

Technical Memorandum 22-03

Office of Policy Planning



FROM: Office of Policy Planning

DATE: November 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Update

Purpose

The IIJA created several new state-level planning requirements, including a Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS), a Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP), a three-year Highway Safety Plan (HSP), and a Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment. In addition, Florida law also requires the development of a State Highway System Resilience Action Plan. These planning efforts require coordination and consultation with Florida's 27 MPOs throughout the coming year.

Where possible, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will use existing processes to coordinate and consult with the MPOs. For example, the CRS and the RAP were discussed at:

- the Federal Planning Findings meeting in July 2022,
- the Florida Metropolitan Planning Partners (FMPP) meeting in August 2022, and
- the MPOAC meeting in October 2022.

Please join the December 12 virtual meeting as FDOT continues discussions related to the objectives and strategies for the CRS and provide an update on the RAP. A meeting invitation was sent to all Staff Directors. Please share it with your staff as appropriate.

Public and Partner Engagement Plans (PPEP) for the CRS and RAP can be found at www.fdot.gov/planning/policy. FDOT is developing the PPEP for the HSP and Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment.

Information on these programs and related guidance is available at [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Guidance | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](https://www.bipartisaninfrastructure.com/guidance).

Carbon Reduction Strategy

The State's CRS must be submitted to the US Department of Transportation by November 2023. FDOT is in the early stages of the development and consultive process. The MPO Consultive Process for the CRS is attached.

Based on input from the August FMPP meeting, FDOT is preparing a *Carbon Reduction Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Quick Guide* for MPOs to use while preparing their LRTPs. As part of this process, FDOT reviewed existing goals and objectives in the LRTPs, which will inform the objectives and strategies of the CRS.

The CRS is intended to support the goals of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Carbon Reduction Program. As MPOs prioritize projects, they should consider potential carbon reduction benefits and indicate these benefits on their priority lists, where applicable. The FDOT District Offices will continue coordinating with MPOs as projects are developed and funding is programmed.

Resilience Improvement Plan

The IIJA provides for an increased federal share in Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) funding when a state or an MPO has a RIP. FDOT is developing a RAP, as Florida law requires. The RAP will assess vulnerabilities to the State Highway System and identify strategies to prioritize and address those vulnerabilities. The RAP will also serve as the basis for the State's RIP, which will assess vulnerabilities on the National Highway System (NHS). The RAP is due to the Governor and Florida's Legislature by June 30, 2023. The IIJA did not establish a deadline for submission of the State's RIP. FDOT intends to complete the RAP, then extend/modify it to the NHS for purposes of the RIP.

The RIP is intended to support national resilience goals and the implementation of PROTECT. FDOT anticipates a Notice of Funding Opportunity from FHWA for the PROTECT discretionary grant program sometime next year.

Highway Safety Plan and Vulnerable Road User Assessment

The IIJA requires FDOT to submit a three-year HSP to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) by July 1, 2023. In the past, the HSP was submitted annually with the State's grant application for NHTSA funding. The HSP establishes the State's priorities for addressing driver behavior through education and enforcement using proven countermeasures. The IIJA and NHTSA require that FDOT consider input on the three-year HSP from stakeholders, including the MPOs.

The IIJA also requires FDOT to complete a Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment by November 2023. The assessment is heavily data-driven to identify those highest risk areas for bicyclists and pedestrians. Based on the data analysis, FDOT must consult with the local agencies in the identified areas to determine appropriate strategies and countermeasures, continuing the work of Florida's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition.

FDOT is in the early stages of determining how to proceed with these efforts. Please be on the lookout for more information as it becomes available. FDOT values its partnership with the MPOs and appreciates your insight and feedback on these planning activities.



MPO Consultive Process for the Development of Florida's Carbon Reduction Strategy

Consultation with Florida's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) will include meetings, discussions, and interactive sessions utilizing a variety of formats such as Florida Metropolitan Planning Partnership (FMPP) workshops, MPO Advisory Committee (MPOAC) meetings, and virtual meetings. While FMPP and MPOAC are ongoing partnership meetings held regularly throughout the year and attended by all MPOs, the virtual meetings will be held specifically to develop the CRS objectives and strategies in consultation with all 27 MPOs. In addition, input will be sought through a variety of other methods, including surveys, questionnaires, presentations, group discussions, and document reviews.

Below is a schedule of past and tentative MPO consultative activities.

Date	Event	Stakeholder Group
July 11-12, 2022	Federal Findings Meeting	FHWA and MPOs
August 18-19, 2022	FMPP Workshop	MPOs
October 27, 2022	MPOAC Staff Directors' Advisory Committee	MPOs
November 1-15, 2022	MPO Online Survey	MPOs
December 12, 2022	MPO Virtual Meeting	MPOs
February 1, 2023	FMPP Workshop	MPOs
March 2023	MPO Virtual Meeting	MPOs
April 2023	MPOAC	MPOs
July 2023	FMPP Workshop	MPOs
July 2023	Federal Planning Findings	FHWA and MPOs
August 2023	MPO Virtual Meeting	MPOs
August 2023	Document Review/Comment Period	MPOs



Other opportunities for engagement will be provided. The activities listed below are intended for multiple audiences such as the MPOs, local governments, Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) committee members and partners, Regional Planning Councils (RPCs), and the public. The Regional Information Sessions listed below are open to the public with MPOs and local agencies as the primary audience. Other opportunities not yet identified will be added to list as the process continues.

Date	Event	Stakeholder Group
August 26, 2022	Regional Information Session	Statewide MPOs and Local Governments
September 19, 2022	Regional Information Session	Tampa Region MPOs and Local Governments
September 20, 2022	Florida Public Transportation Assn	Statewide Groups
September 22, 2022	Regional Information Session	Panhandle Region MPOs and Local Governments
September 23, 2022	Regional Information Session	Central FL Region MPOs and Local Governments
November 9, 2022	FTP Implementation Committee Meeting	Statewide Groups
January 18, 2023	Regional Information Session	SW FL Region MPOs and Local Governments
January 24, 2023	Regional Information Session	Panhandle Region MPOs and Local Governments
January 26, 2023	Regional Information Session	NE FL Region MPOs and Local Governments
January 30, 2023	Florida Regional Councils Assn	RPCs
February 15, 2023	Regional Information Session	South FL Region MPOs and Local Governments
February 16, 2023	Regional Information Session	South FL Region MPOs and Local Governments
September 2023	Public Comment Period	Statewide Groups and Public