

# 2022 Legislative Priorities & Positions

Adopted: November 10, 2021

## **Top Priorities:**



Increased funding for transportation that does not negatively impact the State Transportation Trust Fund

Increased Transportation Disadvantaged funding for paratransit service (ACCESS LYNX)





Change existing laws to include bicyclists as vulnerable road users (cyclists) in current Move Over Law (316.126 F.S.)

**MetroPlan Orlando** is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties in Central Florida. MPOs were created under federal law to direct urban transportation planning and the allocation of federal and state funds. As a regional transportation planning agency, MetroPlan Orlando provides a forum for local elected officials, transportation experts, and members of the community to work together to improve mobility for residents, businesses, and visitors.

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#### **We Support Legislation That:**



Increases transportation investment through dedicated and sustainable funding, including innovative financing options; encourages partnerships between public and private entities; and facilitates the expedited delivery of projects. This includes legislation which:

- Establishes flexible and predictable funding for transit projects (capital and operating) identified through the metropolitan transportation planning process by removing various funding limitations for the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF).
- Provides flexibility in the use of local option discretionary taxes such as Charter County & Regional Transportation System Surtax, and the Local Government Infrastructure Surtax.
- Funds the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) at a predictable level of \$250 Million per year.
- Oceanot reduce local option transportation revenue sources.



Supports the advancement of innovative transportation mobility solutions and policies that make Florida the national leader in creative approaches to addressing transportation needs, including Autonomous, Connected, Electric, and Shared vehicle technology.



Adds provisions to Florida's Sunshine law that allows public meetings to be conducted virtually during a declared state of emergency.

### **Monitor Legislation That:**

Regulates distracted driving by prohibiting the use of handheld two-way electronic wireless communications devices and other similar distracting handheld devices while operating a motor vehicle on any roadway. (Monitor and support, if needed)

Seeks to alter, revise, or rescind Red Light Camera legislation (Monitor and oppose, if needed)

Seeks to mandate changes to mid-block crossing designations. (Monitor)

Seeks to diminish the role of Regional Planning Councils (Monitor and oppose, if needed)



#### **Executive Agency Action Item:**



Staff to work with DFS and FDOT to resolve concerns with the state practice that recognizes federal metropolitan transportation planning funds as state funds for purposes of expenditure.

Staff and FDOT (Central Office and District 5) to work cooperatively to integrate projects into the region using federal stimulus funding.