2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)

The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is prepared by the Hernando/Citrus MPO and its consultant. It is a multi-modal plan to help guide the various transportation systems in both Hernando and Citrus counties over the next twenty-five years. It is consistent with the Comprehensive Plans for each county and meets the standards established in federal law for metropolitan transportation planning.

Over the course of the year, the plan has evaluated existing conditions, gathered socioeconomic data, and identified future needs for highways, transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and safety improvements.

Recently added federal requirements have also evaluated safety and performance measures and the required targets for the following areas: safety (fatalities and severe injuries) system performance (reliable travel time) goods movement (reliable travel time for trucks) system preservation (pavement and bridge condition) transit asset management.

Below, there is a diagram of the Goals and Objectives for the 2045 LRTP that address the federally-required goals, objectives and performance measures that will provide a basis for performance-based planning that will best serve the community and the environment currently and for the future.

These goals and objectives were reviewed and approved by the Technical Advisory, Citizens Advisory, Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committees, and the MPO early in the process.

The 2045 LRTP is scheduled to be adopted by the MPO in December of 2019.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The federal legislation established specific planning factors that call for the recognition and address the relationship between transportation, land use, and economic development. The federal planning factors form the cornerstone for the 2045 LRTP and include:

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm-water impacts of surface transportation.
10. Enhance travel and tourism.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM (TD)

The Hernando/Citrus MPO is now the official Planning Agency for both the Hernando and Citrus County Transportation Disadvantaged Programs.

Trans-Hernando is Hernando County’s designated Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) providing safe, efficient, cost effective and quality transportation services for transportation disadvantaged citizens of Hernando County. Transit Disadvantaged Programs are handled in-house at Citrus County Transit where the TD program will continue to integrate its services with the respective transit operations.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) for Citrus County is in need of a Citrus County Citizen Advocate. The TDLCB for Hernando County is in search of a Hernando County resident who is 60 years or older to serve. If you, or someone you know, are interested in serving the community, please have them contact the MPO at mpo@hernandocounty.us or at 352.754.4082.
The Bus has adopted an update to their Transit Development Plan. The TDP has a 10-year plan horizon and is intended to support the development of an effective multi-modal transportation system for the state of Florida. It is required by the State as part of the funding for the Transit Program and a major update is performed every five years.

An update to the TDP for Citrus County Transit will be performed in Fiscal Year 2020.

Did you know? A regional fare box system to be called "Flamingo" will be instituted in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco and Hernando counties beginning in late 2019. This system will allow for a re-loadable Smartcard and a phone application as well.

For more information, please visit: www.hernandobus.com or www.citruscountytransit.com

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

There are many opportunities to participate in the MPO activities. There are currently vacancies on the following committees:

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) are looking for five citizens to serve who meet one the following criteria:

1. A resident of Crystal River;
2. A resident of Citrus County who is also a public transit user;
3. A resident of Hernando County;
4. A resident of Hernando County who either qualifies as having "Low Income" or is a member of a minority group; and
5. A resident of Hernando County who is also a public transit user.

Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) are looking for a resident of Crystal River to step-up and join their committee.

The Citrus County Transit Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) are in need of a citizen advocate to serve on the board.

The Hernando County TDLCB are looking for a resident of Hernando County who is 60 years or older to serve on the board.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

MPO BOARD MEETINGS
Lecanto Government Building
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, Florida 34461

August 20, 2019
September 17, 2019
October 30, 2019
November 20, 2019
December 4, 2019

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETINGS
Meeting Time: 10:00 a.m.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETINGS
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETINGS
Meeting Time: 3:30 p.m.

September 4, 2019 (Hernando County Building Division Training Facility)
October 16, 2019 (Citrus Transit Center)
November 6, 2019 (Hernando County Building Division Training Facility)

MULTI-USE CORRIDORS OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE (M-CORES)

The Honorable Jeff Kinnard, Chair of the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners and Chair of our Hernando/Citrus MPO Board, has been appointed to the Suncoast Connector Task Force and the Northern Turnpike Connector Task Force for the M-CORES program. The Citrus County Local Government Representatives for these task forces have not yet been confirmed.

The mission of the Suncoast Connector Task Force is to evaluate the Suncoast Connector corridor, which extends from Citrus County to Jefferson County. The task force will work in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation to address the need for the corridor and its potential economic and environmental impacts.

The mission of the Northern Turnpike Connector Task Force is to evaluate the Northern Turnpike Connector corridor, which extends from the northern terminus of the Florida Turnpike northwest to the Suncoast Parkway. The task force will work in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation to address the need for the corridor and its potential economic and environmental impacts.

Both task forces may consider and recommend innovative ways to combine right-of-way acquisition with the acquisition of lands or easements to facilitate environmental mitigation or conservation, wildlife habitat or water quality protection or restoration. Both task forces will specifically study how project design and land acquisition can mitigate the impact of construction on the water quality and quantity of springs, rivers and aquifer recharge areas; agricultural land uses; and wildlife habitat.

The first meeting for both Task Forces will take place August 27, 2019 at the Tampa Convention Center.

The Suncoast Connector Task Force and the Northern Turnpike Connector Task Force will summarize the results of their analysis in a final report by October 1, 2020. Sign up to receive updates about this and future task force meetings, by clicking this link: Sign Up To Receive Updates.

Residents are encouraged to send feedback to FDOT via email at: FDOT.Listens@dot.state.fl.us.