



Next Steps Newsletter

July 2017

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

Modernize infrastructure | Prepare for the future | Embrace collaboration and innovation

FDOT Hosts Series of Community Working Groups

Tampa Bay Next is a program to modernize Tampa Bay's transportation infrastructure and prepare for the future. Tampa Bay Next is also a process of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) working with the community to determine the right set of transportation solutions.

In May, FDOT launched the Community Working Groups program with a kickoff event at the Bryan Glazer Family Jewish Community Center. Moderated by Collaborative Labs, the event was a major step in a new direction as we seek community-based input to guide us through decisions in the planning process. At the meeting, the community discussed the ideal future of regional transportation which included ideas related to safety, multi-modal opportunities, technology and funding sources.

Since that meeting, the Community Working Groups have initiated their quarterly sessions. See the upcoming events for a list of meeting dates and times.

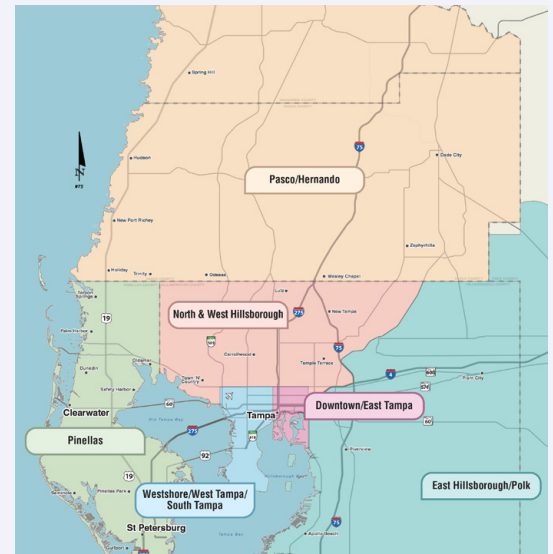
In addition to the working groups, FDOT is going into the community, meeting people in locations where they gather, places like weekend markets, public parks, food truck events and more.

"We hope the community feels encouraged by our new direction. We are serious about gathering input as we develop a plan that will reflect the values of our community while solving our interstate congestion problems." – Ed McKinney, Planning and Environmental Administrator, FDOT District Seven

For more information on the Community Working Groups, please continue to check the website: TampaBayNext.com/get-involved/

If you are unable to attend a working group meeting, please consider visiting the website to share your input:

TampaBayNext.com/contact-us/



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

For more project specific information and to get involved:

TampaBayNext.com | TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us | (813) 975-NEXT | [f TampaBayNext](https://www.facebook.com/TampaBayNext) | [@TampaBayNext](https://twitter.com/TampaBayNext)



Note: Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Chris Speese, Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405, (800) 226-7220 or email: christopher.speese@dot.state.fl.us at least seven (7) days prior to a meeting.

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: Megan Olivera, (407) 709-9840, Megan.Olivera@QCAusa.com.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 13:

Pinellas County Community Working Group (5:30-7:30 p.m.),
Collaborative Labs – St. Petersburg College – The EpiCenter,
13805 58th Street N, Clearwater, FL 33760

Saturday, July 15:

Hillsborough County Neighborhoods Conference
(8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.), **Sheraton East Hotel**,
10221 Princess Palm Avenue, Tampa, FL 33610

Thursday, July 20:

North and West Hillsborough Community Working Group
(5:30-7:30 p.m.), **University Area Community Development
Corporation**, 14013 N 22nd St, Tampa, FL 33613

Saturday, July 22:

St. Petersburg Saturday Market (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), **Williams Park**,
350 2nd Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

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

Thursday, August 3:

Pasco/Hernando Community Working Group (5:30-7:30 p.m.),
Myrtle Lake Baptist Church, 2017 Reigler Road,
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

Tuesday, August 15:

East/South Hillsborough/Polk County Community
Working Group (5:30-7:30 p.m.), **Sheraton East Hotel**,
10221 Princess Palm Avenue, Tampa, FL 33610.

Saturday, August 19:

Tampa Bay Youth League Football opening day (1:00-9:00 p.m.),
Skyway Park, 4840 Independence Parkway, Tampa, FL 33634

What's Going to Happen with Community Initiated Concepts?

Participation at Community Working Groups, public workshops, and feedback through the website are great ways to share your ideas with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). As ideas are generated by the public, FDOT will begin to evaluate those ideas and report back to the public. FDOT wants this to be a collaborative process, working with agency partners, stakeholders, and the community to find the right set of transportation solutions.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is the federal process to assess environmental effects of proposed alternatives prior to making decisions. Some elements considered during the process include the ability to handle travel demand, aesthetics, air quality, economic development, environmental justice, historical properties and districts, neighborhoods, noise, parks and recreation, safety, and more. FDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will work together to provide opportunities for public involvement to review the proposed alternatives and their potential environmental effects.



Preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is a rigorous evaluation process. FDOT plans to spend at least two years on this SEIS. The first public workshops will be held in October 2017, and we have ongoing community events and online opportunities to provide input into the process. If you would like to know more about the SEIS process and how to contribute ideas, please contact TampaBayNext@dot.state.fl.us.