

2021 calendar

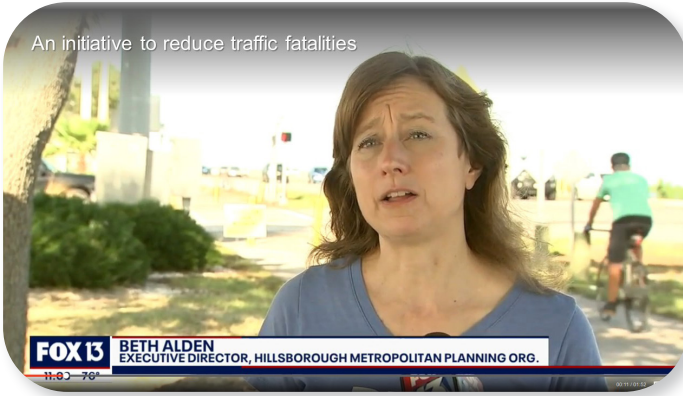
with a look back at the past year



Hillsborough MPO
Metropolitan Planning
for Transportation

Photo Credit: Jeffrey Zampitella

From the MPO Director



2020 threw us a few curve balls, so to speak!

In response to COVID-19, our agency pivoted to a completely remote work schedule on March 17 to protect the health and safety of citizens and staff. The agency was able

to adapt so quickly thanks to an already established remote work policy and in-place technology. Public access to staff expertise and data continued seamlessly via phone and email, and public comments continued to be heard at all meetings of the MPO's Committees and Board.

Meanwhile, the work of the MPO did not skip a beat. Vision Zero, the vision of zero traffic deaths, shifted public engagement activities outdoors (for example, the Ride of Silence event, above) and deep-dove into data and audits of high-crash roads. The annual public hearing for the Transportation Improvement Program, along with smaller outreach meetings for studies like the Plant City Transit Plan, shifted to creative online platforms, announced by roadside signs, flyers in laundromats, direct mail, etc. The Independent Oversight Committee for the new transportation sales surtax approved by county voters in 2018 completed its first annual report and (virtual) public hearing. The MPO Board dug into the pluses and minuses of tolls on new express lanes, taking advantage of the online meeting environment to invite guest speakers from around the country. And the tri-county TMA Leadership Group, also meeting virtually, worked together to create a shared regional position statement on the drawbacks of state budget earmarks and the need for new transit funding.

Just a few of our notable successes this year:

- The international Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), Florida Section, chose the MPO's Speed Management Action Plan for its John W. Barr Transportation Achievement Award.
- The National Association of Development Organizations recognized our Resilient Tampa Bay project with an Excellence in Regional Transportation Award.

- The Florida MPO Advisory Council selected two of our projects for 2020's nine Noteworthy Practices: Resilient Tampa Bay, and our Tri-MPO Growth Scenarios and Survey, "It's Time Tampa Bay."
- Several of our staff were honored to speak at national conferences and webinars, including Gena Torres at the ITE Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Allison Yeh at a FHWA Resilience and Planning Peer Exchange, Johnny Wong as part of a FHWA Data Business Plan Development webinar, and Lisa Silva and myself at the 99th Annual Transportation Research Board meeting in Washington, D.C.

We're looking forward to seeing you in 2021, online if not in person! Thank you for being part of our shared journey towards a better community.

Sincerely,

Beth Alden, AICP
Executive Director



The MPO was honored to participate in the March 2020 Idea Hack-a-thon sponsored by Stantec. For two days, smart city professionals, entrepreneurs and students developed ideas for using technology, big data, and the internet of things to improve mobility and accessibility here in Tampa. Staff shared data sets and current practices with the competing teams, and Beth Alden served as a judge and advocated for the winning team's vehicle pollution monitoring and air filtering network.



The Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, held virtually on June 2, 2020, featured Beth Alden as part of the opening keynote. Alden spoke alongside ITE Director/CEO Jeff Paniati and NYC DOT Assistant Commissioner Kim Wiley-Schwartz about implementing Vision Zero effectively, and shared lessons learned from established groundbreaking programs.

Meet the MPO Board

The Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is responsible for short-term (5 years) and long-term (20+ years) transportation planning and priorities to meet the multi-modal needs of Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City and unincorporated Hillsborough County. Mandated by state and federal law, the MPO is accountable for ensuring that public transportation dollars are wisely spent and reflect meaningful public engagement, and collaborative and comprehensive planning.



Chair
Commissioner
Harry Cohen
Hillsborough County



Vice Chair
Commissioner
Pat Kemp
Hillsborough County



Commissioner
Gwen Myers
Hillsborough County



Commissioner
Mariella Smith
Hillsborough County



Commissioner
Kimberly Overman
Hillsborough County



Commissioner
Stacy White
Hillsborough County
alternate



Councilman
Joe Citro
City of Tampa



Councilman
Guido Maniscalco
City of Tampa



Councilman
John Dingfelder
City of Tampa



Mayor
Andy Ross
City of Temple Terrace



Mayor
Rick A. Lott
City of Plant City



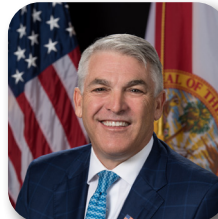
Jessica Vaughn
Hillsborough County
School Board



Melanie Williams
HART Board of
Directors



Commissioner
Derek Doughty
Planning Commission



CEO
Paul Anderson
Port Tampa Bay



CEO
Joe Lopano
Hillsborough Aviation
Authority



CEO
Joseph Waggoner
Tampa-Hillsborough
Expressway Authority



Secretary
David Gwynn
FDOT District 7
Non-voting Advisor



Hillsborough
County Florida

hillsboroughcounty.org
813-272-5900



tampagov.net
813-274-8211



plantcitygov.com
813-659-4200



templeterrace.com
813-506-6420



Florida Department of
Transportation
dot.state.fl.us
813-975-6000



Hillsborough County
City-County
Planning Commission

planhillsborough.org
813-272-5940



Hillsborough Area
Regional Transit
gohart.org
813-254-4278



tampaairport.com
813-870-8700



sdhc.k12.fl.us
813-272-4000



tampa-xway.com
813-272-6740



tampaairport.com
800-741-2297

2020 Project Highlights

In addition to key projects featured on the calendar pages, highlights here showcase more MPO projects from a busy and fulfilling year.

Nondiscrimination Plan

Throughout history, racial discrimination has been evident in transportation and land use planning. In Hillsborough County, neighborhood clearing created the path for I-275 and I-4, which ultimately divided African American communities and eliminated the Central Avenue Business District. After a wave of protests for racial justice in Spring 2020, MPO committee members and staff took a new look at racial equity in local planning. A Racial Equity Resolution unanimously approved by the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee and the MPO Board in August 2020 acknowledges that planning decisions of the past have had negative consequences on communities of color, and resolves the agency to take action addressing those inequities.



This equity initiative coincides with the scheduled update of the MPO's Title VI and Nondiscrimination Plan. The plan is updated every three years to

demonstrate the MPO's compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other regulations. This update of the plan includes a history review of local planning, new demographic maps identifying the location of under-served communities, and public engagement including personal stories and focus groups.

Outgoing MPO Board Chair, Commissioner Lesley "Les" Miller, Jr. shared his own story of growing up in East Tampa, where decisions about highways, housing, bus service, urban disinvestment, and voting districts had great impact. The MPO thanks Commissioner Miller for his ten years of service on our board, and his commitment, hard work, and leadership! You will be missed, sir!



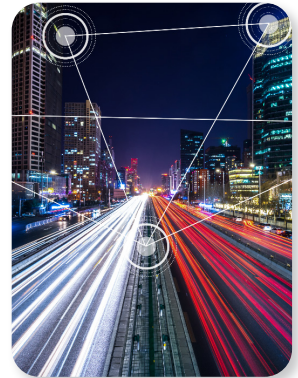
The second phase of the **Garden Steps** project kicked off in January 2020 with a workshop dubbed "Making Stone Soup," in which the attendees each discussed what they can bring to the table to help expand access to fresh, healthy foods in Tampa's food deserts. The MPO was proud to receive a \$50,000 grant from the Aetna Foundation to support this work, which expands access through education, local agriculture, and walk/bike connections. Later in the year, Garden Steps held the 3rd annual Grow Gardens conference for local networking and outreach, hired a student intern, and constructed a permanent educational/demonstration garden on 22nd Street in East Tampa (pictured).

Garden Steps



Smart Cities Mobility Plan

The MPO's first **Smart Cities Mobility Plan** is currently underway. Smart Cities technologies can improve safety on the network of roads and reduce congestion without the hefty price tag of more traditional improvements. The Plan will involve identifying and classifying mature and emergent technologies, such as real-time adjustment of traffic signals and detour information, speeding up buses, information sharing with Waze, and many other opportunities. We will be reaching out to the public to collect input about the usefulness of each technology and will be asking questions related to privacy, confidentiality, and fairness.



Data & Analytics Platform

The MPO's **Shared Data & Analytics Platform** is a web-based tool allowing transportation planners and engineers to visualize both real-time and historical traffic conditions on the road network. The platform initially included speed, congestion and weather data but has recently been enhanced to include crash, incident and pothole data. Future additions could eventually make the platform a one-stop-shop for mobility analytics. With all four local governments, HART and FDOT being able to use the platform, the MPO and its partners can better track progress towards its performance targets for safety, good repair, and travel time reliability.



Speed Management Action Plan



John W. Barr
Transportation Achievement Award

Speed is the number one factor in whether a person will survive a traffic crash or be involved in one. With the concerning number of people being hurt and killed on roadways in Hillsborough County, several approaches are needed to reduce injuries and deaths. This is why the Hillsborough MPO sponsored a study of speed management and safety, with recommendations like adding midblock crossings, coordinating signals that optimize an appropriate speed, installing roundabouts, and many other tools that help make roadways safe for people driving, walking, catching the bus, or bicycling.

The Action Plan identifies corridors that would benefit from speed reduction and includes recommendations for treatments to reduce driver's tendencies to speed.

It is also a call to action for setting safe speed limits, combined with education and enforcement, policy and legislation. The MPO Board approved the plan in July 2020.

Wasting no time, the FDOT cut the ribbon on four new, red-light-protected crosswalks on Busch Blvd in East Tampa and Temple Terrace (pictured) later in 2020.



Public Participation Plan: Measures of Effectiveness

Updated at least once every two years, our PPP Measures of Effectiveness report summarizes how we're doing at providing information, proactively seeking feedback, and using the feedback to shape community plans. During 2018-2019, over 4,000 people attended board and committee meetings, and we received over 5,000 responses to our It's TIME Hillsborough survey, which shaped the priorities for the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan.

In the next two years, we plan to increase citizen engagement in historically underrepresented areas and create short videos to inform the public of activities taking place in our agency and let them know who we are. Recommendations from the report are incorporated into the Public Participation Plan (PPP), which describes the MPO's strategies and techniques to inform and engage the public and maximize participation and effectiveness.

Regional Long Range Transportation Plan

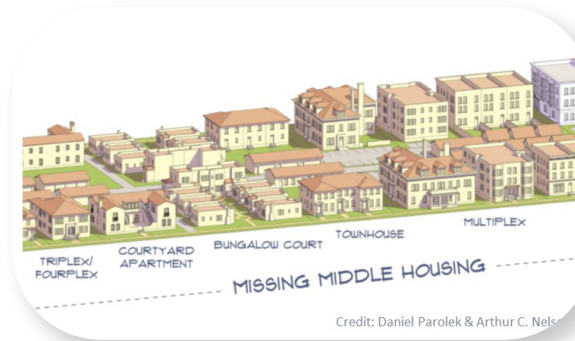


Because transportation doesn't stop at county lines, the MPOs and TPOs of West Central Florida, each of which represent hundreds of thousands of citizens from Brooksville to Sarasota and Clearwater to Winter Haven, meet regularly to coordinate plans and priorities. Known as the MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC), the chairpersons of these MPOs and TPOs convene 2-4 times per year, and their staff coordinates even more often.

Updated in 2020, the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan is one of the CCC's key work products. It identifies transportation improvements that are significant to the region as a whole. The regional plan coincides and coordinates with Long Range Plan updates in each of the MPO/TPO areas.

Agencies in this region have committed to plan for, design, and construct the improvements in this Plan over the next two decades, supporting our shared vision. Like the Hillsborough MPO's other projects, this plan for regional collaboration can be found on the MPO website.

Linking Transit & Housing



Following up on a Plan Hillsborough strategic initiative to better connect land use and transportation, in 2020 an internal staff working group called Strategies for Transportation Alternatives and New Development Scenarios (STANDS) took a deep-dive into current and realistically available transit

service and affordable/attainable housing development opportunities.

With widespread interest in housing affordability during 2020, the group focused on how new multifamily housing could be better coordinated with existing bus routes (especially higher-frequency routes), access to jobs, and safe walk/bike connections. The group overlaid data from many different sources, coordinating with HART, Housing, Economic Development, the Planning Commission's 2045 growth forecasts and redevelopment potential maps, and the MPO's maps of crash clusters.

Several high-opportunity corridors have emerged, particularly in the USF area, the west side of Brandon, and the east side of Town & Country. Next steps include drafting policies to be considered by Hillsborough County and HART in their long-range plans, as an interagency shared strategic direction.



Photo Credit: UZURV



Trips Without Borders

A new grant from the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged provided over 20,000 trips to individuals with intellectual disabilities during a 2019 pilot project with a tri-county service area. Providing on-demand trips across Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Manatee Counties, the pilot project operated by UZURV (above), an adaptive transportation network company, was funded under the Florida Legislature's new Advantage Ride grant program. In 2020, the Hillsborough MPO staff negotiated for another year of funding, coordinating with the County's Sunshine Line to ensure no duplication of service or state funding cuts to existing programs. The effort was successful! UZURV in collaboration with TBARTA received nearly \$1 million in new funding to provide inter-county and late-night trips to an even wider population of transportation disadvantaged people, such as MPO Livable Roadways Committee volunteer Arizona Jenkins (left).

January 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--|---------|---|-------------------|---|----------|
| | | | | | 1 New Year's Day Holiday County Offices Closed | 2 |
| 3 | 4 TAC 1:30 PM | 5 | 6 CAC 9 AM | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | 14 ITS 1:30 PM | 15 CCC Directors 1:30 PM | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday County Offices Closed | 19 | 20 LRC 9 AM | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

Regional Connections

The upper deck of the Expressway Authority's Selmon Extension rose out of the ground in 2020! The new 1.6 mile viaduct is the last link in a traffic-signal-free path from I-75 in Brandon to I-275 in northern St. Petersburg. Scheduled to open in 2021, the new lanes improve hurricane evacuation for almost 1.3 million local and regional families.



Spring is also a time to celebrate cycling, with Florida Bicycle Month coming up in March! In 2020, Bike Walk Tampa Bay celebrated another year of Tampa being #2 in the country with the most Bicycle Friendly Businesses — including Oliver's Cycle Sports new Silver Bicycle Friendly Business award (pictured).



February 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| | 1 TAC 1:30 PM | 2 Groundhog Day | 3 CAC 9 AM | 4 | 5 National Wear Red Day | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Super Bowl LV | 9 | 10 POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | 11 | 12 Lunar New Year | 13 |
| 14 | 15 President's Day | 16 Mardi Gras | 17 LRC 9 AM Beginning of Lent | 18 | 19 CCC Directors 1:30 PM | 20 |
| 21/28 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 TDCB 9:30 AM | 27 |



2020 Excellence in Regional Transportation Award.



Simulation of Category 3 Storm inundation in Downtown Tampa courtesy of Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Resilient Tampa Bay

Made possible with a competitive grant from FHWA, the MPO’s study of major roads vulnerable to flooding, across our tri-county area wrapped up in spring 2020. The study found that 19% of the Bay areas major roads are vulnerable to storm surge, heavy rain and sea level rise, and that essential roads, once washed out, could be impassible for days or weeks. Bolstering and protecting them is now part of the MPO’s long range plan, as a result of the study. Later in the year, the project won a national award of excellence from NADO!

Resilience of another kind was on everyone’s minds in spring 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic surged. Tampa International Airport (right) and many other organizations swiftly implemented public health protocols to allow essential transport to continue.



Photo Credit: Hillsborough County Aviation Authority

March 2021





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------|---|----|---|--|
| | 1 TAC 1:30 PM | 2 | 3 CAC 9 AM | 4 | 5 Employee Appreciation Day | 6 Gasparilla Festival of the Arts Virtual Event  |
| 7 Gasparilla Festival of the Arts Virtual Event | 8 | 9 | 10 POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | 11 | 12 TMA 9:30 AM PASCO CCC Directors 1:30 PM | 13  |
| 14 Daylight Saving Time Begins | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 | 19 | 20 First Day of Spring |
| 21/28  Palm Sunday Holi Day begins  | 22/29 End of Lent Holi Day ends | 23/30 | 24/31 LRC 9 AM | 25 | 26 | 27 Passover Begins |



The Countywide Vision of Zero Deaths

Eight of the top 20 severe-crash roads in our area are owned by Hillsborough County. In 2020, the MPO contracted with safety engineers to review all eight, with a goal of finding low-cost quick-fix projects the County can readily build. The roads range from urban 15th St (above) to suburban Sheldon Rd (left) to rural-fringe Mango Rd. Throughout, speed plays a huge role in the rate of death and serious injury. The County jumped in right away, starting with 15th St, where just three years ago the neighborhood used temporary paint and plastic flowers to highlight the need for improvements (far above) some of which have now been built! (near above)

April 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | April Fool's Day | Good Friday | Passover Ends |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Easter Sunday  | TAC 1:30 PM | | CAC 9 AM | ITS 1:30 PM | | Gasparilla Children's Parade Bike Safety Rodeo 11 AM |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| | Ramadan begins  | | POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | Tax Day | CCC Directors 1:30 PM | Gasparilla Pirate Invasion & Parade 10 AM |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | Patriot's Day |  | LRC 9 AM Administrative Professionals Day |  | TDCB 9:30 AM | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| | IOC 6 PM |  | | | Arbor Day | |

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group







Town & Gown & Innovation

Even in the heart of the metro area there are little-used utility corridors that spark people's imaginations — like this one that parallels Fowler Ave, surprisingly right next to one of Florida's largest universities and a bustling medical district. Could it be the future location of a paved path for walking, cycling, even low-speed electric vehicles? In May 2020, at the urging of the City of Temple Terrace and the Innovation Partnership (!p), the MPO agreed to sponsor a study of a paved trail in this vicinity, running from the City's nearby neighborhoods to USF and west to the VA Hospital complex and University Square Mall redevelopment site. With the mall's transformation to a vibrant urban district ("Rithm at Uptown", pictured in inset) already underway, greenway connections are needed more than ever.



Photo courtesy of Rithm at Uptown

May 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|----------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| <p>The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.</p> <p> LRC = Livable Roadways Committee BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee </p> <p> POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee TAC = Technical Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee </p> <p> IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group </p> | | | | | | |
| 2 | 3 TAC 1:30 PM  | 4 | 5 CAC 9 AM | 6 | 7 | 8 Gasparilla Distance Classic Race Weekend 8 AM-5 PM |
| 9 Gasparilla Distance Classic Race Weekend 8 AM-5 PM Mother's Day | 10 | 11 Ramadan ends  | 12 POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM | 13 | 14 CCC Directors 1:30 PM | 15 Armed Forces Day |
| 16 | 17 | 18 Primary Election Day | 19 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM  | 20 | 21 National Bike to Work Day | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24/31 Memorial Day County Offices Closed | 25 | 26  | 27 | 28 | 29 |

Environmental Justice

... means that our community planning decisions don't wind up placing a greater burden on one part of our population. The MPO is committed to this principle, and in June 2020, partnered with the Children's Board for an intersection mural painting event on the theme of Black Lives Matter. Our intersection was one of six painted during the City of Tampa's Art on the Block Mural Day with messages of unity, love, and togetherness (with ours, two others are shown below).

Photo credit: MartinLazar.com



June 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group





| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | CAC 9 AM  | | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | TAC 1:30 PM | | MPO PUBLIC HEARING 6 PM |  | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | Flag Day | | LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | National Dump the Pump Day | CCC Directors 1:30 PM  | Martin Luther King Jr. Parade |
| 20/27 | 21/28 | 22/29 | 23/30 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Father's Day First Day of Summer | | | |  | TDCB 9:30 AM | |



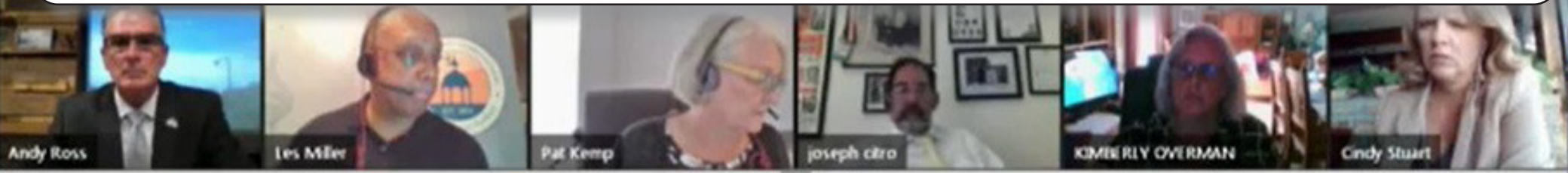
Photo credit: Port Authority

Public Access to Decisions During a Pandemic

On the evening of Tuesday, June 30, 2020, the MPO held its first-ever virtual public hearing, which was broadcast live on HTV (below), live-streamed on the internet, and provided phone-in access anyone who wished to speak. The hearing was on the annual update of the five-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Twenty-three citizens spoke, and 39 sent comments in advance, both for and against specific projects, especially projects on I-275 through the center of Tampa. After a lengthy debate and several motions to remove these projects, the MPO voted to approve the TIP as originally presented, with one amendment setting a higher priority on studying adding commuter rail service on existing less-used freight tracks.

One of the highlights of the TIP this year was a new \$55 million federal grant for Port Tampa Bay to improve their container shipping facilities (above). Transferring containers of goods from boats to rail, instead of onto trucks, reduces truck traffic on roads, as well as fuel consumption, since trains can move a ton of freight nearly 500 miles on one gallon of fuel.



Live 2: MPO Board Meeting - Zoom Screen Shot

Virtual Meeting of the MPO Board and Public Hearing
 Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

The County Center and Plan Hillsborough offices are closed to the public in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Technical support during the meeting may be obtained by contacting Lionel Fuentes at (813) 273-3774 ext. 326.

Commissioner Lesley "Les" Miller, Jr.
 Hillsborough County
 MPO Chairman

Commissioner Pat Kemp
 Hillsborough County
 MPO Vice Chair

Paul Anderson
 Port Tampa Bay

July 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group






| | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | |  | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Independence Day | | | | ITS 1:30 PM | |  |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| | | | BPAC 5:30 PM WORKSHOP | | TMA 9:30 AM/ CCC 11 AM MANATEE CCC Directors 1:30 PM |  |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | | | | | |  |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| | | | | | |  |



Photo credit: FDOT



Bottleneck Relief

In August 2020, after getting a jump-start on the Howard Frankland Bridge reconstruction when traffic dropped during the pandemic quarantine, the Florida Department of Transportation opened two new lanes (above) at the east end of the bridge. The project punched through a short pinch-point where I-275 narrowed from four lanes to two — a pinch-point that previously caused back-ups halfway to Pinellas County on a daily basis.

A much larger reconstruction of the Westshore District Interchange will get underway within the next five years. Early steps of FDOT's "Tampa Bay Next" program include new local street connections under I-275, to give people more ways to get around. Advanced traffic management systems, better transit service and bicycling routes for close-by commuters, and many other steps are being taken that raise the bar for interstate highway construction in Florida. To better absorb air pollution from vehicles, "green" noise walls with vines (like at the test site in Pasco County shown at left) are also in the toolkit for I-275 through Tampa, as a result of the MPO's 2020 White Paper on Environmentally Friendly Noisewall Design.



August 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|-------|---|----|--------------------------|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | TAC 1:30 PM | | CAC 9 AM | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | | | POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | | | LRC 9 AM | | CCC Directors 1:30 PM | |
| 22/29 | 23/30 | 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | IOC 6 PM | | | | TDCB 9:30 AM | |



Photo credit: City of Tampa

Safe Routes to School

Following up on the collaborative planning of the MPO's silo-breaking School Transportation Workgroup, the County, City of Tampa and the School District celebrated several walk/bike safety improvements in 2020. At Sumner High in South Hillsborough County, a new school speed zone features pedestrian-activated crossing lights, blackout boxes that prevent right-hand turns when pedestrians are present, new crosswalk markings and stop bars (right). Meanwhile, Tampa's Mayor Jane Castor continued her Crosswalks to Classrooms program, inviting students, parents and even principals to join her in creatively painting crosswalks that get drivers' attention (above, pre-pandemic). At the end of the year, the MPO formally recognized the leadership of outgoing School Board and MPO member Cindy Stuart, who founded and chaired the School Transportation Workgroup.



September 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|--|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | CAC 9 AM | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | Rosh Hashanah Begins Labor Day County Offices Closed | ● | BPAC 5:30 PM Rosh Hashanah ends | | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| National Grandparents Day | TAC 1:30 PM ☾ | POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM | LRC 9 AM Yom Kippur begins | Yom Kippur ends | TMA 9:30 AM PINELLAS CCC Directors 1:30 PM | |
| 19/26 | 20/27 | 21/28 | 22/29 | 23/30 | 24 | 25 |
| | ☾ | | First Day of Fall World Car-Free Day | ☾ | | |

Downtown Sports Smart Shuttles



In October 2020, HART and partner Beep announced (inset photo) the Tampa Bay region's first fully electric automated transit vehicle. The one-year pilot program, funded by FDOT, provides a self-driving shuttle on the Marion Street transitway in downtown Tampa, connecting to the TECO Line Streetcar at one end and HART's Marion Transit Center-- with dozens of connecting bus routes -- at the other. The shuttle is 100 percent electric and costs less than \$30 per month to charge.

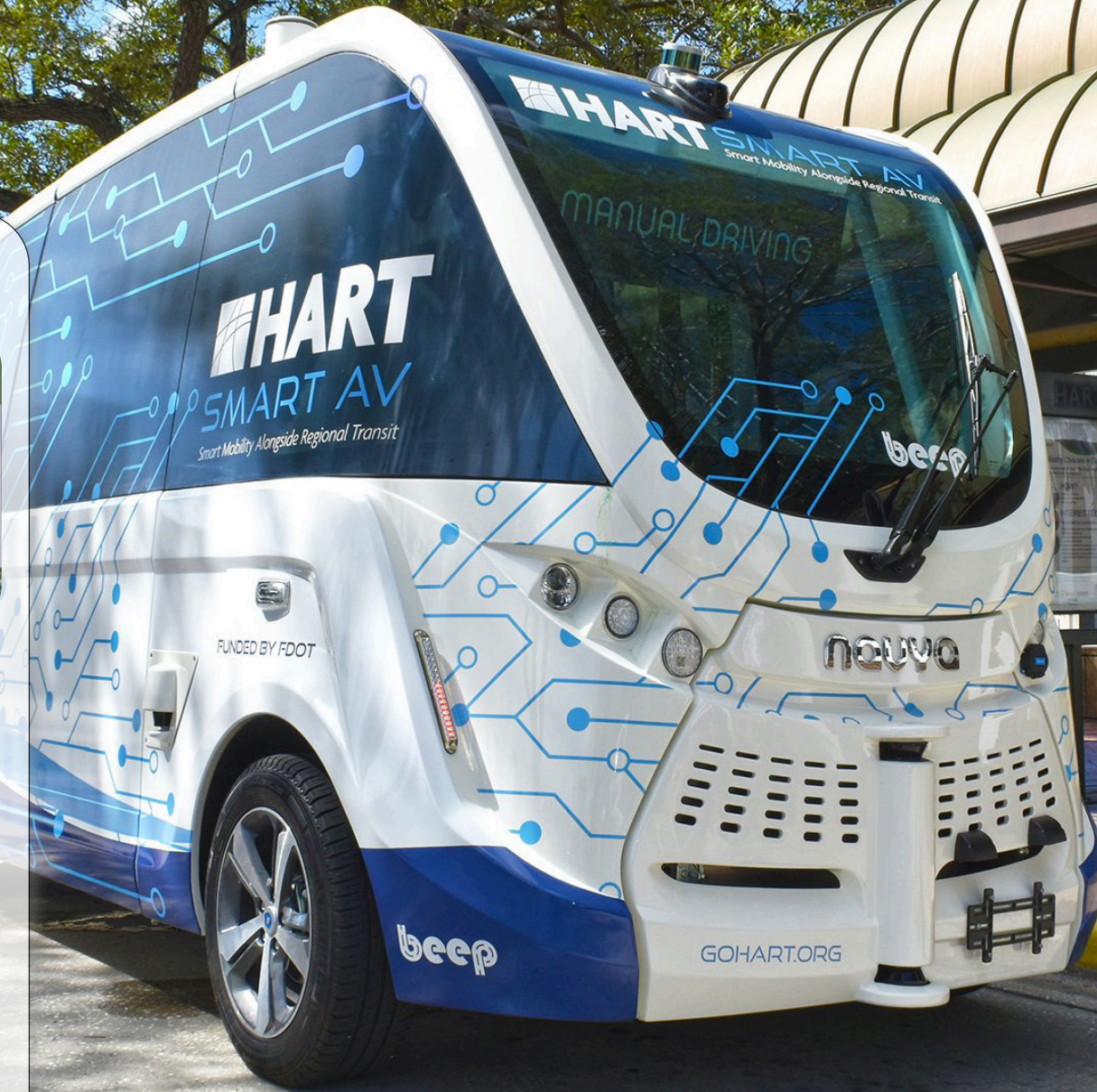


Photo Credit: HART

October 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|--------------|---------|---|-------------|---|------------|
| | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | TAC 1:30 PM | | CAC 9 AM | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | Columbus Day | | POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | ITS 1:30 PM | CCC Directors 1:30 PM National White Cane Safety Day | Boss's Day |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | | | LRC 9 AM | | TDCB 9:30 AM | |
| 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Halloween | IOC 6 PM | | | | | |

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group



The Planning Commission recognized two transportation-related projects at its Annual Planning & Design Awards program in 2020. The first Regional Transit Development Plan in the region, “Envision 2030,” won TBARTA an award for its public outreach program (above). The City of Tampa won an award for the Lift Up Local Economic Recovery Plan, which allowed bars, restaurants, and retail businesses to temporarily use outdoor areas including some roadway lane closures (right). Lift Up Local provided more space for businesses to distance their guests, and made better use of road space that was less needed during the pandemic.

Photo credit: City of Tampa



November 2021





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|--|---|---|
| | 1 TAC 1:30 PM All Saints Day | 2 Election Day | 3 CAC 9 AM | 4 Diwali Day  | 5 | 6 |
| 7 Daylight Savings Time Ends | 8 | 9 | 10 POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM BPAC 5:30 PM | 11 Veterans Day Holiday County Offices Closed  | 12 CCC Directors 1:30 PM | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 LRC 9 AM | 18 | 19  | 20 |
| 21/28 Hanukkah begins | 22/29 | 23/30 | 24 | 25 Thanksgiving Day County Offices Closed | 26 Thanksgiving Holiday County Offices Closed | 27  |



Connecting the Community

Through most of 2020, the MPO worked on a plan for Plant City and HART, designing bus routes and estimating what they might cost. At residents' request, the routes included express routes to Tampa, Brandon and Lakeland, and circulator routes within Plant City linking neighborhoods and destinations like the community center (above). The service concepts and costs may be needed if and when the countywide Transportation Sales Surtax approved by voters in 2018 is upheld by the courts, providing some funds from Plant City business sales to HART.

Also in 2020, the FDOT redesigned part of US 92 through Plant City, to add landscape areas, crosswalks, and calm traffic (right), contributing to the walkability and livability of Downtown.



December 2021





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The MPO Board meets on the 26th floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL. MPO Committee meetings are held on the 18th floor in the Plan Hillsborough Room. Visit planhillsborough.org for locations of TMA and CCC meetings or call 813-272-5940 for details. Florida MPO Advisory Council meetings are posted at MPOAC.org. Meetings are subject to change; visit planhillsborough.org for updates.

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee

POLICY = MPO Board's Policy Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee
 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee

IOC = Independent Oversight Committee for the Transportation Sales Surtax
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 CCC = MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee for West Central Florida
 TMA = Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | |  |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | Hanukkah ends | POLICY 8:30 AM MPO 10 AM | BPAC 5:30 PM | | TDCB 9:30 AM TMA 9:30 AM/ CCC 11 AM HILLSBOROUGH CCC Directors 1:30 PM |  |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | | | Joint TAC/CAC 12:00 PM LRC 9 AM | | | |
| 19/26 | 20/27 | 21/28 | 22/29 | 23/30 | 24/31 | 25 |
|  Kwanzaa begins |  | First Day of Winter | | | Christmas Eve County Offices Closed New Year's Eve | Christmas Day County Offices Closed |

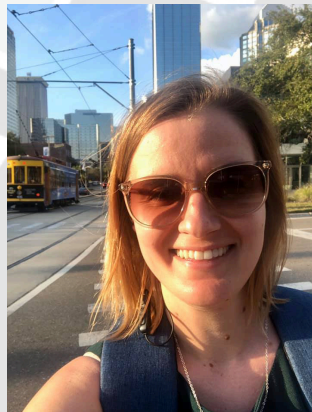
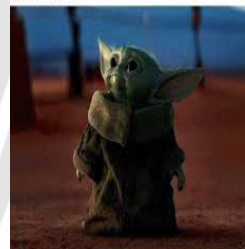
Plan Hillsborough Gives Back

2020 Commuter Challenge Week

The MPO and Planning Commission staff, in collaboration with the Downtown Partnership, Westshore Alliance and other agencies, led Commuter Challenge Week February 10-14, 2020. We gave our cars some time off and shared our experiences on social media, inviting everyone to join us! It was a great week to burn calories, improve air quality, avoid traffic hassles, and save money, and reminded us all there's more than one way to get around!



Waiting at the bus stop to ride the free TRACER fixed route bus service like:



The winner of our office challenge was Katrina Corcoran



Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade

On January 20, the Vision Zero Coalition marched for a better future in Tampa's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. The MPO staff was joined by the African Students Association of USF and the Tampa Bay Lions in carrying safe streets messages and signs commemorating those lost to traffic violence during the last year in our county. Many spectators along the route cheered their support! Communities of color are disproportionately affected by traffic crashes across the US. Here in Hillsborough County, your chances of being in a severe crash are 20% higher in a minority community.



The MPO continues to support the next generation of planners and benefit from their energy and insight, annually sponsoring an academic fellowship at the USF Master of Urban & Regional Planning program! In 2020 our team was thrilled to have Master's student Fatima Elkott (pictured here at bottom right) join us part-

time for on-street outreach in underrepresented communities, seeking grassroots feedback on our Nondiscrimination Plan.

Get Involved with the MPO!

Your MPO values diversity and inclusivity in transportation planning. We invite you to participate in shaping the future of Hillsborough County!

Public comment is always welcome in writing, on our Facebook page, via email to planner@plancom.org, at community workshops and special forums, or during the public comment portion of MPO Board and Committee meetings.

The MPO Board also receives recommendations from standing committees (right), whose perspectives and insights help shape policies, projects and plans. Citizen representatives serve on four of these committees and are appointed by the MPO. Visit planhillsborough.org or contact the MPO for an application.

Stay in touch by subscribing to our monthly newsletter or to a committee email list. Self-subscribe by visiting our website News page; unsubscribe at any time.



Our BPAC's Vice Chair, Mr. Jim Shirk, and others organized a History Bike Tampa ride in Spring 2020, to engage people in a discussion of the neglect of African American cemeteries and the efforts of the Florida Public Archaeology Network to call attention to historic injustices.



In November, our Vision Zero Coalition held a National Day of Remembrance event for 2020's traffic violence victims. Attendees wore facemasks with the names of those lost, while walking or cycling the Courtney Campbell Trail.

Join a committee!



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Bill Roberts, Chair
Staff Support: Rich Clarendon
clarendonr@plancom.org



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Jeff Sims, Chair
Staff Support: Sarah McKinley
mckinleys@plancom.org



Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Jonathan Forbes, Chair
Staff Support: Wade Reynolds
reynoldsw@plancom.org



Livable Roadways Committee (LRC)

Councilman Joe Citro, Chair
Staff Support: Lisa Silva
silval@plancom.org



Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB)

Commissioner Mariella Smith, Chair
Staff Support: Joshua Barber
barberj@plancom.org



Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

Brandon Campbell, Chair
Staff Support: Johnny Wong
wongj@plancom.org

PLAN HILLSBOROUGH

TURNING THE CHALLENGES THAT COME WITH GROWTH INTO OPPORTUNITIES FOR A THRIVING FUTURE

1,200+

square miles of land

1.3 mil → **2 mil**

people in 2015 people by 2045

830,900 → **1.2 mil**

jobs in 2015 jobs by 2045

Together with you, we have developed a 2045 Vision to guide the creation of a prosperous community that provides opportunity, fairness, and choice in how we live, move, learn, work, and play. The Vision describes:

- a vibrant, diverse, bustling metropolitan area that is the center of the interconnected Tampa Bay region
- a future with physical infrastructure and community services that support population and job growth
- creation of a broad range of employment opportunities fostering a resilient local economy, stimulating job growth, and promoting overall prosperity
- natural, recreational, historic, and cultural assets that continue to be enjoyed, because they have been preserved, maintained, and enhanced for future generations

Tampa International Airport, Sunset. Courtesy of Hillsborough County Aviation Authority.



Plan Hillsborough coordinates land-use, transportation and environmental planning for Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa, Temple Terrace and Plant City. Our diverse team of professionals provides staff to:




A long-range transportation policy-making board made up of local government and transportation agency representatives planning for more than \$3.2 billion with surtax in state and federally funded multi-modal transportation investments in the first five years of each 20+ year plan.



Promotes, coordinates, collaborates with, and facilitates the involvement of all people in comprehensive planning and visioning to improve economic development opportunities and quality of life in our community.



Responsible for promoting collaborative planning, regulation, and development along the river corridor while ensuring the environmental health of the river running through Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa and Temple Terrace.

 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 18th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602

 planhillsborough.org | 813-272-5940



Planning for the Greater Tampa Bay Region

The Hillsborough MPO is also part of the MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee, a group of MPOs that come together to coordinate a seamless multimodal transportation system across county lines.