

## **TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

1. Transportation is critical to our quality of life, to public safety, and to the economic vitality and job creation ability of Hillsborough County. Greater access and mobility will positively impact our residents, commuters and visitors – as well as assure the efficient movement of goods and freight within our community.
2. Public safety is our highest concern. We must look at improved traffic operations, upgrades to intersections and innovative solutions to traffic hazards to better ensure motorist, bicyclist and pedestrian safety and security.
3. Congestion Mitigation is also of great priority. With congestion adding to travel time and delays, it is essential that we pursue Intelligent Transportation Systems and other methods of access and travel management. These will help alleviate constrained corridors, maintain capacity, improve traffic flow during peak hour periods, and aid in faster emergency response and positively impact air quality.
4. We are approaching our mission from the perspective of a 20-year horizon, recognizing that the county must stay attuned to changing needs and financial requirements and that solutions will need to be frequently reviewed, modified and applied.
5. Our primary focus will be on critical short-term solutions in public safety and congestion mitigation. We will also begin the process to identify and set the stage for mid and longer-term solutions for road and capacity improvements, including mass transit.
6. Existing funding sources will be used and effectively leveraged, as our citizens expect their local governments to spend their dollars wisely for maximum impact.
7. Momentum on immediate and mid-term needs is critical. Discussions on new funding sources will be addressed as part of the long term solution, but will not be part of our initial recommendations.

8. Hillsborough County can and must take a leadership role in promoting regional cooperation on transportation. We must work together on developing, funding, and implementing projects that are identified as regional priorities. We will look at compatibility with neighboring jurisdictions for our overall transportation network.
9. True mobility, both intra-county and regionally, will mean a growing emphasis on an intermodal system for longer term solutions. Integrating these modes will require effective connectivity between major activity centers within the county. It will be important to support a highway system that can become more “transit-friendly.”
10. Land use changes promoting in-fill development and greater densities within activity centers will allow for greater transit, bikeways and sidewalks and the creation of more efficient communities. We support policies that maximize the use of the existing transportation system for locating new facilities.
11. Transportation needs must be viewed in tandem with workforce housing. Affordable housing is key to attracting new business and well-paying jobs to our community and improving the quality of life for everyone. If workers can afford to live closer to their places of employment or if transit is available, traffic congestion will be lessened and there will be better opportunities at economic success for lower and middle-income workers and families in Hillsborough County.
12. Our recommendations must provide meaningful benefits across the geographical diversity of needs of our county.