

SUSTAINABILITY TALKS

QUESTION CARD



Discuss how renters and/or small businesses can be empowered to install and benefit from renewable energy and efficiency upgrades (ie: increase educational support and financial savings from new energy technologies).



How can Hillsborough County increase community-wide energy efficiency, or reach carbon neutral goals?



According to the Florida Energy Systems Consortium, Florida's residential electricity sales were second in the nation after Texas (2014) with annual bills averaging \$1,900. Discuss ways that you could conserve energy or reduce your carbon footprint (ie: monitor energy use per appliance).

Energy



How many bags of trash does your household produce each week? What actions can you take to reduce your waste? Which waste items are the most difficult to dispose of or recycle?



Discuss which of the following should be the top priority for Hillsborough County in order to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill:

- Require commercial businesses and multi-family properties to provide recycling service.
- Invest in providing more food waste composting options for residents and businesses.
- Invest in new waste management technologies, or the construction of new facilities, to better manage the waste stream.
- Mandate recycling of certain construction and demolition debris.



What actions can Hillsborough County take to reduce single use waste products and increase the reuse and repurposing of waste products?

Waste



Discuss strategies and ideas to build communities for intergenerational families (households with different age groups) with different levels of mobility, or households of different income levels living in the same community.



Hillsborough County's population will increase by over 25% by 2040, for a total population of nearly 2 million. This likely means more congestion, delays, and pollution. In order to lower emissions and increase efficiencies, planners recommend new mass transit service, bus service expansion, and more bicycle networks. Discuss your priorities and reasoning for these options.



Hillsborough County residents spend approximately 25% of household income on transportation expenses, 6% above the national average. Discuss ways or actions to reduce this expense.



Transportation



The strength and resiliency of a neighborhood can be measured by how connected neighbors are to each other. A strong community is also measured by the availability of opportunities across all neighborhoods and areas of the County. Discuss actions to enhance the sense of community, and to best meet the needs of all community members.



The way that neighborhoods are designed can influence the health of its residents. For example, safe access to parks can promote a more active lifestyle. What neighborhood-level design strategies can the County implement to promote healthy communities?



39% of Hillsborough County's households struggle to afford basic necessities such as housing costs. What strategies do you think can have the most impact to increase availability of affordable housing? (Examples may include incentives for affordable housing, or an increase in mixed-use development, etc.).

Quality of Life





Tampa Bay Water Wise aims to save 11 million gallons per day by 2030. With today's population, this means conserving 5 gallons per person each day. Updating to low flow toilets can save that much water in just a few uses! Discuss ways, big and small, that communities and households can contribute to greater water conservation.



What actions can Hillsborough take to reduce or prevent contamination in the rivers and the bay from pesticides, fertilizers, gasoline, oil, antifreeze, trash, and other substances?



What strategies would you prioritize for water management to reduce the County's risk from flooding and sea level rise?

Water

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Sustainability acknowledges the interconnections between social, environmental, and financial needs of a community and seeks balance for the well being of current and future generations.

If you could create a sustainability program, what would it do? (ie: environmentally focused development, support new green industries, etc.)
Give us your best ideas!



Wildcard