

**By** the Committee on Fiscal Policy; the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; the Committee on Transportation; and Senator DiCeglie

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Department of Transportation;  
3           amending s. 20.23, F.S.; revising the list of areas of  
4           program responsibility within the Department of  
5           Transportation; deleting the requirement that the  
6           secretary of the department appoint the department's  
7           inspector general and that he or she be directly  
8           responsible to the secretary; amending s. 311.101,  
9           F.S.; requiring that a specified amount of recurring  
10          funds from the State Transportation Trust Fund be made  
11          available for the Intermodal Logistics Center  
12          Infrastructure Support Program; requiring the  
13          department to include specified projects in its  
14          tentative work program; amending s. 334.046, F.S.;  
15          revising provisions relating to the department's  
16          mission, goals, and objectives; creating s. 334.61,  
17          F.S.; requiring governmental entities that propose  
18          certain projects to conduct a traffic study; requiring  
19          the governmental entity to give notice to property  
20          owners, impacted municipalities, and counties affected  
21          by such projects within a specified timeframe;  
22          providing notice requirements; requiring such  
23          governmental entities to hold a public meeting, with a  
24          specified period of prior notice, before completion of  
25          the design phase of such projects; providing  
26          requirements for such public meetings; requiring such  
27          governmental entities to review and take into  
28          consideration comments and alternatives presented in  
29          public meetings in the final project design; amending

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30 s. 338.231, F.S.; revising the length of time before  
31 which an inactive prepaid toll account becomes  
32 unclaimed property; amending s. 338.26, F.S.; revising  
33 the date by which fees generated from tolls deposited  
34 into the State Transportation Trust Fund must be used  
35 to reimburse a local governmental entity for certain  
36 costs of operating a specified fire station; providing  
37 that a specified interlocal agreement related to the  
38 Alligator Alley toll road controls the use of certain  
39 State Transportation Trust Fund moneys until the local  
40 governmental entity and the department enter into a  
41 new agreement or agree to extend the existing  
42 agreement; specifying the amount of reimbursement for  
43 the 2024-2025 fiscal year; requiring the local  
44 governmental entity, by a specified date and at  
45 specified intervals thereafter, to provide a  
46 maintenance and operations comprehensive plan to the  
47 department; providing requirements for the  
48 comprehensive plan; requiring the local governmental  
49 entity and the department to review and adopt the  
50 comprehensive plan as part of the interlocal  
51 agreement; requiring the department, in accordance  
52 with certain projections, to include the corresponding  
53 funding needs in the department's work program;  
54 requiring that ownership and title of certain  
55 equipment purchased with state funds and used at a  
56 specified fire station during the term of the  
57 interlocal agreement transfer to the state at the end  
58 of the term of the agreement; amending s. 339.08,

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59 F.S.; prohibiting the department from expending state  
60 funds to support a project or program of specified  
61 entities; requiring the department to withhold state  
62 funds until such entities are in compliance with a  
63 specified provision; amending s. 339.0803, F.S.;  
64 prioritizing availability of certain revenues  
65 deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund for  
66 payments under service contracts with the Florida  
67 Department of Transportation Financing Corporation to  
68 fund arterial highway projects; providing that two or  
69 more such projects may be treated as a single project  
70 for certain purposes; amending s. 339.0809, F.S.;  
71 specifying availability of funds appropriated for  
72 payments under a service contract with the  
73 corporation; authorizing the department to enter into  
74 service contracts to finance certain projects;  
75 providing requirements for annual service contract  
76 payments; requiring the department, before execution  
77 of a service contract, to ensure that annual payments  
78 are programmed for the life of the contract and to  
79 ensure that they remain programmed until fully paid;  
80 amending s. 339.2818, F.S.; authorizing, subject to  
81 appropriation, a local government within a specified  
82 area to compete for funding using specified criteria  
83 on specified roads; providing an exception; amending  
84 s. 341.051, F.S.; providing voting and meeting notice  
85 requirements for specified public transit projects;  
86 providing meeting notice requirements for discussion  
87 of specified actions by a public transit provider;

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88 requiring that certain unallocated funds for the New  
89 Starts Transit Program be reallocated for the purpose  
90 of the Strategic Intermodal System; providing for  
91 expiration of the reallocation; prohibiting, as a  
92 condition of receiving state funds, public transit  
93 provider from expending such funds for specified  
94 marketing or advertising activities; requiring the  
95 department to incorporate certain guidelines in the  
96 public transportation grant agreement entered into  
97 with each public transit provider; prohibiting certain  
98 wraps, tinting, paint, media, or advertisements on  
99 passenger windows of public transit provider vehicles  
100 from being darker than certain window tinting  
101 requirements; amending s. 341.071, F.S.; defining  
102 terms; beginning on a specified date and annually  
103 thereafter, requiring each public transit provider to  
104 take specified actions during a publicly noticed  
105 meeting; requiring that a certain disclosure be posted  
106 on public transit providers' websites; requiring the  
107 department to determine the annual state average of  
108 general administrative costs; authorizing certain  
109 costs to be excluded from such annual state average;  
110 requiring a specified increase in general  
111 administration costs to be reviewed and approved by  
112 certain entities; amending s. 341.822, F.S.; revising  
113 the powers of the Florida Rail Enterprise; providing  
114 an effective date.

115  
116 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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118 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (3) of  
119 section 20.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

120 20.23 Department of Transportation.—There is created a  
121 Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized  
122 agency.

123 (3)

124 (b) The secretary may appoint positions at the level of  
125 deputy assistant secretary or director which the secretary deems  
126 necessary to accomplish the mission and goals of the department,  
127 including, but not limited to, the areas of program  
128 responsibility provided in this paragraph, each of whom shall be  
129 appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The  
130 secretary may combine, separate, or delete offices as needed in  
131 consultation with the Executive Office of the Governor. The  
132 department's areas of program responsibility include, but are  
133 not limited to, all of the following:

134 1. Administration.~~†~~

135 2. Planning.~~†~~

136 3. Modal development. ~~Public transportation.~~~~†~~

137 4. Design.~~†~~

138 5. Highway operations.~~†~~

139 6. Right-of-way.~~†~~

140 7. Toll operations.~~†~~

141 8. Transportation technology.

142 ~~9.8.~~ Information systems.~~†~~

143 ~~10.9.~~ Motor carrier weight inspection.~~†~~

144 ~~11.10.~~ Work program development ~~Management~~ and budget.~~†~~

145 ~~12.11.~~ Comptroller.~~†~~

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- 146        13.12. Construction.~~;~~  
 147        14. Statewide corridors.  
 148        15.13. Maintenance.~~;~~~~and~~  
 149        16. Forecasting and performance.  
 150        17. Emergency management.  
 151        18. Safety.  
 152        19.14. Materials.

153        ~~(d) The secretary shall appoint an inspector general~~  
 154 ~~pursuant to s. 20.055 who shall be directly responsible to the~~  
 155 ~~secretary and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.~~

156        Section 2. Present subsection (7) of section 311.101,  
 157 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (8), and a new  
 158 subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

159        311.101 Intermodal Logistics Center Infrastructure Support  
 160 Program.—

161        (7) Beginning with the 2024-2025 fiscal year through the  
 162 2029-2030 fiscal year, \$15 million in recurring funds shall be  
 163 made available from the State Transportation Trust Fund for the  
 164 program. The Department of Transportation shall include projects  
 165 proposed to be funded under this section in the tentative work  
 166 program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4).

167        Section 3. Section 334.046, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 168 read:

169        334.046 Department mission, goals, and objectives.—

170        (1) The department shall consider the following prevailing  
 171 principles when to be considered in planning and developing the  
 172 state's multimodal an integrated, balanced statewide  
 173 transportation system are: preserving Florida's the existing  
 174 transportation infrastructure; supporting its enhancing

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175 Florida's economic competitiveness; promoting the efficient  
176 movement of people and goods; and preserving Florida's quality  
177 of life ~~improving travel choices to ensure mobility.~~

178 (2) The mission of the Department of Transportation shall  
179 be to provide a safe statewide transportation system that  
180 promotes the efficient movement ~~ensures the mobility~~ of people  
181 and goods, supports the state's ~~enhances~~ economic  
182 competitiveness, prioritizes Florida's environment and natural  
183 resources ~~prosperity,~~ and preserves the quality of life and  
184 connectedness of the state's ~~our environment and~~ communities.

185 (3) The ~~department shall document in the Florida~~  
186 ~~Transportation Plan, in accordance with s. 339.155 and based~~  
187 ~~upon the prevailing principles~~ outlined in this section shall be  
188 incorporated into all ~~of preserving the existing transportation~~  
189 ~~infrastructure, enhancing Florida's economic competitiveness,~~  
190 ~~and improving travel choices to ensure mobility,~~ the goals and  
191 objectives that provide statewide policy guidance for  
192 accomplishing the department's mission, including the Florida  
193 Transportation Plan outlined in s. 339.155.

194 (4) At a minimum, the department's goals shall address the  
195 following prevailing principles:—

196 (a) Maintaining investments ~~Preservation.~~—Protecting the  
197 state's transportation infrastructure investment, which—  
198 ~~Preservation~~ includes:

- 199 1. Ensuring that 80 percent of the pavement on the State  
200 Highway System meets department standards;
- 201 2. Ensuring that 90 percent of department-maintained  
202 bridges meet department standards; and
- 203 3. Ensuring that the department achieves 100 percent of the

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204 acceptable maintenance standard on the state highway system.

205 (b) *Economic competitiveness.*—Ensuring that the state has a  
206 clear understanding of the return on investment and economic  
207 impacts consequences of transportation infrastructure  
208 investments, and how such investments affect the state's  
209 economic competitiveness. The department must develop a  
210 macroeconomic analysis of the linkages between transportation  
211 investment and economic performance, as well as a method to  
212 quantifiably measure the economic benefits of the district-work-  
213 program investments. Such an analysis must analyze:

214 1. The state's and district's economic performance relative  
215 to the competition.

216 2. The business environment as viewed from the perspective  
217 of companies evaluating the state as a place in which to do  
218 business.

219 3. The state's capacity to sustain long-term growth.

220 (c) *Connected transportation system Mobility.*—Ensuring a  
221 cost-effective, statewide, interconnected transportation system  
222 that provides for the most efficient and effective multimodality  
223 and mobility.

224 (d) *Preserving Florida's natural resources and quality of*  
225 life.—Prioritizing Florida's natural resources and the quality  
226 of life of its communities.

227 Section 4. Section 334.61, Florida Statutes, is created to  
228 read:

229 334.61 Traffic lane repurposing.—

230 (1) When a governmental entity proposes any project that  
231 will repurpose one or more existing traffic lanes, the  
232 governmental entity shall include a traffic study to address any



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233 potential adverse impacts of the project, including, but not  
234 limited to, changes in traffic congestion and impacts on safety.

235 (2) If, following the study required by subsection (1), the  
236 governmental entity elects to continue with the design of the  
237 project, it must notify all affected property owners, impacted  
238 municipalities, and the counties in which the project is located  
239 at least 180 days before the design phase of the project is  
240 completed. The notice must provide a written explanation  
241 regarding the need for the project and information on how to  
242 review the traffic study required by subsection (1), and must  
243 indicate that all affected parties will be given an opportunity  
244 to provide comments to the proposing entity regarding potential  
245 impacts of the change.

246 (3) The governmental entity shall hold at least one public  
247 meeting, with at least 30 days prior notice, before completing  
248 the design phase of the project in the jurisdiction where the  
249 project is located. At the public meeting, the governmental  
250 entity shall explain the purpose of the project and receive  
251 public input, including possible alternatives, to determine the  
252 manner in which the project will affect the community.

253 (4) The governmental entity shall review all comments from  
254 the public meeting and take the comments and any alternatives  
255 presented during the meeting into consideration in the final  
256 design of the project.

257 Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
258 338.231, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259 338.231 Turnpike tolls, fixing; pledge of tolls and other  
260 revenues.—The department shall at all times fix, adjust, charge,  
261 and collect such tolls and amounts for the use of the turnpike

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262 system as are required in order to provide a fund sufficient  
263 with other revenues of the turnpike system to pay the cost of  
264 maintaining, improving, repairing, and operating such turnpike  
265 system; to pay the principal of and interest on all bonds issued  
266 to finance or refinance any portion of the turnpike system as  
267 the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all  
268 such purposes.

269 (3)

270 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
271 contrary, any prepaid toll account of any kind which has  
272 remained inactive for 10 ~~3~~ years is ~~shall be~~ presumed unclaimed  
273 and its disposition shall be handled by the Department of  
274 Financial Services in accordance with all applicable provisions  
275 of chapter 717 relating to the disposition of unclaimed  
276 property, and the prepaid toll account shall be closed by the  
277 department.

278 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
279 338.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

280 338.26 Alligator Alley toll road.—

281 (3) (a) Fees generated from tolls shall be deposited in the  
282 State Transportation Trust Fund and shall be used:

- 283 1. To reimburse outstanding contractual obligations;
- 284 2. To operate and maintain the highway and toll facilities,  
285 including reconstruction and restoration;
- 286 3. To pay for those projects that are funded with Alligator  
287 Alley toll revenues and that are contained in the 1993-1994  
288 adopted work program or the 1994-1995 tentative work program  
289 submitted to the Legislature on February 22, 1994; and
- 290 4. By interlocal agreement ~~effective July 1, 2019, through~~

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291 ~~no later than June 30, 2027,~~ to reimburse a local governmental  
292 entity for the direct actual costs of operating the fire station  
293 at mile marker 63 on Alligator Alley, which shall be used by the  
294 local governmental entity to provide fire, rescue, and emergency  
295 management services exclusively to the public on Alligator  
296 Alley. The local governmental entity must contribute 10 percent  
297 of the direct actual operating costs.

298 a. The interlocal agreement effective July 1, 2019, through  
299 June 30, 2027, shall control until such time that the local  
300 governmental entity and the department enter into a new  
301 agreement or agree to extend the existing agreement. For the  
302 2024-2025 fiscal year, the amount of reimbursement shall be \$2  
303 million.

304 b. By December 31, 2024, and every 5 years thereafter, the  
305 local governmental entity shall provide a maintenance and  
306 operations comprehensive plan to the department. The  
307 comprehensive plan must include a current inventory of assets,  
308 including their projected service life, and area service needs;  
309 the call and response history for emergency services provided in  
310 the preceding 5 years on Alligator Alley, including costs; and  
311 future projections for assets and equipment, including  
312 replacement or purchase needs, and operating costs.

313 c. The local governmental entity and the department shall  
314 review and adopt the comprehensive plan as part of the  
315 interlocal agreement.

316 d. In accordance with projected incoming toll revenues for  
317 Alligator Alley, the department shall include the corresponding  
318 funding needs of the comprehensive plan in the department's work  
319 program ~~The amount of reimbursement to the local governmental~~

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320 ~~entity may not exceed \$1.4 million in any state fiscal year.~~

321 e. At the end of the term of the interlocal agreement, the  
322 ownership and title of all fire, rescue, and emergency equipment  
323 purchased with state funds and used at the fire station during  
324 the term of the interlocal agreement transfers to the state.

325 Section 7. Subsection (5) is added to section 339.08,  
326 Florida Statutes, to read:

327 339.08 Use of moneys in State Transportation Trust Fund.—

328 (5) The department may not expend any state funds as  
329 described in s. 215.31 to support a project or program of any of  
330 the following entities:

331 (a) A public transit provider as defined in s. 341.031;

332 (b) An authority created pursuant to chapter 343, chapter  
333 348, or chapter 349;

334 (c) A public-use airport as defined in s. 332.004; or

335 (d) A port listed in s. 311.09(1),

336  
337 which is found in violation of s. 381.00316. The department  
338 shall withhold state funds until the public transit provider,  
339 authority, public-use airport, or port is found in compliance  
340 with s. 381.00316.

341 Section 8. Section 339.0803, Florida Statutes, is amended  
342 to read:

343 339.0803 Allocation of increased revenues derived from  
344 amendments to s. 320.08 by ch. 2019-43.—

345 (1) Beginning in the 2021-2022 fiscal year and each fiscal  
346 year thereafter, funds that result from increased revenues to  
347 the State Transportation Trust Fund derived from the amendments  
348 to s. 320.08 made by chapter 2019-43, Laws of Florida, and

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349 deposited into the fund pursuant to s. 320.20(5)(a) must be used  
350 to fund arterial highway projects identified by the department  
351 in accordance with s. 339.65 and may be used for projects as  
352 specified in ss. 339.66 and 339.67. For purposes of the funding  
353 provided in this section, the department shall prioritize use of  
354 existing facilities or portions thereof when upgrading arterial  
355 highways to limited or controlled access facilities. However,  
356 this section does not preclude use of the funding for projects  
357 that enhance the capacity of an arterial highway. The funds  
358 allocated as provided in this section shall be in addition to  
359 any other statutory funding allocations provided by law.

360 (2) Revenues deposited into the State Transportation Trust  
361 Fund pursuant to s. 320.20(5)(a) shall first be available for  
362 appropriation for payments under a service contract entered into  
363 with the Florida Department of Transportation Financing  
364 Corporation pursuant to s. 339.0809(4) to fund arterial highway  
365 projects. For the corporation's bonding purposes, two or more  
366 such projects in the department's adopted work program may be  
367 treated as a single project.

368 Section 9. Subsection (13) of section 339.0809, Florida  
369 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (14) is added to that  
370 section, to read:

371 339.0809 Florida Department of Transportation Financing  
372 Corporation.—

373 (13) The department may enter into a service contract in  
374 conjunction with the issuance of debt obligations as provided in  
375 this section which provides for periodic payments for debt  
376 service or other amounts payable with respect to debt  
377 obligations, plus any administrative expenses of the Florida

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378 Department of Transportation Financing Corporation. Funds  
379 appropriated for payments under a service contract shall be  
380 available after funds pledged to payment on bonds, but before  
381 other statutorily required distributions.

382 (14) The department may enter into a service contract to  
383 finance the projects authorized in s. 215 of chapter 2023-239,  
384 Laws of Florida, and in budget amendment EOG #2024-B0112, and  
385 subsequently adopted into the 5-year work program. Service  
386 contract payments may not exceed 7 percent of the funds  
387 deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund in each fiscal  
388 year. The annual payments under such service contract shall be  
389 included in the department's work program and legislative budget  
390 request developed pursuant to s. 339.135. The department shall  
391 ensure that the annual payments are programmed for the life of  
392 the service contract before execution of the service contract  
393 and shall remain programmed until fully paid.

394 Section 10. Subsection (8) is added to section 339.2818,  
395 Florida Statutes, to read:

396 339.2818 Small County Outreach Program.—

397 (8) Subject to a specific appropriation in addition to  
398 funds appropriated for projects under this section, a local  
399 government either wholly or partially within the Everglades  
400 Agricultural Area as defined in s. 373.4592(15), the Peace River  
401 Basin, or the Suwannee River Basin may compete for additional  
402 funding using the criteria listed in paragraph (4) (c) at up to  
403 100 percent of project costs on state or county roads used  
404 primarily as farm-to-market connections between rural  
405 agricultural areas and market distribution centers, excluding  
406 capacity improvement projects.

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407 Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 341.051, Florida  
408 Statutes, is amended, paragraphs (c) and (d) are added to  
409 subsection (2), and subsection (8) is added to that section, to  
410 read:

411 341.051 Administration and financing of public transit and  
412 intercity bus service programs and projects.—

413 (2) PUBLIC TRANSIT PLAN.—

414 (c) Any lane elimination or lane repurposing,  
415 recommendation, or application relating to public transit  
416 projects must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the transit  
417 authority board in a public meeting to be held after a 30-day  
418 public notice.

419 (d) Any action of eminent domain for acquisition of public  
420 transit facilities carried out by a public transit provider must  
421 be discussed by the public transit provider at a public meeting  
422 to be held after a 30-day public notice.

423 (6) ANNUAL APPROPRIATION.—

424 (a) Funds paid into the State Transportation Trust Fund  
425 pursuant to s. 201.15 for the New Starts Transit Program are  
426 hereby annually appropriated for expenditure to support the New  
427 Starts Transit Program.

428 (b) The remaining unallocated New Starts Transit Program  
429 funds as of June 30, 2024, shall be reallocated for the purpose  
430 of the Strategic Intermodal System within the State  
431 Transportation Trust Fund. This paragraph expires June 30, 2026.

432 (8) EXTERIOR VEHICLE WRAP, TINTING, PAINT, MARKETING, AND  
433 ADVERTISING.—

434 (a) As a condition of receiving funds from the department,  
435 a public transit provider may not expend department funds for

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436 marketing or advertising activities, including any wrap,  
437 tinting, paint, or other medium displayed, attached, or affixed  
438 on a bus, commercial motor vehicle, or motor vehicle that is  
439 owned, leased, or operated by the public transit provider. Such  
440 vehicles are limited to displaying a brand or logo of the public  
441 transit provider, the official seal of the jurisdictional  
442 governmental entity, or a state agency public service  
443 announcement.

444 (b) The department shall incorporate guidelines for the  
445 marketing or advertising activities allowed under paragraph (a)  
446 in the public transportation grant agreement entered into with  
447 each public transit provider.

448 (c) Any new wrap, tinting, paint, medium, or advertisement  
449 on the passenger windows of a vehicle used by a public transit  
450 provider may not be darker than the legally allowed window  
451 tinting requirements provided in s. 316.2954.

452  
453 For purposes of this section, the term "net operating costs"  
454 means all operating costs of a project less any federal funds,  
455 fares, or other sources of income to the project.

456 Section 12. Subsection (4) is added to section 341.071,  
457 Florida Statutes, to read:

458 341.071 Transit productivity and performance measures;  
459 reports.—

460 (4) (a) As used in this subsection, the term:

461 1. "General administrative costs" includes, but is not  
462 limited to, costs related to transit service development,  
463 injuries and damages, safety, personnel administration, legal  
464 services, data processing, finance and accounting, purchasing



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465 and stores, engineering, real estate management, office  
466 management and services, customer service, promotion, market  
467 research, and planning. The term does not include insurance  
468 costs.

469 2. "Public transit provider" means a public agency  
470 providing public transit service, including an authority created  
471 pursuant to part II of chapter 343 or chapter 349. The term does  
472 not apply to the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission or the  
473 authority created pursuant to part I of chapter 343.

474 3. "Tier 1 provider" has the same meaning as in 49 C.F.R.  
475 part 625.

476 4. "Tier 2 provider" has the same meaning as in defined in  
477 49 C.F.R. part 625.

478 (b) Beginning November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter,  
479 each public transit provider, during a publicly noticed meeting,  
480 shall:

481 1. Certify that its budgeted and general administration  
482 costs are not greater than 20 percent above the annual state  
483 average of administrative costs for its respective tier.

484 2. Present a line-item budget report of its budgeted and  
485 actual general administration costs.

486 3. Disclose all salaried executive management-level  
487 employees' total compensation packages, ridership performance  
488 and metrics, and any gift as defined in s. 112.312 accepted in  
489 exchange for contracts. This disclosure shall be posted annually  
490 on the public transit provider's website.

491 (c) To support compliance with paragraph (b), the  
492 department shall determine, by tier, the annual state average of  
493 general administrative costs by determining the percentage of

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494 the total operating budget which is expended on general  
495 administration costs in this state annually by March 31 to  
496 inform the public transit provider's budget for the following  
497 fiscal year. Upon review and certification by the department,  
498 costs budgeted and expended in association with nontransit-  
499 related engineering and construction services may be excluded.

500 (d) A year-over-year cumulative increase of 5 percent or  
501 more in general administration costs must be reviewed before the  
502 start of the next fiscal year and must be reviewed and approved  
503 by the department before approval by the public transportation  
504 provider's governing board.

505 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
506 341.822, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

507 341.822 Powers and duties.—

508 (2) (a) In addition to the powers granted to the department,  
509 the enterprise has full authority to exercise all powers granted  
510 to it under this chapter. Powers shall include, but are not  
511 limited to, the ability to plan, construct, maintain, repair,  
512 and operate a high-speed rail system, ~~to acquire corridors, and~~  
513 to coordinate the development and operation of publicly funded  
514 passenger rail systems in the state, and to preserve future rail  
515 corridors and rights-of-way in coordination with the  
516 department's planning of the State Highway System.

517 Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.