

# Transportation Improvement in the Tampa Bay Region

#### What is Tampa Bay Next?

Tampa Bay Next is a program to modernize Tampa Bay's transportation infrastructure and prepare for the future.

## The Program Includes:

Interstate Modernization

Transit

**Bike/Pedestrian Facilities** 

**Complete Streets** 

**Transportation Innovation** 

Freight Mobility

#### Tampa Bay Next Priorities:

Move people and goods safely and efficiently

Build a comprehensive regional transportation system

Create meaningful opportunities for public input

Balance regional needs with community concerns

Commit to sustainable infrastructure decisions

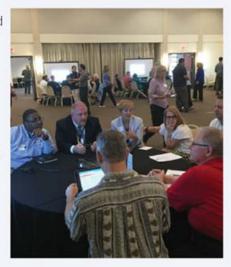
## **Tampa Bay Next is:**

- · a program to modernize Tampa Bay's transportation infrastructure.
- a process of working collaboratively with the community.
- · a conversation about transportation across our region.
- your opportunity to participate in shaping the future of transportation in your community.
- a way for FDOT to provide the public a more open and transparent view into the planning process.
- the chance for us to share ideas on how transportation projects can be improved.

FDOT has been working with local partners for two decades on a long-standing plan to improve mobility and reduce congestion on I-275 and I-4. We're reevaluating that plan to ensure it meets modern needs, and we're engaging the community in the evaluation process.

FDOT understands that Tampa Bay wants transit options in addition to roadway improvements, so we're integrating multimodal opportunities into our planning, and we're investing in transit initiatives across the region.

Modernizing infrastructure and preparing for the future means embracing new technologies and transportation innovation that could transform what mobility means for each of us. With Tampa Bay Next, FDOT is looking for ways to maximize existing infrastructure and lay a foundation for cutting-edge, smart technology.





FDOT will host local and regional opportunities to participate in developing meaningful transportation solutions.

For more project specific information and to get involved:

www.**TampaBayNext.com** TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us (813) 975-NEXT







## **Tampa Bay Has a Traffic Problem**

Congestion has become a daily part of life on our roadway system, costing our community time and money.

Our traffic problem is a combination of four distinct problems:



#### DESIGN

## We need a new design to fix the daily bottlenecks

occurring at the Westshore and Downtown interchanges. These interchanges were designed in the 1960s and have only had operational improvements throughout the years. They need to be redesigned to meet modern standards and improve mobility.



#### DEMAND

## Traffic demand is outstripping our supply.

We are the 5th fastest growing metropolitan area in the U.S., and we have almost 40 million visitors a year. This is great for our economy as long as we can plan for smart growth and accommodate increasing demand.



#### CHOICE

We lack transportation choices and need to add **more** 

#### options for getting around

regionally and locally. This means providing meaningful transit options and leveraging technology and innovation to move people more efficiently.



#### **CONSENSUS**

We need to come together as a community to determine a clear path forward. If we want

### significant transportation investment in Tampa

Bay - both for roads and transit - we need to build consensus across a broad range of stakeholders and community members.



#### **Regional Transit Feasibility Plan**

FDOT is funding a Regional Transit Feasibility Plan, administered by Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART), to move transit forward in Tampa Bay. The plan will identify projects that

- have the greatest potential to be funded
- · are the most forward thinking and make the best use of today's technology
- best serve our region today while supporting tomorrow's growth.

For more information or to participate in that plan, visit: tbregionaltransit.com.

#### **Get Involved**

Please visit the website for up to date event information: TampaBayNext.com/get-involved/

Would you like FDOT to present information at your community or neighborhood event? Please email us at **TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us** 





## Northwest Hillsborough Expressway Final Environmental Impact Statement Reevaluation From north of Cypress Street to Memorial Highway

FPID NO.: 433535-7 FAP No.: N/A September 2017

The Florida Department of Transportation, District Seven is conducting a design change reevaluation for improvements to SR 60/Memorial Highway from north of Cypress Street to Memorial Highway. The reevaluation will evaluate and document engineering changes and assess the environmental impacts associated with the provision of new tolled express lanes on I-275 connecting with the Veterans Expressway tolled express lanes that would differ from those noted in the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Northwest Hillsborough Expressway Final Environmental Impact Statement (NWE FEIS) and all of their subsequent reevaluations for the design segments being advanced. The class of action has been determined to be an FEIS reevaluation. The NWE FEIS shares a common boundary with the Tampa Interstate Study (TIS) FEIS at Cypress Street (See map on back.). The two projects were approved under separate FEIS documents, however, they are part of the same expressway system and will be constructed as part of one overall project.

#### BACKGROUND

In 1987, the FHWA signed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Northwest Hillsborough Expressway (currently known as Veterans Expressway) for improvements from Cypress Street south of Tampa International Airport to Dale Mabry Highway (SR 597), a distance of approximately 16.9 miles. The Northwest Hillsborough Expressway was proposed as a major, divided, limited-access roadway to serve local traffic in the north and northwest areas of Hillsborough County in the vicinity of Tampa, Florida. The expressway involved improving Eisenhower Boulevard to six and eight lanes and the addition of interchanges between I-275 and Hillsborough Avenue. The remainder of the expressway was a new four-lane divided roadway with interchanges to the local road system from north of Hillsborough Avenue to Dale Mabry Highway.

In 1989, the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority submitted the Northwest Hillsborough Expressway Master Plan Report (Design Section 1, Phase 1A) to the FDOT for expansion of the Expressway to include interchanges with I-275, Spruce Street, Tampa International Airport, SR 60 (Courtney Campbell Causeway), Independence Parkway and Memorial Highway.

In 1992, the FHWA signed the Design Change Reevaluation of the Northwest Hillsborough Expressway FEIS to authorize design of all eight segments of the roadway between I-275 from Cypress Street to Dale Mabry Highway (SR 597). Following the approval, the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority initiated construction of the expressway; however, they were unable to complete the project.

Subsequently, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) assumed responsibility for the project. FTE purchased the necessary right of way and used the existing design to complete construction of the expressway, renaming it Veteran's Expressway (SR 589). Construction of the segment from Memorial Highway to Dale Mabry Highway (SR 597) was completed in October 1994. The interchanges located between I-275 and Memorial Highway, including new access to Tampa International Airport, Spruce Street and SR 60 at Courtney Campbell Causeway, were reconstructed by FDOT between 2005 - 2010.





The purpose of this design change reevaluation is to update the FEIS based on the addition of tolled express lanes and other mobility improvements within the NWE corridor as part of the Tampa Bay Next (TBN) initiative.

The reevaluation will document compliance with new federal laws, identify any changes that may have occurred on a project since the approval of the original environmental document and subsequent reevaluations as well as assess the impacts of any new alternative options and compare them to the previously approved improvements.

Highway (SR 597) was completed in October 1994. The interchanges located between I-275 and Memorial Highway, including new access to Tampa International Airport, Spruce Street and SR 60 at Courtney Campbell Causeway, were reconstructed by FDOT between 2005 - 2010.



#### For additional information regarding this project, contact:

Ashley Henzel, P.E. FDOT District Seven 11201 N. McKinley Drive Tampa, FL 33612 813-975-6433 ashley.henzel@dot.state.fl.us

## **Public Outreach Events**



Date	Time	Event Name	Location
Friday, September 22	12:00 p.m.	<b>Citizens Transportation Academy</b> Regional Transportation Roles and Responsibilities	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Monday, September 25	6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Downtown/East Tampa Community Working Group - Meeting #2	Barrymore Hotel (near Straz) 111 Fortune St., Tampa, FL 33602
Thursday, October 5	5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Westshore/West Tampa/South Tampa Community Working Group - Meeting #2	Centre Club, 8th Floor 123 S. Westshore Blvd, Tampa, FL 33609
Friday, October 6	12:00 p.m.	Citizens Transportation Academy Metropolitan Planning Process	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Monday, October 9	4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Tampa Interstate Study, SEIS Public Workshop - Westshore	Marriott Westshore 1001 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, FL 33607
Tuesday, October 10	4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Tampa Interstate Study, SEIS Public Workshop - Downtown Tampa	Hilton Downtown Tampa 211 N. Tampa Street, Tampa, FL 33602
Friday, October 13	12:00 p.m.	Citizens Transportation Academy Introduction to Transportation Project Development	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Friday, October 20	12:00 p.m.	Citizen Transportation Academy Introduction to Transit: Transit Modes and How They Work	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Friday, October 27	12:00 p.m.	Citizen Transportation Academy How Transportation Projects are Funded	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Thursday, November 2	12:00 p.m.	Citizen Transportation Academy Congestion Management Strategies	Online Webinar (or attend at FDOT) 11201 McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612
Tuesday, November 14	5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Howard Frankland Bridge <b>Public Hearing</b>	Tampa Marriott Westshore 1001 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, FL 33607
Thursday, November 16	5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Howard Frankland Bridge <b>Public Hearing</b>	Hilton-St. Pete Carillon Park 950 Lake Carillon Dr., St. Petersburg, FL 33716

To attend the Citizens Transportation Academy online webinars, visit

**TampaBayNext.com/CitizensTransportationAcademy** or attend at The Florida Department of Transportation, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612. Please note that recorded versions of the webinars will be available online the afternoon of each session.

The second round of **Community Working Groups** are being scheduled for Pinellas, Pasco/Hernando, North and West Hillsborough County, and East and South Hillsborough/Polk Counties. An update will be provided immediately as dates, times and locations are confirmed.

For more information, please call (813) 975-NEXT or email us at TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us.



Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in this informational meeting, or persons who require translation services (free of charge) are asked to notify the agency at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting by contacting: Christopher Speese, Public Involvement Coordinator, at Christopher. Speese@dot.state.fl.us, 1 (800) 226-7220 or (813) 975-6405.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice).

Comuníquese con nosotros: Nos importa mucho la opinión del público sobre el proyecto. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios, o simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nosotros. Nuestra representante en español es: Lilliam Escalera, (813) 975-6445, Lilliam. Escalera@dot.state.fl.us.





## CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ACADEMY

Interested in learning more about how transportation is planned, developed, funded, and implemented? Join the Florida Department of Transportation's Citizens Transportation Academy!

WEBINAR COURSES			
September 22	Regional Transportation Roles and Responsibilities		
<b>Note:</b> There will be no session on Sept. 29 due to the TMA Leadership Meeting			
October 6	Metropolitan Planning Process		
October 13	Introduction to Transportation Project Development		
October 20	Introduction to Transit: Transit Modes and How They Work		
October 27	How Transportation Projects are Funded		
November 2	Congestion Management Strategies		

The online series is free and open to the public. For more information on how to participate or view previous sessions, please visit: **TampaBayNext.com/CitizensTransportationAcademy.** 

If you do not have computer access or prefer to participate in person, please join us at FDOT District Seven Headquarters, 11201 N. McKinley Dr, Tampa, FL 33612

Questions? Contact TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us or call (813) 975-NEXT (6398)



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