

m·cores

Press Kit





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Digital Press Kit

Video Assets



Florida M-CORES Overview

The Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) program is intended to revitalize rural communities, encourage job creation, and provide regional connectivity while leveraging technology, enhancing the quality of life and public safety, and protecting the environment and natural resources.

[View Video](#)



Florida M-CORES Plenary Session Kick off - August 27, 2019

FDOT Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. welcomes attendees to the Joint Task Force Kick-off Meeting.

[View Video](#)



Florida M-CORES Plenary Session Kick off - August 27, 2019

State Senator Bill Galvano welcomes attendees.

[View Video](#)



Florida M-CORES: Planning Today for Tomorrow's Growth

FDOT Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. outlines how the M-CORES program could help meet the state's future needs.

[View Video](#)

Graphics

Logo (with acronym)



Logo



Logo (inverted)



Icons



Individual Study Area Graphics



Combined Study Areas Graphic



Avoidance and Enhancement Area Graphics

m-cores Avoidance and Enhancement Areas

Suncoast Corridor

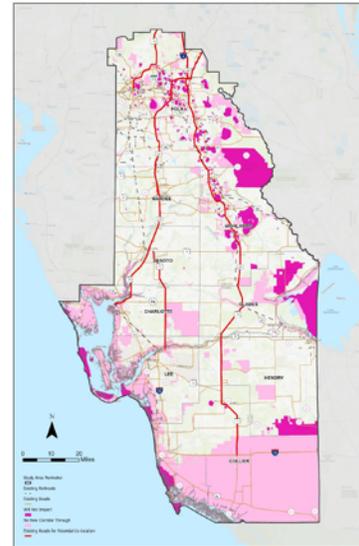


FDOT FloridaMCORES.com

Suncoast Corridor

m-cores Avoidance and Enhancement Areas

Southwest-Central Florida Corridor

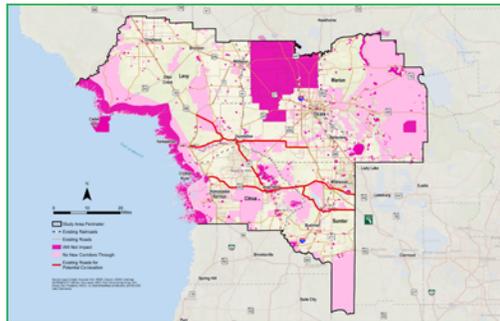


FDOT FloridaMCORES.com

Southwest-Central Florida Corridor

m-cores Avoidance and Enhancement Areas

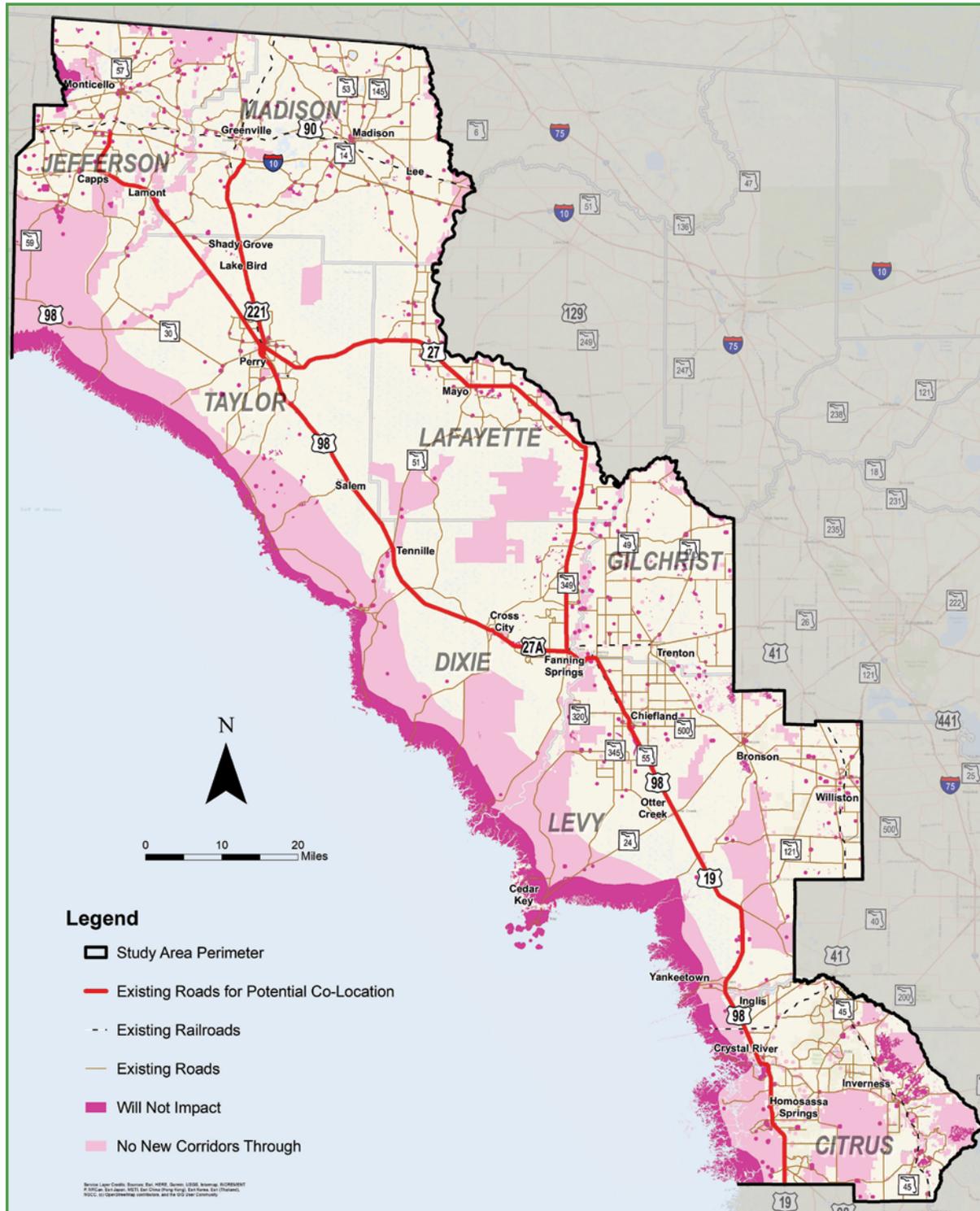
Northern Turnpike Corridor



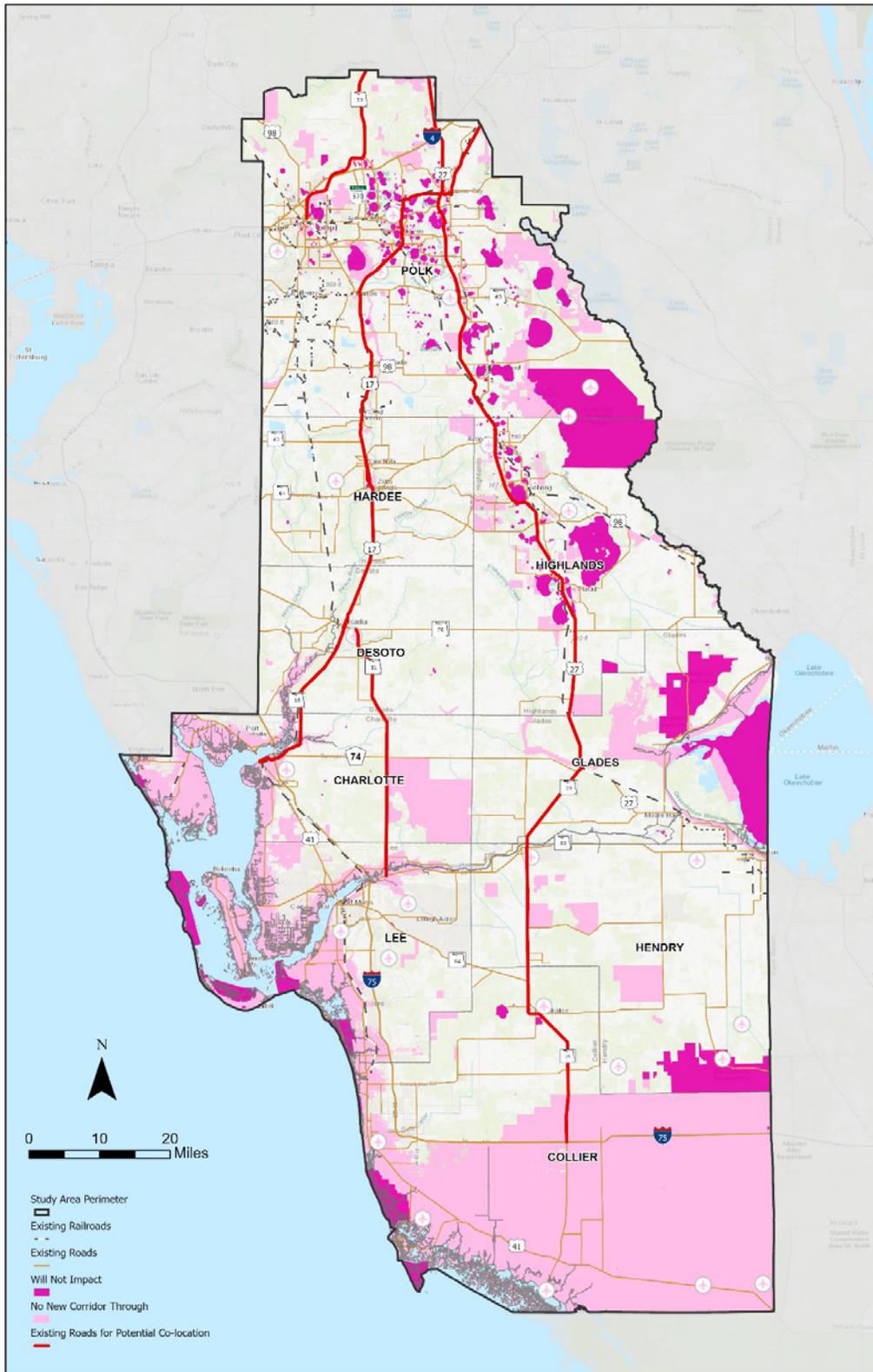
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Northern Turnpike Corridor

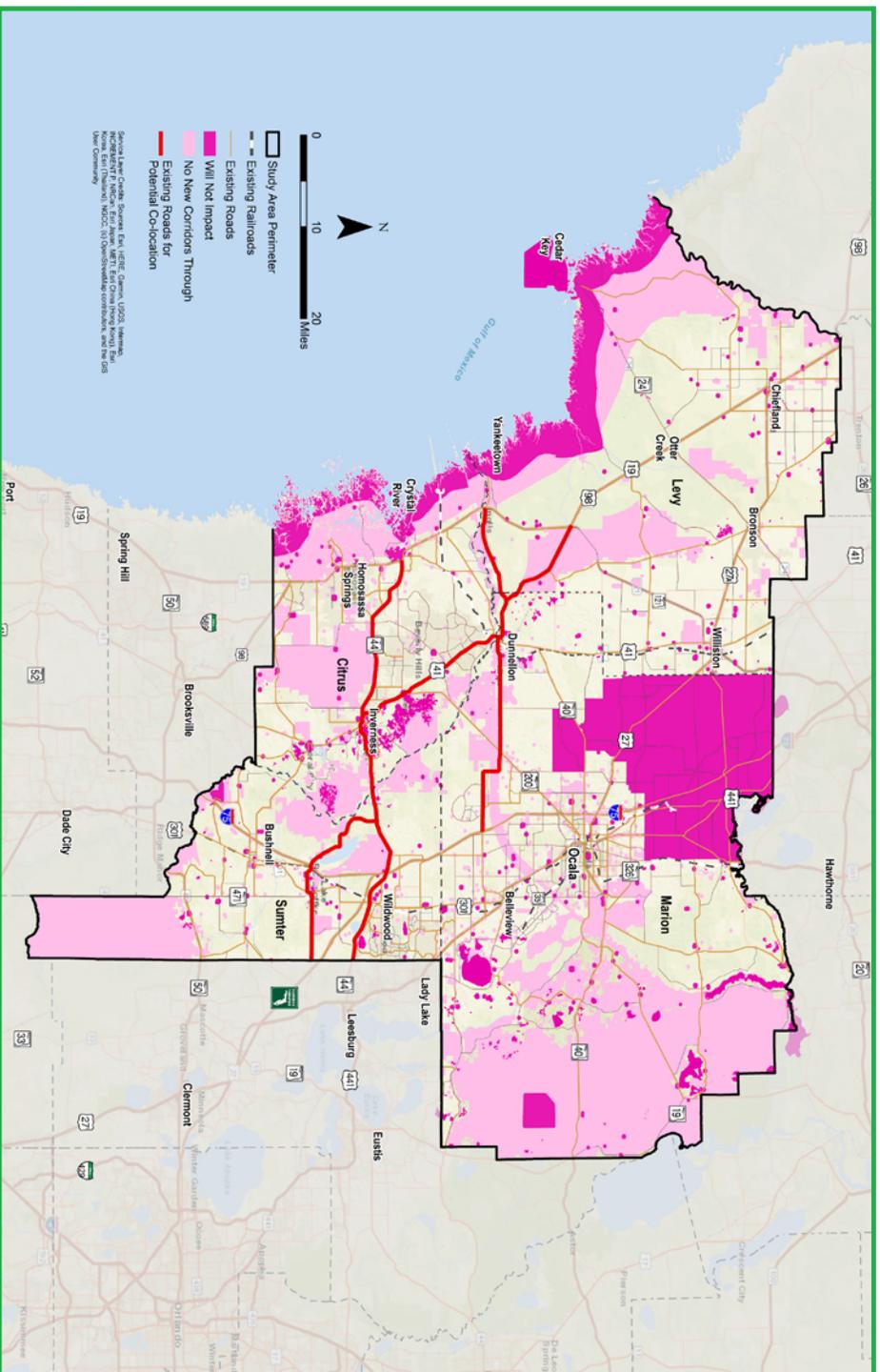
Suncoast Corridor



Southwest-Central Florida Corridor



Northern Turnpike Corridor



Additional Graphics



PLANNING FOR A GROWING FLORIDA.



Documents

Corridor Fact sheets



Suncoast

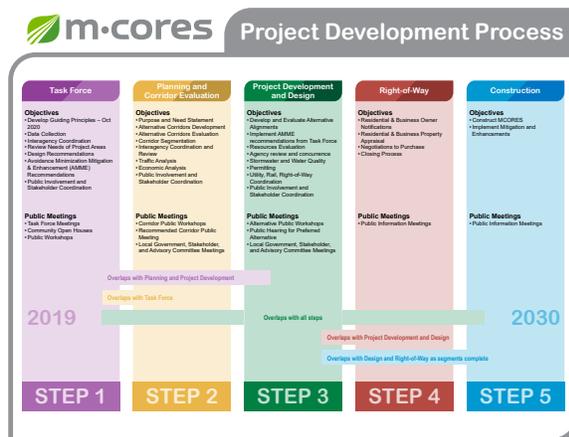


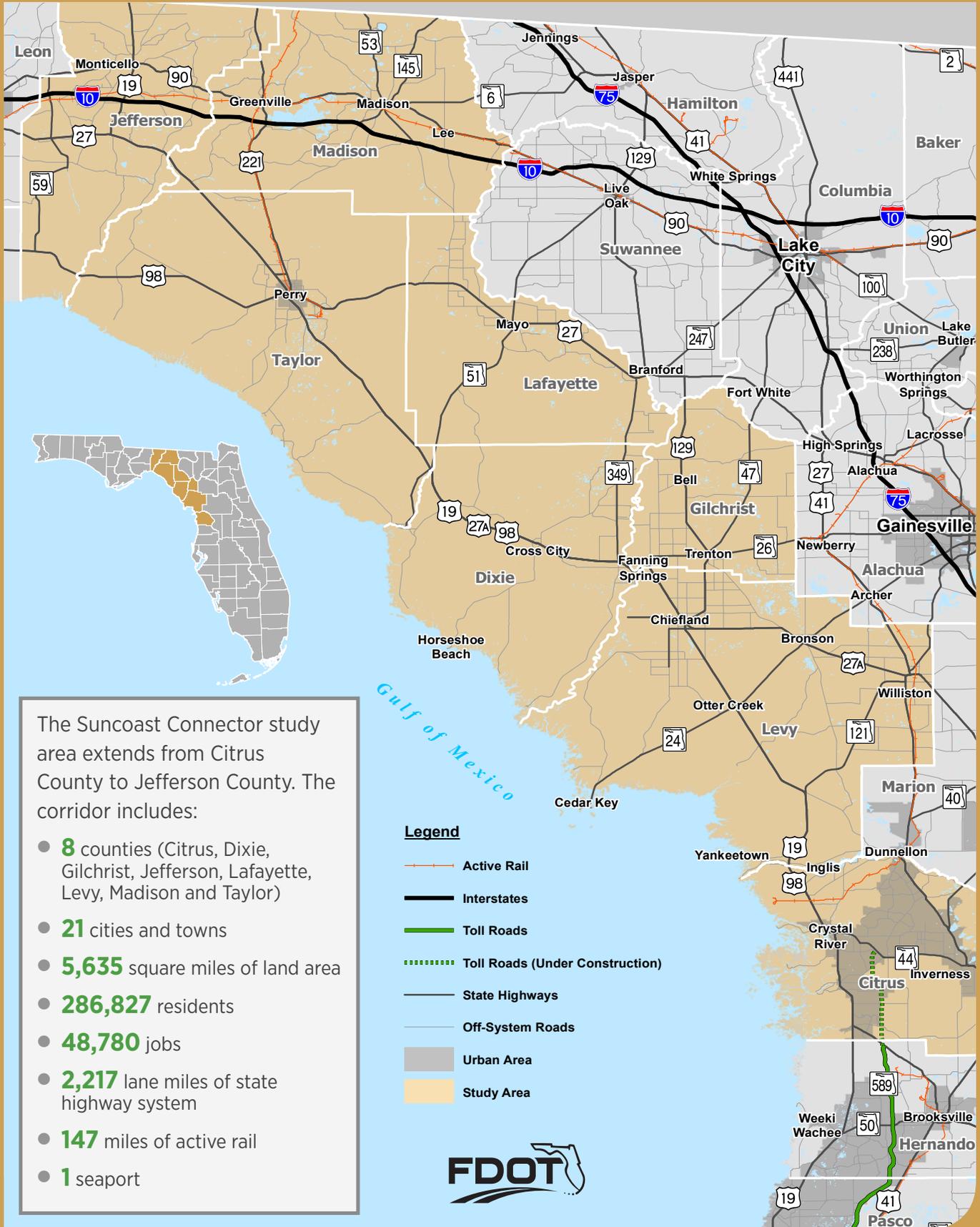
Northern Turnpike



Southwest-Central Florida

M-CORES Project Development Process





The Suncoast Connector study area extends from Citrus County to Jefferson County. The corridor includes:

- **8** counties (Citrus, Dixie, Gilchrist, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison and Taylor)
- **21** cities and towns
- **5,635** square miles of land area
- **286,827** residents
- **48,780** jobs
- **2,217** lane miles of state highway system
- **147** miles of active rail
- **1** seaport

Legend

- Active Rail
- Interstates
- Toll Roads
- Toll Roads (Under Construction)
- State Highways
- Off-System Roads
- Urban Area
- Study Area



A Community-Based Approach

The Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES) program is Florida's most significant infrastructure-building project since the 1950s. Regional task forces will study three specific corridors intended to address rural infrastructure needs across the state, and the task forces will stress collaboration with local communities. The program is modeled after the Wekiva Parkway (State Road 429), which created much-needed regional road infrastructure while helping to protect the natural resources surrounding the Wekiva River. The M-CORES study areas are broad and do not identify specific routes.



M-CORES Goals



- **Alleviate** congestion
- **Support** multiple modes of transportation (shared-use trails, freight and passenger rail, public transit)



- **Improve** energy distribution
- **Build** water, sewer and other infrastructure



- **Connect** rural communities
- **Expand** broadband service



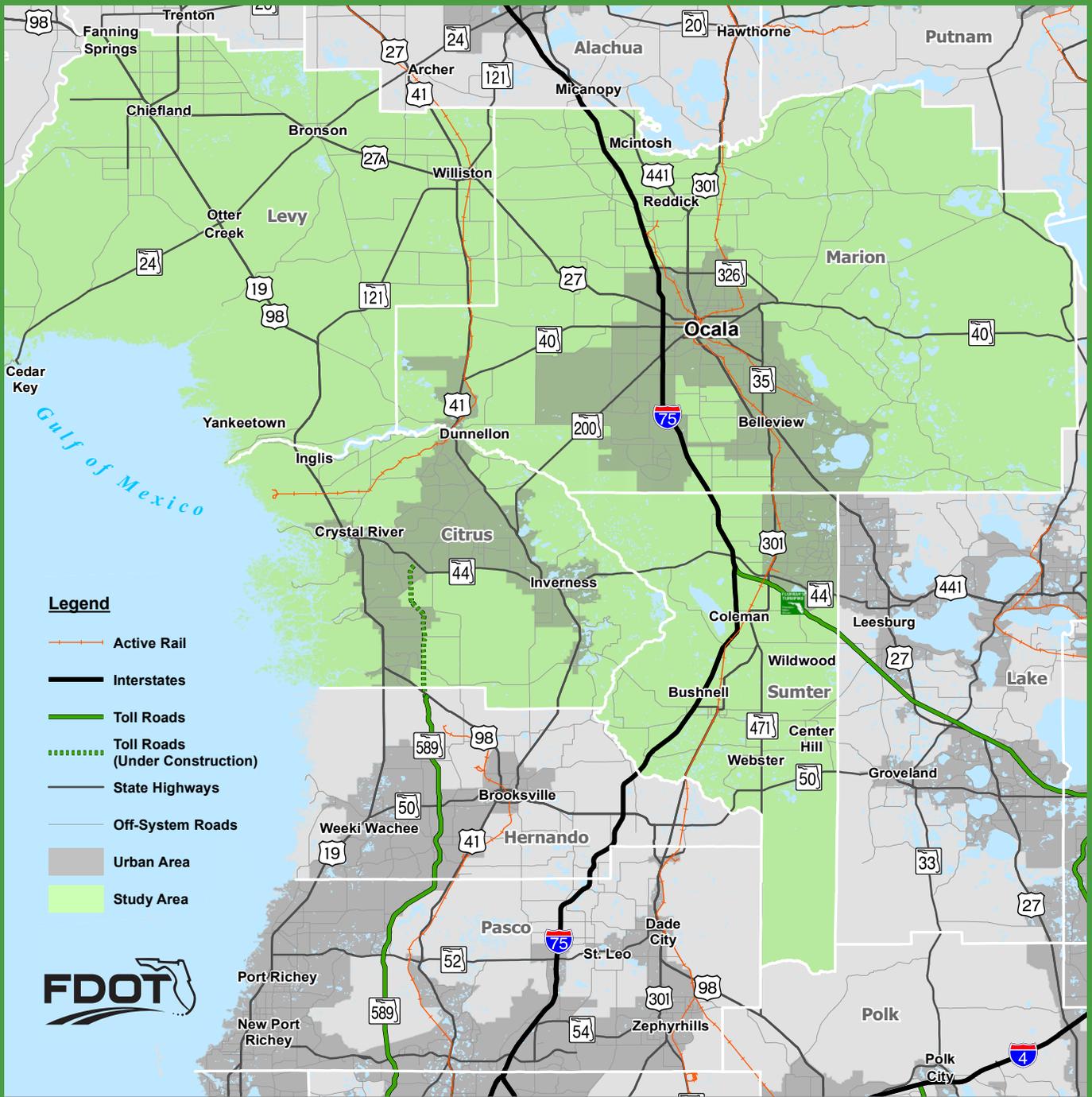
- **Conserve** wildlife
- **Protect** environmentally sensitive areas



- **Create** jobs
- **Advance** trade and logistics

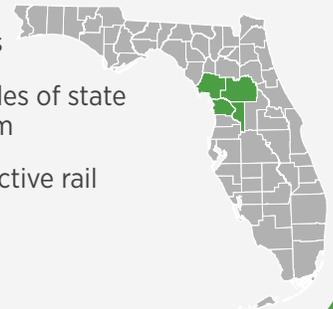


- **Provide** hurricane evacuation routes



The Northern Turnpike Connector study area extends from the northern terminus of the Florida Turnpike northwest to the Suncoast Parkway. The corridor includes:

- **4** counties (Citrus, Levy, Marion and Sumter)
- **20** cities and towns
- **3,831** square miles of land area
- **677,430** residents
- **136,305** jobs
- **2,162** lane miles of state highway system
- **158** miles of active rail
- **1** seaport



A Community-Based Approach

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road infrastructure while helping to protect the natural resources surrounding the Wekiva River. The M-CORES study areas are broad and do not identify specific routes.

M-CORES Goals



- **Alleviate** congestion
- **Support** multiple modes of transportation (shared-use trails, freight and passenger rail, public transit)



- **Improve** energy distribution
- **Build** water, sewer and other infrastructure



- **Connect** rural communities
- **Expand** broadband service



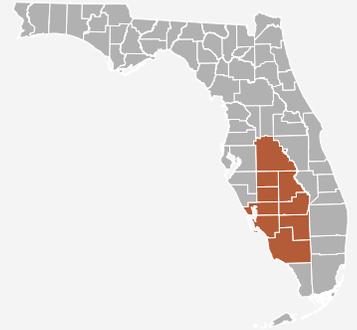
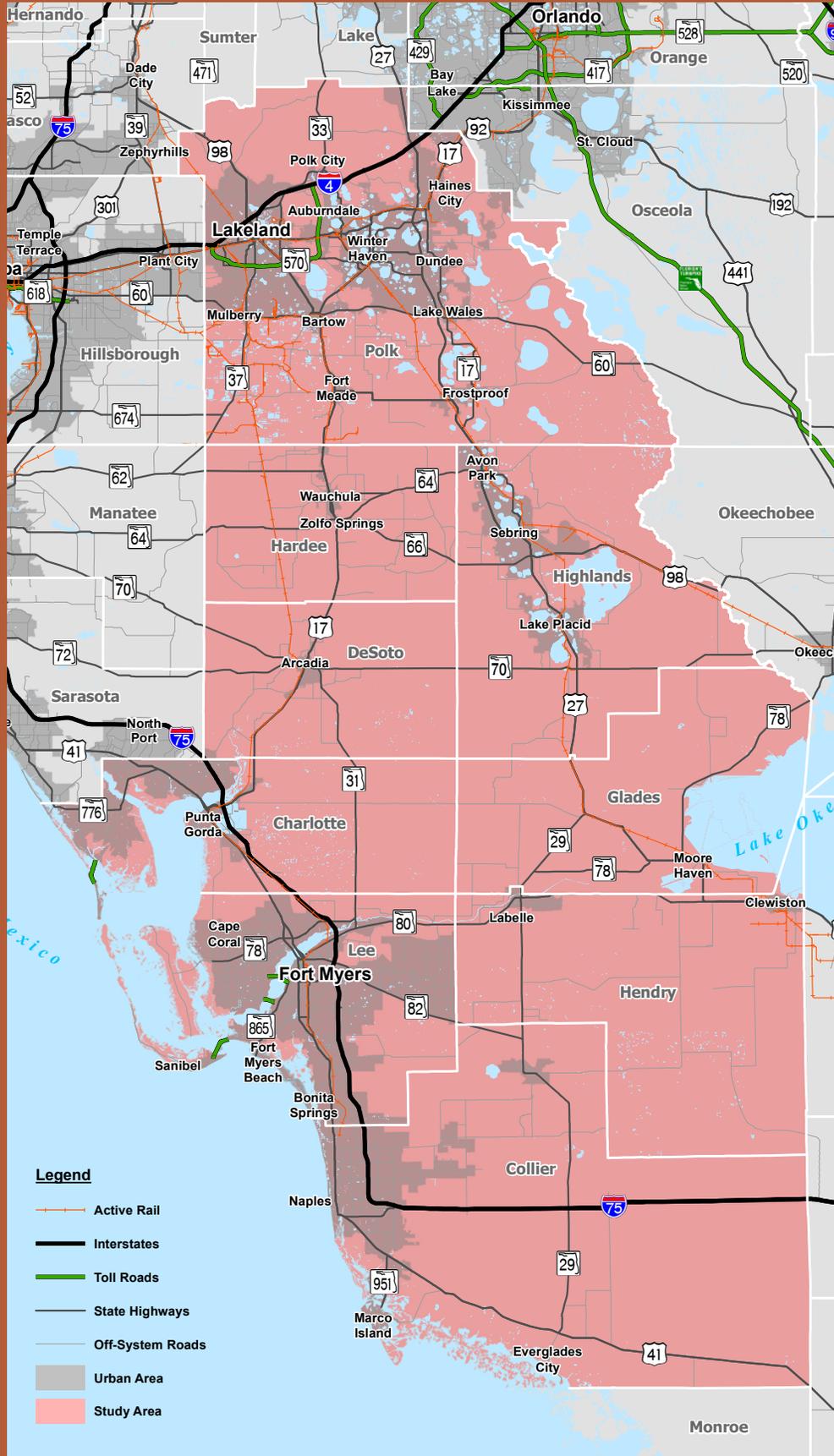
- **Conserve** wildlife
- **Protect** environmentally sensitive areas



- **Create** jobs
- **Advance** trade and logistics



- **Provide** hurricane evacuation routes



The Southwest-Central Florida Connector study area extends from Collier County to Polk County. The corridor includes:

- **9** counties (Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee and Polk)
- **36** cities and towns
- **9,511** square miles of land area
- **2,251,543** residents
- **590,999** jobs
- **4,793** lane miles of state highway system
- **600** miles of active rail
- **2** commercial service airports



A Community-Based Approach

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road infrastructure while helping to protect the natural resources surrounding the Wekiva River. The M-CORES study areas are broad and do not identify specific routes.

M-CORES Goals



- **Alleviate** congestion
- **Support** multiple modes of transportation (shared-use trails, freight and passenger rail, public transit)



- **Improve** energy distribution
- **Build** water, sewer and other infrastructure



- **Connect** rural communities
- **Expand** broadband service



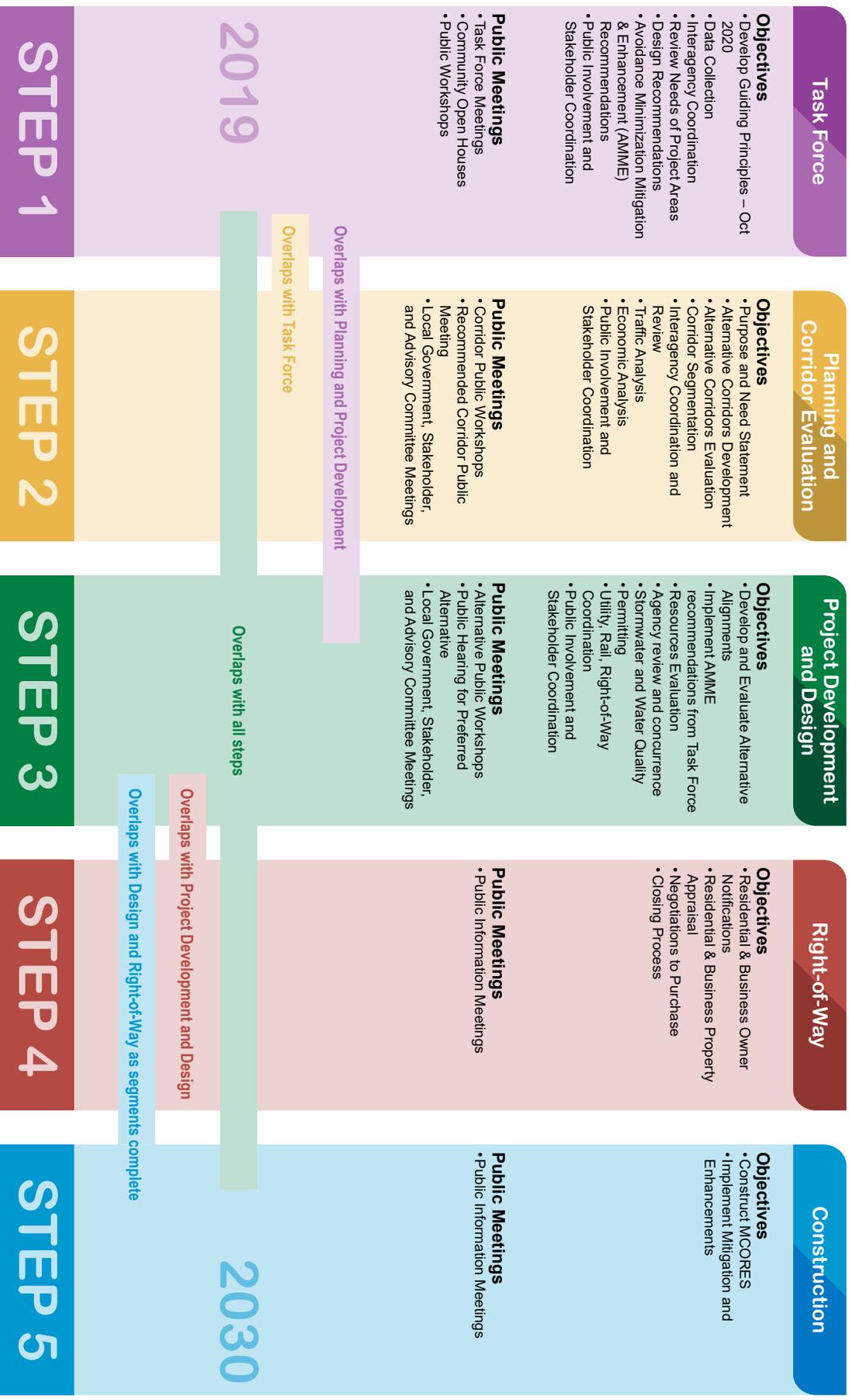
- **Conserve** wildlife
- **Protect** environmentally sensitive areas



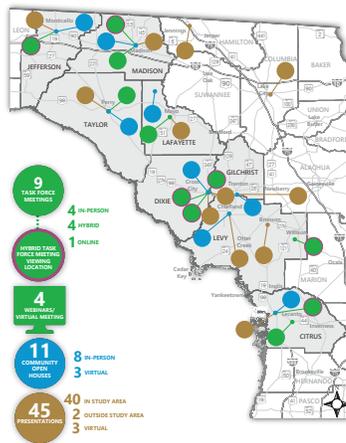
- **Create** jobs
- **Advance** trade and logistics



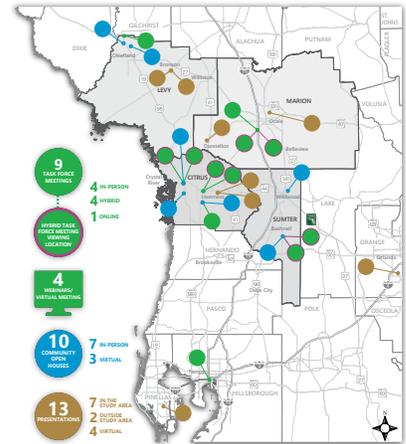
- **Provide** hurricane evacuation routes



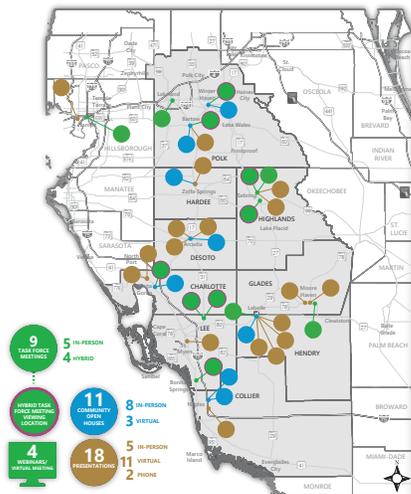
Public
Engagement
Graphics



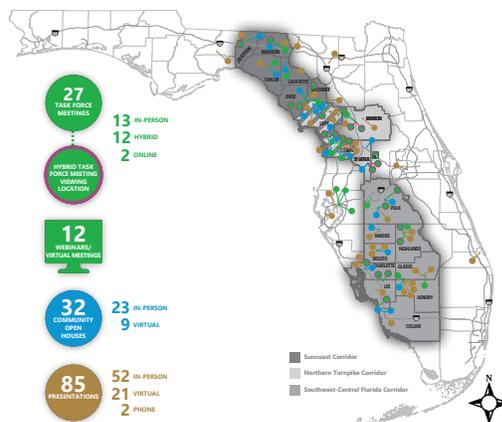
Suncoast Corridor



Northern Turnpike Corridor

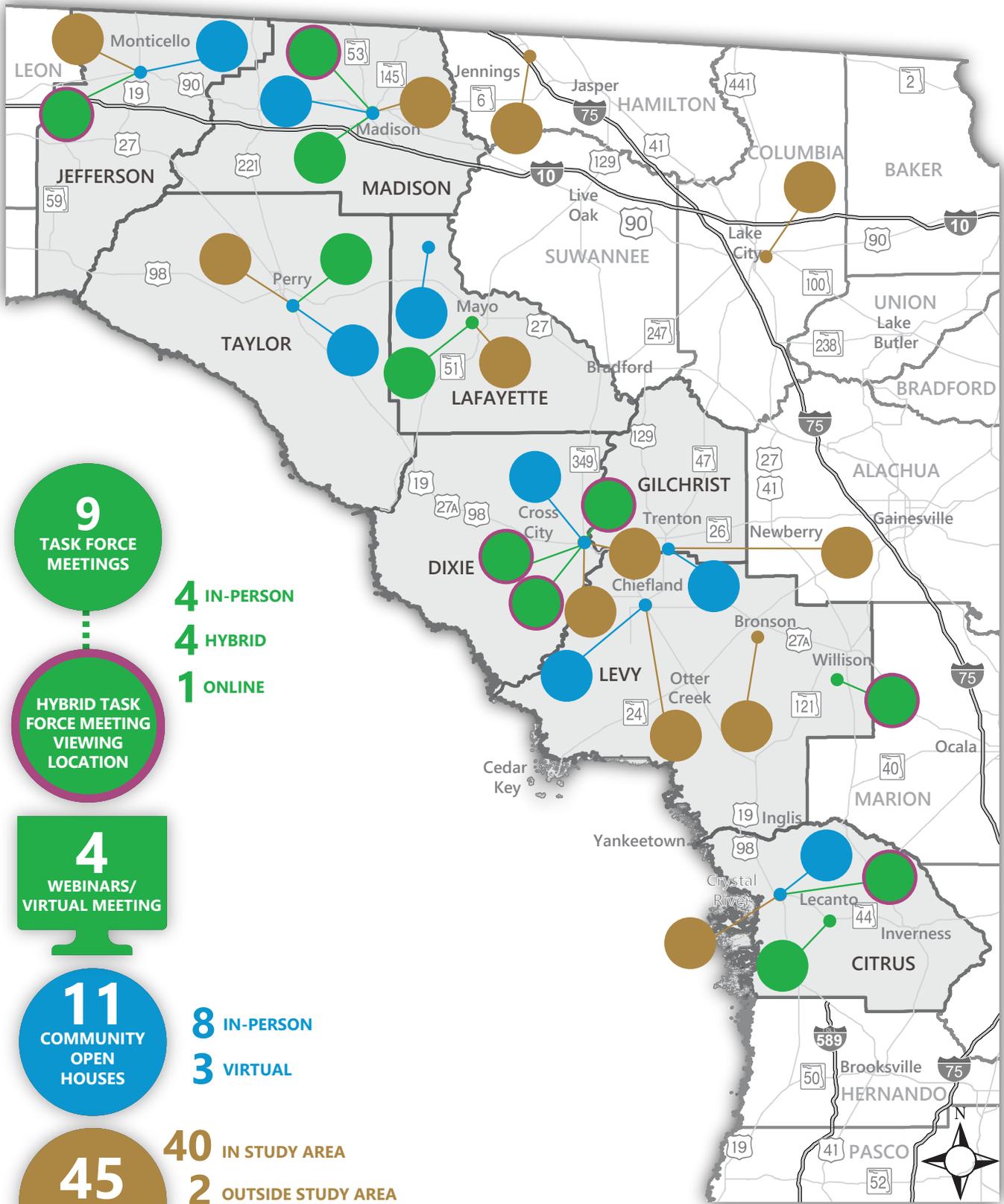


Southwest-Central Florida Corridor



Statewide

Suncoast Corridor



9
TASK FORCE MEETINGS

4 IN-PERSON
4 HYBRID
1 ONLINE

HYBRID TASK FORCE MEETING VIEWING LOCATION

4
WEBINARS/
VIRTUAL MEETING

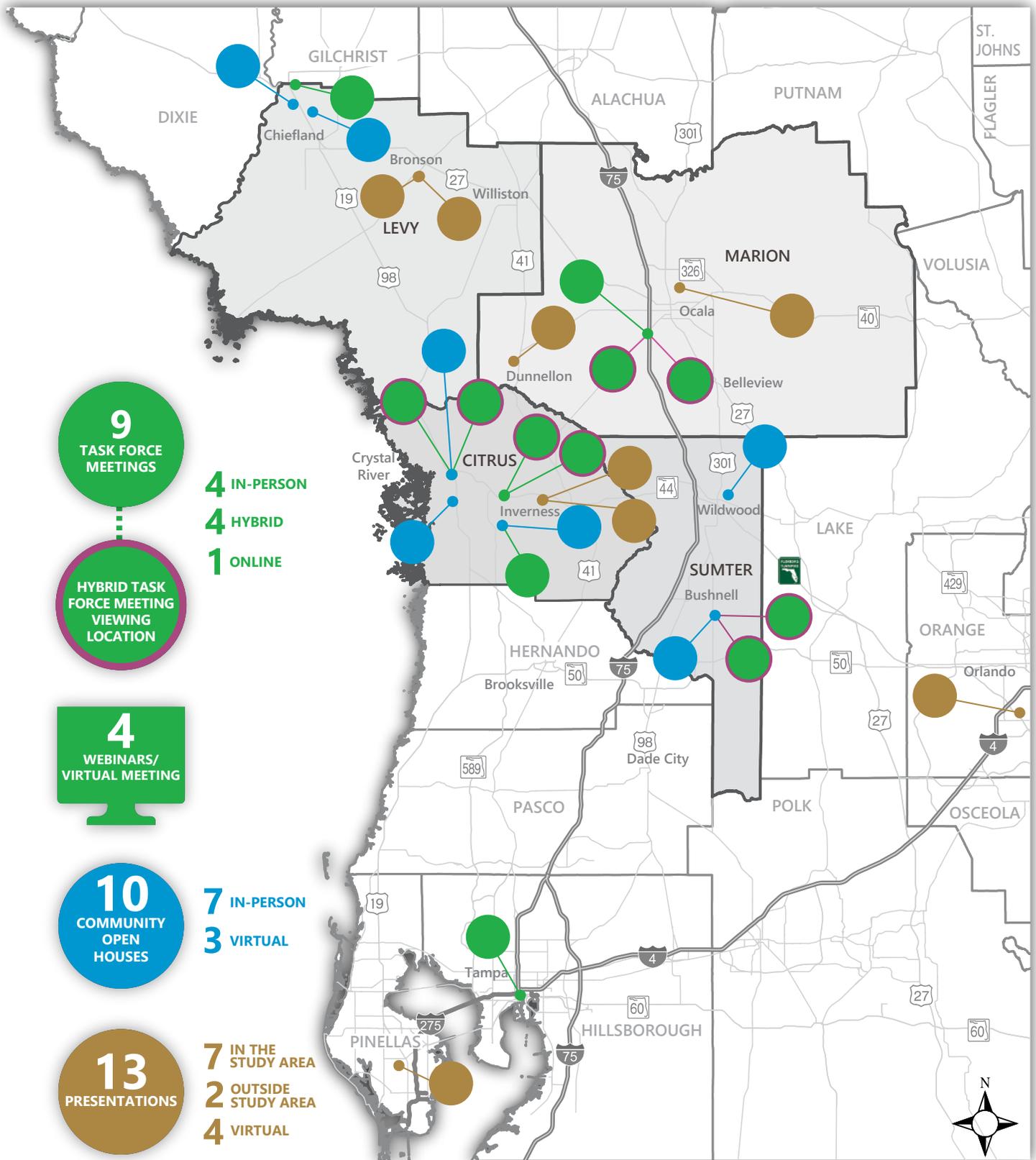
11
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES

8 IN-PERSON
3 VIRTUAL

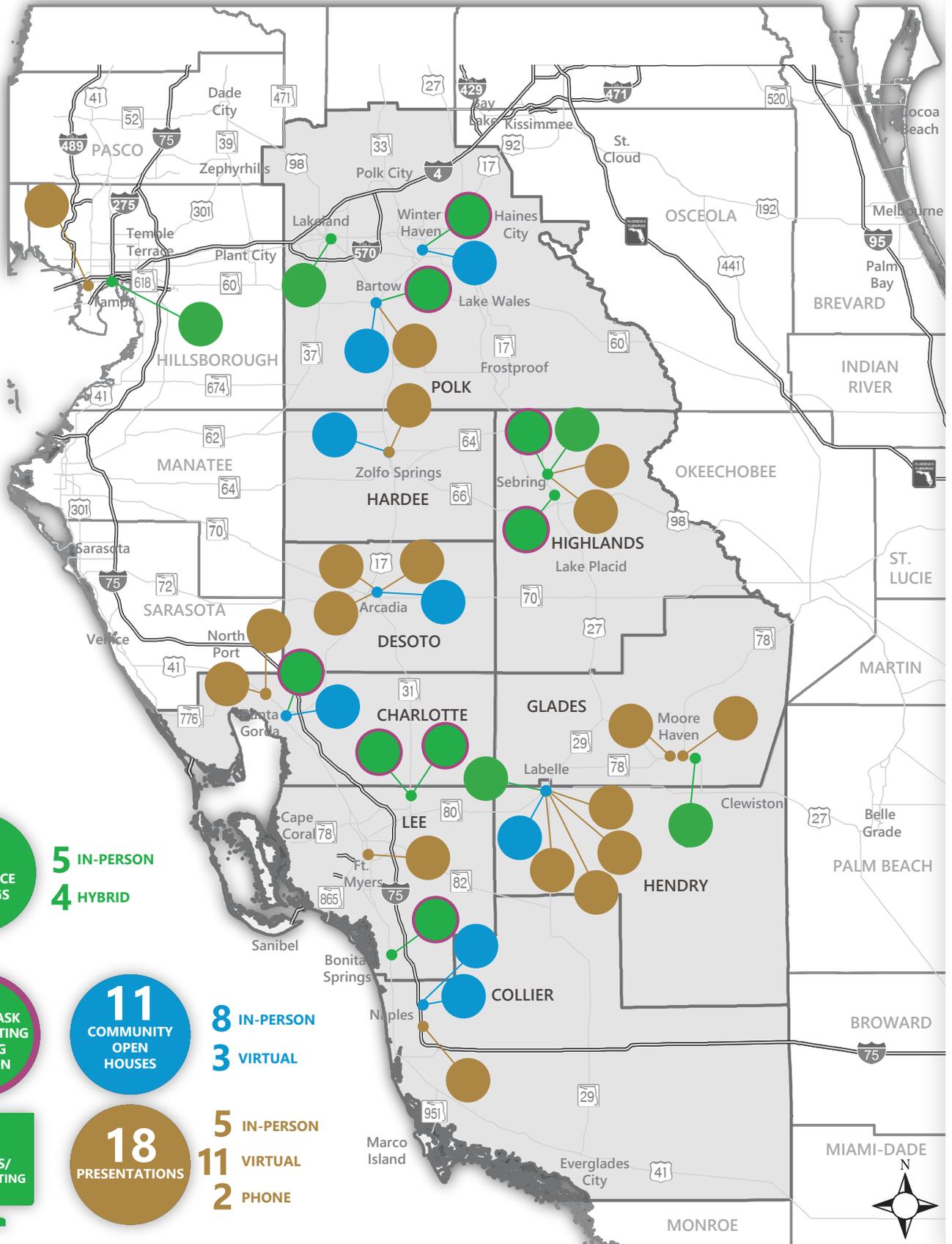
45
PRESENTATIONS

40 IN STUDY AREA
2 OUTSIDE STUDY AREA
3 VIRTUAL

Northern Turnpike Corridor



Southwest-Central Florida Corridor



9
TASK FORCE MEETINGS

5 IN-PERSON
4 HYBRID

HYBRID TASK FORCE MEETING VIEWING LOCATION

11
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES

8 IN-PERSON
3 VIRTUAL

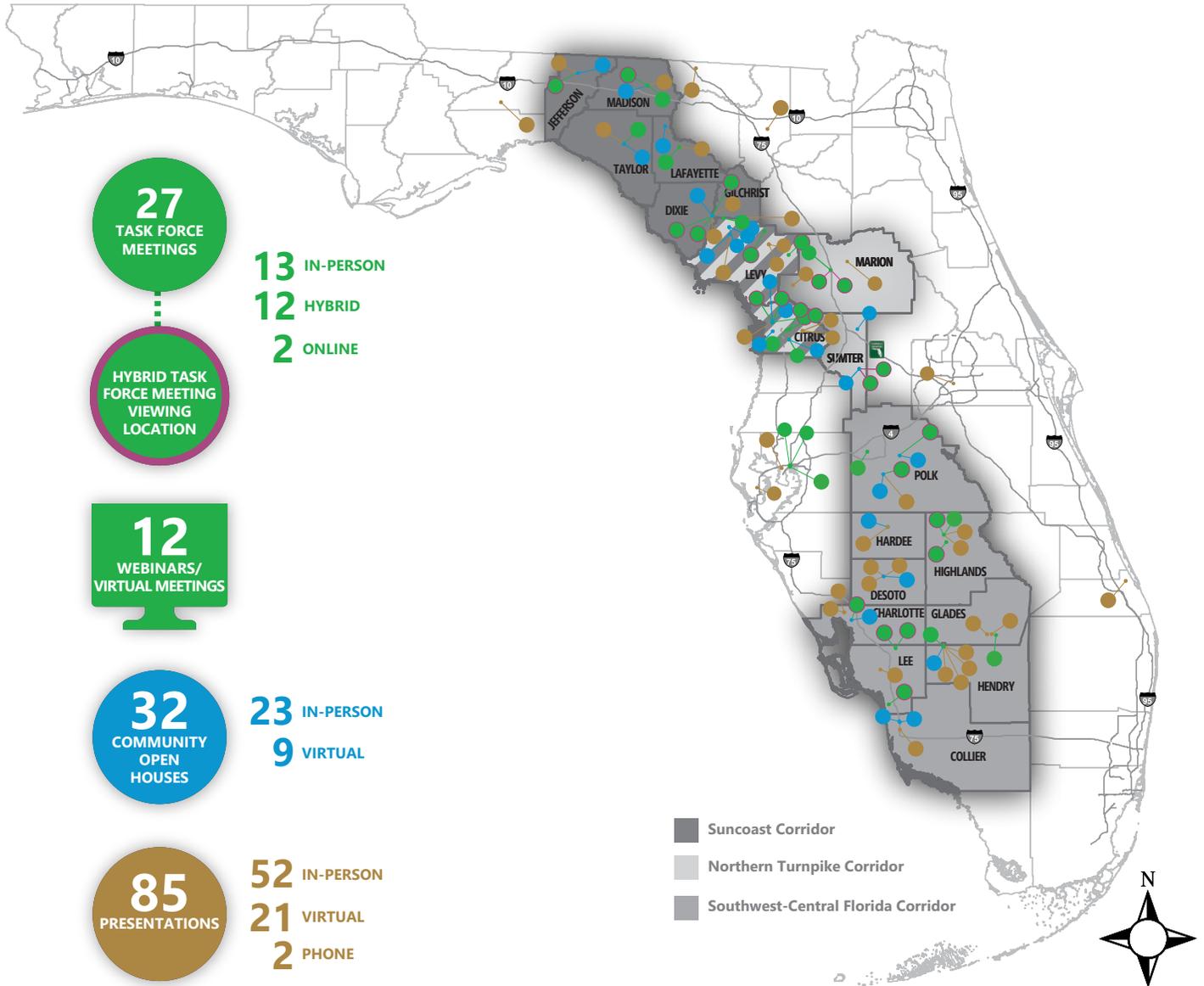
4
WEBINARS/
VIRTUAL MEETING

18
PRESENTATIONS

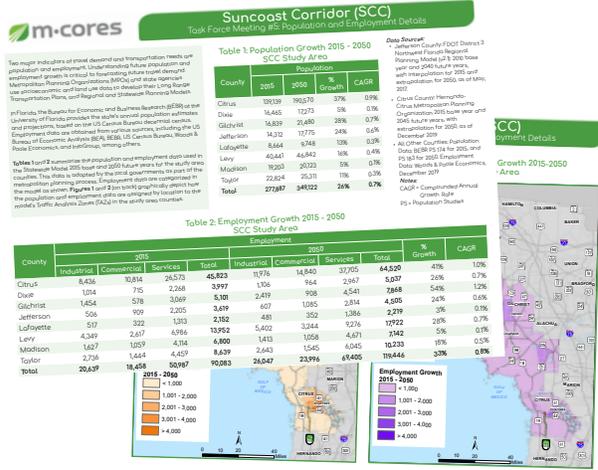
5 IN-PERSON
11 VIRTUAL
2 PHONE



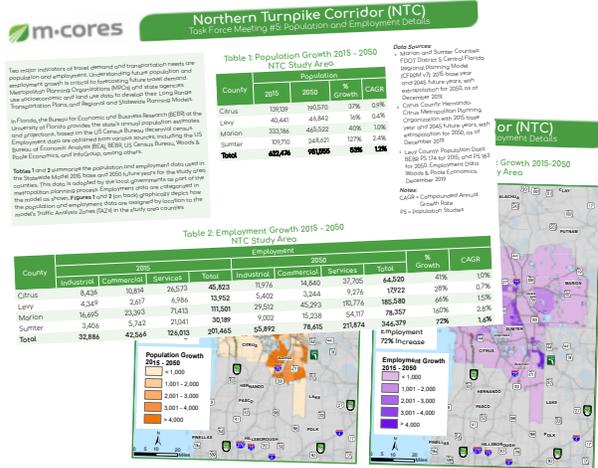
Statewide Outreach



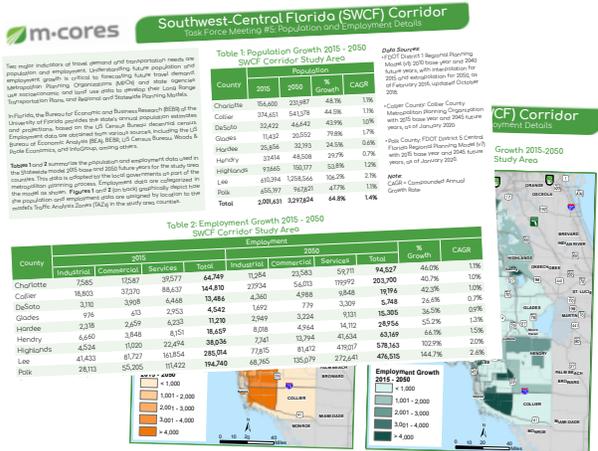
Population and Employment Statistics



Suncoast Corridor



Northern Turnpike Corridor



Southwest-Central Florida Corridor

Two major indicators of travel demand and transportation needs are population and employment. Understanding future population and employment growth is critical to forecasting future travel demand. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and state agencies use socioeconomic and land use data to develop their Long Range Transportation Plans, and Regional and Statewide Planning Models.

In Florida, the Bureau for Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida provides the state's annual population estimates and projections, based on the US Census Bureau decennial census. Employment data are obtained from various sources, including the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), BEBR, US Census Bureau, Woods & Poole Economics, and InfoGroup, among others.

Tables 1 and 2 summarize the population and employment data used in the Statewide Model 2015 base and 2050 future years for the study area counties. This data is adopted by the local governments as part of the metropolitan planning process. Employment data are categorized in the model as shown. **Figures 1 and 2** (on back) graphically depict how the population and employment data are assigned by location to the models Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) in the study area counties.

Table 1: Population Growth 2015 - 2050
SCC Study Area

| County | Population | | | CAGR |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2050 | % Growth | |
| Citrus | 139,139 | 190,570 | 37% | 0.9% |
| Dixie | 16,465 | 17,273 | 5% | 0.1% |
| Gilchrist | 16,839 | 21,480 | 28% | 0.7% |
| Jefferson | 14,312 | 17,775 | 24% | 0.6% |
| Lafayette | 8,664 | 9,748 | 13% | 0.3% |
| Levy | 40,441 | 46,842 | 16% | 0.4% |
| Madison | 19,203 | 20,123 | 5% | 0.1% |
| Taylor | 22,824 | 25,311 | 11% | 0.3% |
| Total | 277,887 | 349,122 | 26% | 0.7% |

Data Sources:

- Jefferson County: FDOT District 3 Northwest Florida Regional Planning Model (v2.1); 2010 base year and 2040 future years, with interpolation for 2015 and extrapolation for 2050, as of May, 2017.

- Citrus County: Hernando-

Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization 2015 base year and 2045 future years, with extrapolation for 2050, as of December 2019

- All Other Counties: Population Data: BEBR PS 174 for 2015, and PS 183 for 2050. Employment Data: Woods & Poole Economics, December 2019

Notes:

CAGR = Compounded Annual Growth Rate
PS = Population Studies

Table 2: Employment Growth 2015 - 2050
SCC Study Area

| County | 2015 | | | | 2050 | | | | % Growth | CAGR |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | | |
| Citrus | 8,436 | 10,814 | 26,573 | 45,823 | 11,976 | 14,840 | 37,705 | 64,520 | 41% | 1.0% |
| Dixie | 1,014 | 715 | 2,268 | 3,997 | 1,106 | 964 | 2,967 | 5,037 | 26% | 0.7% |
| Gilchrist | 1,454 | 578 | 3,069 | 5,101 | 2,419 | 908 | 4,541 | 7,868 | 54% | 1.2% |
| Jefferson | 506 | 909 | 2,205 | 3,619 | 607 | 1,085 | 2,814 | 4,505 | 24% | 0.6% |
| Lafayette | 517 | 322 | 1,313 | 2,152 | 481 | 352 | 1,386 | 2,219 | 3% | 0.1% |
| Levy | 4,349 | 2,617 | 6,986 | 13,952 | 5,402 | 3,244 | 9,276 | 17,922 | 28% | 0.7% |
| Madison | 1,627 | 1,059 | 4,114 | 6,800 | 1,413 | 1,058 | 4,671 | 7,142 | 5% | 0.1% |
| Taylor | 2,736 | 1,444 | 4,459 | 8,639 | 2,643 | 1,545 | 6,045 | 10,233 | 18% | 0.5% |
| Total | 20,639 | 18,458 | 50,987 | 90,083 | 26,047 | 23,996 | 69,405 | 119,446 | 33% | 0.8% |

Figure 1: Population Growth 2015-2050
SCC Study Area

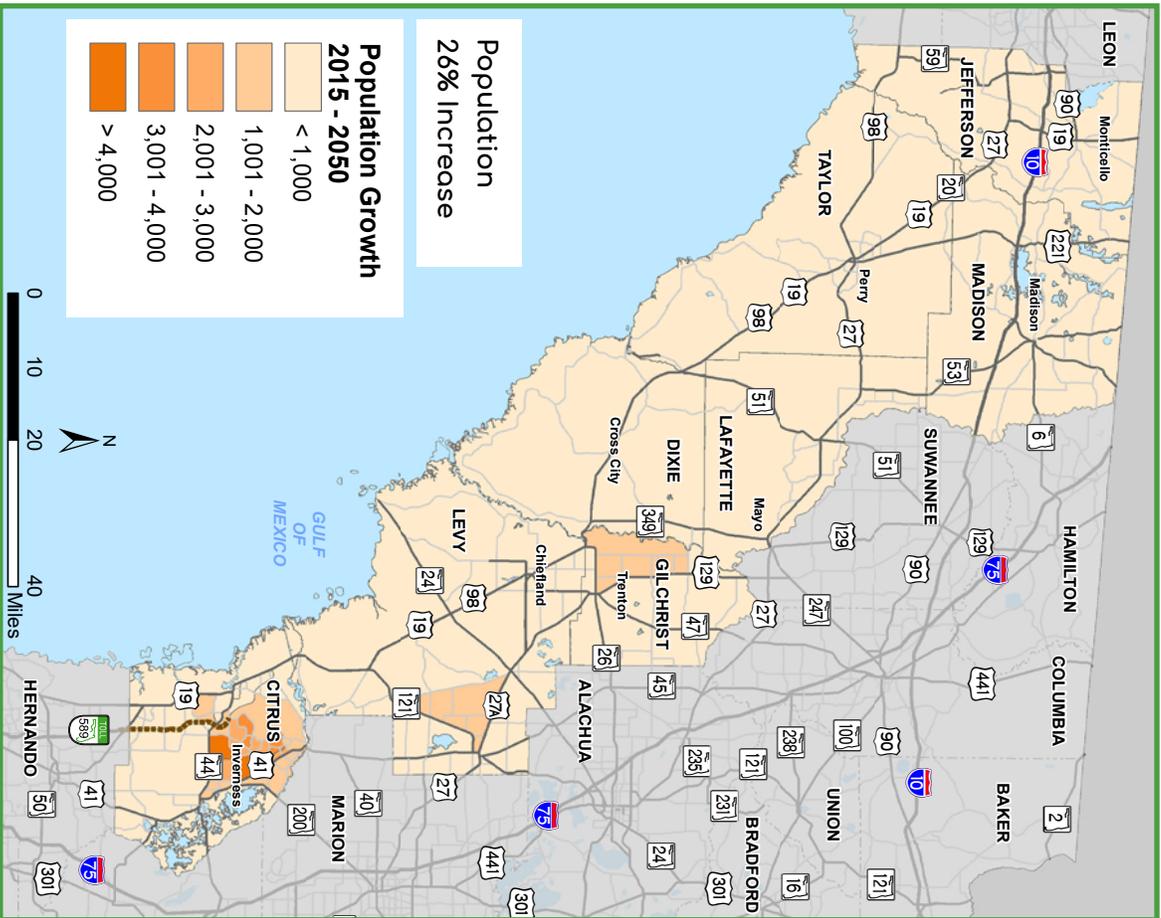
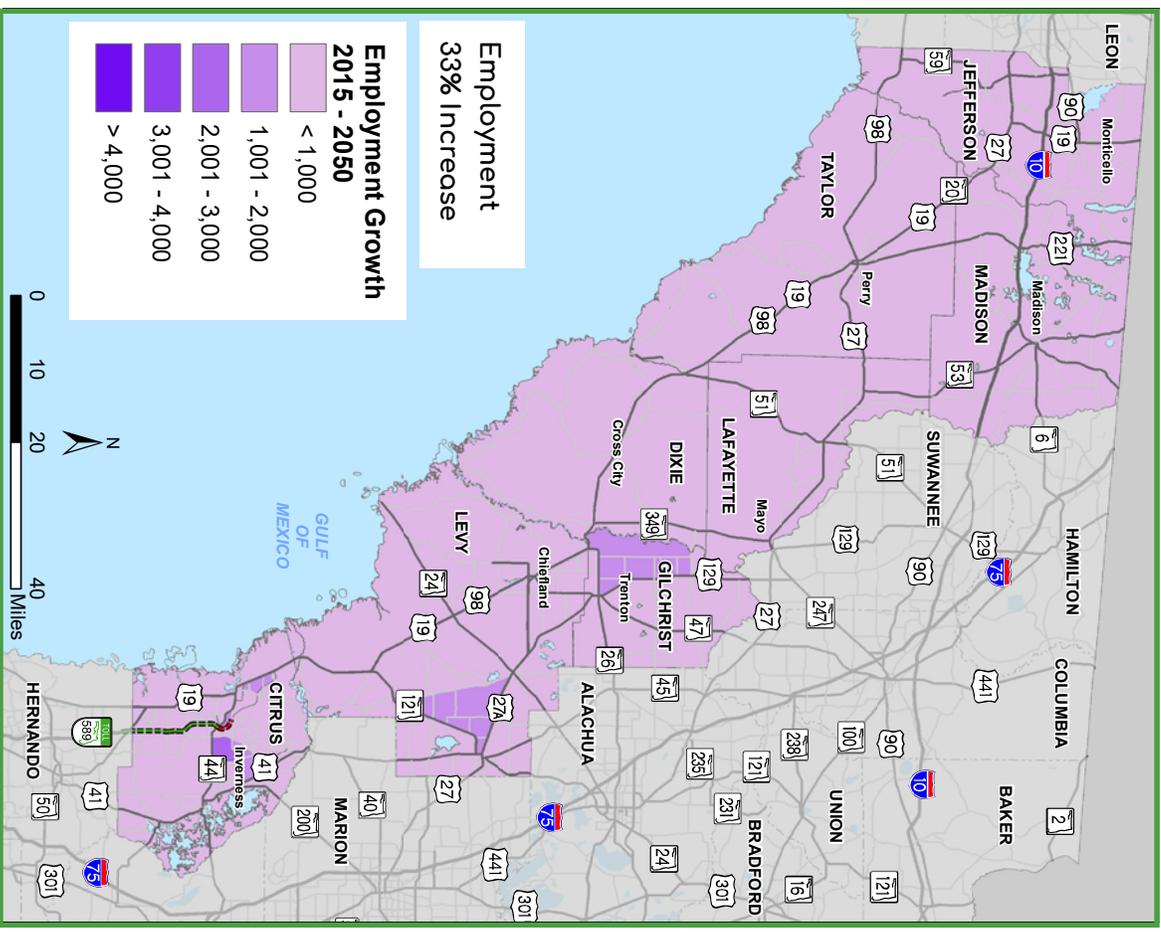


Figure 2: Employment Growth 2015-2050
SCC Study Area



Two major indicators of travel demand and transportation needs are population and employment. Understanding future population and employment growth is critical to forecasting future travel demand. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and state agencies use socioeconomic and land use data to develop their Long Range Transportation Plans, and Regional and Statewide Planning Models.

In Florida, the Bureau for Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida provides the state's annual population estimates and projections, based on the US Census Bureau decennial census. Employment data are obtained from various sources, including the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), BEBR, US Census Bureau, Woods & Poole Economics, and InfoGroup, among others.

Tables 1 and 2 summarize the population and employment data used in the Statewide Model 2015 base and 2050 future years for the study area counties. This data is adopted by the local governments as part of the metropolitan planning process. Employment data are categorized in the model as shown. **Figures 1 and 2** (on back) graphically depict how the population and employment data are assigned by location to the model's Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) in the study area counties

**Table 1: Population Growth 2015 - 2050
NTC Study Area**

| County | Population | | | % Growth | CAGR |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--|------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2050 | | | |
| Citrus | 139,139 | 190,570 | | 37% | 0.9% |
| Levy | 40,441 | 46,842 | | 16% | 0.4% |
| Marion | 333,186 | 465,522 | | 40% | 1.0% |
| Sumter | 109,710 | 248,621 | | 127% | 2.4% |
| Total | 622,476 | 951,555 | | 53% | 1.2% |

Data Sources:

- Marion and Sumter Counties: FDOT District 5 Central Florida Regional Planning Model (CFRPM v7): 2015 base year and 2045 future years, with extrapolation for 2050, as of December 2019.
- Citrus County: Hernando-Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization with 2015 base year and 2045 future years, with extrapolation for 2050, as of December 2019
- Levy County: Population Data: BEBR PS 174 for 2015, and PS 183 for 2050. Employment Data: Woods & Poole Economics, December 2019

Notes:

CAGR = Compounded Annual Growth Rate
PS = Population Studies

**Table 2: Employment Growth 2015 - 2050
NTC Study Area**

| County | 2015 | | | | 2050 | | | | % Growth | CAGR |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | | |
| Citrus | 8,436 | 10,814 | 26,573 | 45,823 | 11,976 | 14,840 | 37,705 | 64,520 | 41% | 1.0% |
| Levy | 4,349 | 2,617 | 6,986 | 13,952 | 5,402 | 3,244 | 9,276 | 17,922 | 28% | 0.7% |
| Marion | 16,695 | 23,393 | 71,413 | 111,501 | 29,512 | 45,293 | 110,776 | 185,580 | 66% | 1.5% |
| Sumter | 3,406 | 5,742 | 21,041 | 30,189 | 9,002 | 15,238 | 54,117 | 78,357 | 160% | 2.8% |
| Total | 32,886 | 42,566 | 126,013 | 201,465 | 55,892 | 78,615 | 211,874 | 346,379 | 72% | 1.6% |

Figure 1: Population Growth 2015-2050
NTC Study Area

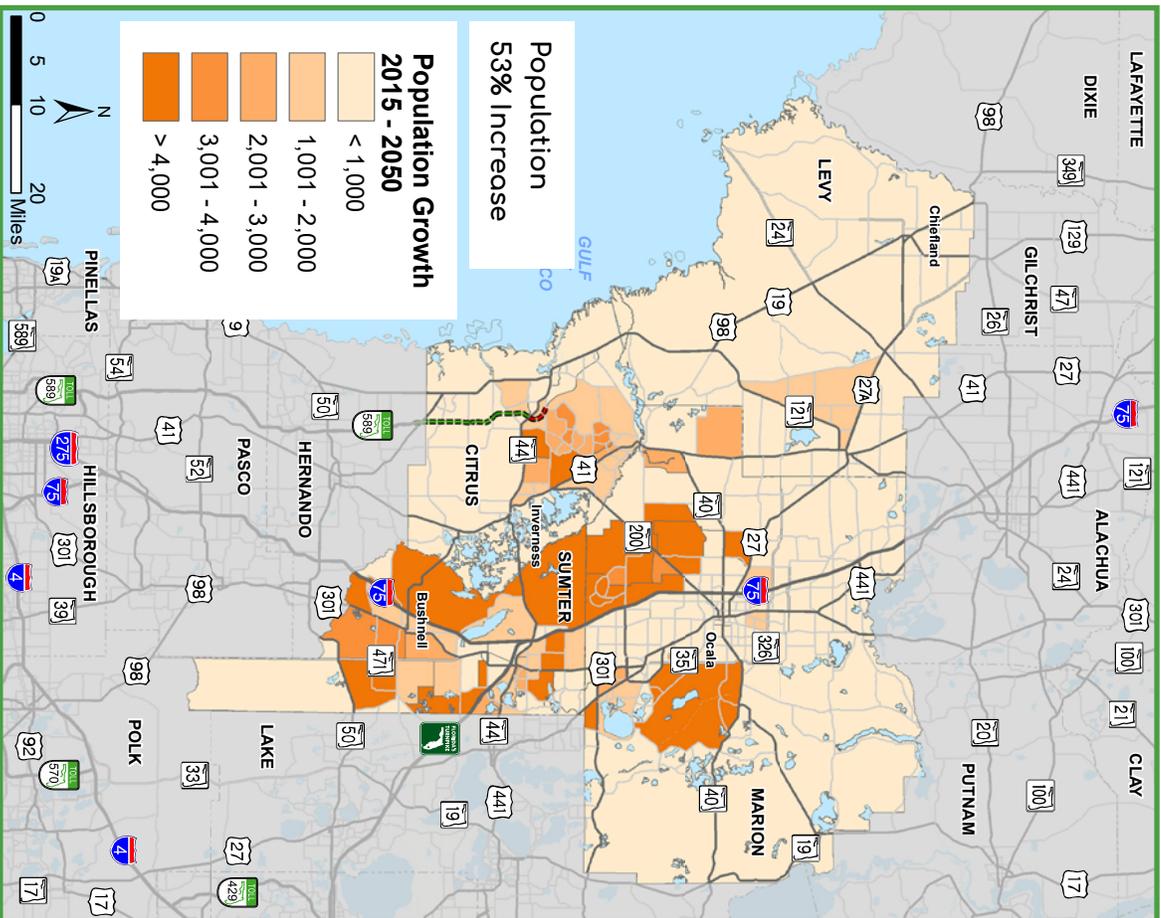
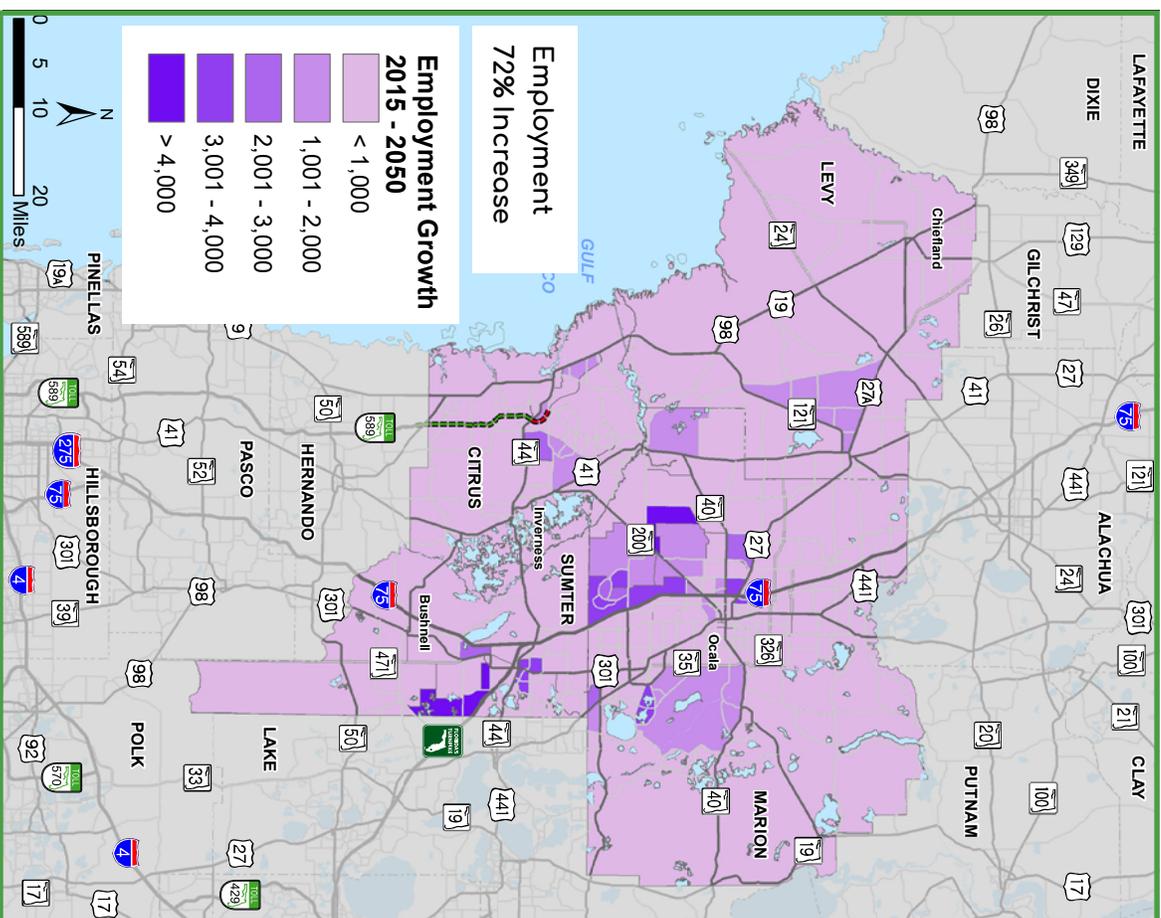


Figure 2: Employment Growth 2015-2050
NTC Study Area





Southwest-Central Florida (SWCF) Corridor

Task Force Meeting #5: Population and Employment Details

Two major indicators of travel demand and transportation needs are population and employment. Understanding future population and employment growth is critical to forecasting future travel demand. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and state agencies use socioeconomic and land use data to develop their Long Range Transportation Plans, and Regional and Statewide Planning Models.

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**Table 1: Population Growth 2015 - 2050
SWCF Corridor Study Area**

| County | Population | | | CAGR |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2050 | % Growth | |
| Charlotte | 156,600 | 231,987 | 48.1% | 1.1% |
| Collier | 374,651 | 541,378 | 44.5% | 1.1% |
| DeSoto | 32,422 | 46,642 | 43.9% | 1.0% |
| Glades | 11,432 | 20,552 | 79.8% | 1.7% |
| Hardee | 25,856 | 32,193 | 24.5% | 0.6% |
| Hendry | 37,414 | 48,508 | 29.7% | 0.7% |
| Highlands | 97,665 | 150,177 | 53.8% | 1.2% |
| Lee | 610,394 | 1,258,566 | 106.2% | 2.1% |
| Polk | 655,197 | 967,821 | 47.7% | 1.1% |
| Total | 2,001,631 | 3,297,824 | 64.8% | 1.4% |

Data Sources:
 •FDOT District 1 Regional Planning Model (v1), 2010 base year and 2040 future years, with interpolation for 2015 and extrapolation for 2050, as of February 2016, updated October 2018.

• Collier County: Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organization with 2015 base year and 2045 future years, as of January 2020.

• Polk County: FDOT District 5 Central Florida Regional Planning Model (v7) with 2015 base year and 2045 future years, as of January 2020.

Note:
 CAGR = Compounded Annual Growth Rate.

**Table 2: Employment Growth 2015 - 2050
SWCF Corridor Study Area**

| County | 2015 | | | | 2050 | | | | % Growth | CAGR |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | Industrial | Commercial | Services | Total | | |
| Charlotte | 7,585 | 17,587 | 39,577 | 64,749 | 11,284 | 23,583 | 59,711 | 94,527 | 46.0% | 1.1% |
| Collier | 18,803 | 37,370 | 88,637 | 144,810 | 27,934 | 56,013 | 119,992 | 203,700 | 40.7% | 1.0% |
| DeSoto | 3,110 | 3,908 | 6,468 | 13,486 | 4,360 | 4,988 | 9,848 | 19,196 | 42.3% | 1.0% |
| Glades | 976 | 613 | 2,953 | 4,542 | 1,692 | 779 | 3,309 | 5,748 | 26.6% | 0.7% |
| Hardee | 2,318 | 2,659 | 6,233 | 11,210 | 2,949 | 3,224 | 9,131 | 15,305 | 36.5% | 0.9% |
| Hendry | 6,660 | 3,848 | 8,151 | 18,659 | 8,018 | 4,964 | 14,112 | 28,956 | 55.2% | 1.3% |
| Highlands | 4,524 | 11,020 | 22,494 | 38,036 | 7,741 | 13,794 | 41,634 | 63,169 | 66.1% | 1.5% |
| Lee | 41,433 | 81,727 | 161,854 | 285,014 | 77,815 | 81,412 | 419,017 | 578,163 | 102.9% | 2.0% |
| Polk | 28,113 | 55,205 | 111,422 | 194,740 | 68,765 | 135,079 | 272,641 | 476,515 | 144.7% | 2.6% |
| Total | 113,522 | 213,937 | 447,789 | 775,246 | 210,560 | 323,836 | 949,395 | 1,485,279 | 91.6% | 1.9% |

Figure 1: Population Growth 2015-2050
SWCF Corridor Study Area

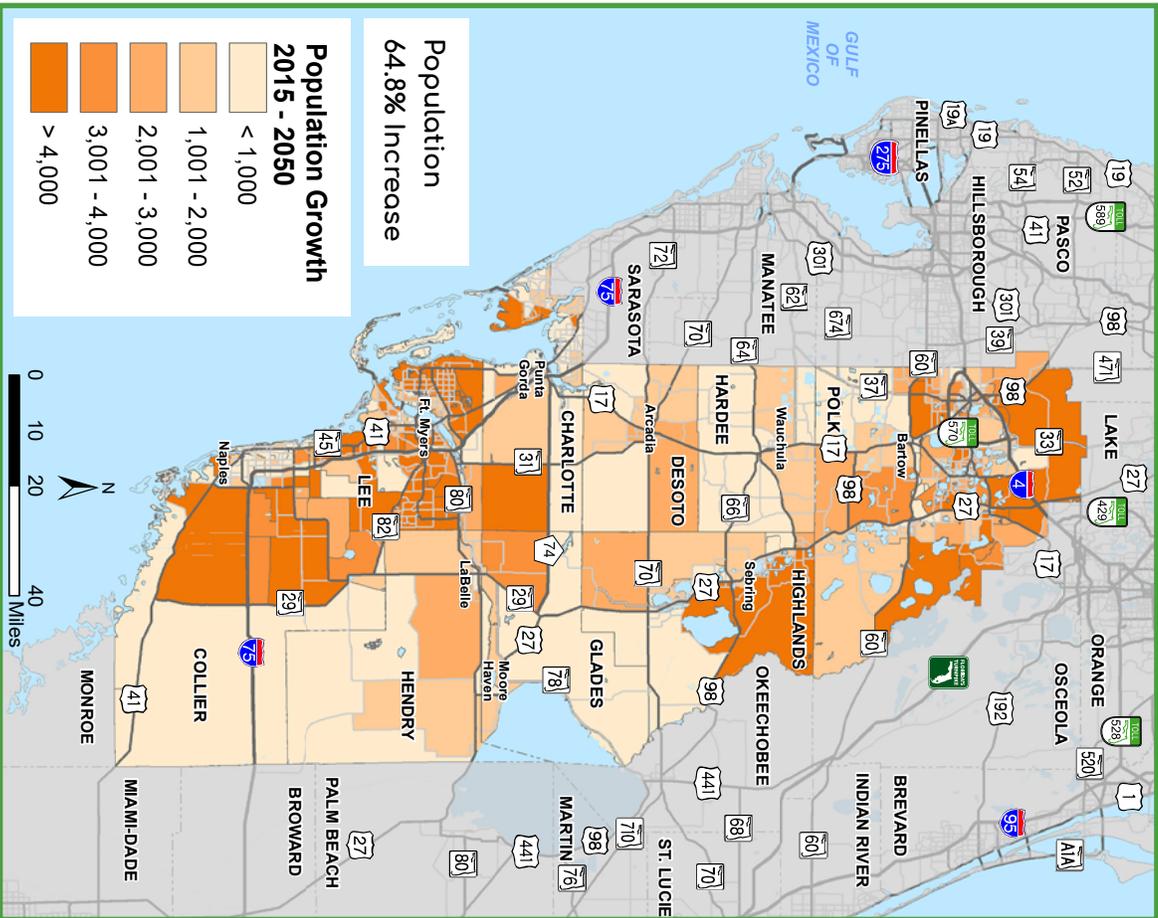
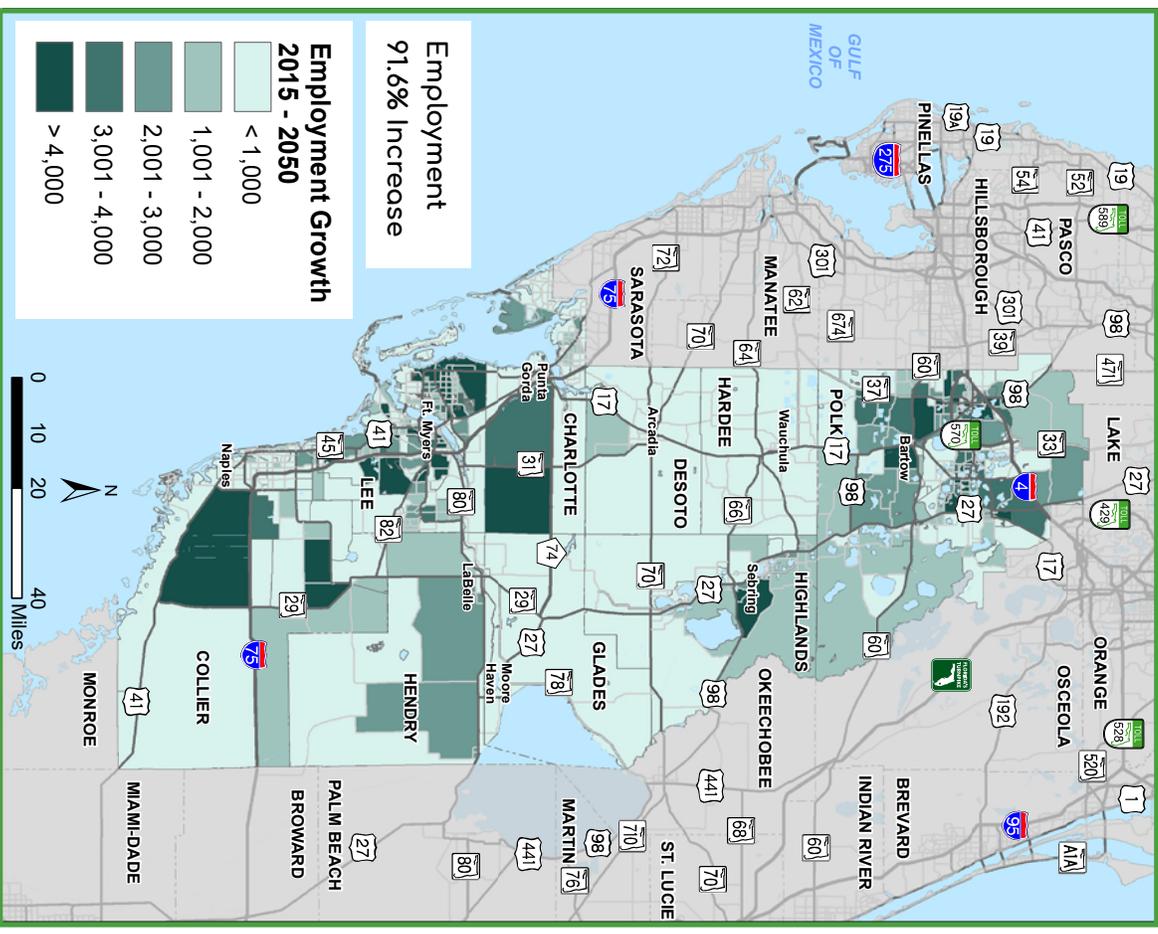


Figure 2: Employment Growth 2015-2050
SWCF Corridor Study Area



Quote



“Over the past 15 months, the M-CORES Task Force members have worked diligently and collectively to plan for Florida’s future. The outcome from these efforts were a set of recommendations that address the state’s emerging needs while also protecting our most precious environmental and natural resources. Throughout the next study phases, the department will apply Task Force recommendations as we continue to engage the public and all our partners, so, together, we can ensure Florida remains the greatest state in the nation for generations to come.”

- **FDOT Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E.**

Links

- [M-CORES Website](#)
 - [Suncoast Corridor Task Force](#)
 - [Northern Turnpike Corridor Task Force](#)
 - [Southwest-Central Florida Corridor Task Force](#)
 - [Interactive Map](#)
 - [Newsroom](#)
- [State of Florida Legislation Creating M-CORES Program](#)