



## St. Lucie and Martin County Regional Transit Summit

# *A State Perspective*

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# *FDOT's Role in Transit*

- **Grants**
  - Federal Grants (Formula, Discretionary)
  - State Grants (Formula, Discretionary, Transportation Disadvantaged)
  - Flex Funds (both Federal and State)
  
- **Planning**
  - State Policy Guidance: Florida Transportation Plan
  - Programming: STIP, Work Program, TIP
  - Transit Development Plans (Rule 14-73, Public Transit)
  
- **Operations**
  - Safety Regulation
  - Training
  - Vehicles and Equipment, Technical Assistance



# *Regional Transportation Authority Mechanisms*

- **Legislatively Created under Chapter 343, F.S.**
  - Board makeup specified in Statute
  - Powers and duties: own, operate, maintain and manage
  - No dedicated funding sources
  
- **Locally Created under Section 163.56, F.S.**
  - Any 2 or more contiguous jurisdictions convene a charter committee
  - Charter filed with Department Of State
  - Governor appoints two board members
  - Automatically become a Special Tax District, with authority to levy up to 3 mills ad valorem tax by referendum
  
- **Other Mechanisms (local bills, MOA, etc.)**
  - Polk Transit Authority (2007)



# Funding

- Existing and Potential Local Funding Sources
  - General Revenues
  - Local Fuel Taxes
  - Charter County Transit Surtax
  - Rental Car Surcharges
  - Dedicated Ad Valorem (property tax)
  
- State Funding Sources
  - Public Transit Block Grants
  - Service Development Program
  - Transit Corridor Program
  - Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP)



## *Existing Regional Transit Agencies*

- South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (3 counties)
  - Operates Tri-Rail, Manages JARC and New Freedoms grants
  - Local Funding: Mandated County Contributions
  - State dedicated funding (new legislation)
  
- Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (3 counties)
  - Region aligns with MetroPlan Orlando
  - Local Funding: County Contributions (based on service levels)
  
- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (8 counties)
  - Administrative Funds from the State (no existing operating funds)



# Considerations, Questions...

- Consider:
  - The effects of transportation decisions reach beyond municipal or county boundaries.
  - Commuting needs of residents don't end at the county line.
  - There may be efficiencies in transit consolidation.
  
- My Questions for You:
  - Are St. Lucie and Martin Counties currently a region, or just neighbors?
  - With respect to land uses, the economy, and transportation, will you grow together or independently?
  - Transportation decisions made today can impact a region for generations to come. *What is it you want to be?*

