



Florida's Transportation Visioning Summit Summary

Introduction

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) convened Florida's Transportation Visioning Summit on December 17, 2014 in Lake Buena Vista. The purpose of the summit was to engage FDOT's partners, stakeholders, and the public in envisioning the future of transportation in Florida and to provide early input for the updates of the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Policy Plan.

A total of 211 people participated in the summit, including representatives of FDOT and other state agencies; metropolitan planning organizations; county and city governments; regional planning councils; modal transportation providers; business and economic development organizations; community and environmental stakeholder groups; the consultant industry; and the public.

The summit provided input on three topics:

- Strengths and successes of Florida transportation during the past few years;
- The future vision for transportation in Florida, including potential themes of the next FTP and SIS Policy Plan; and
- Bold ideas related to each potential theme, as input to the FTP and SIS Policy Plan updates.

Florida Transportation Strengths and Successes

Participants were asked to identify major strengths and successes of Florida's transportation system in nine categories. Table 1 summarizes the strengths and successes, as synthesized by staff:

Table 1. Florida Transportation Strengths and Successes

Category	Strengths and Successes
Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted initiatives to improve bicycle/pedestrian safety (e.g., separated urban trails, pedestrian overpasses, crosswalk improvements, Safe Routes to Schools) • Overall reduction in traffic fatalities • Safety awareness and education programs • Community traffic safety teams • Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) implementation. • Lighting and signage • Regional evacuation and resiliency planning
Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift toward a multimodal DOT with funding for all modes, including SIS development and implementation and creation of FDOT's Office of Freight, Logistics, and Passenger Operations • Development of SunRail • Funding for intermodal logistics centers • Express bus service operating on Interstate highways in Southeast Florida, crossing county lines and drawing choice riders • Expanding urban bus circulators to serve transit locations • Transit and transportation disadvantaged services in all 67 counties • Partnerships with freight railroads • Funding for trails connecting communities
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent, continuing state investment in maintenance of existing infrastructure including highways and bridges • Continued widening to six lanes on interstates • Improved connectivity to major transportation hubs • Focus on transportation corridors to encourage compact urban development and preserve natural environment • Investments in seaports to take advantage of Florida's location on east-west and north-south trade lanes • Infrastructure upgrades in process in many high density areas
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership in technology research and implementation (e.g., automated vehicle technology; alternative fuel vehicles) • Increasing use of technology to optimize use of existing infrastructure • Implementation of managed lanes • Electronic toll collection • Dynamic message boards/speed monitoring • ITS/511 systems • Virtual freight networks • Social media • Improvement in data and modeling capabilities

Category	Strengths and Successes
Economic Competitiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactive planning to support growth in population, visitors, and the economy, including use of alternative and underutilized corridors • Attention to development of the aerospace industry • Investments in intermodal logistics centers and other freight and logistics infrastructure • Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) focus on hubs, corridors, and connectors • Investments in Rural Areas of Opportunity
Quality of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved travel times and options • Greater focus on non-road facilities such as bike routes and greenways • Implementation of “complete streets” and other community-building investments • Support for mobility needs for aging in place
Environmental Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of coastal areas, parks and preserves, and other environmental resources • FDOT’s Efficient Transportation Decision Making and Project Development & Environment processes • Increased use of alternative fuel sources • Increased use of flexible and pervious pavements • Collaborative mitigation with other agencies (e.g., for wetlands) • Trend toward multimodal transportation systems • Elevated/trellised roads through sensitive and scenic areas
Collaboration and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with MPOs, local governments and modal owners/operators to coordinate infrastructure investments • FDOT/DEO collaboration on Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development; alignment with FTP • Public/private partnerships • State and regional freight plans involving multiple MPOs • Rail partnerships (SunRail; South Florida Operations and Management Agreement) • Florida Trade & Logistics Study partnership (Florida Chamber Foundation, FDOT, modes) • Pedestrian/bicycle safety coalitions • Safe Mobility for Life Coalition • State/federal/industry partnerships for space transportation. • Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation • FDEP Best Foot Forward initiative • FDOT Future Corridors Planning Process • Community and regional visioning
Other topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to planning for the future • Early and continuing commitment to performance management

Florida's Transportation Vision

Summit participants reviewed five alternative futures developed by FDOT:

- **Groundhog Day:** Pre-Recession Trends Continue
- **It's a Small World:** Florida as a Global Hub
- **Tomorrowland:** Florida as an Innovation Hub
- **Back to the Future:** Return to a Focus on Agriculture and Rural Lifestyle
- **Stormy Weather:** Slow Growth or No Growth in the Future

Participants selected one or more of these alternatives as a basis for identifying the key elements of Florida's transportation vision. The participants showed a strong preference for a vision characterized by Florida's role as an innovation hub (identified as a key element of the vision prepared by 25 out of 27 teams) and as a global hub (22 out of 27 teams). Ten teams identified renewed opportunities in Florida's rural areas as a supporting element of the vision. No team identified a vision that primarily reflected a return to the trends prior to the recession or a trend toward slower growth.

The participants also identified and ranked 10 common themes across the various visions. These themes are listed in Table 2:

Table 2. Potential Themes of Florida's Transportation Vision

Theme	% Identifying as One of Top 3 Priorities
Technology (connected/automated/on-demand)	48
Quality of experience/life including safety	42
More safe choices for personal travel (transit and multimodal)	39
Efficiency/optimized infrastructure	36
Connectivity (intrastate/interstate/global)	30
Innovative funding and financing	30
Transportation to support economic diversification	24
Balancing decisions to preserve Florida's environment	24
Intermodal integration for freight	15
Changing demographics (aging/millennials)	12

Bold Ideas in Support of Florida's Transportation Vision

Finally, the participants identified and ranked "bold ideas" for how Florida could achieve the six top ranked themes. Table 3 lists the highest ranked bold ideas for each theme.

Table 3. Top Ranked Bold Ideas

Theme	Bold Idea	% Identifying as one of Top 3 Priorities for the Associated Theme
Technology	Dynamic transportation management - no red lights, automated intersection control	72
	Point-to-point distribution models versus hub and spoke operations	48
	Seamless national Wi-Fi network	39
	Personal rapid transit networks	36
	Moving infrastructure	27
Quality of life/ experience and safety	Context-based design	48
	Safe access to all modes of transportation	48
	Support the best education system in the nation	39
	Zero transportation related fatalities	33
	Design roadways from the most vulnerable user (pedestrian) to the least vulnerable (truck)	30
	Better coordination between state and local levels	30
More safe choices for personal travel	High capacity passenger rail that connects urban centers with other modes throughout the state	54
	Integrating land use and transportation planning	54
	Universal fare card for all transportation modes (car, bus, train, bike share, etc.)	51
	System of pedestrian, bike, and transit connectivity from local to interregional	39
	Support for mixed use and vertical development patterns	33
Efficiency/ optimized infrastructure	Proactive planning for right of way/corridor/land use needs far into the future (all modes freight and passenger, pipeline, communications conduit, etc.)	57
	Digital network to support physical network to visualize available capacity	48
	Intramodal collaboration	36
	Real time technology to track containers and other assets	36
	Densification of multimodal facilities	33

Theme	Bold Idea	% Identifying as one of Top 3 Priorities for the Associated Theme
Connectivity (intrastate, interstate, global)	Multi-purpose multimodal corridors	69
	Multimodal passenger facilities or network	39
	Holistic, systemwide network planning	33
	Connectivity of freight and passenger facilities	30
	High-tech corridors	39
Innovative funding and financing	Transition revenue stream from one based on fuel consumption to one based on consumption of the transportation utility (e.g., VMT fees)	84
	More managed lanes to increase capacity while enabling existing funding to be used for preservation	54
	Use of transportation infrastructure for energy generation (e.g., solar highways)	48
	Indexing federal and local fuel taxes	39