

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED                                         (Y/N)  
ADOPTED AS AMENDED                         (Y/N)  
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION                     (Y/N)  
FAILED TO ADOPT                             (Y/N)  
WITHDRAWN                                    (Y/N)  
OTHER                                          

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Economic Infrastructure  
2 Subcommittee

3 Representative McFarland offered the following:

4

5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 **Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section**  
8 **212.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

9 212.20 Funds collected, disposition; additional powers of  
10 department; operational expense; refund of taxes adjudicated  
11 unconstitutionally collected.—

12 (6) Distribution of all proceeds under this chapter and  
13 ss. 202.18(1)(b) and (2)(b) and 203.01(1)(a)3. is as follows:

14 (d) The proceeds of all other taxes and fees imposed  
15 pursuant to this chapter or remitted pursuant to s. 202.18(1)(b)  
16 and (2)(b) shall be distributed as follows:

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17           1. In any fiscal year, the greater of \$500 million, minus  
18 an amount equal to 4.6 percent of the proceeds of the taxes  
19 collected pursuant to chapter 201, or 5.2 percent of all other  
20 taxes and fees imposed pursuant to this chapter or remitted  
21 pursuant to s. 202.18(1)(b) and (2)(b) shall be deposited in  
22 monthly installments into the General Revenue Fund.

23           2. After the distribution under subparagraph 1., 8.9744  
24 percent of the amount remitted by a sales tax dealer located  
25 within a participating county pursuant to s. 218.61 shall be  
26 transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax  
27 Clearing Trust Fund. Beginning July 1, 2003, the amount to be  
28 transferred shall be reduced by 0.1 percent, and the department  
29 shall distribute this amount to the Public Employees Relations  
30 Commission Trust Fund less \$5,000 each month, which shall be  
31 added to the amount calculated in subparagraph 3. and  
32 distributed accordingly.

33           3. After the distribution under subparagraphs 1. and 2.,  
34 0.0966 percent shall be transferred to the Local Government  
35 Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund and distributed pursuant  
36 to s. 218.65.

37           4. After the distributions under subparagraphs 1., 2., and  
38 3., 2.0810 percent of the available proceeds shall be  
39 transferred monthly to the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund for  
40 Counties pursuant to s. 218.215.

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41           5. After the distributions under subparagraphs 1., 2., and  
42 3., 1.3653 percent of the available proceeds shall be  
43 transferred monthly to the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund for  
44 Municipalities pursuant to s. 218.215. If the total revenue to  
45 be distributed pursuant to this subparagraph is at least as  
46 great as the amount due from the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund for  
47 Municipalities and the former Municipal Financial Assistance  
48 Trust Fund in state fiscal year 1999-2000, no municipality shall  
49 receive less than the amount due from the Revenue Sharing Trust  
50 Fund for Municipalities and the former Municipal Financial  
51 Assistance Trust Fund in state fiscal year 1999-2000. If the  
52 total proceeds to be distributed are less than the amount  
53 received in combination from the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund for  
54 Municipalities and the former Municipal Financial Assistance  
55 Trust Fund in state fiscal year 1999-2000, each municipality  
56 shall receive an amount proportionate to the amount it was due  
57 in state fiscal year 1999-2000.

58           6. Of the remaining proceeds:

59           a. In each fiscal year, the sum of \$29,915,500 shall be  
60 divided into as many equal parts as there are counties in the  
61 state, and one part shall be distributed to each county. The  
62 distribution among the several counties must begin each fiscal  
63 year on or before January 5th and continue monthly for a total  
64 of 4 months. If a local or special law required that any moneys  
65 accruing to a county in fiscal year 1999-2000 under the then-

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66 existing provisions of s. 550.135 be paid directly to the  
67 district school board, special district, or a municipal  
68 government, such payment must continue until the local or  
69 special law is amended or repealed. The state covenants with  
70 holders of bonds or other instruments of indebtedness issued by  
71 local governments, special districts, or district school boards  
72 before July 1, 2000, that it is not the intent of this  
73 subparagraph to adversely affect the rights of those holders or  
74 relieve local governments, special districts, or district school  
75 boards of the duty to meet their obligations as a result of  
76 previous pledges or assignments or trusts entered into which  
77 obligated funds received from the distribution to county  
78 governments under then-existing s. 550.135. This distribution  
79 specifically is in lieu of funds distributed under s. 550.135  
80 before July 1, 2000.

81 b. The department shall distribute \$166,667 monthly to  
82 each applicant certified as a facility for a new or retained  
83 professional sports franchise pursuant to s. 288.1162. Up to  
84 \$41,667 shall be distributed monthly by the department to each  
85 certified applicant as defined in s. 288.11621 for a facility  
86 for a spring training franchise. However, not more than \$416,670  
87 may be distributed monthly in the aggregate to all certified  
88 applicants for facilities for spring training franchises.  
89 Distributions begin 60 days after such certification and  
90 continue for not more than 30 years, except as otherwise

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91 provided in s. 288.11621. A certified applicant identified in  
92 this sub-subparagraph may not receive more in distributions than  
93 expended by the applicant for the public purposes provided in s.  
94 288.1162(5) or s. 288.11621(3).

95 c. The department shall distribute up to \$83,333 monthly  
96 to each certified applicant as defined in s. 288.11631 for a  
97 facility used by a single spring training franchise, or up to  
98 \$166,667 monthly to each certified applicant as defined in s.  
99 288.11631 for a facility used by more than one spring training  
100 franchise. Monthly distributions begin 60 days after such  
101 certification or July 1, 2016, whichever is later, and continue  
102 for not more than 20 years to each certified applicant as  
103 defined in s. 288.11631 for a facility used by a single spring  
104 training franchise or not more than 25 years to each certified  
105 applicant as defined in s. 288.11631 for a facility used by more  
106 than one spring training franchise. A certified applicant  
107 identified in this sub-subparagraph may not receive more in  
108 distributions than expended by the applicant for the public  
109 purposes provided in s. 288.11631(3).

110 d. The department shall distribute \$15,333 monthly to the  
111 State Transportation Trust Fund.

112 e.(I) On or before July 25, 2021, August 25, 2021, and  
113 September 25, 2021, the department shall distribute \$324,533,334  
114 in each of those months to the Unemployment Compensation Trust  
115 Fund, less an adjustment for refunds issued from the General

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116 Revenue Fund pursuant to s. 443.131(3)(e)3. before making the  
117 distribution. The adjustments made by the department to the  
118 total distributions shall be equal to the total refunds made  
119 pursuant to s. 443.131(3)(e)3. If the amount of refunds to be  
120 subtracted from any single distribution exceeds the  
121 distribution, the department may not make that distribution and  
122 must subtract the remaining balance from the next distribution.

123 (II) Beginning July 2022, and on or before the 25th day of  
124 each month, the department shall distribute \$90 million monthly  
125 to the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund.

126 (III) If the ending balance of the Unemployment  
127 Compensation Trust Fund exceeds \$4,071,519,600 on the last day  
128 of any month, as determined from United States Department of the  
129 Treasury data, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research  
130 shall certify to the department that the ending balance of the  
131 trust fund exceeds such amount.

132 (IV) This sub-subparagraph is repealed, and the department  
133 shall end monthly distributions under sub-sub-subparagraph (II),  
134 on the date the department receives certification under sub-sub-  
135 subparagraph (III).

136 f. Beginning July 1, 2023, in each fiscal year, the  
137 department shall distribute \$27.5 million to the Florida  
138 Agricultural Promotional Campaign Trust Fund under s. 571.26,  
139 for further distribution in accordance with s. 571.265.

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140 g. Beginning July 1, 2025, and reassessed on or before the  
141 25th day of each month, the department shall distribute \$4.167  
142 million from the proceeds of the tax imposed under s.  
143 212.05(1)(e)1.c. to the State Transportation Trust Fund to  
144 account for the impact of electric and hybrid vehicles on the  
145 state highway system.

146 7. All other proceeds must remain in the General Revenue  
147 Fund.

148 **Section 2. Section 218.3211, Florida Statutes, is created**  
149 **to read:**

150 218.3211 County transportation project data.—Each county  
151 must annually provide the Department of Transportation with  
152 uniform project data. The data must conform to the county's  
153 fiscal year and must include, but need not be limited to,  
154 details on transportation revenues by source of taxes or fees,  
155 expenditure of such revenues for projects that were funded, and  
156 the unexpended balance of such revenues. The details of projects  
157 must include, but need not be limited to, the cost, location,  
158 and scope of each project. The scope of each project must be  
159 categorized broadly, such as road widening, repair and  
160 rehabilitation, addition of sidewalks, or any similarly broad  
161 categorization. Revenues not dedicated to specific projects must  
162 be detailed as to what programs the revenues are supporting. The  
163 Department of Transportation must inform each county of the  
164 method and format for submitting the data. The Department of

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165 Transportation shall compile the data and publish the  
166 compilation of data on its website.

167 **Section 3. Section 316.00832, Florida Statutes, is created**  
168 **to read:**

169 316.00832 Traffic Signal Modernization Program -

170 (1) The department shall implement a Next-Generation  
171 Traffic Signal Modernization Program. The Next-Generation  
172 Traffic Signal Modernization Program consists of retrofitting  
173 existing traffic signals and controllers and providing  
174 communication backbone for remote operations and management of  
175 such signals on Florida's State Highway System and non-State  
176 Highway System. Such signal upgrades shall be prioritized based  
177 on average annual daily traffic and/or adding to an existing  
178 interconnected system.

179 (2) Such program shall consist of an advanced traffic  
180 management platform that utilizes radar and camera fusion to  
181 deliver accurate detection in all weather conditions, offering  
182 fully integrated stop bar and advance detection, alongside  
183 dilemma zone and pedestrian protection. In addition to  
184 supporting time-of-day signal timing plans, it shall provide  
185 real-time traffic optimization to improve flow and enhance  
186 safety. Such system must be compliant with leading cybersecurity  
187 standards, such as SOC 2 and ISO 27001, ensuring robust data  
188 protection.

189 **Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 316.183, Florida**

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190 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

191 316.183 Unlawful speed.—

192 (2) On all streets or highways, the maximum speed limits  
193 for all vehicles must be 30 miles per hour in business or  
194 residence districts, and 55 miles per hour at any time at all  
195 other locations. However, with respect to a residence district,  
196 a county or municipality may set a maximum speed limit of 20 or  
197 25 miles per hour on local streets and highways after an  
198 investigation determines that such a limit is reasonable. It is  
199 not necessary to conduct a separate investigation for each  
200 residence district. The Department of Transportation shall  
201 determine the safe and available minimum speed limit on all  
202 highways that are ~~comprise~~ a part of the National System of  
203 Interstate and Defense Highways and have at least ~~not fewer than~~  
204 four lanes is ~~40 miles per hour, except that when the posted~~  
205 ~~speed limit is 70 miles per hour, the minimum speed limit is 50~~  
206 ~~miles per hour.~~

207 **Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 316.187, Florida**

208 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

209 316.187 Establishment of state speed zones.—

210 (2) (a) The maximum allowable speed limit on limited access  
211 highways is 75 ~~70~~ miles per hour.

212 (b) The maximum allowable speed limit on any other highway  
213 that ~~which~~ is outside an urban area of 5,000 or more persons and  
214 that ~~which~~ has at least four lanes divided by a median strip is

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215 70 ~~65~~ miles per hour.

216 (c) The Department of Transportation is authorized to set  
217 such maximum and minimum speed limits for travel over other  
218 roadways under its authority as it deems safe and advisable, not  
219 to exceed as a maximum limit 65 ~~60~~ miles per hour.

220 **Section 6. Section 320.0849, Florida Statutes, is created**  
221 **to read:**

222 320.0849 Expectant mother parking permits.-

223 (1) (a) The department or its authorized agents shall, upon  
224 application, issue an expectant mother parking permit placard or  
225 decal to an expectant mother. The placard or decal is valid for  
226 up to 1 year after the date of issuance.

227 (b) The department shall, by rule, provide for the design,  
228 size, color, and placement of the expectant mother parking  
229 permit placard or decal. The placard or decal must be designed  
230 to conspicuously display the expiration date of the permit.

231 (2) An application for an expectant mother parking permit  
232 must include, but need not be limited to:

233 (a) Certification provided by a physician licensed under  
234 chapter 458 or chapter 459 that the applicant is an expectant  
235 mother.

236 (b) The certifying physician's name and address.

237 (c) The physician's certification number.

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238 (d) The following statement in bold letters: "An expectant  
239 mother parking permit may be issued only to an expectant mother  
240 and is valid for up to 1 year after the date of issuance."

241 (e) The signatures of:

242 1. The certifying physician.

243 2. The applicant.

244 3. The employee of the department processing the  
245 application.

246 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an  
247 expectant mother who is issued an expectant mother parking  
248 permit under this section may park a motor vehicle in a parking  
249 space designated for persons who have disabilities as provided  
250 in s. 553.5041.

251 **Section 5. Subsection (14) of section 331.3051, Florida**  
252 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

253 331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:

254 ~~(14) Partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization~~  
255 ~~Advisory Council to coordinate and specify how aerospace~~  
256 ~~planning and programming will be part of the state's cooperative~~  
257 ~~transportation planning process.~~

258 **Section 6. Subsections (4), (5), (7), and (8) of section**  
259 **332.004, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

260 332.004 Definitions of terms used in ss. 332.003-332.007.—

261 As used in ss. 332.003-332.007, the term:

262 (4) "Airport or aviation development project" or

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263 "development project" means any activity associated with the  
264 design, construction, purchase, improvement, or repair of a  
265 public-use airport or portion thereof, including, but not  
266 limited to: the purchase of equipment; the acquisition of land,  
267 including land required as a condition of a federal, state, or  
268 local permit or agreement for environmental mitigation; off-  
269 airport noise mitigation projects; the removal, lowering,  
270 relocation, marking, and lighting of airport hazards; the  
271 installation of navigation aids used by aircraft in landing at  
272 or taking off from a public use airport; the installation of  
273 safety equipment required by rule or regulation for  
274 certification of the airport under s. 612 of the Federal  
275 Aviation Act of 1958, and amendments thereto; and the  
276 improvement of access to the airport by road or rail system  
277 which is on airport property and which is consistent, to the  
278 maximum extent feasible, with the approved local government  
279 comprehensive plan of the units of local government in which the  
280 airport is located.

281 (5) "Airport or aviation discretionary capacity  
282 improvement projects" or "discretionary capacity improvement  
283 projects" means capacity improvements which are consistent, to  
284 the maximum extent feasible, with the approved local government  
285 comprehensive plans of the units of local government in which  
286 the public use airport is located, and which enhance  
287 intercontinental capacity at airports which:

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288 (a) Are international airports with United States Bureau  
289 of Customs and Border Protection;

290 (b) Had one or more regularly scheduled intercontinental  
291 flights during the previous calendar year or have an agreement  
292 in writing for installation of one or more regularly scheduled  
293 intercontinental flights upon the commitment of funds for  
294 stipulated airport capital improvements; and

295 (c) Have available or planned public ground transportation  
296 between the airport and other major transportation facilities.

297 (7) "Eligible agency" means a political subdivision of the  
298 state or an authority or public-private partnership through a  
299 lease or agreement under s. 255.065, with a political  
300 subdivision of the state or authority which owns or seeks to  
301 develop a public-use airport.

302 (8) "Federal aid" means funds made available from the  
303 Federal Government for the accomplishment of public use airport  
304 or aviation development projects.

305 **Section 7. Subsections (4) and (8) of section 332.006,**  
306 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

307 332.006 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of  
308 Transportation.—The Department of Transportation shall, within  
309 the resources provided pursuant to chapter 216:

310 (4) Upon request, provide financial and technical  
311 assistance to public agencies which own ~~operate~~ public-use  
312 airports by making department personnel and department-owned

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313 facilities and equipment available on a cost-reimbursement basis  
314 to such agencies for special needs of limited duration. The  
315 requirement relating to reimbursement of personnel costs may be  
316 waived by the department in those cases in which the assistance  
317 provided by its personnel was of a limited nature or duration.

318 (8) Encourage the maximum allocation of federal funds to  
319 local public use airport projects in this state.

320 **Section 8. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (4),**  
321 **paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (6), paragraphs (a) and (d)**  
322 **of subsection (7), and subsections (8) and (10) of section**  
323 **332.007, Florida Statutes, are amended and new subsection (11)**  
324 **is created to read:**

325 332.007 Administration and financing of aviation and  
326 airport programs and projects; state plan.—

327 (4) (a) The annual legislative budget request for aviation  
328 and airport development projects shall be based on the funding  
329 required for development projects in the aviation and airport  
330 work program. The department shall provide priority funding in  
331 support of the planning, design, and construction of proposed  
332 projects by local sponsors of public use airports, with special  
333 emphasis on projects for runways and taxiways, including the  
334 painting and marking of runways and taxiways, lighting, other  
335 related airside activities, and airport access transportation  
336 facility projects on airport property.

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337 (c) No single public use airport shall secure airport or  
338 aviation development project funds in excess of 25 percent of  
339 the total airport or aviation development project funds  
340 available in any given budget year. However, any public use  
341 airport which receives discretionary capacity improvement  
342 project funds in a given fiscal year shall not receive greater  
343 than 10 percent of total aviation and airport development  
344 project funds appropriated in that fiscal year.

345 (6) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the  
346 department may participate in the capital cost of eligible  
347 public use airport and aviation development projects in  
348 accordance with the following rates, unless otherwise provided  
349 in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill  
350 implementing the General Appropriations Act:

351 (a) The department may fund up to 50 percent of the  
352 portion of eligible project costs which are not funded by the  
353 Federal Government, except that the department may initially  
354 fund up to 75 percent of the cost of land acquisition for a new  
355 airport or for the expansion of an existing public use airport  
356 which is owned and operated by a municipality, a county, or an  
357 authority, and shall be reimbursed to the normal statutory  
358 project share when federal funds become available or within 10  
359 years after the date of acquisition, whichever is earlier. Due  
360 to federal budgeting constraints, the department may also

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361 initially fund the federal portion of eligible project costs  
362 subject to:

363 1. The department receiving adequate assurance from the  
364 Federal Government or local sponsor that this amount will be  
365 reimbursed to the department; and

366 2. The department having adequate funds in the work  
367 program to fund the project.

368

369 Such projects must be contained in the Federal Government's  
370 Airport Capital Improvement Program, and the Federal Government  
371 must fund, or have funded, the first year of the project.

372 (c) When federal funds are not available, the department  
373 may fund up to 80 percent of master planning and eligible  
374 aviation development projects at public use airports that are  
375 publicly owned, ~~publicly operated airports~~. If federal funds are  
376 available, the department may fund up to 80 percent of the  
377 nonfederal share of such projects. Such funding is limited to  
378 general aviation airports, or commercial service airports that  
379 have fewer than 100,000 passenger boardings per year as  
380 determined by the Federal Aviation Administration.

381 (7) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds in  
382 addition to aviation fuel tax revenues, the department may  
383 participate in the capital cost of eligible public airport and  
384 aviation discretionary capacity improvement projects. The annual  
385 legislative budget request shall be based on the funding

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386 required for discretionary capacity improvement projects in the  
387 aviation and airport work program.

388 (a) The department shall provide priority funding in  
389 support of:

390 1. Land acquisition which provides additional capacity at  
391 the qualifying international airport or at that airport's  
392 supplemental air carrier airport.

393 2. Runway and taxiway projects that add capacity or are  
394 necessary to accommodate technological changes in the aviation  
395 industry.

396 3. Public use airport ~~Airport~~ access transportation  
397 projects that improve direct airport access and are approved by  
398 the airport sponsor.

399 4. International terminal projects that increase  
400 international gate capacity.

401 (d) The department may fund up to 50 percent of the  
402 portion of eligible project costs which are not funded by the  
403 Federal Government except that the department may initially fund  
404 up to 75 percent of the cost of land acquisition for a new  
405 public use airport or for the expansion of an existing public  
406 use airport which is owned ~~and operated~~ by a municipality, a  
407 county, or an authority, and shall be reimbursed to the normal  
408 statutory project share when federal funds become available or  
409 within 10 years after the date of acquisition, whichever is  
410 earlier.

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411 (8) The department may also fund eligible projects  
412 performed by not-for-profit organizations that represent a  
413 majority of public airports in this state. Eligible projects may  
414 include activities associated with aviation master planning,  
415 professional education, safety and security planning, enhancing  
416 economic development and efficiency at airports in this state,  
417 or other planning efforts to improve the viability of public use  
418 airports in this state.

419 (10) Subject to the availability of appropriated funds,  
420 and unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act  
421 or the substantive bill implementing the General Appropriations  
422 Act, the department may fund up to 100 percent of eligible  
423 project costs of all of the following at a publicly owned public  
424 use, ~~publicly operated~~ airport located in a rural community as  
425 defined in s. 288.0656 which does not have any scheduled  
426 commercial service:

427 (a) The capital cost of runway and taxiway projects that  
428 add capacity. Such projects must be prioritized based on the  
429 amount of available nonstate matching funds.

430 (b) Economic development transportation projects pursuant  
431 to s. 339.2821.

432 (11) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a  
433 municipality, county, or an authority that owns a public use  
434 airport may participate in the Federal Aviation Administration  
435 Airport Investment Partnership Program under Federal law by

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436 contracting with a private partner to operate the airport under  
437 lease or agreement. Subject to the availability of appropriated  
438 funds from aviation fuel tax revenues, the department may  
439 provide for improvements under this section to a municipality,  
440 county, or an authority that has a private partner under the  
441 Airport Investment Partnership Program for the capital cost of a  
442 discretionary improvement project at a public use airport.

443  
444 Any remaining funds must be allocated for projects  
445 specified in subsection (6).

446 **Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 334.044, Florida**  
447 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

448 334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The  
449 department shall have the following general powers and duties:

450 (6) To acquire, by the exercise of the power of eminent  
451 domain as provided by law, all property or property rights,  
452 whether public or private, which it may determine are necessary  
453 to the performance of its duties and the execution of its  
454 powers, including advance purchase of property or property  
455 rights to preserve a corridor for future proposed improvements.

456 **Section 9. Subsection (1) and (3) of section 334.065,**  
457 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

458 334.065 Center for Urban Transportation Research.—

459 (1) There is established within ~~at~~ the University of South  
460 Florida the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, ~~to~~

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461 ~~be administered by the Board of Governors of the State~~  
462 ~~University System.~~ The responsibilities of the center include,  
463 but are not limited to, conducting and facilitating research on  
464 issues related to urban transportation problems in this state  
465 and serving as an information exchange and depository for the  
466 most current information pertaining to urban transportation and  
467 related issues.

468 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically ~~and~~  
469 ~~objectively~~ review and advise the center concerning its research  
470 program. ~~Except for projects mandated by law, state-funded base~~  
471 ~~projects shall not be undertaken without approval of the~~  
472 ~~advisory board.~~ The membership of the board shall consist of  
473 nine experts in transportation-related areas, as follows:

474 (a) A member appointed by the President of the Senate.

475 (b) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
476 Representatives.

477 (c) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
478 designee.

479 (d) The Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee.  
480 ~~including the secretaries of the Department of Transportation,~~  
481 ~~the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department~~  
482 ~~of Commerce, or their designees, and~~

483 (e) A member of the Florida Transportation Commission.

484 (f) Four members nominated by the University of South  
485 Florida's College of Engineering and approved by the

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486 ~~university's president. The nomination of the remaining four~~  
487 ~~members of the board shall be made to the President of the~~  
488 ~~University of South Florida by the College of Engineering at the~~  
489 ~~University of South Florida., and The appointment of these~~  
490 ~~members must be reviewed and approved by the Florida~~  
491 ~~Transportation Commission and confirmed by the Board of~~  
492 ~~Governors.~~

493 **Section 10. Section 334.63, Florida Statutes, is created**  
494 **to read:**

495 334.63 Project concept studies; project development and  
496 environmental studies.-

497 (1) All project concept studies and project development  
498 and environmental studies for capacity improvement projects on  
499 limited-access facilities must include the evaluation of  
500 alternatives that provide transportation capacity using elevated  
501 roadways above existing lanes.

502 (2) All project development and environmental studies for  
503 new alignment projects and new capacity improvement projects  
504 must be completed, to the maximum extent possible, within 18  
505 months after commencement.

506 **Section 11. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (7) of**  
507 **section 337.11, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs**  
508 **(c) and (d), respectively, and subsection (1), paragraph (a) of**  
509 **subsection (3), subsection (4), present paragraphs (a), (b),**

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510 **(c), and (e) of subsection (7), and subsection (15) of that**  
511 **section are amended to read:**

512 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids;  
513 emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders;  
514 combined design and construction contracts; progress payments;  
515 records; requirements of vehicle registration.-

516 (1) The department shall have authority to enter into  
517 contracts for the construction and maintenance of all roads  
518 designated as part of the State Highway System or the State Park  
519 Road System or of any roads placed under its supervision by law.  
520 The department shall also have authority to enter into contracts  
521 for the construction and maintenance of rest areas, weigh  
522 stations, and other structures, including roads, parking areas,  
523 supporting facilities and associated buildings used in  
524 connection with such facilities. However, no such contract shall  
525 create any third-party beneficiary rights in any person not a  
526 party to the contract.

527 (3) (a) On all construction contracts of \$250,000 or less,  
528 and any construction contract of less than \$500,000 for which  
529 the department has waived prequalification under s. 337.14, the  
530 department shall advertise for bids in a newspaper having  
531 general circulation in the county where the proposed work is  
532 located. Publication shall be at least once a week for no less  
533 than 2 consecutive weeks, and the first publication shall be no  
534 less than 14 days before ~~prior to~~ the date on which bids are to

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535 be received.

536 (4) (a) The department may award the proposed construction  
537 and maintenance work to the lowest responsible bidder, or in the  
538 instance of a time-plus-money contract, the lowest evaluated  
539 responsible bidder, or it may reject all bids and proceed to  
540 rebid the work in accordance with subsection (2) or otherwise  
541 perform the work.

542 (b)1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
543 contrary, if the department receives bids outside the award  
544 criteria set forth by the department, the department must  
545 arrange an in-person meeting with the lowest responsive and  
546 responsible bidder to ascertain reasons for the bids being over  
547 the department's estimate. The department may subsequently award  
548 the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder,  
549 may reject all bids and proceed to rebid the work, or may invite  
550 all responsive and responsible bidders to provide best and final  
551 offers without filing a protest or posting a bond under  
552 paragraph (5) (a). If the department thereafter awards the  
553 contract, the award must be to the bidder who provides the best  
554 and final offer.

555 2. If the department intends to reject all bids on a  
556 project after announcing but before posting official notice of  
557 its intent to reject all bids, the department must provide to  
558 the lowest responsive and responsible bidder the opportunity to  
559 negotiate the scope of work with the corresponding reduction in

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560 price, as provided in the bid, to provide a best and final offer  
561 without filing a protest or posting a bond under paragraph  
562 (5) (a). Upon reaching a decision regarding such bidder's best  
563 and final offer, the department must post notice of final agency  
564 action to either reject all bids or accept the best and final  
565 offer.

566 3. This subsection does not prohibit the filing of a  
567 protest by any bidder or alter the deadlines in s. 120.57.

568 4. Notwithstanding s. 120.57(3) (c) and s. 287.057(25),  
569 upon receipt of a timely filed formal written protest, the  
570 department may continue with the process provided for in this  
571 section but may not take final agency action as to the lowest  
572 responsive and responsible bidder, except as part of the  
573 department's final agency action in the protest or if the  
574 protesting party dismisses the protest.

575 (7) (a) If the department determines that it is in the best  
576 interests of the public, the department may combine the design  
577 and construction phases of a project into a single contract.  
578 Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. For  
579 design-build contracts, the department must receive at least  
580 three letters of interest, and the department shall request  
581 proposals from no fewer than three of the design-build firms  
582 submitting such letters of interest. If a design-build firm  
583 withdraws from consideration after the department requests  
584 proposals, the department may continue if at least two proposals

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585 are received.

586 (b) If the department determines that it is in the best  
587 interests of the public, the department may combine the design  
588 and construction phases of a project fully funded in the work  
589 program into a single contract and select the design-build firm  
590 in the early stages of a project to ensure that the design-build  
591 firm is part of the collaboration and development of the design  
592 as part of a step-by-step progression through construction. Such  
593 a contract is referred to as a phased design-build contract. For  
594 phased design-build contracts, selection and award must include  
595 a two-phase process. For phase one, the department shall  
596 competitively award the contract to a design-build firm based  
597 upon qualifications, provided that the department has received  
598 at least three statements of qualifications from qualified  
599 design-build firms. If the department elects, during phase one,  
600 to enter into contracts with more than one design-build firm  
601 based on qualifications, the department shall competitively  
602 award the contract for phase two to a single design-build firm.  
603 For phase two, the design-build firm may independently perform  
604 portions of the work and shall competitively bid construction  
605 trade subcontractor packages and, based upon the design-build  
606 firm's estimates of its independently performed work and these  
607 bids, negotiate with the department a ~~fixed firm price or~~  
608 guaranteed maximum price that meets the project budget and scope  
609 as advertised in the request for qualifications.

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610 ~~(c) Design-build contracts and phased design-build~~  
611 ~~contracts may be advertised and awarded notwithstanding the~~  
612 ~~requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However, construction~~  
613 ~~activities may not begin on any portion of such projects for~~  
614 ~~which the department has not yet obtained title to the necessary~~  
615 ~~rights-of-way and easements for the construction of that portion~~  
616 ~~of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental~~  
617 ~~entity and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have~~  
618 ~~been executed. Title to rights-of-way shall be deemed to have~~  
619 ~~vested in the state when the title has been dedicated to the~~  
620 ~~public or acquired by prescription.~~

621 ~~(d)(e)~~ For ~~design-build contracts and phased design-build~~  
622 ~~contracts, the department must receive at least three letters of~~  
623 ~~interest, and in order to proceed with a request for proposals.~~  
624 the department shall request proposals from no fewer than three  
625 of the design-build firms submitting such letters of interest.  
626 If a design-build firm withdraws from consideration after the  
627 department requests proposals, the department may continue if at  
628 least two proposals are received.

629 (15) Each contract let by the department for performance  
630 of bridge construction or maintenance on ~~over~~ navigable waters  
631 must contain a provision requiring marine general liability  
632 insurance, including protection and indemnity coverage, in an  
633 amount to be determined by the department, which covers third-  
634 party personal injury and property damage caused by vessels used

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635 by the contractor in the performance of the work. Protection and  
636 indemnity coverage may be covered by endorsement on the marine  
637 general liability insurance policy or may be a separate policy.

638 **Section 12. Subsection (3) is added to section 337.1101,**  
639 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

640 337.1101 Contracting and procurement authority of the  
641 department; settlements; notification required.—

642 (3) The department may not, through a settlement of a  
643 protest filed in accordance with s. 120.57(3) of the award of a  
644 contract being procured pursuant to s. 337.11 or related to the  
645 purchase of personal property or contractual services being  
646 procured pursuant to s. 287.057, create a new contract unless  
647 the new contract is competitively procured.

648 **Section 13. Subsections (1), (2), and (8) of section**  
649 **337.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

650 337.14 Application for qualification; certificate of  
651 qualification; restrictions; request for hearing.—

652 (1)(a) A ~~Any~~ contractor desiring to bid for the  
653 performance of a ~~any~~ construction contract in excess of \$250,000  
654 which the department proposes to let must first be certified by  
655 the department as qualified pursuant to this section and rules  
656 of the department. The rules of the department must address the  
657 qualification of contractors to bid on construction contracts in  
658 excess of \$250,000 and must include requirements with respect to  
659 the equipment, past record, experience, financial resources, and

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660 organizational personnel of the applying contractor which are  
661 necessary to perform the specific class of work for which the  
662 contractor seeks certification.

663 (b) A ~~Any~~ contractor who desires to bid on contracts in  
664 excess of \$50 million and who is not qualified and in good  
665 standing with the department as of January 1, 2019, must first  
666 be certified by the department as qualified and must have  
667 satisfactorily completed two projects, each in excess of \$15  
668 million, for the department or for any other state department of  
669 transportation.

670 (c) The department may limit the dollar amount of any  
671 contract upon which a contractor is qualified to bid or the  
672 aggregate total dollar volume of contracts such contractor is  
673 allowed to have under contract at any one time.

674 (d)1. Each applying contractor seeking qualification to  
675 bid on construction contracts in excess of \$250,000 shall  
676 furnish the department a statement under oath, on such forms as  
677 the department may prescribe, setting forth detailed information  
678 as required on the application.

679 2. Each application for certification must be accompanied  
680 by audited, certified financial statements prepared in  
681 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and  
682 auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in  
683 this state or another state. The audited, certified financial  
684 statements must be for the applying contractor and must have

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685 | been prepared within the immediately preceding 12 months.

686 |       3. The department may not consider any financial  
687 | information of the parent entity of the applying contractor, if  
688 | any.

689 |       4. The department may not certify as qualified any  
690 | applying contractor who fails to submit the audited, certified  
691 | financial statements required by this subsection.

692 |       5. If the application or the annual financial statement  
693 | shows the financial condition of the applying contractor more  
694 | than 4 months before the date on which the application is  
695 | received by the department, the applicant must also submit  
696 | interim audited, certified financial statements prepared in  
697 | accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and  
698 | auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in  
699 | this state or another state. The interim financial statements  
700 | must cover the period from the end date of the annual statement  
701 | and must show the financial condition of the applying contractor  
702 | no more than 4 months before the date that the interim financial  
703 | statements are received by the department. However, upon the  
704 | request of the applying contractor, an application and  
705 | accompanying annual or interim financial statement received by  
706 | the department within 15 days after either 4-month period under  
707 | this subsection shall be considered timely.

708 |       6. An applying contractor desiring to bid exclusively for  
709 | the performance of construction contracts with proposed budget

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710 estimates of less than \$2 million may submit reviewed annual or  
711 reviewed interim financial statements prepared by a certified  
712 public accountant.

713 (e) The information required by this subsection is  
714 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1).

715 (f) The department shall act upon the application for  
716 qualification within 30 days after the department determines  
717 that the application is complete.

718 (g) The department may waive the requirements of this  
719 subsection for:

720 1. A project with a diverse set of scopes of construction  
721 work that may be performed under the project, typically referred  
722 to as a "push-button contract" or a "task work order contract,"  
723 which has a contract price of \$1 million or less; or

724 2. A project that has ~~projects having~~ a contract price of  
725 \$500,000 or less if the department determines that the project  
726 is of a noncritical nature and the waiver will not endanger  
727 public health, safety, or property.

728 (2) Certification shall be necessary in order to bid on a  
729 road, bridge, or public transportation construction contract of  
730 more than \$250,000. However, the successful bidder on any  
731 construction contract must furnish a contract bond before ~~prior~~  
732 ~~to~~ the award of the contract. The department may waive the  
733 requirement for all or a portion of a contract bond for  
734 contracts of \$250,000 ~~\$150,000~~ or less under s. 337.18(1).

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735 (8) This section does not apply to maintenance contracts.  
736 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contractor seeking  
737 to bid on a maintenance contract for which the majority of the  
738 work includes repair and replacement of safety appurtenances,  
739 including, but not limited to, guardrails, attenuators, traffic  
740 signals, and striping, must possess the prescribed  
741 qualifications, equipment, past record, and experience required  
742 to perform such work.

743 **Section 14. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 337.185,**  
744 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

745 337.185 State Arbitration Board.—

746 (4) The contractor may submit a claim greater than  
747 \$250,000 up to \$1 million per contract or, upon agreement of the  
748 parties, greater than ~~up to~~ \$2 million per contract to be  
749 arbitrated by the board. An award issued by the board pursuant  
750 to this subsection is final if a request for a trial de novo is  
751 not filed within the time provided by Rule 1.830, Florida Rules  
752 of Civil Procedure. At the trial de novo, the court may not  
753 admit evidence that there has been an arbitration proceeding,  
754 the nature or amount of the award, or any other matter  
755 concerning the conduct of the arbitration proceeding, except  
756 that sworn testimony given in connection with ~~at~~ an arbitration  
757 hearing may be used for any purpose otherwise permitted by the  
758 Florida Evidence Code. If a request for trial de novo is not  
759 filed within the time provided, the award issued by the board is

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760 final and enforceable by a court of law.

761 (5) An arbitration request may not be made to the board  
762 before final acceptance but must be made to the board:

763 (a) Within 820 days after final acceptance; or

764 (b) Within 360 days after written notice by the department  
765 of a claim related to a written warranty or defect after final  
766 acceptance.

767 **Section 15. Subsection (2) of section 337.19, Florida**  
768 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

769 337.19 Suits by and against department; limitation of  
770 actions; forum.—

771 (2) Suits by and against the department under this section  
772 shall be commenced within 820 days after ~~of~~ the final acceptance  
773 of the work or within 360 days after written notice by the  
774 department of a claim related to a written warranty or defect  
775 after final acceptance. ~~This section shall apply to all~~  
776 ~~contracts entered into after June 30, 1993.~~

777 **Section 16. Subsection (10) of section 339.175, Florida**  
778 **Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (11), subsection (1),**  
779 **paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (i), and (j) of**  
780 **subsection (6), paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of subsection (7),**  
781 **and present subsection (11) are amended, and a new subsection**  
782 **(10) is added to that section, to read:**

783 339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

784 (1) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of the Legislature to

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785 encourage and promote the safe and efficient management,  
786 operation, and development of multimodal ~~surface~~ transportation  
787 systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight  
788 and foster economic growth and development within and through  
789 urbanized areas of this state while balancing conservation of  
790 natural resources ~~minimizing transportation-related fuel~~  
791 ~~consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions through~~  
792 ~~metropolitan transportation planning processes identified in~~  
793 ~~this section~~. To accomplish these objectives, metropolitan  
794 planning organizations, referred to in this section as M.P.O.'s,  
795 shall develop, in cooperation with the state and public transit  
796 operators, transportation plans and programs for metropolitan  
797 areas. The plans and programs for each metropolitan area must  
798 provide for the development and integrated management and  
799 operation of transportation systems and facilities, including  
800 pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities that  
801 will function as an intermodal transportation system for the  
802 metropolitan area, based upon the prevailing principles provided  
803 in s. 334.046(1). The process for developing such plans and  
804 programs shall provide for consideration of all modes of  
805 transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative, and  
806 comprehensive, to the degree appropriate, based on the  
807 complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed. To  
808 ensure that the process is integrated with the statewide  
809 planning process, M.P.O.'s shall develop plans and programs that

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810 identify transportation facilities that should function as an  
811 integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis  
812 to facilities that serve important national, state, and regional  
813 transportation functions. For the purposes of this section,  
814 those facilities include the facilities on the Strategic  
815 Intermodal System designated under s. 339.63 and facilities for  
816 which projects have been identified pursuant to s. 339.2819(4).

817 (2) DESIGNATION.—

818 (a)1. An M.P.O. shall be designated for each urbanized  
819 area of the state; however, this does not require that an  
820 individual M.P.O. be designated for each such area. Such  
821 designation shall be accomplished by agreement between the  
822 Governor and units of general-purpose local government  
823 representing at least 75 percent of the population of the  
824 urbanized area; however, the unit of general-purpose local  
825 government that represents the central city or cities within the  
826 M.P.O. jurisdiction, as defined by the United States Bureau of  
827 the Census, must be a party to such agreement.

828 2. To the extent possible, only one M.P.O. shall be  
829 designated for each urbanized area or group of contiguous  
830 urbanized areas. More than one M.P.O. may be designated within  
831 an existing urbanized area only if the Governor and the existing  
832 M.P.O. determine that the size and complexity of the existing  
833 urbanized area makes the designation of more than one M.P.O. for  
834 the area appropriate. After July 1, 2025, no additional M.P.O.'s

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835 may be designated in this state except in urbanized areas, as  
836 defined by the United States Bureau of the Census, where the  
837 urbanized area boundary is not contiguous to an urbanized area  
838 designated before the 2020 census, in which case each M.P.O.  
839 designated for the area must:

840 a. Consult with every other M.P.O. designated for the  
841 urbanized area and the state to coordinate plans and  
842 transportation improvement programs.

843 b. Ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the  
844 consistency of data used in the planning process, including data  
845 used in forecasting travel demand within the urbanized area.

846

847 Each M.P.O. required under this section must be fully operative  
848 no later than 6 months following its designation.

849 (6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers,  
850 privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in  
851 this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement  
852 authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts  
853 required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently  
854 applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It  
855 is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in  
856 the planning and programming of transportation facilities,  
857 including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-  
858 speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the  
859 extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not

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860 perform project production or delivery for capital improvement  
861 projects on the State Highway System.

862 (b) In developing the long-range transportation plan and  
863 the transportation improvement program required under paragraph  
864 (a), each M.P.O. shall provide for consideration of projects and  
865 strategies that will:

866 1. Support the economic vitality of the contiguous  
867 urbanized metropolitan area, especially by enabling global  
868 competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

869 2. Increase the safety and security of the transportation  
870 system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

871 3. Increase the accessibility and mobility options  
872 available to people and for freight.

873 4. Protect and enhance the environment, conserve natural  
874 resources ~~promote energy conservation~~, and improve quality of  
875 life.

876 5. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the  
877 transportation system, across and between modes and contiguous  
878 urbanized metropolitan areas, for people and freight.

879 6. Promote efficient system management and operation.

880 7. Emphasize the preservation of the existing  
881 transportation system.

882 8. Improve the resilience of transportation  
883 infrastructure.

884 9. Reduce traffic and congestion.

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885 ~~(i) By December 31, 2023, the M.P.O.'s serving~~  
886 ~~Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties must submit a~~  
887 ~~feasibility report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,~~  
888 ~~and the Speaker of the House of Representatives exploring the~~  
889 ~~benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single~~  
890 ~~M.P.O. serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which~~  
891 ~~would be to:~~

892 ~~1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be~~  
893 ~~regionally significant.~~

894 ~~2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use~~  
895 ~~decisions on the region.~~

896 ~~3. Review all proposed regionally significant~~  
897 ~~transportation projects in the transportation improvement~~  
898 ~~programs.~~

899 (i)1.(j)1. To more fully accomplish the purposes for which  
900 M.P.O.'s have been mandated, the department shall, at least  
901 annually, convene M.P.O.'s of similar size, based on the size of  
902 population served, for the purpose of exchanging best practices.  
903 M.P.O.'s may shall develop committees or working groups as  
904 needed to accomplish such purpose. Training for new M.P.O.  
905 governing board members shall be provided by the department, or,  
906 at the discretion of the department, by an entity pursuant to a  
907 contract with the department, by the Florida Center for Urban  
908 Transportation Research, or by the Implementing Solutions from  
909 Transportation Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technologies

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910 ~~(I-STREET) living lab coordination mechanisms with one another~~  
911 ~~to expand and improve transportation within the state. The~~  
912 ~~appropriate method of coordination between M.P.O.'s shall vary~~  
913 ~~depending upon the project involved and given local and regional~~  
914 ~~needs. Consequently, it is appropriate to set forth a flexible~~  
915 ~~methodology that can be used by M.P.O.'s to coordinate with~~  
916 ~~other M.P.O.'s and appropriate political subdivisions as~~  
917 ~~circumstances demand.~~

918 2. Any M.P.O. may join with any other M.P.O. or any  
919 individual political subdivision to coordinate activities or to  
920 achieve any federal or state transportation planning or  
921 development goals or purposes consistent with federal or state  
922 law. When an M.P.O. determines that it is appropriate to join  
923 with another M.P.O. or any political subdivision to coordinate  
924 activities, the M.P.O. or political subdivision shall enter into  
925 an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01, which, at a  
926 minimum, creates a separate legal or administrative entity to  
927 coordinate the transportation planning or development activities  
928 required to achieve the goal or purpose; provides the purpose  
929 for which the entity is created; provides the duration of the  
930 agreement and the entity and specifies how the agreement may be  
931 terminated, modified, or rescinded; describes the precise  
932 organization of the entity, including who has voting rights on  
933 the governing board, whether alternative voting members are  
934 provided for, how voting members are appointed, and what the

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935 relative voting strength is for each constituent M.P.O. or  
936 political subdivision; provides the manner in which the parties  
937 to the agreement will provide for the financial support of the  
938 entity and payment of costs and expenses of the entity; provides  
939 the manner in which funds may be paid to and disbursed from the  
940 entity; and provides how members of the entity will resolve  
941 disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal  
942 agreement or disputes relating to the operation of the entity.  
943 Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its  
944 recordation in the official public records of each county in  
945 which a member of the entity created by the interlocal agreement  
946 has a voting member. Multiple M.P.O.'s may merge, combine, or  
947 otherwise join together as a single M.P.O.

948 (7) LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each M.P.O. must  
949 develop a long-range transportation plan that addresses at least  
950 a 20-year planning horizon. The plan must include both long-  
951 range and short-range strategies and must comply with all other  
952 state and federal requirements. The prevailing principles to be  
953 considered in the long-range transportation plan are: preserving  
954 the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's  
955 economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure  
956 mobility. The long-range transportation plan must be consistent,  
957 to the maximum extent feasible, with future land use elements  
958 and the goals, objectives, and policies of the approved local  
959 government comprehensive plans of the units of local government

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960 located within the jurisdiction of the M.P.O. Each M.P.O. is  
961 encouraged to consider strategies that integrate transportation  
962 and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and  
963 reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The approved long-range  
964 transportation plan must be considered by local governments in  
965 the development of the transportation elements in local  
966 government comprehensive plans and any amendments thereto. The  
967 long-range transportation plan must, at a minimum:

968 (a) Identify transportation facilities, including, but not  
969 limited to, major roadways, airports, seaports, spaceports,  
970 commuter rail systems, transit systems, and intermodal or  
971 multimodal terminals that will function as an integrated  
972 metropolitan transportation system. The long-range  
973 transportation plan must give emphasis to those transportation  
974 facilities that serve national, statewide, or regional  
975 functions, and must consider the goals and objectives identified  
976 in the Florida Transportation Plan as provided in s. 339.155. If  
977 a project is located within the boundaries of more than one  
978 M.P.O., the M.P.O.'s must coordinate plans regarding the project  
979 in the long-range transportation plan. ~~Multiple M.P.O.'s within  
980 a contiguous urbanized area must coordinate the development of  
981 long-range transportation plans to be reviewed by the  
982 Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council.~~

983 (b) Include a financial plan that demonstrates how the  
984 plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and

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985 private sources which are reasonably expected to be available to  
986 carry out the plan, and recommends any additional financing  
987 strategies for needed projects and programs. The financial plan  
988 may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that  
989 would be included in the adopted long-range transportation plan  
990 if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in  
991 the financial plan were available. For the purpose of developing  
992 the long-range transportation plan, the M.P.O. and the  
993 department shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that  
994 will be available to support the plan implementation. Innovative  
995 financing techniques may be used to fund needed projects and  
996 programs. Such techniques may include the assessment of tolls,  
997 public-private partnerships, the use of value capture financing,  
998 or the use of value pricing. Multiple M.P.O.'s within a  
999 contiguous urbanized area must ensure, to the maximum extent  
1000 possible, the consistency of data used in the planning process.

1001 (d) Indicate, as appropriate, proposed transportation  
1002 enhancement activities, including, but not limited to,  
1003 pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails or facilities that are  
1004 regionally significant or critical linkages for the Florida  
1005 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network, scenic easements,  
1006 landscaping, integration of advanced air mobility, and  
1007 integration of autonomous and electric vehicles, electric  
1008 bicycles, and motorized scooters used for freight, commuter, or  
1009 micromobility purposes ~~historic preservation, mitigation of~~

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1010 ~~water pollution due to highway runoff, and control of outdoor~~  
1011 ~~advertising.~~

1012

1013 In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each  
1014 M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies,  
1015 representatives of transportation agency employees, freight  
1016 shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private  
1017 providers of transportation, representatives of users of public  
1018 transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable  
1019 opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan.  
1020 The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the  
1021 M.P.O.

1022 (10) AGREEMENTS; ACCOUNTABILITY.-

1023 (a) Each M.P.O. may execute a written agreement with the  
1024 department, which shall be reviewed, and updated as necessary,  
1025 every 5 years, which clearly establishes the cooperative  
1026 relationship essential to accomplish the transportation planning  
1027 requirements of state and federal law. Roles, responsibilities,  
1028 and expectations for accomplishing consistency with federal and  
1029 state requirements and priorities must be set forth in the  
1030 agreement. In addition, the agreement must set forth the  
1031 M.P.O.'s responsibility, in collaboration with the department,  
1032 to identify, prioritize, and present to the department a  
1033 complete list of multimodal transportation projects consistent  
1034 with the needs of the metropolitan planning area. It is the

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1035 department's responsibility to program projects in the state  
1036 transportation improvement program.

1037 (b) The department must establish, in collaboration with  
1038 each M.P.O., quality performance metrics such as safety,  
1039 infrastructure condition, congestion relief, and mobility. Each  
1040 M.P.O. must, as part of its long-range transportation plan, in  
1041 direct coordination with the department, develop targets for  
1042 each performance measure within the metropolitan planning area  
1043 boundary. The performance targets must support efficient and  
1044 safe movement of people and goods both within the metropolitan  
1045 planning area and between regions. Each M.P.O. must report  
1046 progress toward establishing performance targets for each  
1047 measure annually in its transportation improvement plan. The  
1048 department shall evaluate and post on its website whether each  
1049 M.P.O. has made significant progress toward its target for the  
1050 applicable reporting period.

1051 ~~(11) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.~~

1052 ~~(a) A Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council~~  
1053 ~~is created to augment, and not supplant, the role of the~~  
1054 ~~individual M.P.O.'s in the cooperative transportation planning~~  
1055 ~~process described in this section.~~

1056 ~~(b) The council shall consist of one representative from~~  
1057 ~~each M.P.O. and shall elect a chairperson annually from its~~  
1058 ~~number. Each M.P.O. shall also elect an alternate representative~~  
1059 ~~from each M.P.O. to vote in the absence of the representative.~~

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1060 ~~Members of the council do not receive any compensation for their~~  
1061 ~~services, but may be reimbursed from funds made available to~~  
1062 ~~council members for travel and per diem expenses incurred in the~~  
1063 ~~performance of their council duties as provided in s. 112.061.~~

1064 ~~(c) The powers and duties of the Metropolitan Planning~~  
1065 ~~Organization Advisory Council are to:~~

1066 ~~1. Establish bylaws by action of its governing board~~  
1067 ~~providing procedural rules to guide its proceedings and~~  
1068 ~~consideration of matters before the council, or, alternatively,~~  
1069 ~~adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement~~  
1070 ~~provisions of law conferring powers or duties upon it.~~

1071 ~~2. Assist M.P.O.'s in carrying out the urbanized area~~  
1072 ~~transportation planning process by serving as the principal~~  
1073 ~~forum for collective policy discussion pursuant to law.~~

1074 ~~3. Serve as a clearinghouse for review and comment by~~  
1075 ~~M.P.O.'s on the Florida Transportation Plan and on other issues~~  
1076 ~~required to comply with federal or state law in carrying out the~~  
1077 ~~urbanized area transportation and systematic planning processes~~  
1078 ~~instituted pursuant to s. 339.155. The council must also report~~  
1079 ~~annually to the Florida Transportation Commission on the~~  
1080 ~~alignment of M.P.O. long-range transportation plans with the~~  
1081 ~~Florida Transportation Plan.~~

1082 ~~4. Employ an executive director and such other staff as~~  
1083 ~~necessary to perform adequately the functions of the council,~~  
1084 ~~within budgetary limitations. The executive director and staff~~

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1085 ~~are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and serve at the~~  
1086 ~~direction and control of the council. The council is assigned to~~  
1087 ~~the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation~~  
1088 ~~for fiscal and accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise~~  
1089 ~~function independently of the control and direction of the~~  
1090 ~~department.~~

1091 ~~5. Deliver training on federal and state program~~  
1092 ~~requirements and procedures to M.P.O. board members and M.P.O.~~  
1093 ~~staff.~~

1094 ~~6. Adopt an agency strategic plan that prioritizes steps~~  
1095 ~~the agency will take to carry out its mission within the context~~  
1096 ~~of the state comprehensive plan and any other statutory mandates~~  
1097 ~~and directives.~~

1098 ~~(d) The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory~~  
1099 ~~Council may enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287~~  
1100 ~~to support the activities described in paragraph (c). Lobbying~~  
1101 ~~and the acceptance of funds, grants, assistance, gifts, or~~  
1102 ~~bequests from private, local, state, or federal sources are~~  
1103 ~~prohibited.~~

1104 **Section 17. Subsection (4) of section 339.65, Florida**  
1105 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1106 339.65 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridors.—

1107 (4) The department shall develop and maintain a plan of  
1108 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridor projects that are  
1109 anticipated to be let to contract for construction within a time

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1110 period of at least 20 years. The department shall prioritize  
1111 projects that address gaps in a corridor so that the corridor  
1112 becomes contiguous. The plan shall also identify when segments  
1113 of the corridor will meet the standards and criteria developed  
1114 pursuant to subsection (5).

1115 **Section 18. Section 339.84, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1116 **to read:**

1117 339.84 Workforce development.—

1118 (1) Beginning in the 2023-2024 fiscal year and annually  
1119 thereafter for 5 years, \$5 million shall be allocated from the  
1120 State Transportation Trust Fund to the workforce development  
1121 program as provided in s. 334.044(35) to promote career paths in  
1122 Florida's road and bridge industry.

1123 (2) In fiscal years 2025-2026 through 2029-2030, the  
1124 department may expend up to \$5 million each fiscal year for  
1125 grants to Florida College System institutions and high schools  
1126 for the purchase of equipment simulators with authentic original  
1127 equipment manufacturer controls. Each grant recipient must offer  
1128 an elective course in heavy civil construction the curriculum of  
1129 which is specifically designed to use an equipment simulator and  
1130 other instructional aides to, at a minimum, provide the student  
1131 with OSHA 10 Construction certification and an equipment  
1132 simulator certification. In awarding such grants, the department  
1133 shall give priority to Florida College System institutions and  
1134 high schools in rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656(2).

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1135           **Section 19. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section**  
1136 **202.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1137           202.20 Local communications services tax conversion  
1138 rates.—

1139           (2)

1140           (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,  
1141 "replaced revenue sources," as used in this section, means the  
1142 following taxes, charges, fees, or other impositions to the  
1143 extent that the respective local taxing jurisdictions were  
1144 authorized to impose them prior to July 1, 2000.

1145           1. With respect to municipalities and charter counties and  
1146 the taxes authorized by s. 202.19(1):

1147           a. The public service tax on telecommunications authorized  
1148 by former s. 166.231(9).

1149           b. Franchise fees on cable service providers as authorized  
1150 by 47 U.S.C. s. 542.

1151           c. The public service tax on prepaid calling arrangements.

1152           d. Franchise fees on dealers of communications services  
1153 which use the public roads or rights-of-way, up to the limit set  
1154 forth in s. 337.401. For purposes of calculating rates under  
1155 this section, it is the legislative intent that charter counties  
1156 be treated as having had the same authority as municipalities to  
1157 impose franchise fees on recurring local telecommunication  
1158 service revenues prior to July 1, 2000. However, the Legislature  
1159 recognizes that the authority of charter counties to impose such

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1160 fees is in dispute, and the treatment provided in this section  
1161 is not an expression of legislative intent that charter counties  
1162 actually do or do not possess such authority.

1163 e. Actual permit fees relating to placing or maintaining  
1164 facilities in or on public roads or rights-of-way, collected  
1165 from providers of long-distance, cable, and mobile  
1166 communications services for the fiscal year ending September 30,  
1167 1999; however, if a municipality or charter county elects the  
1168 option to charge permit fees pursuant to s. 337.401(4)(c) ~~s.~~  
1169 ~~337.401(3)(e)~~, such fees shall not be included as a replaced  
1170 revenue source.

1171 2. With respect to all other counties and the taxes  
1172 authorized in s. 202.19(1), franchise fees on cable service  
1173 providers as authorized by 47 U.S.C. s. 542.

1174 **Section 20. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section**  
1175 **331.310, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1176 331.310 Powers and duties of the board of directors.—

1177 (2) The board of directors shall:

1178 (e) Prepare an annual report of operations as a supplement  
1179 to the annual report required under s. 331.3051(15) ~~s.~~  
1180 ~~331.3051(16)~~. The report must include, but not be limited to, a  
1181 balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in  
1182 financial position, a reconciliation of changes in equity  
1183 accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, the  
1184 auditor's report, a summary of the status of existing and

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1185 proposed bonding projects, comments from management about the  
1186 year's business, and prospects for the next year.

1187 **Section 21. Section 610.106, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1188 **to read:**

1189 610.106 Franchise fees prohibited.—Except as otherwise  
1190 provided in this chapter, the department may not impose any  
1191 taxes, fees, charges, or other impositions on a cable or video  
1192 service provider as a condition for the issuance of a state-  
1193 issued certificate of franchise authority. No municipality or  
1194 county may impose any taxes, fees, charges, or other exactions  
1195 on certificateholders in connection with use of public right-of-  
1196 way as a condition of a certificateholder doing business in the  
1197 municipality or county, or otherwise, except such taxes, fees,  
1198 charges, or other exactions permitted by chapter 202, s.  
1199 337.401(7) ~~s. 337.401(6)~~, or s. 610.117.

1200 **Section 22. The Legislature finds that the widening of**  
1201 **that portion of Interstate 4 between U.S. Highway 27 in Polk**  
1202 **County and Interstate 75 in Hillsborough County is in the public**  
1203 **interest and in the strategic interest of the region to improve**  
1204 **the movement of people and goods. The Department of**  
1205 **Transportation shall develop a report that includes, but is not**  
1206 **limited to, detailed costs for project development and**  
1207 **environmental studies, design, acquisition of rights-of-way, and**  
1208 **construction and a schedule to complete the widening as**  
1209 **expeditiously as possible. Such report shall identify funding**

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1210 shortfalls and strategies to address such shortfalls, including,  
1211 but not limited to, using express lane toll revenues generated  
1212 on the Interstate 4 corridor and other available department  
1213 funds for public-private partnerships. The department shall  
1214 submit the report by December 31, 2025, to the Governor, the  
1215 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
1216 Representatives.

1217 **Section 23.** By October 31, 2025, the Department of  
1218 Transportation shall submit to the Governor, the President of  
1219 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a  
1220 report that provides a comprehensive review of the boundaries of  
1221 each of the department's districts and whether any district's  
1222 boundaries should be redrawn as a result of population growth  
1223 and increased urban density.

1224 **Section 24. Section 332.136, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1225 **to read:**

1226 332.136 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; airport pilot  
1227 program.—

1228 (1) There is established at the Sarasota Manatee Airport  
1229 Authority (SMAA) an airport pilot program. The purpose of the  
1230 pilot program is to determine the long-term feasibility of  
1231 alternative airport permitting procedures such as those provided  
1232 in ss. 1013.30, 10133.33 and 553.80, and 1013.371.

1233 (2) The Department shall adopt rules as necessary to  
1234 implement the pilot program.

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1235 (3) By December 1, 2027, the Department shall submit  
1236 recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
1237 of the House of Representatives about how to expand the program  
1238 to additional airports, or terminate or amend the pilot program  
1239 which would increase its effectiveness.

1240 (4) This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2028,  
1241 unless reviewed and saved from appeal through reenactment by the  
1242 Legislature.

1243 **Section 25.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.  
1244

1245 -----  
1246 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

1247 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

1248 A bill to be entitled

1249 An act relating to transportation; amending s. 212.20,  
1250 F.S.; requiring the Department of Revenue to make  
1251 monthly distributions from certain tax proceeds to the  
1252 State Transportation Trust Fund; providing for future  
1253 repeal; creating s. 218.3211, F.S.; requiring counties  
1254 to annually provide the Department of Transportation  
1255 with certain project data; providing requirements for  
1256 such data; providing duties of the department;  
1257 creating s. 320.0849, F.S.; requiring the Department  
1258 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue  
1259 expectant mother parking permits; specifying the

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1260 validity period thereof; providing design requirements  
1261 for expectant mother parking permit placards or  
1262 decals; providing application requirements;  
1263 authorizing such permitholders to park in certain  
1264 spaces; amending s. 331.3051, F.S.; conforming  
1265 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
1266 334.044, F.S.; revising conditions under which the  
1267 Department of Transportation may acquire property  
1268 through eminent domain; amending s. 334.065, F.S.;;  
1269 revising membership of the Center for Urban  
1270 Transportation Research advisory board; creating s.  
1271 334.63, F.S.; providing requirements for certain  
1272 project concept studies and project development and  
1273 environmental studies; amending s. 337.11, F.S.;;  
1274 revising advertisement requirements for certain  
1275 construction contracts; providing competitive bidding  
1276 and award requirements for contracts for certain  
1277 projects; providing construction; revising  
1278 requirements for requests for proposals for design-  
1279 build contracts; revising requirements for selection  
1280 and award of phased design-build contracts; removing  
1281 provisions relating to design-build and phased design-  
1282 build contracts and construction; requiring contracts  
1283 to contain protection and indemnity coverage; amending  
1284 s. 337.1101, F.S.; prohibiting the department from

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1285 creating a new contract that is not competitively  
1286 procured; amending s. 337.14, F.S.; authorizing the  
1287 department to waive certain requirements for push-  
1288 button or task work order contracts; revising the  
1289 amount of contracts for which the department may waive  
1290 bonding requirements; requiring a contractor seeking  
1291 to bid on a certain maintenance contract to possess  
1292 certain qualifications; amending s. 337.185, F.S.;  
1293 revising the amount of a contract that may be subject  
1294 to arbitration; revising the timeframe in which  
1295 arbitration requests must be made to the State  
1296 Arbitration Board; amending s. 337.19, F.S.; revising  
1297 the timeframe in which certain suits by and against  
1298 the department must commence; removing an obsolete  
1299 provision; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; revising  
1300 legislative intent; revising requirements for the  
1301 designation of additional M.P.O.'s; revising projects  
1302 and strategies to be considered in developing an  
1303 M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan and  
1304 transportation improvement program; removing obsolete  
1305 provisions; requiring the department to convene  
1306 M.P.O.'s of similar size to exchange best practices;  
1307 authorizing such M.P.O.'s to develop committees or  
1308 working groups; requiring training for new M.P.O.  
1309 governing board members to be provided by the

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1310 department or another specified entity; removing  
1311 provisions relating to M.P.O. coordination mechanisms;  
1312 including public-private partnerships in authorized  
1313 financing techniques; revising proposed transportation  
1314 enhancement activities that must be indicated by the  
1315 long-range transportation plan; authorizing each  
1316 M.P.O. to execute a written agreement with the  
1317 department regarding state and federal transportation  
1318 planning requirements; requiring the department and  
1319 M.P.O.'s to establish certain quality performance  
1320 metrics and develop certain performance targets;  
1321 requiring the department to evaluate and post on its  
1322 website whether each M.P.O. has made significant  
1323 progress toward such targets; removing provisions  
1324 relating to the Metropolitan Planning Organization  
1325 Advisory Council; amending s. 339.65, F.S.; requiring  
1326 the department to prioritize certain Strategic  
1327 Intermodal System highway corridor projects; amending  
1328 s. 339.84, F.S.; authorizing the department to expend  
1329 certain funds for grants for the purchase of certain  
1330 equipment within a specified timeframe; providing  
1331 requirements for grant recipients; requiring the  
1332 department to give certain priority in awarding  
1333 grants; amending ss. 202.20, 331.310, and 610.106,  
1334 F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing

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1335 legislative findings regarding widening of a certain  
1336 roadway; requiring the department to develop and  
1337 submit to the Governor and Legislature a report with  
1338 certain specifications; requiring the department to  
1339 submit to the Governor and Legislature a report  
1340 regarding department districts; creating s. 332.136,  
1341 F.S.; establishing an airport pilot program at the  
1342 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; requiring such  
1343 authority to prepare and adopt an airport master plan;  
1344 requiring such plan to address specified public  
1345 facilities and services; requiring such plan to make a  
1346 specified determination; requiring such authority to  
1347 send such plan to host local governments; requiring  
1348 host local governments to review such plan and provide  
1349 comments within a specified timeframe; requiring such  
1350 authority to advertise the review period and hold an  
1351 informal informational session; requiring such  
1352 authority to hold a public hearing, after which it may  
1353 adopt such plan; requiring such authority to post the  
1354 adopted plan on its website and update such website at  
1355 a specified time; requiring such authority to submit  
1356 to a host local government a written request for a  
1357 determination of consistency with the host local  
1358 government comprehensive plan; requiring the host  
1359 local government to make such determination within a

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1360 specified timeframe; providing an assumption if the  
1361 host local government fails to make such  
1362 determination; providing that the airport master plan  
1363 may not conflict with the host local government  
1364 comprehensive plan; requiring notice to host local  
1365 governments for proposals to expand the boundaries of  
1366 the airport site; authorizing host local governments  
1367 to impose reasonable development standards and  
1368 conditions within such expanded area; providing that  
1369 the SMAA is the exclusive local enforcement agency and  
1370 has certain jurisdiction; requiring the Department of  
1371 Transportation to adopt rules; requiring the  
1372 department, by a specified date, to submit a report to  
1373 the Governor and the Legislature for specified  
1374 purposes; providing for repeal on a specified date;  
1375 providing an effective date.