

2022 calendar

with a look back at the
past year



Hillsborough TPO
Transportation
Planning Organization

Photo Credit: Kimberly DeFalco

From the TPO Director



The TPO was very honored this year to receive an international Transportation Achievement Award from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, for the groundbreaking **Speed Management Action Plan**. With one of the

highest traffic fatality rates in the nation, the TPO focused on strategies for the many high-speed, multi-lane, arterials that crisscross the urbanized area with severe crashes and speed limits above national guidelines. Leading the analysis, the TPO was the lucky beneficiary of the passionate volunteerism of Paula Flores, a local resident and national leader in the Vision Zero movement. The plan was drafted in collaboration with FDOT, the City of Tampa, Hillsborough County, and others. Paula Flores as well as TPO project manager Gena Torres and TPO director Beth Alden are pictured in front of one of FDOT's recent safety/speed management projects, a pedestrian-activated crosswalk on East Busch Blvd.

Dear friends of great communities in the Greater Tampa area,

I'm pleased to reintroduce to you your resource for collaborative decision-making on transportation priorities. The Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization is now officially the Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). "Metropolitan planning organization" is a generic term in federal law, meaning a place where city councilmembers, county commissioners, and other community leaders come together to look at data, hear from citizens about needs, and ultimately create a plan and priority list for improving transportation. In other parts of the country, the local association of governments or planning council is designated and certified as the MPO. Since there's nothing written in stone about the term, we have rebranded as TPO, to make it more clear what we do. We look forward to continuing to serve you with the same level of commitment under our new name.

I'm also excited to share this year's calendar with you, highlighting some of this community's transportation success stories of the last year! One that doesn't appear in our calendar pages – yet! – is our recent win of a FHWA grant through the State Transportation Innovation Council. It's a small grant, but it will actually fund our purchase of air quality monitors that report data online in real time, helping us found a grassroots network of community groups tracking air quality along major roads. Let us know if you want to participate!

Here's to even more great things in 2022! Sincerely, Beth Alden



Regional collaboration got a facelift in 2021 with the rebranding of the MPO Chairs' Coordinating Committee as the **Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance**. The group also built a website, www.SunCoastTPA.org, and social media accounts to improve transparency, public information, and access to decision-making. At quarterly meetings this year,

the Alliance was pleased to hear that last year's position statement on increasing the flexibility of state dollars – so that more can be spent on rapid transit – was taken seriously by FDOT, which now has several new funding policies in the works. The winter quarter meeting (shown here) brought together elected officials from five counties and was held as a joint workshop with FDOT senior leadership on FDOT's role in planning for rapid transit and rail. The work of the Alliance is conducted and financially supported by the six member MPOs/TPOs and their staffs. Photo courtesy of TBARTA.

Some of the other 2021 recognitions of the TPO's innovative work include:

- The Nondiscrimination and Equity Plan was accepted for presentation at Florida TransPlex (presented by intern Fatima Elkott), at the Florida Housing Coalition Conference (presented by project manager Joshua Barber), and at the Transportation Research Board Conference on Advancing Transportation Equity (presented by director Beth Alden)
- Executive Planner Johnny Wong was nominated as Transportation Planner of the Year by FDOT for his leadership in forging a regional agreement to build a data-sharing platform across eight counties
- Director Beth Alden, shown here speaking to a local civic group, continued to be elected by her peers to serve as Florida MPO Advisory Council Noteworthy Practices Chair, and was selected to serve on three research project advisory panels for the national Transportation Research Board



Meet the TPO Board

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



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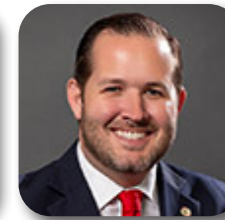
Commissioner
Kimberly Overman
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Commissioner
Stacy White
Hillsborough County
alternate



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Joe Citro
City of Tampa



Councilman
Guido Maniscalco
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City of Tampa



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Hillsborough County
School Board



Melanie Williams
HART Board of
Directors



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Cody Powell
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Paul Anderson
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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



tampaport.com
800-741-2297

2021 Project Highlights

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

Storm Evacuation & Shelter-in-Place Scenario Study

When the forecast cone of a named hurricane or tropical storm includes Tampa Bay, you may ask yourself, “Should I stay, or should I go?” This question is not an easy one to answer, and there are various factors that determine how, when, and where to evacuate. Two of the major factors are transportation to and from home and shelter during the storm. This is why the Hillsborough TPO is working with Hillsborough County’s Office of Emergency Management, the City of Tampa’s Office of Emergency Management, and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to study evacuation practices among county residents and visitors through this Storm Evacuation Forecast & Shelter-in-Place Scenarios Study.



Because road expansion is costly and sometimes impactful the TPO is aiming to identify other strategies to improve the evacuation process and related services, in the most cost-effective way. Using community feedback on how, where, why, and if Hillsborough County residents and visitors evacuate before or during a storm, the TPO will create customized recommendations for our community.

The study uses actual traffic data from the Hurricane Irma evacuation time period as one tool to flag bottleneck areas. Strategies to address these evacuation bottlenecks may include real-time adjustments in traffic signals, road shoulder use, changes in shelter locations or policies, public information, and other methods. The study is expected to wrap up in mid-2022.

Garden Steps

In celebration of Earth Day 2021, community members enjoyed a special gathering on April 23 at the “Healthy 22nd Street” Demonstration Garden in East Tampa. The Coalition of Community Gardens hosted the event which featured several local vendors and planning partners. Tampa Mayor Jane Castor also stopped by to welcome guests.

The Healthy 22nd Street Demonstration Garden is part of a corridor of gardens located along 22nd St. It was created by the Garden Steps project which is a collaboration between the TPO, Planning Commission, Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority, and the Coalition of Community Gardens. The project was created to improve the health of communities by increasing access to fresh produce through gardening, education, and walk/bike enhancements.



Safe Access to Parks

Following up on last year’s Speed Management Action Plan, the Hillsborough TPO zoomed in on the need for speed management on roads near parks, using roads near schools (where there are often special speed zones) as a model. The goal of this year’s Safe Access Routes to Parks Pilot Study was to create typical recommendations for traffic calming near parks, so that it is easier to walk and bike to them. Using Copeland Park, the Upper Tampa Bay Trail, and Sulphur Springs Park as examples of parks in three different contexts, the study considered various strategies such as upgraded lighting, sidewalk improvements, crosswalks, road diets, and better signage. Using feedback from neighborhood residents visiting the parks, Hillsborough TPO is now drafting a process for all Hillsborough County parks to calm speeds and improve safety on adjoining major roads. It was even more exciting to develop this plan concurrently with the City of Tampa which was updating its Parks and Recreation Master Plan.



Coordinating Transit, Housing & Development

Throughout 2021, the TPO continued to assist the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) and the Planning Commission on a grant-sponsored review of land use regulations along the planned HART Arterial Bus Rapid Transit route between Downtown Tampa and USF. The study looks at existing conditions in the community; evaluates the benefits of adding a mixture of housing, office space, retail and other amenities; and then integrates these amenities to create a walkable neighborhood within a half-mile of high-quality public transit.

The next phase of the study will be public engagement to help guide how the corridor and transit stations may develop. In particular, public workshops will focus on the design of the Palm Avenue Station on Florida Avenue. The study is expected to wrap up in 2022 with recommendations for the Tampa and Hillsborough County comprehensive plans and land development codes.



In parallel, the TPO continued to assist Hillsborough County in reviewing how affordable housing can be promoted where bus services are available. Coordinating with the HART Transit Development Plan, TPO and Planning Commission staff drafted policies and a map of proposed “Bus Emphasis Corridors” for consideration of inclusion in the next Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan update.

USF-to-“Green ARtery” Trail Feasibility Study

For many residents and commuters who live and work in the Uptown/University of South Florida (USF) area, a way to safely bike and walk from USF to the City of Tampa’s “Green ARtery” Trail would be an amazing amenity. The destination, Tampa’s “Green ARtery” Trail, will ultimately connect Downtown and dozens of parks, greenspaces, and neighborhoods, many along the Hillsborough River, equaling over 22 miles in the City of Tampa. The USF-to-“Green ARtery” Trail study is Hillsborough TPO’s answer to achieve this vision.



The study identifies several possible routes for a trail, looking at walk/bike facilities along 30th St., 22nd St., and 12th St./Lantana Ave. It also proposes safe crossing locations on Fowler Ave., a high-traffic commercial corridor with residential neighborhoods on both the north and south. The new sidepath on the east side of Bruce B. Downs Blvd. alongside the USF campus (shown under construction in the photo above) will be an important connection.

The Hillsborough TPO received input and support from dozens of community members in addition to the project’s key stakeholders which include the City of Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), University of South Florida, the Tampa Innovation Partnership, RD Management, James A. Haley Veterans’ Hospital, and CSX.

Nondiscrimination & Equity Plan

This year’s update of the TPO Nondiscrimination Plan marked a major milestone in the agency’s effort to ensure its planning activities are nondiscriminatory and compliant with federal regulations such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (“Title VI”) and the Executive Order on Environmental Justice. The new Nondiscrimination and Equity Plan serves a purpose much greater than just compliance; it seeks to advance equity, in both internal agency processes as well as external outcomes in the community, above and beyond what is required under law.



This year’s update includes:

- New maps to identify historically underserved or underrepresented communities
- A review of historically discriminatory planning processes and planning decisions in Hillsborough County and its cities

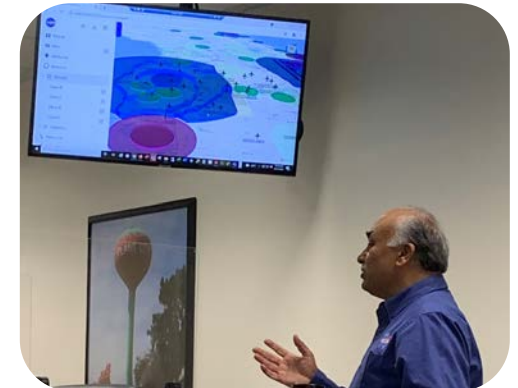
- A public outreach section that evaluates outreach effectiveness and highlights key community needs from the perspective of historically underrepresented demographic groups
- A self-evaluation of how the agency incorporates equity and the principles of Title VI/Environmental Justice into its planning
- Recommendations for advancing equity in Plan Hillsborough activities and programs

The plan, as well as the research behind it, are now posted at www.PlanHillsborough.org/Nondiscrim-plan.

NASA Air Taxi Siting Tool Beta-Test

In July 2020, the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) completed an *Innovative Transit Technology Study* that looked at three emerging modes of transit: hyperloop, aerial gondolas, and air taxis. One of the study recommendations was for TBARTA to collaborate with NASA on modeling work that they did related to air taxis.

Researchers from NASA were developing a geographic information systems (GIS)-based Urban Air Mobility Regional Modeling and Simulation Tool to evaluate potential sites for vertiports. Tampa Bay was one of several locations around the country where NASA was considering testing the tool. Because of the TPO’s extensive mapping data and expertise with GIS, TBARTA asked for the TPO’s assistance.



The TPO collaborated with a NASA researcher to develop and beta-test the model that was customized for Hillsborough County. It used NASA’s algorithm in combination with local land use, zoning, and transportation data.

Ideally air taxi landing sites will be located where they will provide the most benefit to the public, including access to major destinations and connections to other transportation systems. In addition, flight paths must be considered in three dimensions, with consideration of existing structures and existing flight paths to other airports.

The TPO, NASA, and TBARTA project team demonstrated the tool to planners from local jurisdictions and agencies including Tampa, Plant City, Hillsborough Aviation Authority, and the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority. Because several of these agencies have already been approached by private operators of air taxis, the beta tool is already considered beneficial in helping them evaluate proposals.



FDOT Grant for Tampa's Streetcar

In January 2021, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) announced it set aside \$67.3 million dollars in 2023 for the City of Tampa's Streetcar Extension and Modernization Project. The City's successful application for this Florida New Starts grant funding built on a preliminary study by the TPO in 2014, which considered whether the historic streetcar could be repurposed to serve more travel needs than just tourism. In answering that question, the TPO looked at examples like Atlanta's streetcar, which uses low-floor streamlined vehicles that travel at higher speeds than Tampa's historic replica vehicles. Modern streetcars could serve as circulators around a district like Downtown or could go farther, beyond Downtown, to connect nearby neighborhoods or even the Westshore Business District and Tampa International Airport. The funding which is now in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is for the first phase of the project, modernizing and extending the streetcar through the downtown business core and into the Heights with a station at the Marion Transit Center to connect to local and express bus routes.

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 POLICY = TPO Board's Policy Committee
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 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee

SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance
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 ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee
 TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group

Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.

						1 New Year's Day Holiday
2	3 ● TAC 1:30 PM	4	5	6	7 SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	8
9	10 ●	11 POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	12	13 ITS 1:30 PM	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday MLK Day Parade 2PM County Offices Closed	18 ●	19	20	21	22 Gasparilla Childrens Parade
23	24	25 ●	26 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM	27	28	29 Pirate Invasion 11:30AM Gasparilla Day Parade 2PM
30	31					







New Maydell Drive Bridge Makes a Critical Link

Last year, when Hillsborough County reconstructed the Maydell Drive Bridge over the Palm River, it included an easily overlooked new enhancement: a protected sidepath for walking and bicycling. “Completing the street” by making room for all roadway users is particularly significant here because the river crossing is part of the Southwest Coast Regional Trail Corridor, the third-ranked Florida SUNTrail corridor in the state, running down the west coast from Tampa to Naples. Though this bridge is one small piece of the puzzle, it links other segments which include the Selmon Greenway in Tampa and the South Coast Greenway in Ruskin/ Apollo Beach/ Gibsonton.



**Hillsborough
County** Florida

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Lunar New Year	2 CAC 9 AM Groundhog Day	3	4 SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM National Wear Red Day	5
6	7 TAC 1:30 PM	8	9  POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	10	11	12 Gasparilla Knight Parade 6PM
13 Super Bowl LVI	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 	18	19
20	21 President's Day	22	23 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM	24 	25 TDCB 9:30 AM	26 Gasparilla Distance Classic
27 Gasparilla Distance Classic	28					

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New Technology for a More Reliable I-4

Transportation Systems Management & Operations, also known as TSMO (say “tiz-moe”) refers to a large toolkit of strategies for getting the most use out of the existing road system. Strategies include everything from high-tech traffic monitoring to simple adjustments in turn-lane length or signal timing. The Tampa-Orlando I-4 corridor became a TSMO focus last year as the MPOs from Pinellas to the Space Coast formed a working group to coordinate traffic management across the peninsula, and FDOT District 7 led a grant application for a project called “I-4 FRAME (Florida’s Regional Advanced Mobility Elements). FDOT was excited to win a \$10 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to deploy detection devices, cameras, and communications on the freeway and parallel arterials, allowing staff to improve roadway performance and safety in real time.

Photo Credit: FDOT

March 2022


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Mardi Gras	2 CAC 9 AM Beginning of Lent	3 	4 SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM Employee Appreciation Day	5 Gasparilla Festival of the Arts
6 Gasparilla Festival of the Arts	7 TAC 1:30 PM	8	9 POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	10	11  TMA 9:30 AM Hillsborough	12 Rough Riders St. Patrick's Day Night Parade 8 PM
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins	14	15	16	17 Holi Day begins St. Patrick's Day	18  Holi Day ends	19
20 First Day of Spring	21	22	23 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM	24	25	26 
27	28	29	30	31	<p>SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group</p> <p>Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.</p>	

New Lanes Fly High Over Gandy

Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) celebrated the opening of the Selmon West Extension in April of 2021. The \$230 million project, a 1.9-mile, elevated toll lane, seamlessly connects drivers traveling from Brandon to Pinellas County. The Gandy corridor is a key evacuation route, and THEA incorporated recommendations of a TPO 2016 study on reducing vulnerability to storm surge into the project's east end where the lanes come to ground on the causeway. For the project's innovative design and aesthetics, THEA received an Award of Merit at the Planning Commission's 39th Annual Planning & Design Awards later in the year.



April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 ●	2	
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Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.						April Fool's Day	Ramadan begins
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 ●	
	TAC 1:30 PM		CAC 9 AM		SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Palm Sunday			POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	ITS 1:30 PM End of Lent	Tax Day Passover Begins Good Friday		
17 ●	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Easter Sunday	Patriot's Day				 TDCB 9:30 AM	Passover Ends	
24 ●	25	26	27	28	29	30	
			Administrative Professionals Day LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM		Arbor Day		



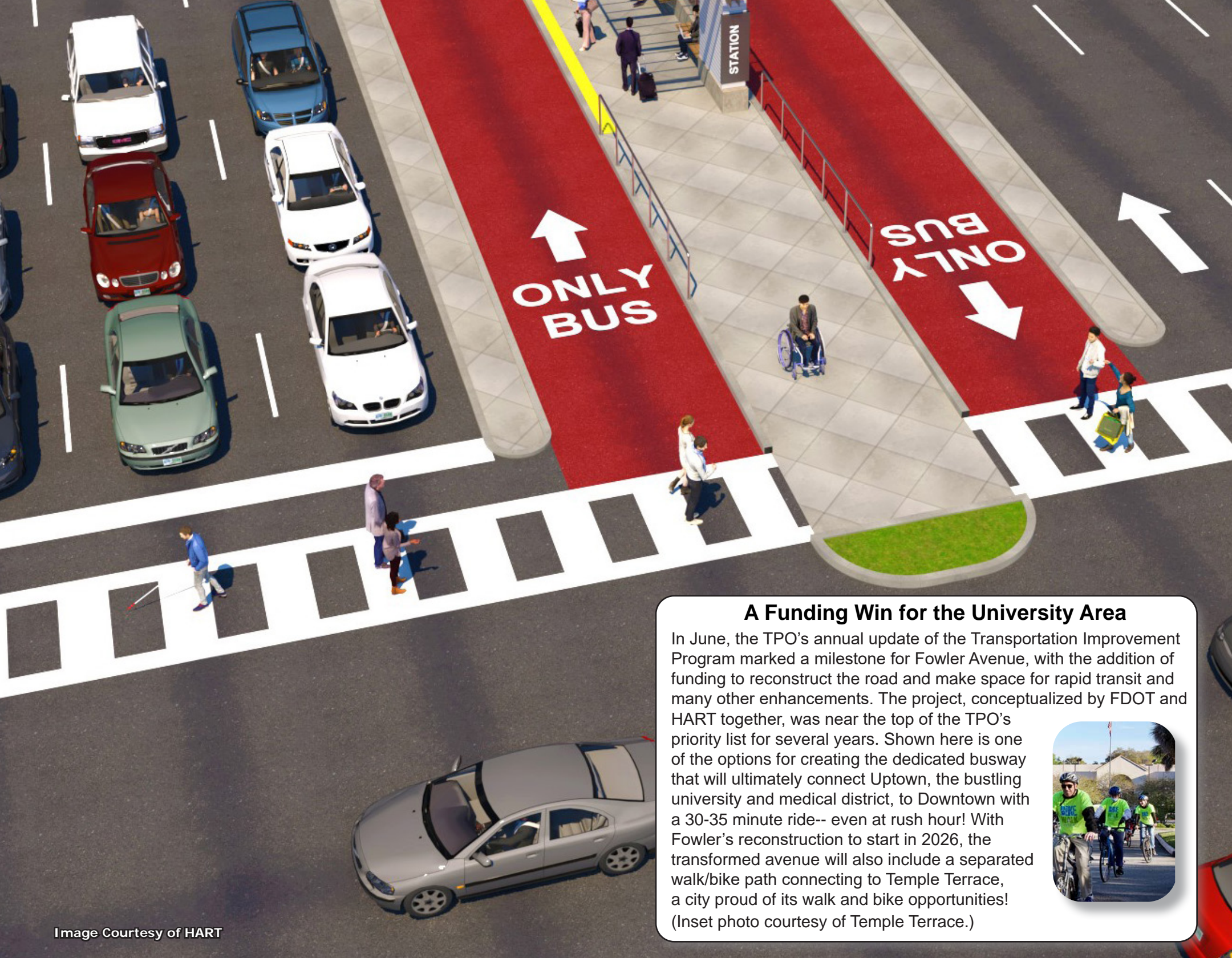
Kid-Safe Streets are People-Safe Streets

Responding to years of requests from bicycle enthusiasts and safe streets advocates, the City of Tampa held a Bayshore Boulevard “open streets” event in May 2021, setting aside the lanes one Saturday for walking, cycling, and enjoying the outdoors. Dubbed Bikestock, the event followed on the heels of Tampa’s National Bike to Work Day rally, led by Mayor Jane Castor and her staff with support from the Tampa Downtown Partnership, Westshore Alliance, and the TPO (inset).



May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ●	2 TAC 1:30 PM Ramadan ends	3	4 CAC 9 AM	5	6 SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	7
8 Mother's Day	9 ●	10	11 POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	12	13	14
15	16 ●	17	18	19	20 National Bike to Work Day	21 Armed Forces Day
22	23	24 ●	25 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day County Offices Closed	31 ●	<p>LRC = Livable Roadways Committee POLICY = TPO Board's Policy Committee TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee TAC = Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group</p> <p>Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.</p>			



A Funding Win for the University Area

In June, the TPO's annual update of the Transportation Improvement Program marked a milestone for Fowler Avenue, with the addition of funding to reconstruct the road and make space for rapid transit and many other enhancements. The project, conceptualized by FDOT and HART together, was near the top of the TPO's priority list for several years. Shown here is one of the options for creating the dedicated busway that will ultimately connect Uptown, the bustling university and medical district, to Downtown with a 30-35 minute ride-- even at rush hour! With Fowler's reconstruction to start in 2026, the transformed avenue will also include a separated walk/bike path connecting to Temple Terrace, a city proud of its walk and bike opportunities! (Inset photo courtesy of Temple Terrace.)



June 2022





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			CAC 9 AM		SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	
5	6	7 	8	9	10	11
	TAC 1:30 PM		TPO PUBLIC HEARING 6 PM		TMA 9:30AM TBD-Polk SCTPA 11:30AM TBD-Polk Joint Mtg w Ctrl FL Alliance	
12	13	14 	15	16	17	18
		Flag Day			National Dump the Pump Day	
19	20	21	22 	23	24	25
Juneteenth Holiday Father's Day	Juneteenth Observed County Offices Closed	First Day of Summer	LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM		TDCB 9:30 AM	
26	27	28	29 	30		
						<p>SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group</p> <p>Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.</p>







Photo credit: Copyright David Rahr - Photo provided by Conner Landscape Architects & ELEMENT Engineering Group

Castor & Castor Announce \$7 Million For Bus Stops

In summer 2021, Mayor Jane Castor and U.S. Representative Kathy Castor announced \$7 million in funding to revitalize, upgrade and expand HART bus shelters. That was great news for HART which had asked the TPO to update the inventory of bus stops on all city, county, and state roads. The TPO created an electronic data collection tool and dashboard, and inventoried shelters, sidewalk connections, signage, maintenance conditions, and amenities at 1700 bus stops across the county. The new inventory helps flag where improvements are needed.



July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 	8	9
	Independence Day County Offices Closed					
10	11	12	13	14  ITS 1:30 PM	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 	30
Parents Day			BPAC 5:30 PM WORKSHOP			
31						

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Tuning in to More Voices

Shaped by the TPO's 2020 Resolution on Racial Equity, the update last year of the agency's Nondiscrimination Plan included reaching out to historically marginalized groups and hearing how we can do better. At an August meeting, the TPO Board received the report and approved the plan, committing to take the next steps towards a more equitable and less impacting transportation system. These young ladies had a lot of great ideas for their city as they participated in our *Future Leaders in Planning Jr.* program in Tampa Heights, Palm River, and Town & Country. Meanwhile, long-called-for safety improvements continued in East Tampa, with FDOT cutting the ribbon on a new, signal-protected crosswalk at the intersection of 26th St. and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. next to C. Blythe Andrews Library. (Inset photo courtesy of Commissioner Gwen Myers.)



August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 	6
	TAC 1:30 PM		CAC 9 AM		SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	
7	8	9	10	11	12 	13
			POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 
		Primary Election Day	LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM		TDCB 9:30 AM	
28	29	30	31			

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VISION ZERO TAMPA

Families for Safe Streets

The Vision Zero Coalition formed by the TPO in 2016 continued to make a difference last fall. Just in time for National Walk to School Day, the City of Tampa, Sidewalk Stompers, and Bike Walk Tampa Bay celebrated a new *Crosswalks to Classrooms* street mural, helping students and staff from MacFarlane Park Elementary navigate across MacDill Avenue traffic. Later in the fall, the TPO helped organize the region's annual Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit, followed by a World Day of Remembrance event at which the names of those people who lost their lives in traffic crashes during 2021 were read aloud. (Inset.)



September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Labor Day County Offices Closed		CAC 9 AM			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
National Grandparents Day	TAC 1:30 PM		POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				World Car-Free Day First Day of Fall	TMA 9:30 AM TBD-Manatee or Online	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Rosh Hashanah Begins		Rosh Hashanah ends	LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM			






Photo's Courtesy of FDOT

Downtown Interchange Safety & Traffic “Quick Fix”

In Fall 2021, Florida’s Governor announced the use of COVID relief funds for a project to improve safety and traffic flow at the I-275/I-4 junction. By reducing lane weaving, speeding, and congestion in vehicles lining up for exits, the project will reduce deaths and serious injuries on I-275 near I-4 by nearly half. The project also adds traffic calming measures along 14th St. such as new traffic signals, lane narrowing, wider sidewalks, and crosswalks, and it extends the Tampa Heights Greenway, connecting it to Ybor, Encore, and the Green Spine. The concept was developed by FDOT after listening to neighborhood concerns about an expansive, expensive widening of the interchange, and refocusing on what can be done with a minimum of home purchases while addressing the worst safety problems. The TPO approved the funding unanimously.



October 2022





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3  TAC 1:30 PM	4 Yom Kippur begins	5 CAC 9 AM Yom Kippur ends	6	7 SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	8 
9	10 Columbus Day	11	12 POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	13 ITS 1:30 PM	14	15 National White Cane Safety Day
16 Boss's Day	17	18 	19	20	21	22
23	24 Diwali Day	25	26 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM	27	28 TDCB 9:30 AM	29
30	31 Halloween	<p>LRC = Livable Roadways Committee POLICY = TPO Board's Policy Committee TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee TAC = Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group</p> <p>Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.</p>				



Smoother Pavement & More!

When FDOT announced its annual Work Program update in fall 2021, several projects from the TPO's priority list made it onto the "newly funded" roster! In Plant City, the resurfacing of Park Road not only was funded, but for the first time, FDOT set aside an extra allowance to include basic safety treatments for all road users. Enhancements may include crosswalk upgrades, traffic signal retroreflective backplates, better lighting, and more. The focus on pedestrian safety will help Community College students as well as the residents and visitors of the adjacent neighborhoods.

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 	3	4	5
		All Saints Day	CAC 9 AM		SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	
6	7	8	9 	10	11	12
Daylight Savings Time Ends	TAC 1:30 PM	Election Day		POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM	Veterans Day Holiday County Offices Closed	
13	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 	25	26
				Thanksgiving Day County Offices Closed	Thanksgiving Holiday County Offices Closed	
27	28	29	30 LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM			

LRC = Livable Roadways Committee
 POLICY = TPO Board's Policy Committee
 TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 TAC = Technical Advisory Committee

SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance
 CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee
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 TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group

Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.



Photo Credit: Hillsborough County

Connecting the Network

In the Westchase/Citrus Park area, the long-awaited extension of Citrus Park Drive neared completion by the end of 2021. This Hillsborough County project, only two and a half miles long, makes a new connection between Countryway Blvd. and Sheldon Rd., and thereby provides traffic relief on Linebaugh Ave. and South Mobley Rd. without creating another six-lane high-crash arterial. The project includes landscaped medians, sidewalks, buffered bike lanes, other walk/bike safety features, stormwater drainage, an upgraded traffic signal system, and new signals at Fawn Ridge Blvd. and Deer Park Elementary. And it improves access to Hillsborough County's flagship trail corridor, the Upper Tampa Bay Trail.

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
LRC = Livable Roadways Committee POLICY = TPO Board's Policy Committee TDCB = Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board BPAC = Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee TAC = Technical Advisory Committee		SCTPA = Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance CAC = Citizens Advisory Committee ITS = Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee TMA = SCTPA's Tri-County Leadership Group			SCTPA Staff 1:30 PM	
Visit www.PlanHillsborough.org for meeting locations and links to participate virtually.						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Joint TAC/CAC 12:00 PM		TMA 9:30 AM/ SCTPA 11:30 AM Hernando	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			POLICY 8:30 AM TPO 10 AM		TDCB 9:30 AM	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Hanukkah begins			LRC 9 AM BPAC 5:30 PM First Day of Winter		County Offices Closed	Christmas Eve
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day	Kwanzaa begins Hanukkah ends County Offices Closed					New Year's Eve

Plan Hillsborough Gives Back



Gena Torres shared Vision Zero best practices with communities all across the country as part of the national Association of MPOs committee on Active Transportation.

Allison Yeh contributed her resilience expertise to the planning profession as part of the national Transportation Research Board's standing committee on critical infrastructure protection and a FHWA review panel for a disaster recovery planning tool.



Wade Reynolds led the TPO's ongoing support for the Coalition of Community Gardens to improve access to fresh veggies in "food desert" neighborhoods, helping organize the 4th annual Grow Gardens Conference.

Joshua Barber shared his research on equity, public health, and quality of life, and the history of racial discrimination in urban planning in Tampa and Hillsborough County with several classes put on by USF for the Tampa Bay Citizens Academy on Transportation.



Vishaka Shiva Raman got kids involved in planning their communities during the Great American Teach-In.

Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit

As one of six members of the Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance, the TPO helps organize the Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit every year. The 2021 Summit was led by Forward Pinellas, with the support of TPO staffer **Lisa Silva**, shown here leading the "Paint Saves Lives" bicycle tour she organized to showcase innovative and inexpensive strategies for walk/bike safety on roads.



Future Leaders in Planning, Jr. Program



The TPO's support for summer school programs to teach youth in historically underrepresented communities about civic engagement, urban planning, and safe streets, expanded this year to a third location. Led by **Davida Franklin** (pictured here, as well as in the USF Fellowship group photo at the bottom left) the weekly classes were held in Palm River, Town & Country, and Tampa Heights through June and July.

USF Fellowship Sponsor

The TPO 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 (MURP) program. The fellow spends twenty hours a week with our team. In spring/summer 2021, TPO was thrilled to have MURP student **Fatima Elkott** (pictured here at bottom right) help us with the FLiP Jr. program and other projects.



Get Involved with the TPO!

Your TPO 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 TPO Board and Committee meetings.

The TPO 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 TPO. Visit planhillsborough.org or contact the TPO 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.

Hillsborough TPO's Vision Zero Hero

Every year at the Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit, the MPOs and TPOs celebrate the great work of their community members advancing the vision of safe streets with zero deaths. In 2021, Hillsborough TPO was proud to present our "Vision Zero Hero" award to Ms. Lena Young. Founder of the Tampa Heights Junior Civic Association, Lena Young is a community activist who serves as a voice for the

residents, children, and businesses in the historically underserved community of Tampa Heights and other communities of concern in Hillsborough County. She has been a leader in the coalition of Community Gardens and partnered with the TPO on the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge project, "Garden Steps." Her desire to have safe ways to navigate the city on foot and bicycle led her to play a key role in the development of the Green ARtery, a 22-mile greenway that will eventually

connect dozens of Tampa's parks, green spaces, and neighborhoods. Ms. Young participated in outreach to many of the neighborhoods along the Green ARtery trail corridor and has been a continuing advocate to fund this citizen-led initiative.

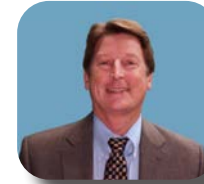


Join a committee!



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Bill Roberts, Chair
Staff Support: Johnny Wong
wongj@plancom.org



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Jeff Sims, Chair
Staff Support: Gena Torres
torresg@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 Gwen Myers, Chair
Staff Support: Joshua Barber
barberj@plancom.org



Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

Brandon Campbell, Chair
Staff Support: Vishaka Shiva Raman
shivaramanv@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 by 2045

830,900 → 1.2 mil

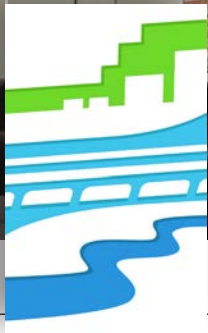
jobs in 2015

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 continued its commitment to public art with the new Blue Express Curbside facility, opened 2021. Photo courtesy of TIA.



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:



Hillsborough TPO
Transportation
Planning Organization

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 multimodal transportation investments in the first five years of each 20+ year plan.



Hillsborough County
City-County
Planning Commission

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.



Hillsborough River
Interlocal Planning Board
& Technical Advisory Council

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 TPO is also part of the Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance, a group of MPOs that come together to coordinate a seamless multimodal transportation system across county lines.