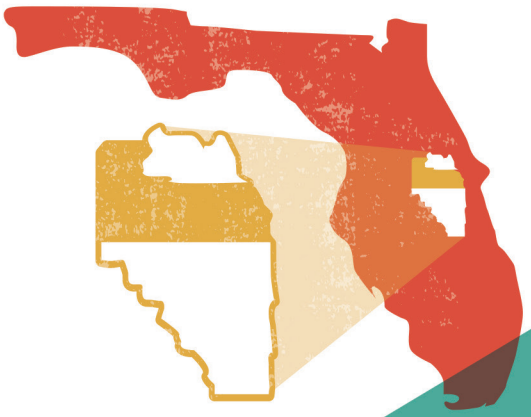
JOURNEY TO 2050:













METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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WHAT IS THE MTP?

MetroPlan Orlando is responsible for looking 25 years into the future and deciding how we should plan today for regional transportation down the road. We update the plan every five years, as the dynamics of our growing region change.

The 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) establishes a vision for the entire transportation system in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties. It takes into account a variety of mobility needs our community has right now and looks at ways to ensure our transportation infrastructure develops to meet the needs we expect to have in the future.

This Executive Summary will highlight how the 2050 MTP was guided by feedback from our local partners, stakeholders, and the community, as well as technical analysis. This is how we can journey into the future together.

HOW THE 2050 PLAN WAS DEVELOPED



The Metropolitan Transportation Plan was developed using public input as well as sound technical data and analysis. This integrated process allowed us to develop a future-focused plan that is both data-driven and shaped by the community.

In putting the plan together, we used a "Transportation for All" approach to identify obstacles and find ways for Central Florida's transportation system to serve everyone.

On the technical side, the plan built upon recent work from several regional master plans that consider needs related to: Active Transportation, Transit, Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSMO), and Vision Zero (safety).

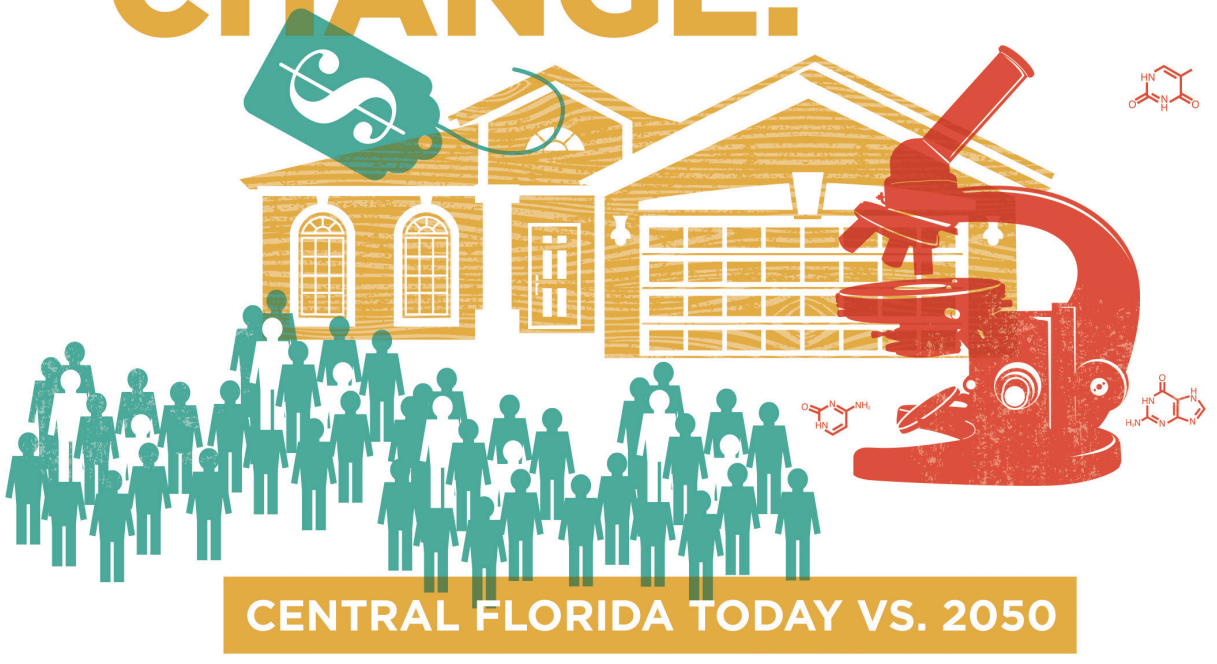
Public Participation was also key. An MTP-specific Public Participation Plan guided outreach with the goal of fostering two-way communication and intentional outreach to members of the community who are not already engaged. This laid the groundwork for nearly two years of community events, conversation, and digital engagement that would help shape the plan.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Five goals guided the 2050 MTP. They are supported by a total of 15 objectives and work together to create a safer, more reliable, and more connected system.

- Provide a safe and secure transportation system for all users.
- Provide a reliable transportation system across all modes for people and freight.
- Enhance lives through improved access to jobs and services for people of all ages and abilities.
- Enhance the health and vitality of our region's communities and environments.
- Strengthen our region's economy.

DRIVERS OF CHANGE:



When thinking about the year 2050, we track trends in Central Florida including growth, transportation choices, and the impacts of those choices. We also account for changes and disruptions that could affect regional transportation. Understanding these "drivers of change" helps us find ways to plan for the unknown. Ideally, we need transportation investments that improve system durability, flexibility, and readiness for both short-term disruptions and long-term change.

Here are some examples:

Population Growth & Shifting Demographics

We've traditionally had strong population growth. Looking toward 2050 today, it's more uncertain. Projections range from staying near current levels (about 2.5 million) to potentially increasing to as many as 4 million residents region wide.

What drives the change:

- People moving from other places
- Increase in births
- Decrease in deaths

Public Health & Safety

Health data shows that our community mirrors the national trend of declining health and wellness over the last few decades. Increases are evident in obesity, chronic diseases and mental health issues. At the same time, we see alarming levels of traffic-related deaths and injuries

What drives the change:

- Increased levels of obesity and chronic disease
- More people needing mobility assistance
- More frequent and/or longer medical trips
- Traffic death trends

Economic Impact

Where we work, when we work, and how we work all affect the trips we make for our commute -- if we even have one. The way goods move to and through our region is also changing with advances in technology.

What drives the change:

- Growth in key industries, such as hospitality, agriculture, and construction
- Tourism growth, number of visitors
- Remote work trends
- E-Commerce
- Supply chain issues

Development & Housing

In recent decades, much of the region's growth has been along major transportation corridors. Future development may include greater reinvestment in urban areas to parallel continued growth of newer development centers near communities at the edge of our region.

What drives the change:

- Location and density of new development
- Number of homes built
- Median home prices
- Percent of income spent on housing and transportation

Technology

Rapid technological advances are changing how people get around and how transportation systems operate. These changes have immense power to shape our future travel needs, investments, planning, and consumer choices.

What drives the change:

- Automated and connected vehicles
- Electrification (cars, buses, bikes, scooters)
- New mobility options (on-demand, advanced air mobility)
- Streamlined travel demand through technology
- Smarter transportation system management

Energy & Environment

Florida is a heavy energy user, with transportation accounting for a significant share. Travel relies heavily on petroleum fuels from outside the state. Meanwhile, environmental conditions and risks are increasingly shaping how the transportation system must be planned and protected.

What drives the change:

- Transportation energy demand
- Levels of electric vehicle use
- Alternative energy and infrastructure innovations
- Increased extreme weather
- Central Florida's role in evacuations

Natural Disasters

The frequency of natural disasters, such as fires, hurricanes, or floods, appears to be increasing across the state of Florida. The Federal Emergency Management Administration declared 25 such disasters in the state between the years of 2020-2023. Our three-county region will experience future events of this kind both directly and indirectly. Because of its inland location, our region may be affected by events in other parts of the state through evacuations, relocations, or travel and business disruptions.

What drives the change:

- Disruptions to transportation and daily life for residents
- Events that prevent visitors from reaching tourism or other commercial destinations in the region
- Short-term decisions by residents from other parts of Florida to seek shelter in Central Florida
- Long-term decisions by residents from other parts of Florida to move to our three counties

Transportation System Costs

Previously stable costs of building and maintaining transportation systems have been rising sharply in the past few years. This may limit the changes and expansions that are possible for our transportation infrastructure, as project costs go up over what is budgeted.

What drives the change:

- Increased demand for highway construction in response to more federal spending
- More demand for construction labor and materials
- Economy-wide inflation
- Supply chain constraints and specific shortages

TRENDS AND PUBLIC OPINIONS



Public feedback is essential to the MTP. We designed an outreach program with different approaches to attract a variety of audiences. The 2050 Plan used surveys, webinars, video and social media – along with in-person events – to ask Central Floridians what they wanted from their future transportation system. Additional resources were aimed at young people.

The recommended 2050 MTP Funding Policy was adjusted to reflect community input received throughout the process. We heard that safety was the highest priority and put more emphasis on that. Central Floridians also pressed the case for more and better transit options, walkable and bikeable streets, and technological improvements.

868 MTP survey responses

40+ outreach events and presentations

11 technical workshops

58,000 social media impressions

13,000+ community members engaged

Core outreach materials created in **English, Spanish,** and **Haitian Creole**

Print and **digital** activity books for families

A LOOK AT OUR NEEDS



We accounted for transportation needs of all users from roads to trails. We started with the needs identified in the last MTP, the 2045 Plan. We reviewed partners' local plans, analyzed congestion factors, and reviewed needs lists for various travel modes.

We assessed needs for the following transportation system elements: roads, transit, active transportation (walking and biking), Transportation System Management & Operations (technological solutions), safety, context-based design (Complete Streets or streets for all users), and freight.

Then we asked for feedback from local agencies and our transportation partners. We certainly didn't take this part of the Journey to 2050 alone. We talked to representatives from more than 25 agencies at 100+ meetings. They helped us identify 2,900 needs in 13 categories.

$72B
in identified projects

900+
miles of state highway improvements

800
miles of active transportation projects

2600+
miles of regional transit needs

PRIORITIZATION, COST FEASIBLE & UNFUNDED



It's no surprise that not all the needs we identified can be funded. That's why we have to prioritize, so that the MTP meets its requirement of being "cost-feasible." That means we can identify likely sources for the funds we need.

MetroPlan Orlando uses a data-informed approach aligned with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidance to prioritize transportation projects. The goal is to select projects that best meet regional objectives while fitting into funding constraints.

We identified candidate projects based on future impacts to the transportation system and the community. We listened to our agency partners, stakeholders, and advisory committees, while confirming funding eligibility for each project. Then we ranked projects using criteria and costs.

Projects were scored based on how relevant they were to the five MTP goals. The weighting of each criteria was based on the feedback we received during community engagement. Safety-based criteria were given the most weight, followed by connectivity and reliability.

The Cost Feasible Plan is where estimated costs and anticipated funding come together. According to revenue estimates, about $29 billion is planned for transportation infrastructure and service in Central Florida over the next 25 years.

What about the rest of the projects? Not all needs can be funded, but the others are still documented and listed in the Unfunded Needs Plan – in case money becomes available.

FUNDING RESOURCES & POLICY



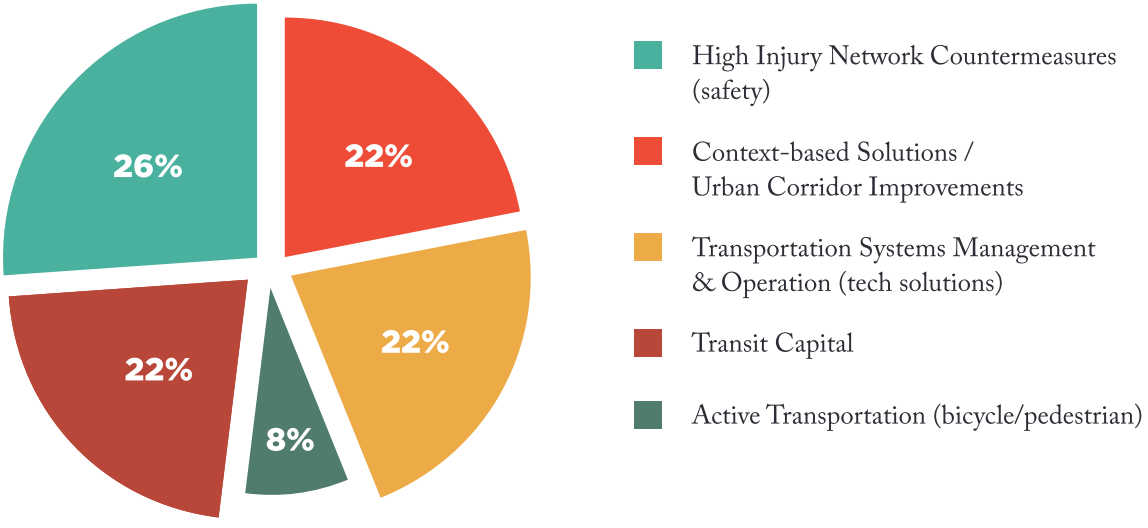
The 2050 MTP Summit was held in April of 2025 . More than 80 MetroPlan Orlando Board and committee members participated . The MTP Summit provided background on the planning decisions and funding feedback gathered earlier in the process . It introduced five preliminary funding scenarios .

During a group activity, participants considered how to allocate resources among the funding categories, or whether to add other categories . The feedback received at the Summit showed a desire for a balanced approach with a multimodal emphasis . We continued to refine that policy until it was adopted in July .

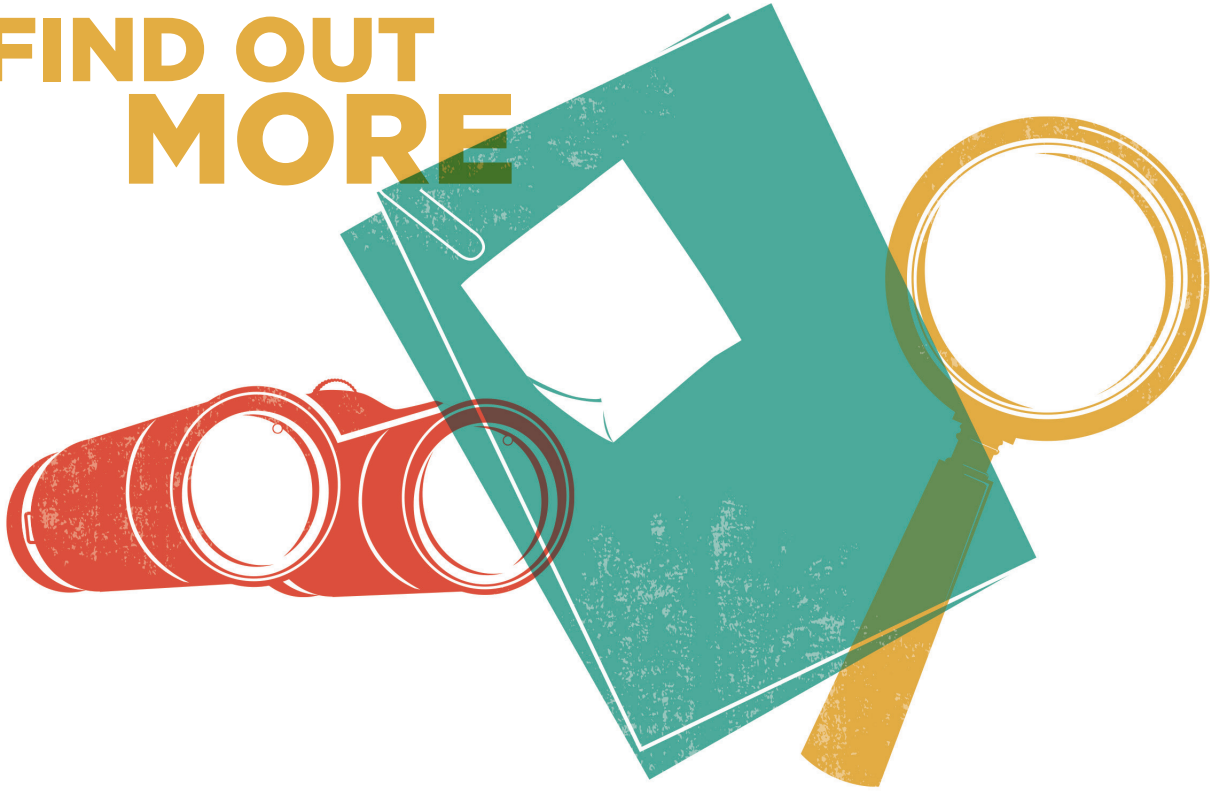
The final recommended MPO-TMA Funding Policy plays an important role in developing the MTP's Cost Feasible Plan . Based on documented revenues, MetroPlan Orlando anticipates receiving more than $683 million, between 2031 and 2050, over which we have direct prioritization responsibility . The Funding Policy guides the use of that money .

To establish the policy, we used input from the public and from stakeholders, board members, and technical advisors . The 2050 MTP's MPO funding policy introduced a standalone category for safety work on some of the region's most dangerous roads .

Estimated Annual Funding Allocation



FIND OUT MORE



We hope this overview of the 2050 Plan was useful. You can view the full 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan on our website at MetroPlanOrlando.gov/2050.

2050 MTP Chapters

1 – Introduction
2 – Goals and Objectives
3 – Existing Conditions, Area Profile, and Travel Patterns
4 – Congestion Management Process
5 – Community Health and Housing
6 – Environmental Stewardship and Resilience
7 – Freight and Goods Movement
8 – Transit Element
9 – Regional Safety Element
10 – Active Transportation Needs Assessment
11 – TSMO Needs Assessment
12 – Roadway Needs Assessment
13 – Multimodal Needs
14 – Drivers of Change
15 – Public Participation Findings
16 – Prioritization Process
17 – Financial Resources
18 – Funding and Investment Policy
19 – Cost Feasible Plan
20 – Conclusion and Implementation Process

More 2050 Plan Documents & Resources

2050 MTP Appendices
Additional information about how the 2050 MTP was developed is included in 17 appendix items listed on the 2050 MTP web page.

Technical Reports
The supplemental documentation for the 2050 MTP includes four technical reports: Congestion Management Process, Existing Conditions and Area Profile, Transit Vision Master Plan, and Environmental Stewardship.

Active Transportation Plan
April 2024 Final Report and Appendix

TSMO Master Plan
Summary and Appendices

GET TO KNOW US



The MTP gets a major update every five years, but it is a living document. Interim updates are made through plan revisions considered and approved by our board. Other work, such as our 5-year work program, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) are updated annually. Public input is always encouraged.

For MTP related questions or comments, contact: MTP@MetroPlanOrlando.gov

Our Role in Regional Transportation Planning

MetroPlan Orlando leads transportation planning efforts in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties. We bring together the region's elected officials and transportation experts for technical and policy discussions. We also engage the community to help plan a future that reflects our region's needs and desires. Our work sets funding priorities that determine how state and federal transportation dollars are distributed. Join us, and let's continue the Journey to 2050 together.

How to Get Involved with Our Work

Check out our website MetroPlanOrlando.gov to find out more about what we do.

Attend a meeting. All meetings are open to the public. All meeting information is contained in our Calendar section.

Check out our community engagement resources in the Outreach section of our website and Vision Zero resources in the Safety section.

Request a Speaker. Our outreach team can present to your group or organization on a variety of transportation topics. Contact us at: MetroPlanOrlando.gov/requestaspeaker

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