



Our Transportation Future: What's In Your Vision?

Take a look 20+ years into the future. How do we move from place to place? What do our roads and neighborhoods look like? Our opportunity to improve quality of life through better transportation decision-making is now. At its February meeting, the MPO Board approved Goals, Objectives and Policies as well as a Vision Statement that will guide decision-making for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update.

Between now and the adoption of the update, we will be asking you to tell us how we will get there. You are key to identifying a menu of projects needed to fulfill our vision. You can participate by attending an upcoming public event, by scheduling a presentation for your group or organization, or by visiting www.hillsboroughmpo.org. Learn more about the 2035 Plan and start giving us your thoughts by taking and returning the survey on pages 6–8 in this newsletter. For more information or to schedule a presentation, please contact **Lynn Merenda**, by email at merendal@plancom.org or phone **813/273-3774 x342**.

Visit the MPO at Community Events

March 13th ■ **20th Annual Senior Expo**

Family Recreation Complex, Temple Terrace

March 21st ■ **Hillsborough County
Neighborhoods Conference**

Hillsborough Community College, Dale Mabry Campus

March 29th ■ **Festa Italiana**

Centennial Park, Ybor City

April 25th ■ **Ecolution Festival** *Cotanchobee*

Park (waterfront behind St. Pete Times Forum)

May 21st ■ **Brandon Business Expo &
Taste of Brandon** *Florida State Fairgrounds*

June 6th ■ **Plant City Bike Show**

Downtown Plant City, Historic District

View the full listing of MPO events,
public meetings and displays at:

www.hillsboroughmpo.org

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Vision Statement

The 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a multi-modal plan full of choices that reflect and support the way we want to live and travel.

We are well-connected among where people live, work, shop, and play in the Tampa Bay region.

Our accessible streets are lined with green and paved with space for people, bicycles and motorized vehicles alike.

We have a variety of transportation choices, including rail, bus rapid transit, and other multi-modal options.

We share rides, bike and walk securely, and deliver goods safely and on time.

We support local neighborhoods and the business community while competing in the global economy with our world-class port and aviation facilities.



Mayor Joe Affronti, Sr.
Chair



Ray Chiamonte, AICP
Executive Director

Mayor Joe Affronti, Sr., Chair
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Commissioner Rose Ferlita, Vice Chair
Hillsborough County

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Hillsborough County

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City of Tampa

Councilman John Dingfelder
Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority

Commissioner Ken Hagan
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Mayor Rick A. Lott
City of Plant City

Louis E. Miller
Hillsborough County Aviation Authority

Councilwoman Mary Mulhern
City of Tampa

Councilwoman Linda Saul-Sena
City of Tampa

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Hillsborough County

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Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority

Richard Wainio
Tampa Port Authority

Commissioner Hung T. Mai, P.E. (Ex-Officio)
The Planning Commission

Donald J. Skelton, P.E. (Ex-Officio)
FDOT District Seven

Ramond A. Chiamonte, AICP
MPO Executive Director



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News Briefs:

It's Official: Ray Chiamonte is MPO Executive Director!

In December, the MPO Board appointed Ramond A. Chiamonte, AICP, Executive Director of the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization.

“We are a big metropolis, and we need to realize if we are going to cultivate our region, rail is a must.”



At a Commuter Choices Week event in October 2008, Ray Chiamonte describes Hillsborough's transit plan.

Mr. Chiamonte began his career at the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission. While working full time, he earned a degree in Social Behavioral Science with an emphasis on Planning, Political Science, and Public Administration. After serving

as the Assistant Executive Director for The Planning Commission for 13 years, Mr. Chiamonte is focusing his vision on creating a promising future for Hillsborough County, one that includes rail transit. ❖

Supporters Float Water Taxi Plan

Working with the Tampa Downtown Partnership, the Urban Charrette is helping to create a feasible plan for a trial water taxi service on the Hillsborough River. The river taxi will provide a way to celebrate Tampa's waterfront and connect our natural and urban environments. Service could start by utilizing existing docks, and adding new docks at the Tampa Museum of Art, Convention Center, Tampa General Hospital, and Cotanchobee Park for access to Channelside and the Tampa Bay History Center. Later phases would extend service to Davis Islands, Harbour Island, The Heights, and Lowry Park Zoo. To learn more about the river taxi plan, contact **Karen Kress** with the Downtown Partnership at **813/221-3686** or visit www.tampadowntown.com. ❖



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ARRIVES WITH ELECTRIC CARTS

A unique way of getting around downtown Tampa is now available. Drivers using eco-friendly electric carts are offering free (driver tips only), on-demand, door-to-door, shuttle service within Downtown and neighboring In-Town areas. Wait time is typically less than 10 minutes. Schedule a pick-up/drop-off by calling one of these licensed companies: **Green-Go's** at **813/376-0595** or www.greengostampa.com, or **HOP Tampa** at **813/220-0175** or www.hoptampa.net.



MPO Supports Signature Transportation Project to Boost Economic Stimulus

The MPO held a special board meeting on Presidents' Day in response to the \$787 billion American Recovery & Reinvestment Act for 2009. "We're still awaiting final details of the federal economic stimulus package, but it was important for our Board to consider the message we want to send, so we can take advantage of our fair share of the \$1.346 billion in transportation funding expected to come to Florida," said Temple Terrace Mayor Joe Affronti, Sr., MPO Chair. "We want to create jobs and improve our transportation system as soon as possible."

The top ranked project connecting Interstate 4, the Selmon Crosstown Expressway, and the Port of Tampa was the unanimous choice of the MPO Board. The project will benefit the local neighborhoods and business communities by rerouting truck traffic out of Historic Ybor City, off of State Road 60, and along Causeway Boulevard.

MPO Executive Director Ray Chiamonte, was excited that the board was united in recommending



I-4/Crosstown Connector project.

this signature priority project stating, "This is a very important project of regional significance and strong positive implications for our community." Fourteen smaller projects were prioritized for funding as back up in case the I-4/Crosstown Connector project can not meet the requirements for American Recovery & Reinvestment

Act. The top 15 projects recommended for funding by the MPO include:

1. I-4/Crosstown Connector - \$450 million
2. Hillsborough Ave, Town & Country Community Plan pedestrian/non-motorized improvements - \$10 million
3. 22nd St pedestrian, non-motorized enhancements from Lake Ave to MLK Blvd - \$2.2 million
4. Temple Terrace pedestrian, non-motorized improvements for a more "green" pedestrian-, bike- and transit-friendly downtown area - \$1 million
5. Sidewalks throughout the county and ADA retrofit for pedestrians - \$11.3 million
6. Vans for Bay Area Commuter Services Vanpool Program - \$.6 million
7. Platt St Bridge rehabilitation - \$11.17 million
8. Columbus Dr Bridge rehabilitation - \$8.87 million
9. Brorein St Bridge repair and rehabilitation - \$2.5 million
10. Laurel St Bridge repair and rehabilitation - \$2.5 million
11. Plant City street resurfacing - \$2.2 million
12. Intelligent Transportation Systems Signal Timing update program throughout county - \$1.62 million
13. Intersection improvements at Dale Mabry Hwy and Kennedy Boulevard - \$2.2 million
14. SR 574 (MLK Blvd) from Highview Rd to Parsons Ave - \$11.42 million
15. I-75 (SR 93A) from north of Bruce B Downs Blvd to south of SR 56 - \$39.79 million

Transit and aviation projects were prioritized separately because funding will be directed to Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART) and the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority to these categories directly from the Federal Transit Administration and Federal Aviation Administration, respectively. ❖

Calendar: MPO Regular Meetings

Meetings take place on day listed at:
County Center, 601 East Kennedy Blvd.,
Downtown Tampa, unless otherwise noted.

MPO Board

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., 2nd Floor

March 3
April 14
May 5

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Wednesday, 1:15 p.m., 18th Floor

March 11
April 15
May 13

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., 18th Floor

March 11
April 8
May 13

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Monday, 1:30 p.m., 18th Floor

March 16
April 20
May 18

Policy Committee

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., 18th Floor

March 24
April 28
May 26

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

Thursday, 1:30 p.m., 18th Floor

March 26

Livable Roadways Committee

Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.,

HART Raymond C. Miller Building

1201 E. 7th Ave., Tampa 33605

March 25
April 22
May 27

Meeting agendas, background information and minutes are available at:

www.hillsboroughmpo.org

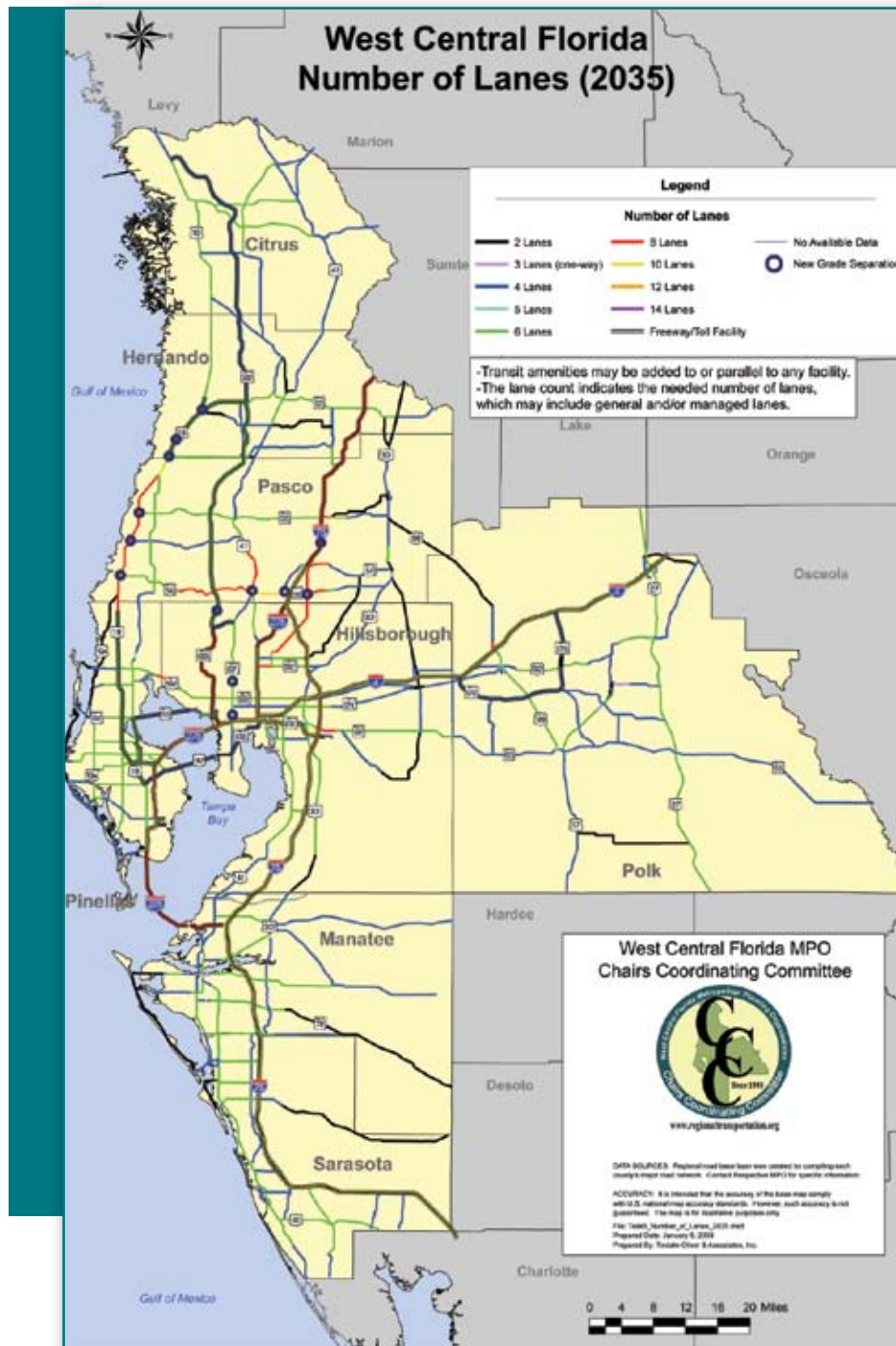
In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Tampa International Airport Interchanges on Road to Completion

Driving around the Tampa International Airport and along SR 60 has been a challenge for residents and visitors alike. By the spring of 2010, quick decisions and last minute lane changes will be a thing of the past. When complete, a four-level interchange at Spruce Street, and a three-level interchange at Courtney Campbell Causeway will make the area easier to navigate, and safer for drivers. The end result will be separation of local and express traffic, and reduction in congestion on the interstate 275 ramps. For more information, contact **John McShaffrey** at **813/233-3837** or john.mcshaffrey@dot.state.fl.us or visit www.mytbi.com/projects. ❖



A view of what Courtney Campbell Causeway (SR 60) and the Veterans Expressway (SR 589) will look like.



Assessing Our Regional Transportation Needs

The West Central Florida MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) is comprised of chairpersons from each of the six area MPOs and a representative from Citrus County. The CCC meets regularly to collaborate on regional transportation projects. Traffic does not stop at the county line, and neither should our solutions.

Over the last year, the most needed transportation projects around the region have been identified in the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan 2035 update. At the January CCC meeting, the Needs Assessment was unanimously approved.

After costs are identified, priorities will be set in coordination with other regional planning efforts made by the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority, and the Florida Department of Transportation.

For more information on the CCC's Needs Assessment, please contact **Wally Blain** by phone or email at **813/273-3774 x361** or blainw@plancom.org, or visit www.regiontransportation.org. ❖



Can you see yourself using Bus Rapid Transit?



Is rail transit on the interstate possible?

The 2035 Plan Can Get Us There!

The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is updated every four to five years based on regional population and economic growth projections. It reflects ever-changing conditions and new planning principles. The future growth plans of Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City and unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County are documented in their individual comprehensive plans. The LRTP must support these comprehensive plans, and recognize that land use and transportation are interdependent.

Investments that support concentrated development in city or town centers will help conserve land for agriculture and natural habitat. This focused growth approach includes programs or projects to foster livability in our communities, provide transit improvements and supports projects to enhance walking or bicycling. An efficient and effective transportation system offers choices for people who can and cannot drive, provides travel flexibility even when fuel prices fluctuate, and drives the local economy by providing choices for moving people and goods.

Please take the 2035 Plan Survey on pages 6-8.

ADDRESSING FUTURE SAFETY, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



On February 12th, the MPO hosted a Safety, Security and Emergency Management Workshop. Safety and security are key components of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) legislation. Hillsborough County's Emergency Management, Public Works, Hazard Mitigation, Sunshine Line and Sheriff's offices were joined by the Florida Department of Transportation, Port, Aviation and Expressway Authorities as well as HART and the Plant City Fire Chief to identify current and future transportation hazards as well as potential impediments to an emergency evacuation. Information gathered from these experts will be used to address safety and security measures in the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan update. For more information, please contact: **Joe Zambito** by phone at 813/273-3774 x330, or email zambitoj@plancom.org.



SURVEY

Traffic congestion can be relieved in many different ways. When you leave your car at home and walk, bicycle, or take public transit to your destination, you are reducing the number of vehicles on the road. Another way is through operational fixes on roads that can reduce congestion and speed up the flow of traffic.

1. In the future, how can we best improve the existing transportation system? (Number 1 to 3 your top choices)

- Build new roads or improve the ones we have
- Increase bus service frequency and hours of operation
- Expand bus service into new areas of the county
- Add rail service with transit oriented development around stations
- Implement new technologies to improve efficiency (alternate route traffic info, traffic signal timing and coordination)
- Build or improve sidewalks, trails, and bicycle lanes
- Other, please specify: _____

2. How important are these growth strategies for improving quality of life?

	Not Important				Very Important
	1	----->			5
a. Preserve open space and farmland	1	2	3	4	5
b. Provide transportation choices (drive, walk, bike, ride transit)	1	2	3	4	5
c. Reuse and/or revitalize existing assets	1	2	3	4	5
d. Locate jobs and homes closer to one another	1	2	3	4	5
e. Offer a variety of housing types	1	2	3	4	5
f. Encourage quality design for building and development	1	2	3	4	5
g. Maintain a boundary within which growth will occur	1	2	3	4	5
h. Encourage compact development where practical	1	2	3	4	5
i. Mix complementary land uses (housing, retail, office)	1	2	3	4	5
j. Preserve historic landmarks and neighborhoods	1	2	3	4	5
k. Make land use decisions that support transit investments	1	2	3	4	5
l. Plan transportation projects in areas needing economic development	1	2	3	4	5
m. Build toll lanes or HOV (high occupancy vehicle) lanes to relieve traffic	1	2	3	4	5
n. Develop more livable, sustainable communities	1	2	3	4	5
o. Focus on transportation projects that improve regional connections	1	2	3	4	5



3. In your opinion, what percentage of total funds should be invested in various transportation improvements in Hillsborough County?

(Total should equal 100%)

- a. Investing in walking paths, bicycle lanes and off-road trails _____%
 - b. Investing in public transit options, including bus, and rail and other rideshare options _____%
 - c. Investing in the highway system by adding more lanes or new roads _____%
 - d. Smart traffic signals and congestion management _____%
- = 100%

4. Many projects compete for the limited transportation dollars available. How do you think Hillsborough County should raise additional funds for transportation? Please check the options you would support.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New or increased sales tax | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased overall vehicle registration fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New or increased gas tax | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle registration fees based on car weight and engine size |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New or increased tolls on roads to support transit projects as well as roads | <input type="checkbox"/> I would not support any new or increased fees or taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New or increased taxes on parking facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other new revenue source, please specify _____ |

5. Where do you live?

- City of Tampa
- City of Temple Terrace
- City of Plant City

What is your home zip code? _____

- Unincorporated Hillsborough County (Brandon, Carrollwood, Westchase, etc.)
- In the Tampa Bay region, but not in Hillsborough County
- Outside of the Tampa Bay region

6. Where do you work or go to school?

- City of Tampa
- City of Temple Terrace
- City of Plant City

- Unincorporated Hillsborough County (Brandon, Carrollwood, Westchase, etc.)
- In the Tampa Bay region, but not in Hillsborough County
- Outside of the Tampa Bay region

7. Currently, how do you most often travel to school or work?

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive alone | <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive or ride in a car or van with at least one other person | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bus / Express Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> Streetcar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____ | |



SURVEY

8. In the future, how would you most like to travel to school or work? (Number 1 to 3 your top choices)

___ Drive alone

___ Bicycle

___ Drive or ride in a car or van with at least one other person

___ Walk

___ Bus / Express Bus / Bus Rapid Transit

___ Other, please specify _____

___ Streetcar / Light Rail / Commuter Rail

9. How would you identify yourself? (Please choose all that apply)

Business person

Elected official

Concerned member of the public

Government agency staff

Community group member or staff

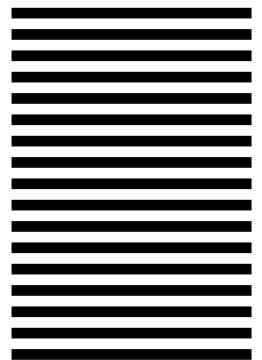
Social justice advocate

Environmental group member or staff

Other, please specify _____

Please detach pages 5-8, the L RTP Survey insert, fold in half along the perforation, tape and mail with the business reply mailer on the outside. No postage is necessary. Thank you!

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TRANSIT CENTER

TBARTA MASTER PLAN

In January, the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA) Board endorsed the Regional Transportation Master Plan Preliminary Mid-Term and Long-Term Vision networks for 2035 and 2050. Both feature rail, bus rapid transit, express bus and managed lanes, complemented by substantial local transit service. These networks are designed to provide choices for people to conveniently move between home and work, to educational and medical facilities, and to enjoy the area's many recreational, sports and cultural assets. Connections to employment centers will provide new options for where people live. A better, multi-faceted transportation network will encourage economic development throughout the region, and support redevelopment in communities that want or need to change. This spring, the TBARTA Board will hold town hall meetings to discuss the Master Plan Vision with the public prior to its approval. Please visit www.tbarta.com or call **813/217-4048** for more information.



HART SPRINGS INTO BETTER SERVICE



To improve service on some of its most heavily-used routes, Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART) is planning to increase frequency on weekdays and weekends on several routes, and new Sunday service on one route, beginning March 29th. Late night service will be restored on Route 30 (Town 'N' Country) between Tampa International Airport (TIA) and the Northwest Transfer Center, with increased frequency on Saturdays and Sundays, and on weekdays between Downtown and TIA. Route 18 (30th St.) will have new Sunday service. Other frequency improvements will be made on Route 1 (Florida Ave.), Route 6 (56th St.), Route 8 (Progress Village/Brandon), Route 12 (22nd St.), Route 36 (Dale Mabry/Himes), and Route 39 (Busch Blvd.). For HART schedules, please visit www.gohart.org or call **813/254-HART (4278)**.

CONGRESSMAN MICA: PASSENGER RAIL IS COST EFFECTIVE



Transportation infrastructure projects are important in 2009, as Congress prepares a new five to six year transportation bill. The new bill will replace the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU) that expires in September 2009. United States Congressman John Mica is encouraging local leaders to plan concertedly to obtain rail infrastructure dollars which he anticipates being part of the new transportation bill. He feels a strong need to plan for a regional network to include various transportation

modes such as light and heavy rail, bus, bus rapid transit, and managed roadway lanes.

Congressman Mica indicates that passenger rail is very "cost effective," noting the following:

"On I-4, one additional lane for 20 miles will cost about \$1.5 billion. In Central Florida, we're building 61 miles of commuter rail. I'm taking an existing right of way. I'm not destroying the environment. The entire system is about \$620 million. I'll still have to widen I-4, I-275, I-95, but if you go down to South Florida you see you've got to have other alternatives. It's energy, the environment, and the economy. The environment, how much more can we pave? It does have consequences as far as global warming and the quality of life."

(Source: Getting Rail Out Of The Station, Tampa Tribune, 12/14/08)



PHOENIX CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF LIGHT RAIL

Light rail cars rolled into Phoenix, Arizona on December 27th, and the city celebrated with free parties and entertainment at the new stations. Nearly four years in the making, the 20-mile starter line of the Valley Metro system now connects Phoenix with Tempe and Mesa. Downtown restaurants, normally desolate on many weekends, were buzzing with people. An estimated 90,000 people celebrated by riding the rails on opening day. Free for the first five days, rides normally cost \$1.25.

Valley Metro is on track to meet or beat its projection of about 26,000 riders per day. Students, commuters and sports fans are trading their cars for the train. The light rail project got its start in 1985, when voters in Maricopa County approved an increase in taxes. Phoenix has joined Dallas and Charlotte as the newest cities with light rail systems, preparing to attract new employers with skilled jobs, noting that some major corporations will not move their headquarters to a city that only has buses. Federal funds paid for nearly half of the \$1.4 billion system; city and special regional taxes paid the rest. For more information on the Phoenix light rail system, visit www.valleymetro.org/metro_light_rail.



TECOLINE STREETCAR EXTENSION ON TRACK

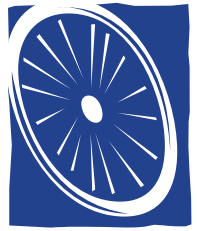
“Streetcar extension plans are right on track,” said HART Project Manager, Lynda Mifsud, at the December Tampa Historic Streetcar Board of Director’s meeting. Currently the TECO Line Streetcar System includes 2.4 miles of track linking Downtown, Channelside and Ybor City. The proposed phase extends the existing line from its current terminus in front of the Tampa Convention Center into the core of Downtown Tampa, running north on Franklin Street to Whiting Street at the Fort Brooke Parking Garage. A future phase would extend the streetcar line further north, through Tampa Heights and back to Ybor City, completing the loop.

Design considerations for the extension include a passing track and single-track configurations to support staging of at least six streetcars. The \$5.4 million cost estimate includes track work, roadway improvements to comply with ADA requirements, landscaping, traffic signage, stormwater and wastewater utility relocations, and a boarding station. The new station is expected to be open in 2010. For more information, visit www.tecolinestreetcar.org or call **Lynda Mifsud** at **813/254-HART (4278)**.



Bike Ped NEWS

The Newspaper of the Hillsborough County
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)



Issue 43

A Transportation Partner

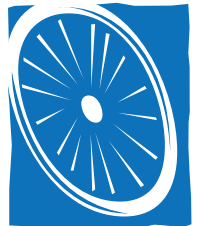
Spring 2009

March is for Cycling!

Celebrate Florida's Bike Month with Tampa BayCycle. A collaborative effort of the New North Transportation Alliance and the Tampa Downtown Partnership, Tampa BayCycle brings together people who believe that riding a bicycle allows people to save money and gas, stay fit, reduce traffic congestion and most importantly, have fun.



Bike Month events include: bicycle and gear giveaways, group rides, street skill classes, films, festivals, and more. For a complete event listing visit www.TampaBayCycle.com. Don't miss the 1st annual Downtown Tampa Twilight Criterium and Festival, Saturday, March 21st from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. For the schedule of events including bike decorating and family fun parade, race registrations and more, visit www.tampacrit.com. ❖



Do the Local Motion

The Tampa Downtown Partnership teamed up with Healthy Together, Hillsborough County, and FDOT to "Do the Local Motion," a free walking program. Narrated walking routes feature Downtown Tampa's public art, architecture, history and legends. Groups will meet at noon at Lykes Gaslight Square on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in March and April. (March 13: Walk to Oaklawn Cemetery & March 27: Walk to Bayshore Boulevard). Before or after your walk, browse the



pedestrian-friendly Tampa Downtown Market. Visit www.DoTheLocalMotionTampaBay.com for a schedule of events, mileage tracker, downloadable maps, and pod casts. ❖



Commuter Corner with Jonathon Scott: Utopia on Two Wheels!

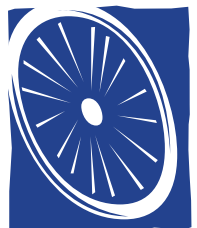
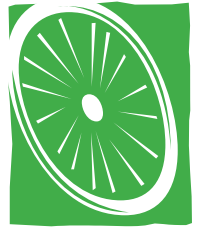
Since 1994, Jonathan Scott has been riding his bike to work. He tries to live close enough to his employer to make it an easy ride. In fact, when his consulting job kept him from biking to work, he actually quit! Now he works for the City of Tampa as a traffic engineer. When asked why he bikes, Jonathan said, "I can't stand driving. The last thing I want to do first thing in the morning is get inside a car. Driving a car puts me in a negative state of mind. Riding a bike is a utopia." His route Tampa's Bayshore Boulevard to Downtown takes about 30 minutes to ride. For bicycle commuting neophytes, Jonathan offers this, "Take the first step. After you ride in for the first week, you get used to it, and then the second and third weeks get easier." That's excellent advice from an experienced bicycle devotee. ❖



Get your Wheels Turning...

WE'RE HAVING A BPAC LOGO CONTEST!

It's time for a new BPAC logo, and we need creative ideas! Submit logo designs, either hand drawn or computer generated with your name, address, email and phone number by 5 p.m. on April 7th 2009. The winner will receive a "classic" BPAC logo polo shirt and bike light. For details or to submit an entry, contact **Gena Torres** by phone or email at **813/273-3774 x357**, torresg@plancom.org. ❖

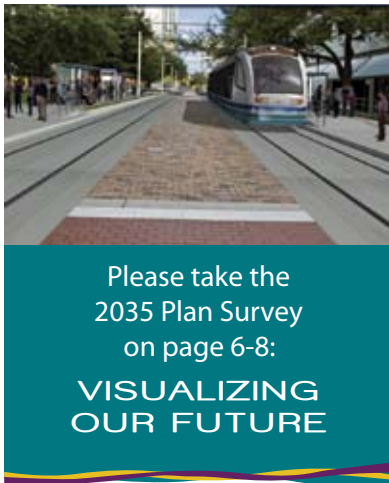




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Finding Your Way

It's easier than ever to find your way around Downtown Tampa, thanks to 160 new vehicular, parking and pedestrian signs. The Tampa Downtown Partnership worked with government agencies, and stakeholders of major downtown attractions and facilities to create the new wayfinding system. "In addition to helping people easily find their destinations in a car or on foot, we believe the new coordinated signage package will help create a sense of place in Tampa's Downtown," said Karen Kress, Director of Transportation and Planning for the Tampa Downtown Partnership. ❖



Gasparilla Bicycle Safety Rodeo Rounds 'Em Up

Before the pirate invasion, your Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee combined a fun event with bicycle safety, hosting 260 children at our annual Gasparilla Bicycle Rodeo on January 24th at the Children's Gasparilla Extravaganza celebration.



MPO staff Gena Torres shows a participant how to fit the helmet for safety and comfort.