

Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Tuesday, March 28, 2023
Fort Myers Collaboratory
2031 Jackson Street,
Fort Myers, FL 33901



10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call/Introductions
3. Public Comments on Items on the Agenda
4. *Approval of February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes
5. Cape PD Traffic Safety Subgrant Update (Master Sgt. James Lear)
6. Safe Streets for All Award (Don Scott)
7. Midtown Development Update (AIM Engineering)
8. FY 23 – FY 24 State Appropriations Project Requests and Bills (Ron Gogoi)
9. Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates
10. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda
11. Announcements
12. Topics for next meeting
13. Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

*Action Items +May Require Action

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Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

The in-person meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by BPCC Chair Henry Burden.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

MPO staff recorded the roll as those in attendance introduced themselves. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Brandon Kaczmarek	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Carl Karakos	City of Fort Myers
Clarissa Marino Diaz	LeeTran
David Wagley	Lee County Department of Community Development
David Wheaton	Member-at-Large
Diane Holm	Injury Prevention Coalition
Henry Burden	Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair
Jeff Barkley	Cape Coral Police Department
Laura Dodd	City of Cape Coral
Lee Waller	Lee County Parks and Recreation
Pim Tan	City of Cape Coral
Rachel Pierce	City of Sanibel
Sean Gibbons	City of Bonita Springs
Simone Behr	Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
Teresa Lewis	Member-at-Large/Chair
Tom Marquardt	Lee County Department of Transportation

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; and Ned Baier with Volkert.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #4 - *Approval of January 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Mr. David Wagley made the motion to approve the January 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Teresa Lewis seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - *Acceptance of the Estero Bonita Rail Trail Feasibility Study

Mr. Ned Baier provided a Power Point presentation on the Estero Bonita Rail Trail Feasibility Study. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Rail Trail Study](#)

Mr. David Wagley made the motion to accept the Estero Bonita Rail Trail Feasibility Study. Ms. Teresa Lewis seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Call for Multimodal Fund Proposals and Discussion on the Bicycle Pedestrian Facility Gaps on Off-System Roadways

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented this year's project proposals from local governments for MPO allocated federal funds. Mr. Karakos discussed the City of Fort Myers proposals for a sidewalk on Forum Boulevard, and a feasibility study for complete streets on the Second Street and Seaboard corridors. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Multimodal Fund Proposals](#).

Agenda Item #7 - Report on Transportation Bills in the 2023 Florida Legislative Session

Mr. Gogoi presented relevant transportation bills that have been introduced in the 2023 Legislative Session. Mr. Baier reported that SB 106 on the Florida SUN Trail Network was discussed at the recent Greenways and Trails Foundation Meeting, and he felt that the bill has a lot of support and will probably pass. The presentation can be accessed at the following link: [Transportation Bills](#).

Agenda Item #8 - Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates

Mr. Carl Karakos reported that the cost of the proposed Challenger and Winkler Roundabout went up considerably and that he had discussions with MPO staff about addressing the shortfall using the MPO's unspent federal funds from FY 2023. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Karakos to email in his request to the FDOT Community Liaison.

Agenda Item #9 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda

There were no public or member comments on items not on the agenda.

Agenda Item #10 – Announcements

Mr. Gogoi called attention to the agenda item on the announcement on the SR 78 Median Improvement Project public meeting. The announcement details can be accessed at the following link: [SR 78](#)

Agenda Item #11 - Topics for next meeting

There were no topics suggested for the next meeting.

Agenda Item #12 - Information and Distribution Items

Mr. Gogoi called attention to the OPPAGA report on Hazardous Walking Conditions in Florida. He provided the history and background of the report, and the efforts by the Lee County School District to identify Hazardous Walking Condition locations in Lee County. The report was included in the information and distribution items in the agenda packet and can be viewed at the following link: [OPPAGA Report](#).

Mr. Sean Gibbons made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Carl Karakos seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:09 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: [BPC February 21, 2023](#)

*Action Items *May Require Action

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CAPE POLICE DEPT. TRAFFIC SAFETY SUBGRANT UPDATE

INFORMATION ITEM:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) State Safety Office awards subgrants to traffic safety partners that undertake priority area programs and activities to improve traffic safety and reduce crashes, serious injuries, and fatalities. Funding for these subgrants is apportioned to states annually from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) according to a formula based on population and road miles.

The City of Cape Coral Police Department was awarded four subgrants including Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety, Distracted Driving, Impaired Driving, and Aggressive Driving. The contract period for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Distracted Driving subgrants is from 9/17/2022 to 5/12/2023 while the contract period for Impaired Driving and Speed and Aggressive Driving is December 2022 to the end of September 2023.

At the March 28th BPCC meeting, Master Sergeant James Lear will provide an update on the two grants that he is administering including Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Distracted Driving. Sergeant Alisha Cody who is administering the remaining two grants will provide an update to the BPCC in the fall.

INFORMATION ON THE SAFE STREETS FOR ALL GRANT AWARD

DISCUSSION ITEM:

The Lee MPO received an announcement that it was awarded a Safe Streets for All planning grant to develop a Comprehensive Action Plan to identify projects, programs and strategies that will help reduce fatalities and serious injuries for all modes of travel in Lee County. The safety action plan will be produced in coordination with the MPO's partners. In addition, the FDOT has indicated that they will conduct the analysis and the development of countermeasures for the State roadway system. The development of the action plan will include the following tasks and activities:

- A survey will be done to provide information on the study and to ask the users that travel every day what safety issues they have experienced and witnessed.
- The crash data will be analyzed using risk factors to zero in on the best locations for safety investments.
- The goals and policies will be developed to establish commitments and timelines.
- The identification of countermeasures for the identified safety issues will be developed for stakeholder and public review. These will include projects and strategies that have been shown to work for other similar implemented safety improvements along with examples of the results. Following the development of countermeasures, a public meeting will be held to review the proposed projects and strategies.
- A tiered prioritization process will be developed to ensure that the recommended improvements address equity, public and stakeholder input and that the improvements are consistent with the goals and policies of the plan.
- A performance measurement plan will be developed to measure where we are in comparison to the baseline as well as identifying what has worked.

The MPO staff will be attending a webinar with the Federal Highway Administration prior to the BPCC meeting that will provide information on the grant development process and staff will provide that additional information at the meeting.

MIDTOWN UPDATE

DISCUSSION ITEM:

AIM Constructing Contracting (ACC) is developing the Midtown Master Plan, which will guide the subsequent design phases. The Midtown project includes utility infrastructure replacement and streetscape improvements within the city-owned right-of-way (ROW) to support a planned increased “work-live-play” urban density. To gain input from the committee, ACC will provide an update on the current streetscape master planning efforts at the March 28th BPCC meeting, which at this pre-design stage consists of typical section recommendations for various ROW widths. The boundaries of the Midtown area are from Cleveland Avenue (US 41) to the west, Edison Avenue to the south, Evans Avenue to the east, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (SR 82) to the north.

ACC’s current master-planning effort generally includes developing recommendations for drainage, water, sewer, and streetscape typical improvements, as well as design and construction phasing approaches. Hauber Design Associates’ Street Scape studies, the City’s Bike Ped Master Plan, and the City’s Land Use Code are some of the resource documents that will be considered as ACC undertakes this master-planning effort.

FY 23 – FY 24 STATE APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS AND BILLS

DISCUSSION ITEM:

For the FY 23 – FY 24 Florida Legislative Session, a total of seven (7) Appropriations Project Requests have been submitted by various local governments in Lee County. MPO staff will report on these appropriations requests at the March 28th BPCC meeting. Staff will also provide updates on legislative bills that we have been tracking, and that were reported at the last BPCC meeting. These bills include SB 106, HB 0597, HB 0657, HB 0741, and SB 0544.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. FDOT is holding a Public Meeting on the SR 865 (San Carlos Boulevard) Median Improvements from Linda Loma to Kelly Road on Thursday, March 30, 2023. The in-person public meeting (open house format), to be held at the Cinnamon Cove Clubhouse, 11650 Caravel Circle, Fort Myers, will begin at 5:00 p.m. The virtual meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. See **attachment** for details.

- B. US 41 at Bonita Beach Road PD&E Study Public Workshop April 4, 2023. See **attachment** for details.

SR 865 from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road

Financial Project ID No.: 447880-1



March 2023

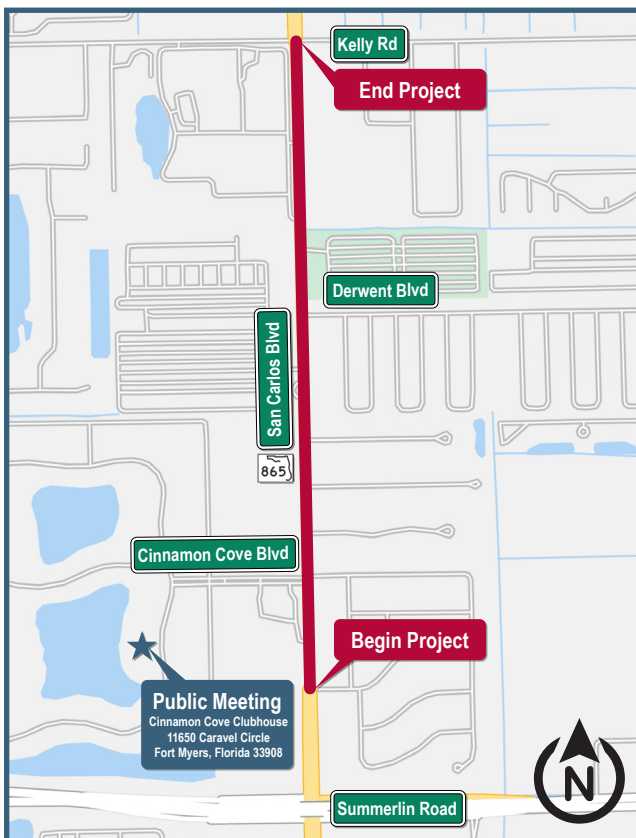
PUBLIC MEETING

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, invites you to the State Road (SR) 865 from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road Public Meeting on **Thursday, March 30, 2023**. The in-person public meeting (open house format) will begin at 5:00 p.m. The virtual meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. For your convenience, FDOT is providing three ways to participate:

- 1. Virtual Option:** Attend virtually from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from a computer, tablet, or mobile device. You can register in advance at fdot.cc/SR865-LindaLoma-to-Kelly. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting online. Please note, Internet Explorer cannot be used to register or attend this webinar.
- 2. In-Person Option:** Attend in-person from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the **Cinnamon Cove Clubhouse, 11650 Caravel Circle, Fort Myers, Florida**. Attendees who are not feeling well should not attend the in-person meeting.
- 3. Website:** View the materials online at swflroads.com/project/447880-1.

All meeting materials will be available online by March 23, 2023. You do not have to attend a live event in order to submit a comment. Comments can be submitted at the live meeting, through the website, or through the contact information provided on the other side of this notification. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, please send your comments by April 10, 2023, to be included in the formal public meeting record.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



FDOT, District One, is proposing improvements on SR 865 in Fort Myers, Lee County. The project limits are from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road. The purpose of this project is to provide improvements along SR 865 with the intent of enhancing safety along the corridor.

The project includes constructing chicanes, or concrete traffic islands, which will narrow the roadway to discourage speeding. The chicanes will be constructed in each direction on SR 865. Two additional traffic islands are proposed within the existing two-way left-turn lane for additional traffic calming. Additional improvements include installation of new signage and pavement markings. The Department is also exploring additional safety improvements as the design project progresses.

Register to Attend Virtually

Scan the QR Code shown here to register, and you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the public meeting online.



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Florida Department of Transportation
Southwest Area Office
Attention: Chris Speese
10041 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33913

CONTACT US

We encourage you to participate in the SR 865 from Linda Loma Drive to Kelly Road Public Meeting. If you have questions or comments regarding the project, please contact FDOT Project Manager, Chris Speese.



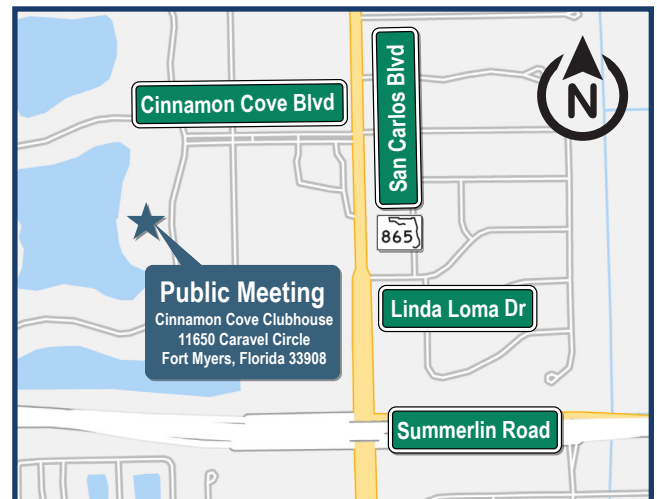
Chris Speese
Florida Department of Transportation
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10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, FL, 33913



Direct: (239) 225-1973



Email: Christopher.Speese@dot.state.fl.us



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PD&E STUDY STARTED

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study to evaluate improvements to the intersection at US 41 and Bonita Beach Road in the City of Bonita Springs, FL in southern Lee County. The study's purpose is to address congestion and projected travel demand with the ultimate goals being to enhance mobility, improve safety conditions, and provide for multi-modal features.

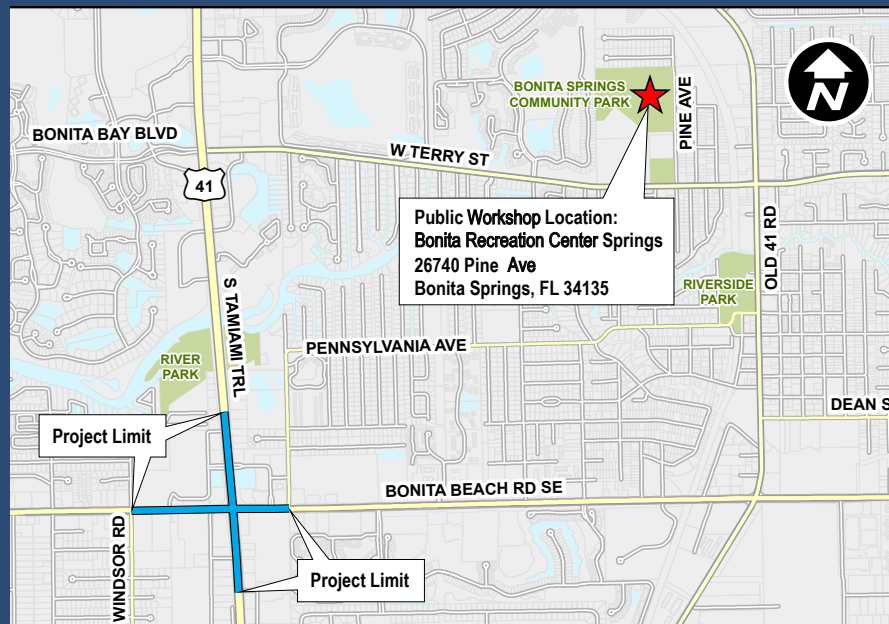
FDOT has developed "build" alternatives and is providing opportunities for your input. Alternatives under consideration include a variety of intersection-related improvements. We are evaluating each alternative to determine community impacts, additional right-of-way needs, safety, mobility for all users, and traffic performance. The study will make a recommendation to advance into the design phase. Throughout this process, FDOT will consider the no-build or "do-nothing" option.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The Alternatives Public Workshop is being held to present information about the preliminary alternatives and provides the opportunity for the public to offer feedback. You can participate in the Alternatives Public Workshop live online or in-person. The same materials will be displayed at both the online and in-person events, and will also be posted by **March 27, 2023** on the project website.

LIVE ONLINE OPTION: Attend virtually on **Monday, April 3, 2023** starting at **6 p.m.** This event will include a viewing of the project video and a live question-and-answer component with the project team. Register in advance by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/BonitaBeachRoadRegistration> or on the project website. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the workshop online.

IN-PERSON OPTION: Attend the Alternatives Public Workshop on **Tuesday, April 4, 2023**, at Bonita Springs Recreation Center, 26740 Pine Ave, Bonita Springs, FL 34135. Visit the workshop any time between **5 and 7 p.m.** to view the project video and displays, speak with project team members, and submit comments or questions.



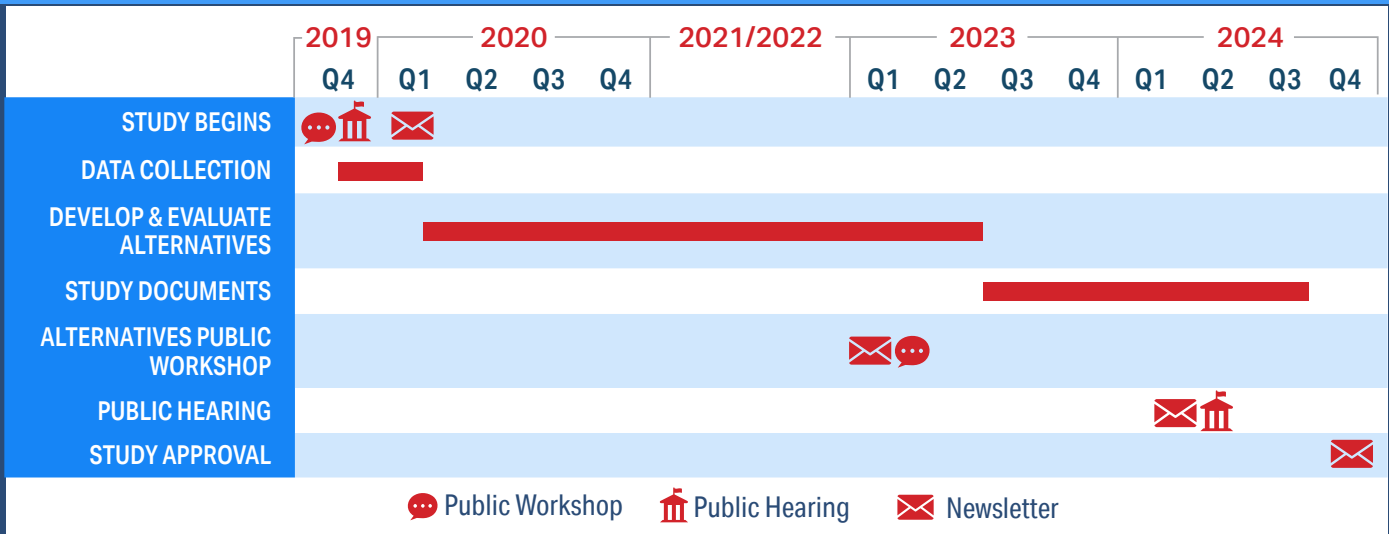
CONTACT

Patrick Bateman, P.E. | Project Manager | Florida Department of Transportation MS 1-40
801 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830 | Telephone: 863.519.2792 | Email: patrick.bateman@dot.state.fl.us

Por favor contacte a Karina Della Sera para información en español (Karina.DellaSera@dot.state.fl.us or 863-519-2750)

View all materials online at <https://www.swflroads.com/project/444321-1>. Comments can be provided through the project website and questions can be answered by calling the FDOT project manager Patrick Bateman, PE at (863) 519-2792.

STUDY SCHEDULE



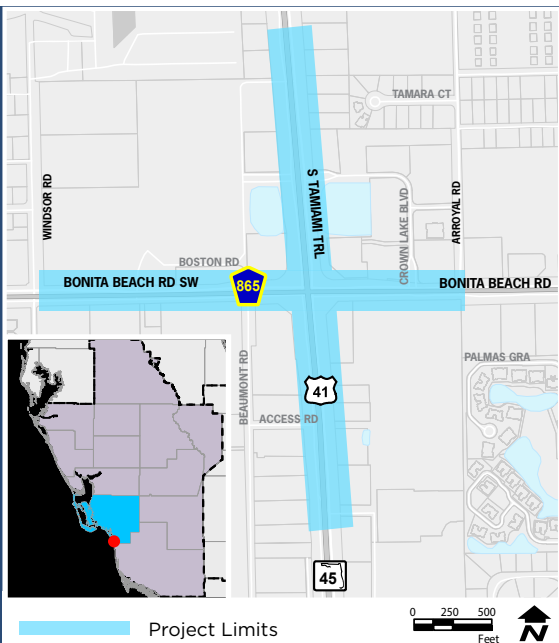
The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by FDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.



FDOT DISTRICT ONE
 ATTN: PATRICK BATEMAN, MS 1-40
 801 NORTH BROADWAY AVENUE
 BARTOW, FLORIDA 33830

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

COMPANY/ORGANIZATION
 TITLE
 RECIPIENT NAME
 BUILDING X
 123 STREET, SUITE A
 SOMEWHERE, FL 00000



Newsletter #2 - March 2023

**US 41 at the Intersection of Bonita Beach Road (CR 865)
 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study
 Bonita Springs, Florida
 FPID: 444321-1**

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FOR QUICK ONLINE REGISTRATION, SCAN HERE!

PROJECT LOCATION MAP - LEE COUNTY, FL

INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION

A. FDOT Public Transit – Did you Know (March 2023)



DID YOU KNOW?

TRANSIT RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Public transportation plays an important role in reducing a community's environmental impacts from transportation and enhancing the quality of life for its residents by:

- Helping metropolitan areas reduce vehicle emissions and pollutants
- Facilitating compact development, conserving land, and decreasing congestion
- Connecting all members of the community to jobs, healthcare, school, and more

In 2022 the FDOT, in coordination with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, launched the Electric Transit Bus Grant program. This collaboration supports the purchasing of electric transit buses to replace diesel transit buses because electric buses:

- Release zero greenhouse gas emissions
- Use no liquid fuels
- Require no oil changes
- Operate with 30% fewer parts than a traditional bus
- Save \$10 million in lifetime fuel and maintenance

FDOT RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:

A Comparative Analysis of Alternative Fuel Fleet of Buses (AFB) to Enhance Mobility in Central Florida

Recently, the FDOT Transit Office executed research realizing environmentally friendly public transportation is of the utmost importance. In meeting the research needs of our office and working with our partner agencies, FDOT has formed a stakeholder group to discuss, understand, and evaluate the different types of alternative fuels (biodiesel, propane, and electric buses) and their supporting infrastructure. An integrated sustainable fleet management tool will be developed to help better inform policymakers and allocate resources efficiently in the transition to AFB fleets. The research will conclude in October 2024 and will feature a formal webinar to convey the research findings to state and national attendees.



SUNRUNNER:

The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority and its partners launched the operation of their SunRunner, Tampa Bay's first rapid transit system of any kind, and is the first step towards creating a robust, modern transit system in the region. As a hybrid electric bus, these new buses are quieter, produce fewer emissions, decrease traffic congestion, and have more amenities.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT FOR A HEALTHY PLANET CHALLENGE:



9 transit agencies from Florida are part of the Federal Transit Administration's challenge to develop climate, sustainability, and electrification or zero-emission transition plans that include strategies with measurable goals to achieve GHG emission targets.

LOW- AND NO-EMISSION FUNDING MATCH:



The Federal Transit Administration's FY22 Low- and No-Emission and Bus and Bus Facilities programs will provide \$1.66 billion in grants to transit agencies across the country to invest in bus fleets and facilities. FDOT provides a funding match for the Low- and No-Emission and Bus and Bus Facilities programs in the form of toll revenue credits.