

RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 605 Suwannee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450 JARED W. PERDUE, P.E. SECRETARY

December 2, 2024

Chair Noey Flores
Attn: Marybeth Soderstrom, Heartland Regional TPO Staff Services Director
555 East Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Re: Request for Transportation Project Priorities for Fiscal Year 2030/2031

Dear Chair Flores:

Each year the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) coordinates the development of the Draft Tentative Five-Year Work Program with the Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organizations (MPO/TPO) within District One. Project and scope development are essential in the process of accurately programming projects with our partner agencies, therefore by way of this letter, it is requested your agency begin the annual process of identifying projects for submission. The Department requests that the following be submitted by the deadlines noted below.

A preliminary list of priority projects March 31, 2025
Final approved list of priority projects June 30, 2025

Please submit Congestion Management (CMS) and Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) applications to your District 1 liaison no later than **March 31, 2025**.

As a reminder, only Transportation Alternative (TA) applications are required to be submitted through GAP. These applications are due by **March 31, 2025**.

District staff will review the information provided for completeness and funding eligibility. Once all information and data has been received, staff will coordinate further evaluation for constructability. A considerable amount of coordination is essential to developing an

Chair Flores Page 2

accurate scope and cost estimate for each project and staff will closely communicate with MPO/TPO staff, as well as local government contacts, throughout the process.

Chapter 339.175, Florida Statutes require MPO/TPOs to develop and submit an annual list of priority projects based upon project selection criteria which considers the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), its connectors, other regionally significant facilities, and the following:

- 1. An approved MPO/TPO Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- 2. The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Plan
- 3. Transportation management system procedures
- 4. MPO/TPO public involvement process

Generally, priorities will be considered for programming in Fiscal Year 2030/2031 unless an opportunity arises to fund a project or project phase earlier. A final adopted/approved list of priority projects must be submitted to FDOT by **June 30, 2025**, at which time further consideration for programming and funding will be evaluated as the Draft Tentative Five-Year Work Program is developed over the summer/fall time frame.

For modal programs, FDOT staff will contact transit, aviation, and port managers directly to request submissions for new projects. While MPO/TPOs are not required to prioritize modal program projects, it is important for modal agencies to share their priorities and continue to coordinate with their MPO/TPO.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and participation in the FDOT Work Program development process. For additional information regarding this program please contact:

H. Wayne Gaither Southwest Area Office Director 10041 Daniels Parkway Fort Myers, FL 33913

(239) 225-1971 wayne.gaither@dot.state.fl.us.

HWG

Cc: Marybeth Soderstrom, MPO Director Edith Perez, MPO Liaison