

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 774

SPONSOR: Transportation Committee and Senator Webster

SUBJECT: Transportation

DATE: April 12, 2000 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>McAuliffe</u>	<u>Meyer</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This CS provides prevailing principles which will guide state and regional transportation planning. The prevailing principles are: (1) preserving the existing transportation infrastructure; (2) enhancing Florida's economic competitiveness; and (3) improving travel choices to ensure mobility.

This CS substantially amends sections 334.035, 334.046, 339.155, and 339.175 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The major elements of Florida's transportation system include: the 12,000 mile State Highway System; more than 100,000 miles of local roads; 2,988 miles of main route rail lines; rail passenger services in north, central and southeast Florida; commuter rail in southeast Florida; 18 local and regional transit systems operating about 10,000 route miles; 22 commercial airports; 14 seaports; and 48 specialized systems serving the transportation disadvantaged.

The planning process for such a comprehensive transportation system involves many different planning agencies at different levels of government including local governments, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), regional planning councils and various state agencies. Florida's planning process also provides broad participation to include other key stakeholders, such as the business community, members of the public, and community groups. Each brings different priorities, perspectives and potentially different objectives to the planning of transportation facilities and services.

The Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) 2020 Florida Transportation Plan, which came out of the FDOT public involvement program, focuses on the major themes important to the well-being of residents and visitors. Long range objectives are established, providing specific actions so progress toward achieving them can be measured. FDOT currently has a mission statement and four goals which guide the overall planning for state projects.

FDOT mission statement:

“The Department will provide a safe, interconnected statewide transportation system for Florida’s citizens and visitors that ensures the mobility of people and goods, while enhancing economic prosperity and sustaining the quality of our environment.”

Florida Transportation Plan Goals:

Goal 1 - Safe transportation for residents, visitors and commerce.

Goal 2 - Protection of the public’s investment in transportation.

Goal 3 - A statewide interconnected transportation system that enhances Florida’s economic competitiveness.

Goal 4 - Travel choices to ensure mobility, sustain the quality of the environment, preserve community values and reduce energy consumption.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This CS provides prevailing principles which will guide state and regional transportation planning.

Section 334.035, F.S., is amended to provide prevailing principles which must be considered in planning and developing transportation systems in the Florida Transportation Code. The prevailing principles are: (1) preserving the existing transportation infrastructure; (2) enhancing Florida’s economic competitiveness; and (3) improving travel choices to ensure mobility.

Section 334.046, F.S., is amended to require the FDOT to integrate the prevailing principles in their mission, goals, and objectives. Further, the section is amended to require FDOT to document the Florida Transportation Plan (see section 3) based upon the prevailing principles.

The section is amended to define the prevailing principles and require FDOT to address the principles in their goals.

Prevailing Principles

(a) Preservation -- Protecting the state’s transportation infrastructure investment.

Preservation includes:

1. Ensuring that 80 percent of the pavement on the State Highway System meets FDOT standards;
2. Ensuring that 90 percent of the FDOT maintained bridges meets FDOT standards;
3. Ensuring the department achieves 100 percent of the acceptable maintenance standard on the state highway system.

(b) Economic Competitiveness -- Ensuring the State has a clear understanding of the economic consequences of transportation investments, and how such investments effects the state’s economic competitiveness. FDOT must develop a macroeconomic analysis of the linkages between transportation investment and economic performance, as well as a method

to quantifiably measure the economic benefits of the district work program investments. Such an analysis must analyze:

1. The state and district's economic performance relative to the competition.
2. The business environment as viewed from the perspective of companies evaluating the state as a place to do business.
3. The state's capacity to sustain long-term growth.

(c) Mobility -- Ensuring a cost-effective, statewide, interconnected transportation system.

Section 339.155, F.S., is amended to provide the Florida Transportation Plan must be based upon the prevailing principles and the planning process must be carried out in conformance with those principles. The section is further amended to delete 28 planning factors which are no longer required by federal law. The section is amended to require Regional Planning Councils to prioritize regional transportation goals and policies in accordance with the prevailing principles.

Section 339.175, F.S., is amended to require the prevailing principles to be considered in MPO Long-Range Transportation plans, Transportation Improvement Plans, and in the project prioritization process. The section is further amended to delete six planning factors which are no longer required by federal law

The CS provides an effective date of July 1, 2000.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
