels of government including county and city transportation and land use agencies and state agencies.

When: Bimonthly Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meeting will begin with an opportunity for all persons

to address the Committee.

Notification 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)

7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to member government public information

officers.

#### 3.3 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

The CAC facilitates a broad range of public involvement in the transportation planning process. The CAC provides community reaction to planning proposals, comments with respect to the concerns of various segments of the population, and recommends projects and funding allocations for consideration. The CAC plays a significant role in implementing public involvement activities in the planning process. Membership on the CAC is open to the general public.

When: Bimonthly Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meeting will begin with an opportunity for all persons

to address the Committee.

Notification 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)

7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to member government public information

officers.



#### 3.4 Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

The BPAC provides recommendations regarding bicycle and pedestrian planning and programming activities and coordinates with local and state agencies. Membership on the BPAC is open to the general public.

When: Bimonthly Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meeting will begin with an opportunity for all persons

to address the Committee.

Notification 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)

7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to member government public information

officers.

# 3.5 Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB)

The LCB implements the duties of the Florida Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) service delivery program to meet the public transportation needs of persons with physical and economic challenges. A member of the TPO Board serves as the LCB chair. Membership on the LCB is open to the general public.

When: Quarterly Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meetings begin and end with opportunities for all

persons to address the Board.

Notification 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)

7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to member government public information

officers.

# 3.6 Treasure Coast Corridor Management Entity (TCCME) Meetings

The TCCME explores available opportunities for enhancing the Treasure Coast corridor of the Florida Scenic Highway. The members of the TCCME include representatives from the local jurisdictions and State and local agencies. Membership on the TCCME is open to the general public.



When: Quarterly Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meetings begin with opportunities for all persons to

address the Committee.

Notification 1 month prior: Post date and time to TPO website

(www.stlucietpo.org)

7 days prior: Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to local government public information

officers.

#### 3.7 Emergency Meetings

Meetings of the TPO Board and Committees scheduled on shorter than usual notice to take action on matters critical to the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

When: As needed in emergencies

Where: TPO Offices

Participation: The meeting will begin with an opportunity for all persons

to address the Board.

Notification: As soon as possible prior to the meeting.

Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website. E-Mail notice to member government public information

officers.

#### 3.8 Community Workshops

A workshop is a structured set of activities for groups of participants who work together to explore a problem and its solutions. Participants can be users, potential users, or other types of interested parties. These workshops are conducted during the development of the TPO's plans and programs, such as the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program.

When: Scheduled at times that are convenient for the general

public.

Where: Community-based locations with a preference for co-

hosting with transportation partners at community centers, libraries, and bus transfer stations in low-income

and minority neighborhoods.

Participation: Collaborative brainstorming activities
Notification: As soon as possible prior to the meeting.

Post notice of meeting at meeting site and to TPO website.

E-Mail notice to member government public information officers.





#### 4.0 Identification of Interested Parties

The TPO develops its plans, programs, and activities in consultation with all interested parties. An interested party is anyone who has an interest in or is impacted by the outcome of a project. The parties to be involved in a planning project will vary depending on the type of participation goal. The participation of interested parties is accomplished through early, often, and thorough communication.

An important element to the public participation process is to identify all interested parties at the onset of a project. There are three different methods the TPO uses to identify the public to be involved:

- Self-Identification—Anyone who has exhibited previous interest through public meeting attendance, written comments, or contact with the TPO.
- TPO Identification—Agencies, organizations, and the general public identified from the TPO's community profiles, current mailing lists and from public records.
- Third-party Identification—General public and private groups as identified through known stakeholders.

#### 4.1 Categorical Representatives

There are federal requirements related to whom MPOs must provide reasonable opportunities to be involved in the transportation planning process. Some required groups are reached through targeted outreach during plan updates or through participation on the TPO Board and various advisory committees. The TPO makes every effort to include the following representatives:

- General public
- Affected public agencies
- Representatives of public transportation employees
- Freight shippers & providers of freight transportation services
- Public ports
- Private providers of transportation
- Representatives of users of public transportation & intercity bus operators
- Employer-based commuting programs



- Representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities
- Representatives of persons with disabilities
- The tourist industry
- Native American tribal governments
- Natural disaster risk reduction officials
- Community based mobility advocacy groups
- Recipients of assistance under Title 49 USC Chapter 53
- Recipients of assistance under Title 23 USC Chapter 201-204
- Federal land management agencies
- Governmental agencies & non-profits that receive federal assistance from a source other than the US Department of Transportation to provide non-emergency transportation services

#### 4.2 Governmental Units

Various units of government play a vital role in the transportation planning process and are thus considered to be interested parties. These agencies include:

- City of Fort Pierce
- City of Port St. Lucie
- St. Lucie County
- St. Lucie Village
- Indian River County
- Martin County
- Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- Various environmental agencies

## 4.3 Traditionally-Underserved Populations

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 locations of the Traditionally-Underserved Households are depicted on a map in Appendix A.

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.

#### 4.4 Native American Tribal Governments

The TPO area includes property owned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The TPO maintains contact with the Executive Office of the local Seminole Tribe through which communications regarding TPO plans, programs, and activities are regularly sent to the tribal government. The TPO dialogue with the Seminole tribe remains open and outreach efforts are continually expanding. The location of Indian Tribal Lands is depicted on a map in Appendix A

### 4.5 Federal Land Management Agencies

The federal government owns millions of acres of land throughout the United States that is managed by federal agencies. Four agencies -- the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Park Service (NPS) in the Department of the Interior, and the Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture -- manage the vast majority of these federal acres.

The TPO area includes lands that are owned and managed by the federal government as depicted in the map in Appendix A. Therefore, the TPO will submit drafts at key decision points of the LRTP and TIP to the FHWA

Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division for distribution to the applicable Federal agencies for review and comment.



# 5.0 Interested Party Consultation and Public Comment

As an agency, the TPO serves its primary function as the coordinator for multi-modal transportation project planning and funding. Planning tasks of the TPO include regional coordination, bicycle and pedestrian planning, mobility management, demographic data collection, and PPP processes and



plan updates. These efforts are conducted throughout the TPO area and in cooperation with various state, regional, and local agencies for responsible transportation and land use planning. The TPO also works closely with the Martin and Indian **MPOs** River and with collaborates the MPOs of Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade in larger regional

discussions of transportation and mobility.

The TPO develops and distributes numerous documents throughout the year and participates in a variety of public outreach activities. All of these publications, reports, and activities are designed to make the transportation planning process as accessible and transparent as possible.

Effective outreach requires timely notice of the TPO's activities to allow the public adequate opportunity to review and comment at key decision points, from development of the plan/activity to meetings of the TPO's boards and committees.

A public review and comment period is conducted prior to the adoption of major TPO plans or programs by the TPO Board. During comment periods, draft documents are available on the TPO's website. Hard copies are made available for public review and comment at the TPO Offices. The TPO may provide hard copy draft documents for public review and comments at other locations as well.

In its communications to the public, the TPO adheres to the "plain language" principles required by Federal and State government. As outlined



in FDOT's Public Involvement Handbook (April 2018), specific requirements include:

- Use of common language instead of technical jargon,
- · Providing only the pertinent information in an organized manner,
- Use of short sentences and active voice, and
- Layout and design that are user friendly.

Visit the TPO's website: stlucietpo.org

# 5.1 Planning Documents/Programs, Key Decision Points, and Public Comment Periods

The following recurring documents and programs result from the TPO's planning process with the identified key decision points and public comment periods:

#### Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

The LRTP identifies transportation improvements necessary to maintain mobility due to anticipated growth in the TPO area. The LRTP identifies needed and cost affordable highway, transit, pedestrian, bicycle, trail, and Intelligent Transportation System projects for the next 25 years.

Key Decision Points: Scoping adoption, needs assessment, alternatives development, project prioritization, draft document and amendments

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: Workshops, TPO Board, LCB, and advisory committees

### **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

The TIP is updated annually and is used as a short-term transportation programming document. The TIP contains a list of upcoming transportation projects over the next five years. The TPO must coordinate these priority transportation projects with Federal, State, and local governments.

Key Decision Points: Project prioritization, draft document, and amendments

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days



Review Meetings: TPO Board and advisory committees

#### Public Participation Plan (PPP)

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is a resource document that guides public participation for all TPO activities and events with a comprehensive approach to public outreach methods and monitoring. The PPP's development is based on public input including a survey summarized in Appendix C. The development of the PPP is an important step in clarifying the TPO's commitment to public input and impact into the transportation planning process.

Key Decision Points: Draft document

Target Public Comment Review Period: 45 days

Review Meetings: Workshops, TPO Board, LCB, and advisory committees

#### Congestion Management Process (CMP)

The CMP identifies areas of significant congestion and provides recommendations mitigate for improvements to those concerns. typically Recommendations from the CMP include operational improvements, measures to reduce single occupancy vehicle (SOV) travel and encourage high occupancy vehicle (HOV) use, public transit investments, and alternatives to improve other modes such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities. While not specifically part of the CMP plan, land use considerations are increasingly part of the CMP process discussion.

Key Decision Points: Needs assessment, alternatives development, project prioritization, and draft document

Minimum Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: TPO Board and advisory committees

# <u>Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)</u>

The UPWP defines the planning activities to be undertaken by the TPO, the sources of revenue for the TPO, and the estimated budget for each fiscal year. The UPWP is developed every two years and is revised as needed. The work program describes the planning tasks to be fulfilled in the specific year, costs associated with each activity, and the responsible agencies.



Key Decision Points: Call for Planning Projects, draft document, and

amendments

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: TPO Board, LCB (call only), and advisory committees

(call and draft)

#### Title VI Plan

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, mandates non-discrimination by race, color, or national origin in connection with programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The TPO values diversity and both welcomes and actively seeks input from all interested parties, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex, income, disability, religion, or family status. The TPO has developed a Title VI/ Nondiscrimination Policy, Plan and Program to provide an opportunity for all persons to participate in the planning process. The Policy and Plan includes Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plan components.

The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan, a component of the TPO's Title VI Plan, outlines the basis for which the TPO will provide language assistance to members of the public who speak little or no English. At this time, the TPO has determined that language assistance may be necessary primarily in Spanish and Haitian-Creole. The TPO will take reasonable steps to provide language assistance in these languages; however, the TPO does not intend that its LEP Plan exclude anyone requiring language assistance and will attempt to accommodate all requests for assistance.

Key Decision Points: Draft document

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: TPO Board, LCB, and advisory committees

### TDSP Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP)

The TDSP provides for the availability of efficient, cost-effective, and quality transportation services for transportation disadvantaged persons in the community. The TDSP is developed jointly by TPO staff and St. Lucie County transit staff.

Key Decision Points: Draft document



Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: LCB

#### Transit Development Plan (TDP)

The TDP is the public transportation provider's strategic guide for public transportation over the next 10 years. The TDP identifies public transportation service improvement priorities, determines the operating and capital costs to implement these service improvement priorities, and outlines a strategy for implementation.

Key Decision Points: Needs assessment, alternatives development, project prioritization, and draft document

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: Workshops, TPO Board, LCB, and advisory committees

#### **Special Projects and Programs**

In addition to plans, programs, and activities that address Federal and State planning requirements, the TPO often undertakes one-time planning studies in order to investigate and better understand specific transportation problems and to help define the best possible solutions. Examples are corridor analyses and interested party requests to address specified local needs and issues.

Key Decision Points: Scoping, draft document, and various according to the project/issue

Target Public Comment Review Period: 14 days

Review Meetings: Varies according to the project/issue

#### 5.2 Consideration of Public Comments

The TPO demonstrates explicit consideration and response to public input received during the development of the LRTP and the TIP. The TPO provides additional opportunities for public comment if the final LRTP or TIP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the TPO and raises new material issues that interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts. When written and oral comments are received on the draft plans or programs,



such as the LRTP and TIP, as a result of the participation process, a summary report on the disposition of comments is included in the final LRTP and TIP. An example of the comment summary is provided in Appendix F.





# 6.0 Public Participation Strategies

#### Why is Public Participation Important?

Public participation ensures the community has a voice in the decision-making process. The information and perspectives gained through public participation assist decision-makers and result in more meaningful and comprehensive planning. Effective public involvement allows for the identification of issues, such as lack of community support or significant environmental impacts, early in the planning process.

Federal and state regulations require that all metropolitan planning organizations develop an inclusive public involvement process. The TPO satisfies this requirement as well as various nondiscrimination laws and regulations including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

#### Coordination with the Statewide Public Participation Process

The following Guiding Principles for Public Involvement derived from FDOT's Public Involvement Handbook (April 2018) summarize the TPO's approach to incorporating community input into the planning process. In addition, further coordination occurs through the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) and FDOT's non-voting memberships on the TPO Board, TAC, and BPAC.

#### **Process**

Public involvement is ongoing in all phases of a project. It allows the public to hear and be heard.

#### **Defining Context**

Public involvement is inclusive of all decision-makers and stakeholders. It includes as many groups and individuals as possible, especially those who will be most affected.

#### **Tools and Techniques**

The most appropriate outreach tools are used for each audience. It is essential to know and understand the community to develop the most appropriate outreach techniques and establish evaluation measures.



#### **Documentation**

The summary of comments confirms to the members of the public that their comments and concerns have been heard and the extent to which they have been addressed. It ensures that commitments, if any, are carried throughout all phases of the project. Documentation shows that a process was used in evaluating alternatives and determining the solutions. An example of the comment summary is provided in Appendix F.



# 7.0 Participation Methods

CONTACT US!
TPOadmin@stlucieco.org
Facebook: St. Lucie TPO
Twitter:@StLucieTPO
Phone: 772-462-1593
Coco Vista Centre
466 Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

This PPP demonstrates the TPO's strong commitment to public involvement. To ensure continuous improvement in our efforts and to continuously identify new avenues to involve all interested parties in our efforts, the TPO urges you to contact us as identified above with any feedback or suggestions you may have.

On an ongoing basis, the TPO reaches out to the community and partnering agencies through a variety of methods. Public input on outreach methods informs how we develop and implement our standard and continuous outreach activities. With an emphasis on early and transparent outreach, the TPO tailors the way we reach different sectors of the public using the following tools and techniques:

#### **Community Engagement Dashboard**

The TPO will create and maintain a dashboard consolidating all engagement activities and public comments into one database. Performance expectations for the outreach effort, methods used, and outcomes will be identified with each campaign. The dashboard will enable the TPO and the public to easily monitor and track the success of each engagement campaign while creating transparency.



#### Email, Mail, Telephone, In-Person

The TPO encourages public comment and interaction and has created a form (available in English, Spanish and Haitian-Creole) for general public comments which is included in Appendix E.

#### **Eblasts**

The TPO has developed a contacts database consisting of stakeholders and others who opted-in to plan updates. The TPO will send out periodic reports to subscribers summarizing the upcoming community participation opportunities.

#### **Events**

The TPO participates in community events and may set up informational booths to engage the public. Pop-up engagement techniques at flea markets, libraries, health centers, etc. are used to solicit informal feedback on planning efforts.



#### **Public Information Gallery**

The TPO maintains a gallery space in its offices where informational maps and videos can be viewed during normal business hours and during open house events.

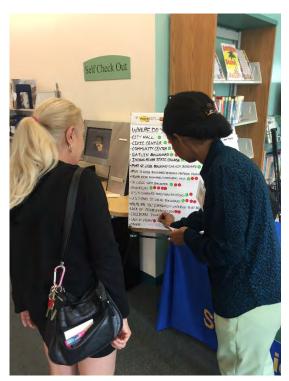
#### **Interactive Maps**

The TPO uses an interactive community engagement map platform. The platform includes the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and bicycle/pedestrian initiatives for public viewing and allows the public to make place-based comments in real time.



#### **Library Outreach**

A library is an integral part of its community. Nationwide, librarians are



developing a community center model where patrons access a wide variety of programs. A recent Pew Research Center survey showed that lower income persons and communities of color are more likely to see libraries as community anchors and are, therefore, frequent users of libraries. The TPO often conducts public outreach at branch libraries.

#### Posters, Flyers, Brochures

The TPO creates posters, flyers, and brochures for distributing information about the TPO and major planning efforts. The TPO also produces maps such as the bicycle facilities map available for download on the TPO website.

#### **Public Events/Presentations**

The TPO hosts and attends public events as well as delivers presentations to community groups upon request.

#### Public Meetings

A public meeting is conducted whenever the TPO advisory committees make recommendations on plans or projects or when the TPO Board or LCB take action on plans or projects. All meetings comply with Florida Government-in-the-Sunshine laws. All meetings are held in ADA accessible locations. Translation or sign language services are available upon request.

Comments received during public comment periods and at the public meetings are included in meeting summaries. Public comment is considered by the advisory committees, TPO Board or LCB prior to adoption of plans or projects. An example of a comment summary is shown in Appendix F.

All TPO Board, LCB, and advisory committee meetings, times, agendas, and locations are publicly noticed online. Notices of meetings also are posted at the TPO office. An example of a public notice is shown in



Appendix G. Video recordings of the TPO Board meetings are available through the TPO website.

#### **Press Releases**

The TPO creates press releases to inform the community about important projects and opportunities for the public to get involved.

#### Questionnaires, Polls, and Surveys

The TPO uses public comment forms, surveys, and questionnaires to encourage the public to provide input and suggestions concerning transportation planning activities. Electronic surveys via the internet are conducted for planning efforts of all scales.

Because current U.S. Census estimates indicate that 20 percent of households in St. Lucie County lack broadband access at home, in-person interviews where people congregate, such as at transit hubs, are also conducted. Printed surveys are distributed at meetings, workshops, and events.

#### Radio and Television

The TPO seeks opportunities to speak about transportation projects on local radio and television stations.

#### Social Media

The TPO uses Twitter and Facebook to post announcements, meeting/workshop schedules, safety reminders, and planning activities with engagement opportunities.

#### Visualization/Infographics

The TPO uses visualization and infographic techniques to clarify complex information. Maps and graphics are used extensively in documents and supplemental materials to illustrate existing and future conditions of transportation systems. The TPO uses an infographic dashboard to visually display planning activities and consolidate community feedback from previous surveys.

#### Virtual Workshop

Virtual workshops may be conducted online to reach those who are unable to attend in-person meetings or workshops. A virtual workshop will display the same types of information presented at a physical workshop.

#### **Website**

The TPO website is continuously updated with meeting notifications, public comment opportunities, interactive surveys, when appropriate, and links to video-recorded Board meetings. The website provides access to planning data through maps, studies, and plans.

#### **Website Accessibility**

To ensure electronic communications are accessible to persons with disabilities, the TPO uses accessibility plugins that enable users to alter the presentation of the website on demand. The TPO uses tools to ensure all new content posted to the website meets accessibility standards. The TPO strives to meet accessibility requirements for all third-party engagement applications used on its website.

#### **Workshops & Forums**

Public workshops are useful in providing the public an opportunity to provide input regarding specific projects and plans. Materials provided at



workshops may include maps, fact sheets, project documents, surveys, and other related project materials.

Workshops can be conducted as open house forums where attendees are invited to browse a collection of displays and ask questions or make comments. Participants are free to informally arrive and leave during the open

house. Small-group discussions such as focus groups with recruited participants also are used. The TPO often collaborates with community-based organizations in low-income and minority communities to recruit participation.



# 8.0 Reviewing the Effectiveness of the PPP

The PPP Annual Update will evaluate the effectiveness of the PPP in accomplishing its goals and objectives. The effectiveness in accomplishing the goal is determined by evaluating the success of the performance measures for the correlating participation method.

Performance targets will be used in the evaluation of the PPP. Targets will be set based on analysis of baseline data, consensus of the validity of the target, the ability to set the target beyond past performance, and evidence of the relationship between the target and forecast performance.

The PPP Annual Update includes the following activities:

- Applying the Performance Measures to the Participation Methods
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the Participation Methods selected for use
- Continuing, refining, and/or replacing the Participation Methods selected for use with other Participation Methods from Section 7 based on the results from the application of the Performance Measures
- Revising the Participation Methods with the addition of new tools and techniques as part of the Annual Update
- Summarizing the TPO's consideration of public comments received with regard to TPO programs and plans
- Documenting the revisions to the PPP based on the Annual Updates
- Updating the Maps/Community Profiles as needed

The PPP Revisions and Annual Updates will be included in Appendix H. The following Performance Measures will be used to review the effectiveness of the PPP:



## **Online Activities**

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Performance Measures
Community Engagement Dashboard	Electronic Tracking	#unique visitors, #returning visitors
Eblasts	Electronic Tracking	#subscribers, #opens, #eblasts sent, zip code tracking
Email	Electronic Tracking	#public comments
Interactive Maps	Electronic Tracking	#unique/returning visitors, #comments, zip code tracking
Social Media	Facebook, Twitter, YouTube	#Facebook reach, #Twitter Impressions, #YouTube views
Virtual Workshop	Electronic Tracking	#unique visitors, #public comments, zip code tracking
Website	Electronic Tracking	#unique/returning visitors

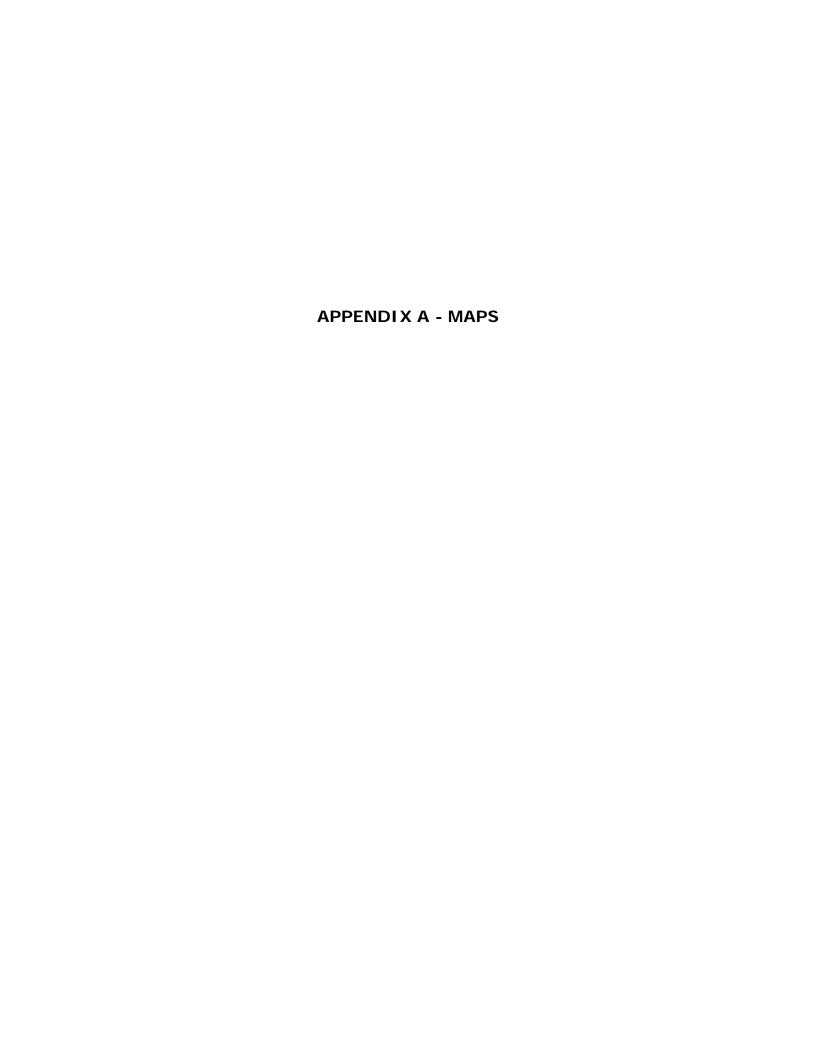
# **In-Person Activities**

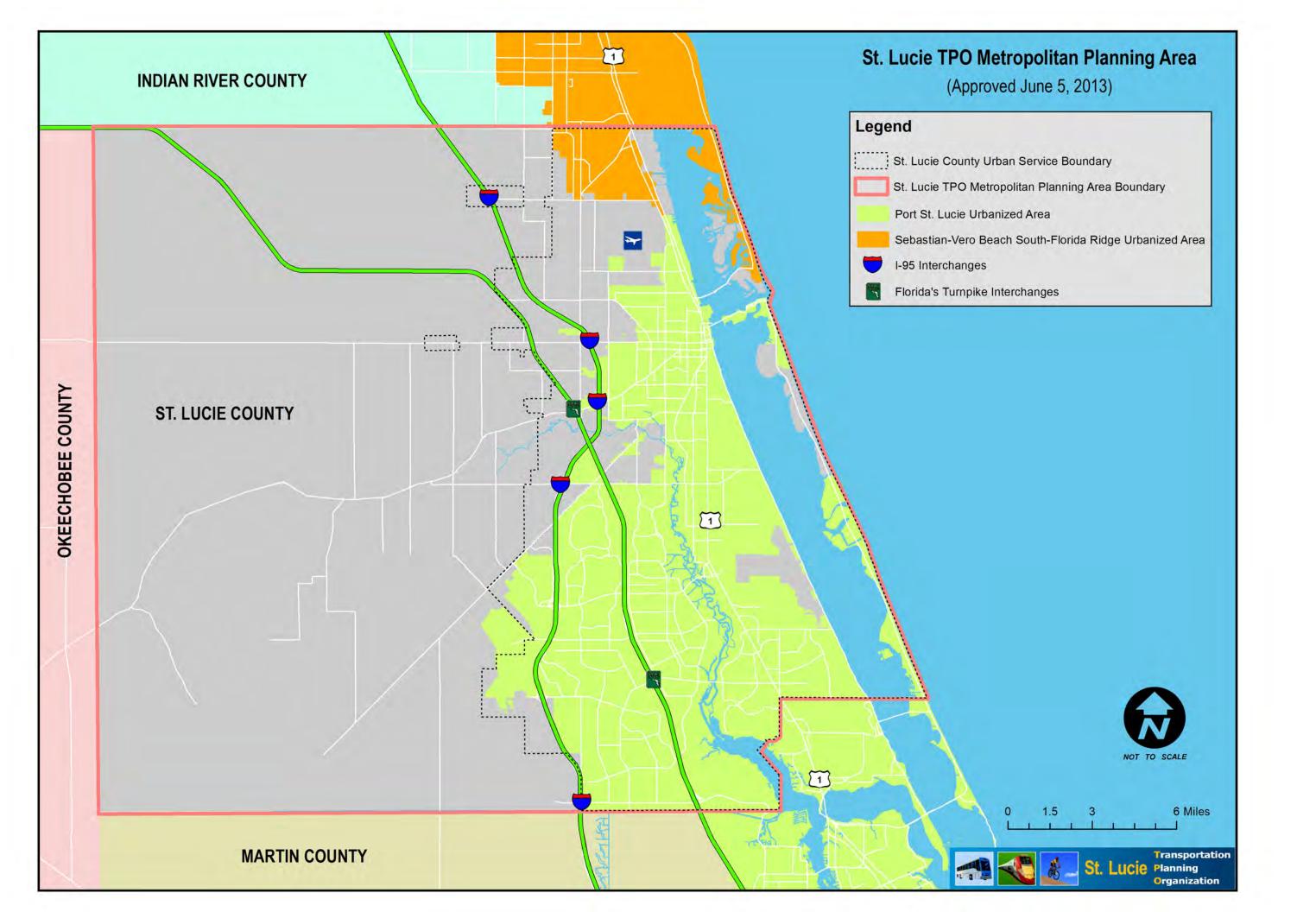
Participation Method	Tracking Method	Performance Measures
Mail, Telephone, In- Person	Manual Tracking	#comments
Events	# of events attended	#public comments, #engaged
Gallery & Kiosks	Attendance records, sign-in sheets	#public comments, #engaged
Public events/ presentations	Attendance records, minutes, sign-in sheets	#attendance, #presentations
Public Meetings	Attendance records, minutes, sign-in sheets	#attendance, #meetings
Press Releases	Manual tracking	#press releases
Radio & Television	Manual tracking	#shows/interviews
Workshops, Forums, Open Houses	Attendance records, minutes, sign-in sheets	#attendance, #meetings

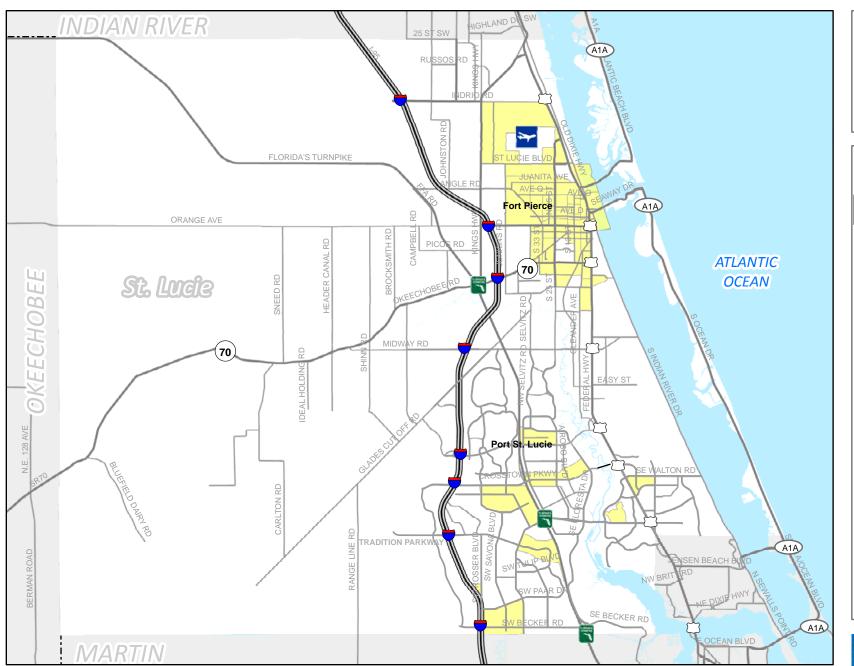


# **Environmental Justice/Title VI Participation**

Participation Method	Tracking Method	Performance Measures
Online Activities	Electronic Tracking	#reached, #engaged, #respondents, demographics of attendees, zip codes tracking
In-Person Activities	Manual Tracking	#attendance, #surveys conducted, #responses, zip codes tracking







Tradidionally Underserved Household Areas



Tradidionally Underserved Household Areas

(Minority/Poverty - 50/50)

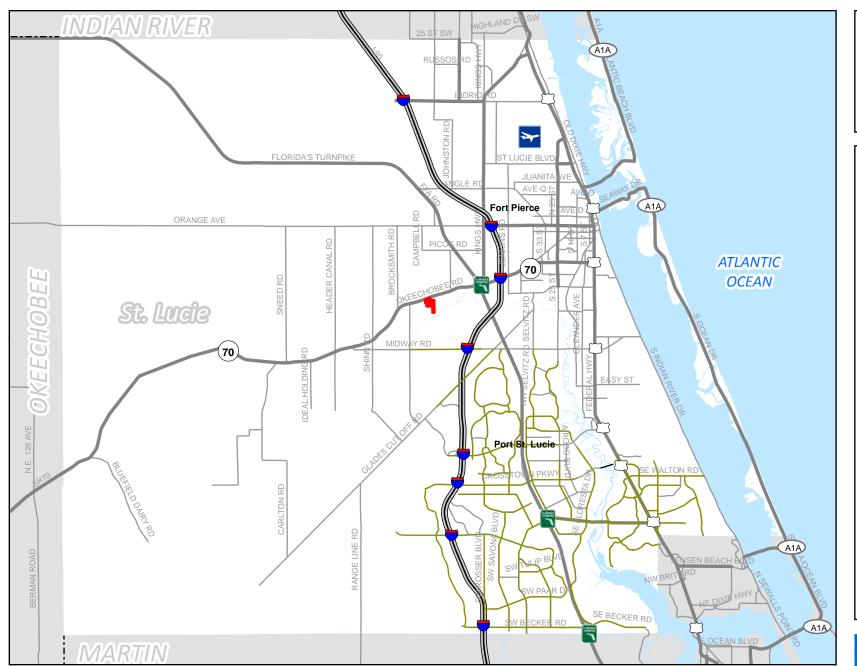
Predominantly low-income or minority areas



0 1 2 4 Miles

Map Date: 12/2/2019

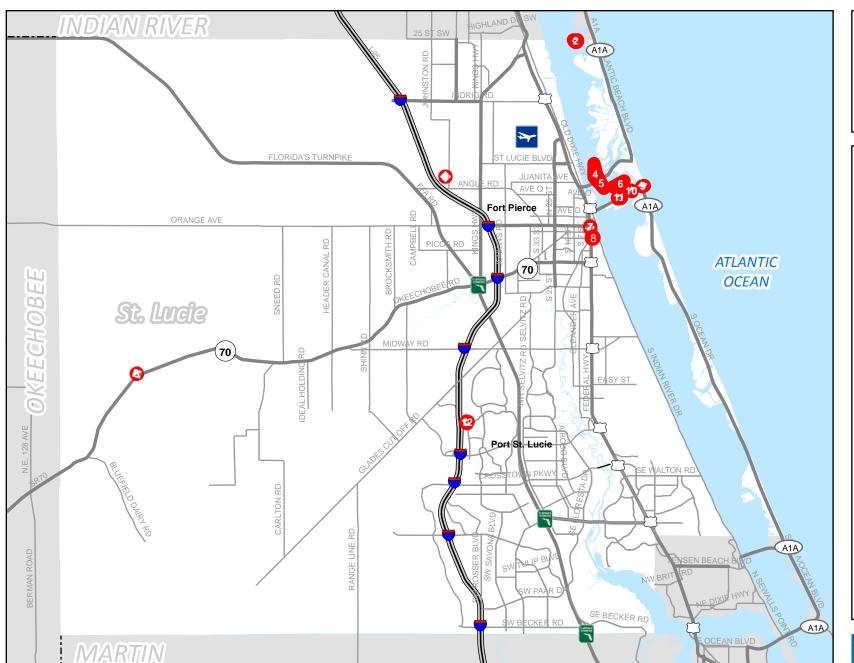




**Indian Tribal Lands** 







Federal Public Lands





## Federal Public Lands Map Key

Map ID	ParcelID	Location	Street Number	Street Name	Current Owner	Contact	Street Number	City	State
1	1334-421-0001-000-9	Saint Lucie County	2395	JOHNSTON RD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
2	1404-110-0001-000-8	Saint Lucie County	0	TBD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
3	3110-233-0001-000-0	Saint Lucie County	0	TBD	U.S.A	Federal Aviation Administration	PO Box 20636	Atlanta	GA
4	1434-121-0001-000-5	Saint Lucie County	0	TBD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
5	1434-121-0001-000-5	Saint Lucie County	0	TBD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
6	1435-431-0001-000-0	Saint Lucie County	0	TBD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
7	2410-701-0010-000-0	Fort Pierce	101	US HIGHWAY 1	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
8	2410-701-0066-000-7	Fort Pierce	0	TBD	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
9	1436-343-0001-000-3	Fort Pierce	1940	SEAWAY DR	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
10	2401-501-0280-020-7	Fort Pierce	1400	SEAWAY DR	U.S.A	General Services Administration	77 Forsyth St Ste 600	Atlanta	GA
11	2402-131-0001-000-0	Fort Pierce	900	SEAWAY DR	U.S.A	U.S Coast Guard	15608 SW 117th Ave	Miami	FL
12	3323-684-0034-000-0	Port Saint Lucie	534	Mercantile PL	U.S.A	U.S. Treasury Department	10611 Balls Ford RD Ste 140	Manassas	VA

## APPENDIX B – TRANSPORTATION ACRONYMS

## **ACRONYMS**

**ADA** Americans with Disabilities Act

**BOCC** St. Lucie Board of County Commissioners

**BPAC** Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee

**CAC** Citizens Advisory Committee

**CMP** Congestion Management Process

**CTC** Community Transportation Coordinator

**EJ** Environmental Justice (pertains to low-income and minority

communities)

**F.A.C.** Florida Administrative Code

**FCTD** Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

**FDOT** Florida Department of Transportation

**FHWA** Federal Highway Administration

**F.S.** Florida Statute

**FTA** Federal Transit Administration

**FY** Fiscal Year

**GIS** Geographic Information Systems

ITS Intelligent Transportation System

**LCB** Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged

**LEP** Limited English Proficiency

**LRTP** Long-Range Transportation Plan

**MPO** Metropolitan Planning Organization

**PPP** Public Participation Plan

**P&R** Park & Ride

**RLRTP** Regional Long Range Transportation Plan

**SR** State Road

**TAC** Technical Advisory Committee

**TD** Transportation Disadvantaged

**TDM** Transportation Demand Management

**TDP** Transit Development Plan

**TDSP** Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

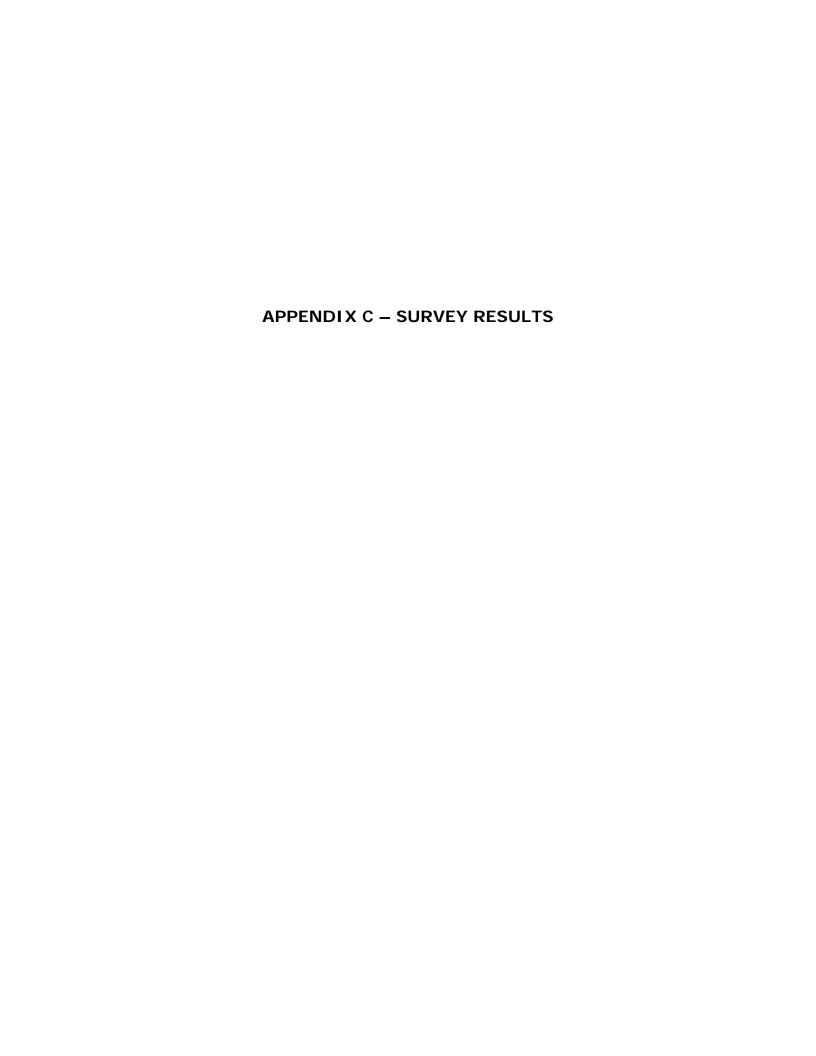
**TIP** Transportation Improvement Program

**Title VI** Civil Rights/nondiscrimination law

**TPO** Transportation Planning Organization

**UPWP** Unified Planning Work Program

**US DOT** United States Department of Transportation



## **2019 PIP Major Update Survey Results**

- 1) What is your zip code? Various St. Lucie County zip codes were reported.
- 2) Check all of the ways you want to travel:

Drive	75%
Ride the Bus	35%
Walk	35%
Bicycle	25%
Carpool	16%
Taxi/Uber/Lyft	13%

3) Check all of the transportation improvements that are needed:

Roads	59%
Sidewalks	52%
Bicycle Lanes	36%
Buses	34%
Bridges	17%
Landscaping	12%

4) Check all of the ways you have heard about transportation projects:

Word of Mouth	39%
Television	36%
Newspaper	33%
Internet	27%
Radio	24%
Never hear about transportation	12%
projects	
Newsletter	11%
Libraries	9%

5) How do you want to hear about transportation projects in the future?

Television	50%
Internet	38%
Radio	37%
Newspaper	35%
Word of Mouth	24%

Newsletter	21%
Libraries	15%
Do not want to hear about	4%
transportation projects	

## 6) Before today, had you ever heard of the St. Lucie TPO?

No	57%
Yes	32%

## 7) Other comments?

Keep up good work
Bike Lanes!
Great job
Great idea! Get the word out!
I would like to see more bus routes
I live in Okeechobee but work in PSL
Keep up good work; in time things will change
Thanks!
More ways to transport
More bus stops
We need better and safer way for our children's safety
Happy to hear about St. Lucie County projects!
Services needs to be longer days and more routes added to accommodate
individuals who work late
Would like to be able to bike along US1 to Fort Pierce but need much
better/safer bike lane options. Same for Prima Vista.
Thank you for everything you do for the elderly.
I would like to know about this [unclear]
Thanks for the improvements thus far.
Keep it up
I love how much fun I am having with my mother and my whole family
here in Florida.
Reservation of riding my bike is the distance from vehicular traffic. Re:
Hutchinson Island traffic speeding; drivers' lack of concern for cyclists
Need longer bus hours and Sunday hours
Re: Busses-more schedules; Great organization!
More sidewalks and bike lanes
Happy that the landscaping was removed from in front of the BP station on
Gatlin Blvd.

I hear about projects by the signs on the side of the road.

We need a carpool

Good program

More public transportation

Need sidewalk on Angle Road west of Kings Highway

Want to hear about transportation projects via mailer

Need better lighting on roads

Thanks for all you do

Fix flooding on Prima Vista, Floresta, Airoso, Bayshore. Make good roads - don't need fancy winding sidewalks, loads of landscaping, lamp posts then streetlights too. Raised medians at intersections clog traffic going to turn lanes block emergency vehicles from getting through. Medians with bushes and trees block the view of traffic and cause accidents (people won't wait!). Plan roads for hurricane evacuations no medians, landscaping, ability to reverse direction of travel to get people out of danger and assist emergency personnel: fire EMTs, law enforcement.

There is no public transportation that goes past Kings Highway to West county and it is very needed.

Sidewalks west of town on Angle Road past Kings Hwy

Motorcycle needed as form of travel

It would be great to have text messages come to phones within our community about improvements.

Please incorporate a full bus transit bus service to Keiser.

Thank you!

Need buses to travel through residential areas, not just main roads.

Rail Travel

Brightline in Fort Pierce

Great organization

Attention to costs for PSL

Continue to prioritize bicycle and ped(estrian) facilities and find funding

Thank you St. Lucie TPO!

Thank you

Improvement would be good!!

What's this for? They need to fix the [algae] problem!!!

I use for transportation

Should have more bus options and routes

Thanks for everything

What is it!

Help people who are in need.

Don't know what that is.

Word of mouth

All good. Appreciate present means of public transportation.

55 years old

See bus in route on US1

From a DCF worker

Bus schedules are inconsistent

Library Hurston

Thank you for the assistance

Would like road work to be only where it is needed

I used to ride got a car now. They do still come in handy for others.

Buses need to be expanded (routes) to more areas

Sidewalks needed

Thank you for your help

Need to synchronize traffic lights

No sitting in most [bus] stops

Use it all the time

This very informative

Just thank you for all your help!

To care for the people everywhere

Need a link to the beaches on Hutchinson Island and larger bus on US-1; too congested.

Catch a ride (in reference to question 2)

Thanks Great Job!

Thanks for the help y'all provide God Bless

They work hard to help you get around

We need a train transpo (?) like the Tri-Rail

Yes Great Service

More transpo for Church Dinners.

Need food.

Are you guys hiring?

The streets bike paths and sidewalks of Ft Pierce are littered in glass.

Virginia Ave from US1 to Okeechobee Road - 22 flats since January (2018).

Excellent service and very kind people

Lots of potholes need to be filled, please!

(profanity)

Just thankful for everything Mustard Seed does, the best

Great Job!!

Most peoples' problems are due to lack of information. Our current and future transportation projects should be announced harder and pushed harder.

## APPENDIX D – APPLICATION FOR SERVING ON BOARDS/COMMITTEES







Transportation

St. Lucie Planning
Organization

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

## APPLICATION FOR SERVING ON COMMITTEES/BOARD

Name
Home or Mobile Phone 3. Email Address
Home Address
How long have you lived at this location?
Business Address (optional)
Business Phone (optional)
Are you employed by a government agency? Yes No
Do you now serve on a government committee or board? Yes No
If Yes, which one(s)?
Brief summary of your education
Brief summary of your experience  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) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
May your application be submitted to the TPO Board whenever vacancies occur on the selected Board/Committee(s) until you are appointed? Yes No
Will you be able to attend quarterly LCB meetings, CAC meetings every other month, or BPAC meetings every other month? Yes No
SIGNATURE Date
Submit completed application by mail, fax, or email to:  MAIL: St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization  466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111  Port St. Lucie, FL 34953  FAX: 772-785-5839  FMAIL: TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org

Note: Application is effective for two years from the date of completion

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 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 <a href="mailto:lathoum@stlucieco.org">lathoum@stlucieco.org</a>.

Crèole: Si ou ta rinmin recevoua information sa en crèole si I bous plait rèlè 772-462-1777.

Español: Si usted desea recibir esta información en español, por favor llame al 772-462-1777.

# APPENDIX E – GENERAL COMMENT FORM

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

## **General Comment Form**

Name			
Organization	ı (if applicable)		
Address			
City		State	Zip Code
Telephone _		Email	
Do no	ot add me to the mailing list.		
Please print	your comments below:		
If you need	additional room, please use re	verse side.	
Please returi	n comments to the St. Lucie Ti	PO in one of the fol	lowing ways:
Mail:	St. Lucie TPO 466 Port St. Lucie Boulevard Port St. Lucie, FL 34953	I, Suite 111	
Telephone:	(772) 462-1593		
Email:	TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org		
IZ			

<u>Kreyòl Ayisyen</u>: 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.

<u>Title VI Statement</u>: 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.

# APPENDIX F – **PPP** COMMENT SUMMARY



## 2020 Public Participation Plan (PPP) Major Update Consultation and Coordination Summary of Comments

	Sammary or Comment			
Comment	Commenter	Date/Method Received	Incorporation into PPP	
Almost 40% currently hear about transportation projects through word-of-mouth. Approximately 50% want to hear about transportation projects through television.	General Public (survey)	Surveys collected from walk-ins, TPO advisory committees, LCB, Mustard Seed Ministries, St. James HOA, Keiser University, Unity in our Community, and County Health Fair during Summer/Fall 2018.	Staff will continue to schedule guest appearances on local television stations.	
	General Public (public comment period) December 20, 2019 – February 5, 2020	Via posting on TPO website and offices and transmittal to City/County Public Information Officers.		
Partner with the transit agency to announce TPO events on the transit agency's "on hold" messaging.	CAC Member	January 21, 2020/CAC meeting	Staff will investigate the use of this technology.	
Consider using geo- fencing technology for targeted audience outreach.	TAC Member	January 21, 2020/TAC meeting	Staff will investigate the use of this technology.	
	BPAC Member	January 23, 2020/BPAC meeting		
	FTA, Robert Sachin			
	FHWA, Stacie Blizzard			



## 2020 Public Participation Plan (PPP) Major Update Consultation and Coordination Summary of Comments

Comment	Commenter	Date/Method Received	Incorporation into PPP
TPO's Title VI plan requires updating in 2020.	FHWA, Carey Shepherd	January 17, 2020/email	Once adopted, the PPP will be used to inform the TPO's 2020 Title VI update.
General editorial	FHWA, Carey Shepherd	January 17, 2020/email	Various
	US DOT, Lewis Grimm		
	Seminole Tribe, Mary Stromboli		
	FDOT, Rusty Ennemoser		
General editorial	FDOT, Mira Skoroden	January 29, 2020/email	Various
Outline the process for determining performance targets.	FDOT, Mira Skoroden	January 29, 2020/email	A description of the process for determining performance targets was added.

Summary Completion Date: February 5, 2020

## APPENDIX G – PUBLIC NOTICE EXAMPLE

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

## DRAFT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is updating its Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP informs the public of how they can impact transportation planning decisions. The TPO encourages you to review the draft PPP and to share feedback to ensure that the PPP reflects the needs of the public to the greatest extent possible.

The TPO has posted the draft PPP for public review for 45 days, beginning December 20, 2019. The public has until February 5, 2020 to provide comments on the PPP before it is reviewed for adoption by the TPO Board. As part of the approval process, the TPO will make changes to the draft PPP as necessary and summarize all comments submitted during the comment period and the revisions made to the PPP based on the comments.

## To Obtain the PPP for Review

- 1) Appear in person or write to the St. Lucie TPO at 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
- 2) Call 772-462-1593
- 3) Access the TPO website at www.stlucietpo.org
- 4) Email TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org

## To Provide Comments on the PPP

- 1) Write to the St. Lucie TPO at 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
- 2) Call 772-462-1593
- 3) Email TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org
- 4) Appear in person at the following upcoming public St. Lucie TPO Board meeting: February 5, 2020, 2:00 pm

St. Lucie TPO Office

466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111

Port St. Lucie, Florida

## For Special Assistance

Persons who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or 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. Anyone with a disability requiring transit accommodation to attend the above-referenced TPO Board meeting should contact Community Transit at 772-464-7433 (Fort Pierce) or 772-879-1287 (Port St. Lucie) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

### **Title VI/Nondiscrimination 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 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, Title VI/ADA Coordinator, St. Lucie TPO, at 772-462-1593 or lathoum@stlucieco.org.

<u>Kreyol Ayisyen:</u> 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.

## APPENDIX H - Public Participation Plan Revisions and Annual Updates