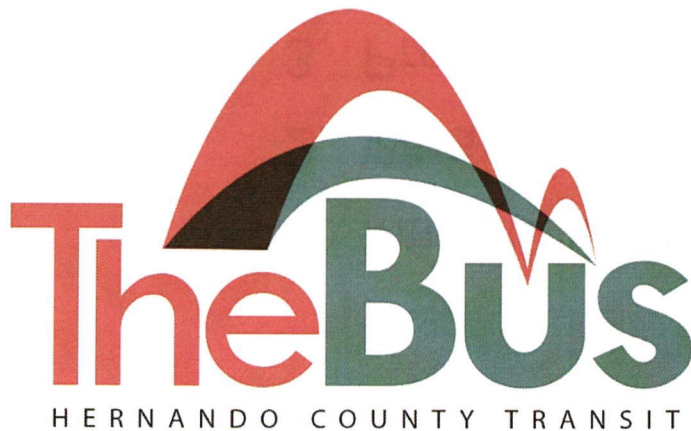




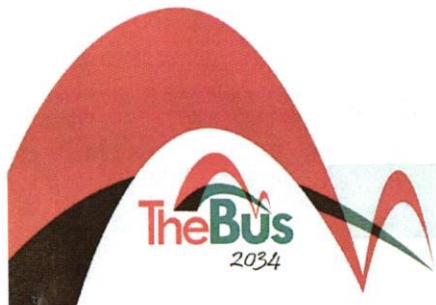
Hernando County FY 2025-34 Transit Development Plan (TDP) Hernando TDLCB Meeting August 8, 2024



ROUTES TO THE FUTURE | HOP ON

Hernando County FY 2025-2035 TDP Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. What is a TDP?
3. Previous TDP's and supportive plans
4. Current Conditions
5. Public Involvement Plan (PIP)
6. Community discussion – opportunities and challenges
7. Project schedule
8. Next steps



What is a Transit Development Plan (TDP)?

- Ten-year plan that supports the development of an effective multimodal public transportation system.
- Required every five years by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), guaranteeing the County access to annual State Public Transit Block Grant operating funds for fixed route and ADA services.
- Basis for defining current and future public transportation needs in Hernando County.
- Transit provider's planning, development, and operational guidance document: a "strategic blueprint."
- Marketing tool for providing continual community outreach and awareness of public transportation.
- Detailed financial plan outlining paths to implementing new service and capital projects.
- **The TDP is "yours"**
 - It will reflect the interests of your community and the help plan to continue success of TheBus system

Required Components of a Major TDP

1. Public Involvement Process
2. Relationship Review to Other Plans
3. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Coordination Program
4. Demand Estimation
5. Land Use and Corridor Development Assessment
6. Ten-Year Operating & Capital Program

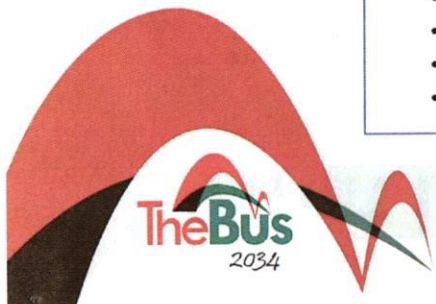
Revised TDP Rule Effective July 9, 2024

As of July 9, 2024, the revised [Rule 14-73.001 F.A.C. pertaining to Transit Development Plans \(TDPs\)](#) for public transit agencies is now in effect. This update impacts the submission timelines and requirements for TDP Major Updates and Annual Progress Reports.



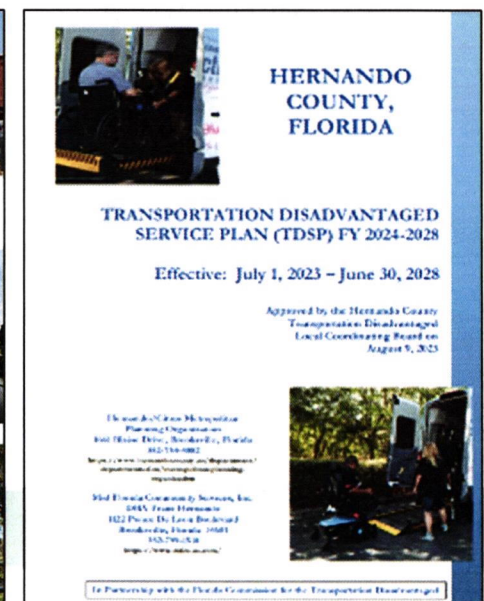
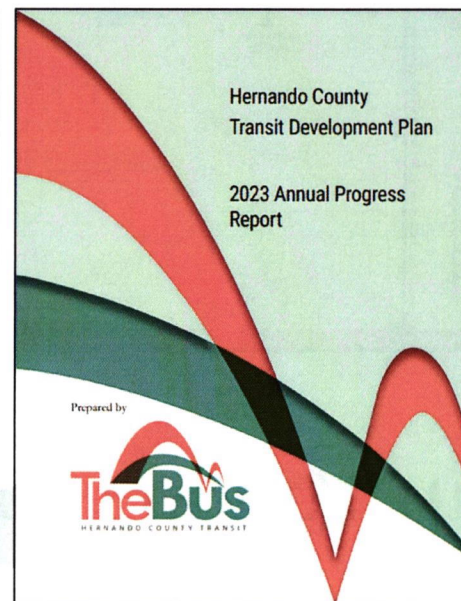
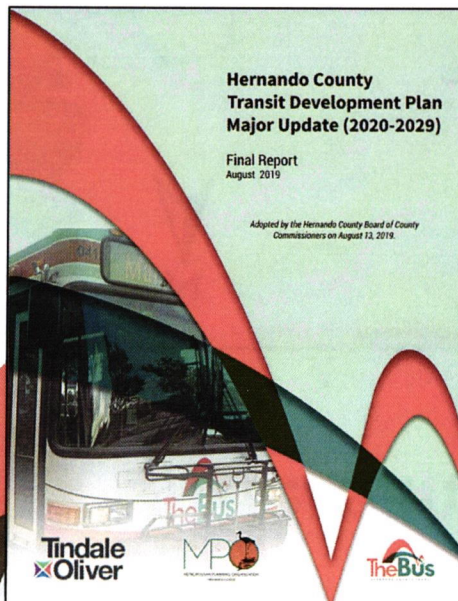
Key Changes:

- **Streamlined TDP Process:** Simplified procedures to make the preparation and submission of TDPs more efficient.
- **Increased Coordination with Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs):** Enhanced collaboration to ensure comprehensive regional transit planning.
- **Focused Prioritized Projects:** Emphasis on identifying and prioritizing key projects that align with strategic goals and funding opportunities
- **New Submission Deadline for TDP Major Updates and Annual Updates:** March 1st (previously September 1st)

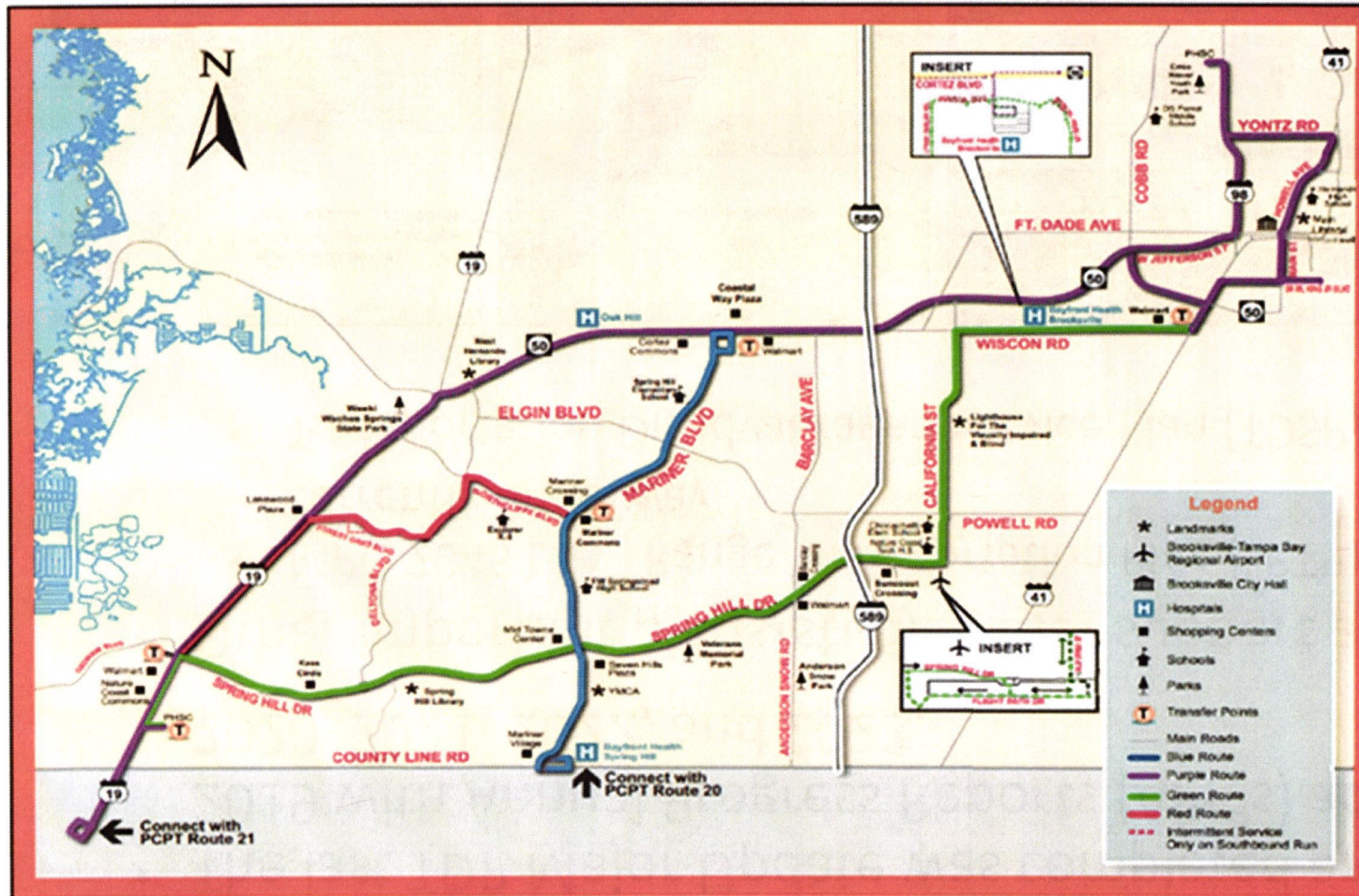


Previous Hernando County TDPs & Other Supportive Plans

- The last TDP Major Update was completed and adopted in 2019 with Annual Progress Reports (APR's) adopted in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.
- Other important plans/studies that support a TDP:
 - MPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – 2050 Update currently underway
 - Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP) from Aug. 2023



Hernando County: TheBus System at a Glance



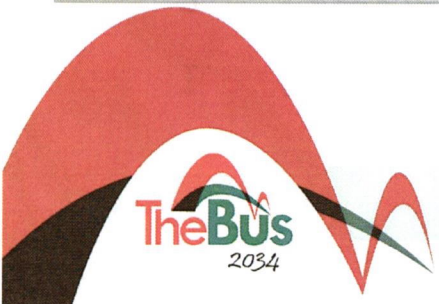
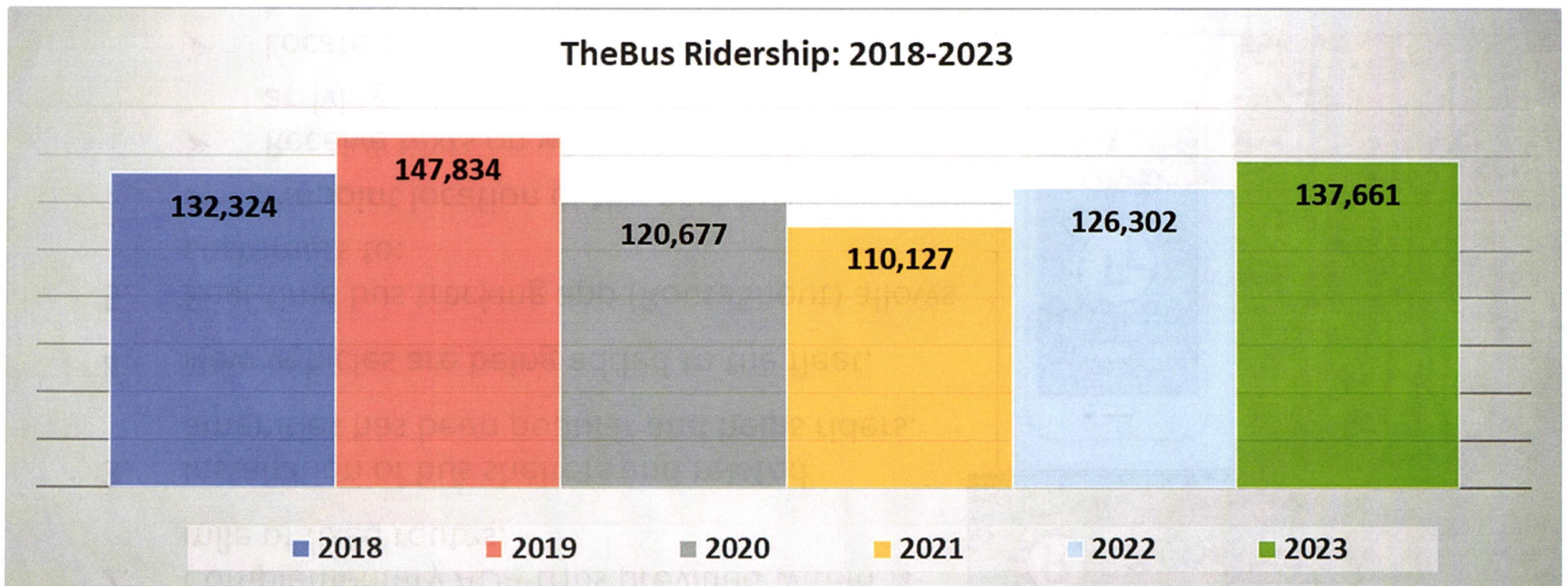
- 4 Fixed Routes: Red, Purple, Blue, Green
- Mon. – Sat. service from 5:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Complementary ADA service
- 250 bus stops in County
- Bus Shelters
- Connections to schools, shopping, jobs & key employers
- Regional connections to Pasco Co. transit system



TheBus Ridership: 2018-2023

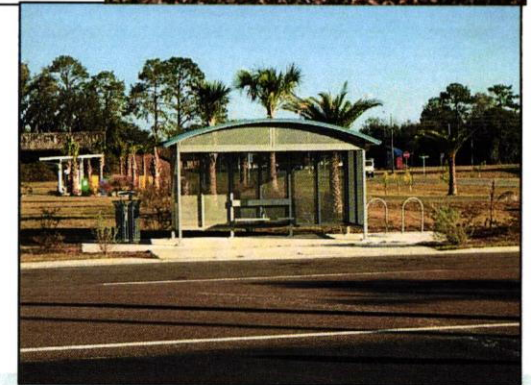
Initial Findings for Hernando County:

- Notable rebound in ridership since 2021:



TheBus: Current Conditions

1. Ridership continues to grow.
2. Complementary ADA trips provided within $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile of fixed routes.
3. Installation of bus shelters and related amenities has been popular and helps riders.
4. New vehicles are being added to the fleet.
5. Real-time bus tracking app (RouteShout) allows customers to:
 - Pinpoint location of the next bus
 - Receive texts on when the next bus is arriving
 - Locate bus stops along each route (sing bus stop ID#)
6. Mobile ticketing app (Token Transit) permits customers to buy their bus tickets electronically from an app.



Current Projects

- **Mermaid Route:** new service is currently under development and will be incorporated in the final TDP.
- **Transit-Specific Garage/Transfer/Administrative Facility:** Hernando County recently applied for a federal capital grant for a majority of the design/construction costs of a new \$17.5 M transit-specific facility.
- **Transit Transfer Site and Route Study:** examining potential sites for a new transit-specific facility and optimal routing for serving the location of a new facility.



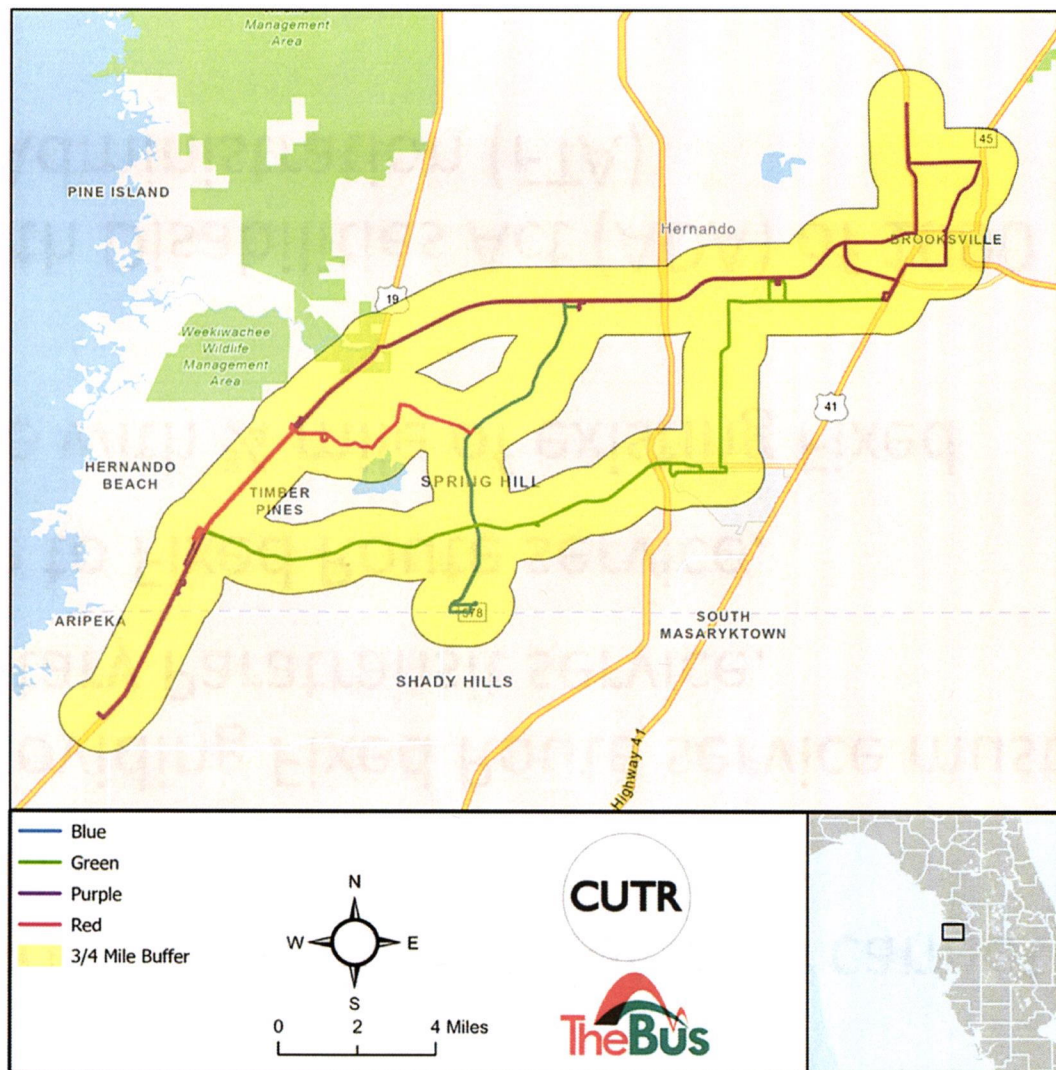
TheBus: Complementary ADA Service

- In addition to Fixed Route service, Hernando County Transit (TheBus) provides Complementary ADA Paratransit service.
- This service is provided eligible passengers with a trip that originates and ends within ¾-mile of a Fixed Route.
- TheBus provides over 9,000 annual Complementary ADA Paratransit trips.
- To use the ADA services customers, doctors or family must complete an application to qualify for the service:
 - It can take up to 21 days to review the application.
 - All applicants must have an assessment test.
 - Once approved, customers can schedule trip up to 24 hours in advance.
 - Prices are \$2.50 per trip.
 - There is no cap on how many trips a person may take in a day.
 - Service hours are 6:00 am to 6:00 pm., Monday-Saturday.
- ADA Paratransit is funded primarily from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 Capital and Operating formula grant funding and local match funding.



Limits of Complementary ADA Paratransit Service

- Hernando County Transit's Complementary ADA Paratransit Service is provided for ADA customers whose trips begin and end within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to bus route and cannot access fixed route bus.
- When new Fixed Route service is added in areas previously not served, Hernando County is obligated to provide expanded ADA Service within $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile of new fixed route service.



What is Complementary ADA Paratransit?

- “Safety net” for persons with disabilities who cannot use Fixed Route services.
- Each public entity providing Fixed Route service must provide Complementary Paratransit service.
- Must be comparable to Fixed Route service.
- Service must operate with $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of existing Fixed Routes.
- Meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements.



How is Complementary ADA Paratransit Different from the State of Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program?

- The TD Program is defined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes and Rule 41-2 F.A.C.
- “Transportation Disadvantaged” as older adults, individuals with disabilities, persons with low-income, or at-risk children who are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation.
- TD Program was created by the Florida Legislature in 1979, with the goal to establish a Coordinated Transportation System.
- Program provides transportation capital and operating funding for “Non-Sponsored” eligible TD customers.
- By Statute, TD service is provided by an area's designated Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC).



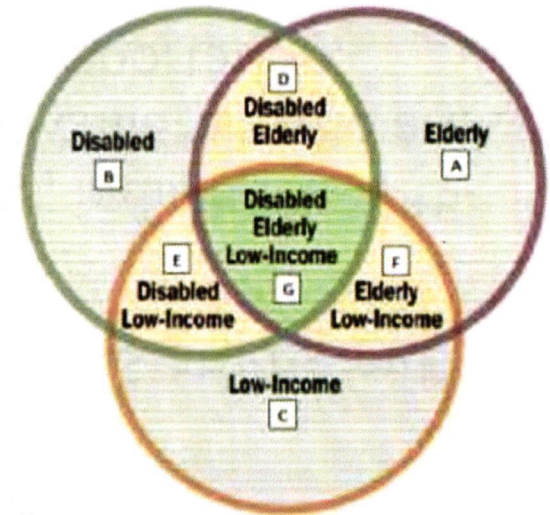
ADA and TD Qualification Parameters

- **ADA: Certified Disability, Paratransit service for those unable to access Public Transportation System from a geographical area within Fixed Route service.**

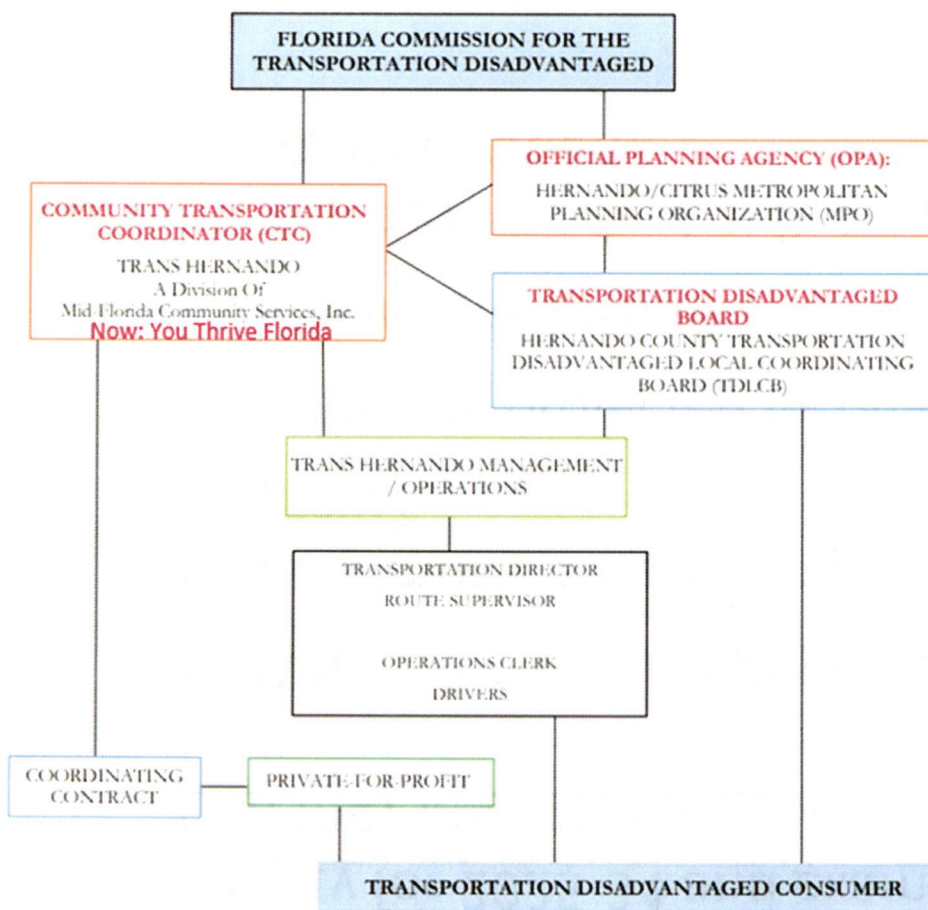
- *Source: Federal Transit Administration (FTA)*

- **TD: Eligibility based upon Disability, Age, and Low-Income, Non-Sponsored by Trip type. County-wide service area.**

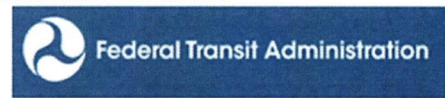
- *Source: Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP), August 2023*



ADA / TD Organizational Coordination / Responsibilities



Hernando County Board of County Commissioners



ADA Compliance Requirements

- ADA Civil Rights: Service Accessibility
- Bus Fixed Route Complementary Service
- ADA Eligible Disability Certification
- ADA Geographic Service Area: Within 3/4 mile from Fixed Route (see system Map)

Source: Federal Transit Administration, Americans with Disabilities Act

Source: Hernando County TDSP August 9, 2023



Existing and Projected Conditions in Hernando County

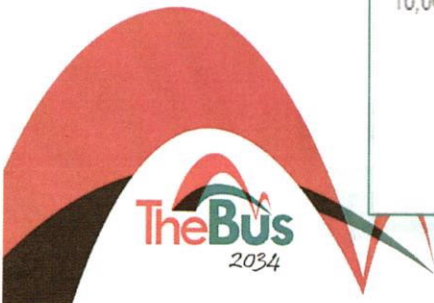
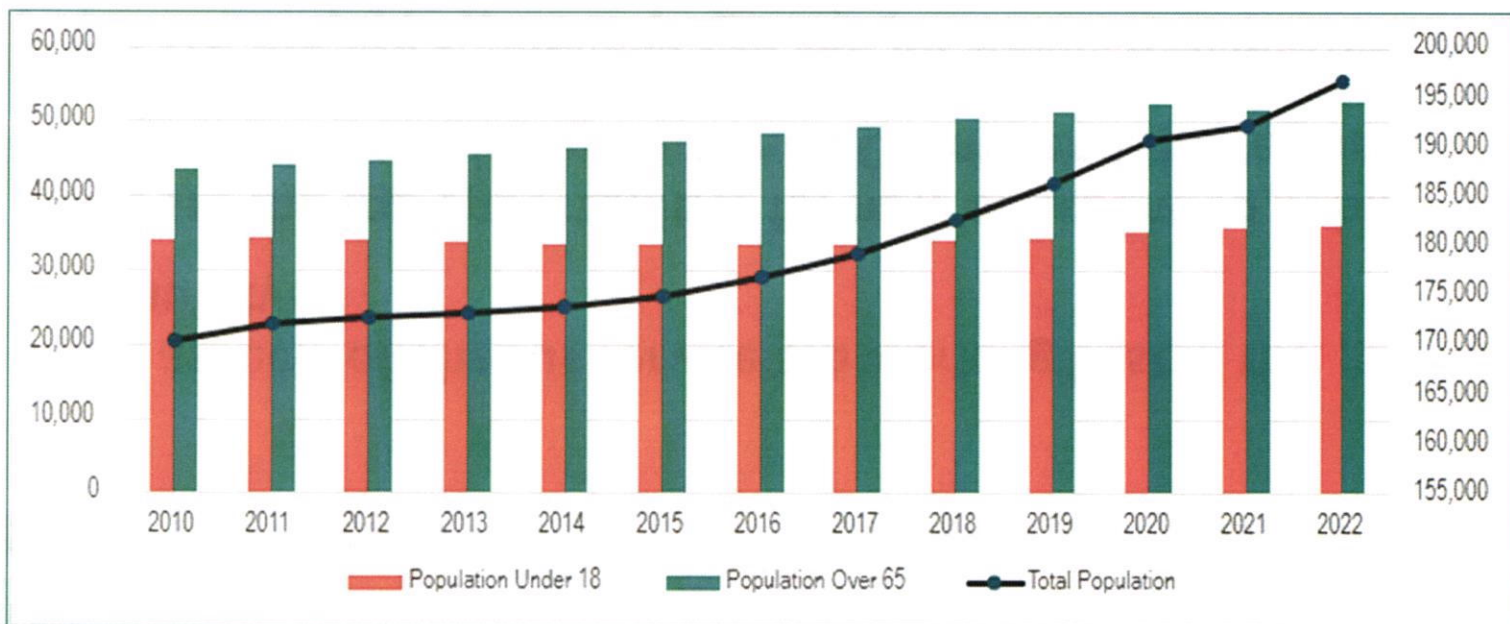
The TDP will look at existing and projected conditions in Hernando County for 2025-34 and examine the challenges and opportunities that may impact transit service needs. Questions to consider:

- Where/how much population growth occurring?
- How much is Hernando County over 65 population projected to grow?
- What are projected income levels and employment?
- Where are current and future employment opportunities?
- Will new residential & employment growth be accessible by public transportation?



Hernando County Population

- County has grown by over 15% from 2010 (170,337) to 2022 (196,621).
- The Over 65 population is growing and represents nearly 27% of total population.
- The Under 18 population is growing and represents over 18% of total population.
- Typically, the Over 65 and Under 18 age groups have a greater percentage of users depending on public transportation for day-to-day needs.



What are the Opportunities & Challenges for Public Transportation in Hernando County?

1. What aspects of TheBus service are working best in the community?
2. What are the top opportunities for new or expanded public transportation service in Hernando County and the region?
3. What are the top challenges you see for public transportation to be successful in Hernando County?
4. What are the top three improvements you would like to see made to TheBus system?
5. What can TheBus do better?
6. Please be on the look out (by email) for the next Hernando TDP online/social media survey in September.



Next Steps

1. Public outreach and surveys:

- On-Board surveys – **COMPLETED 5/14/24**
- Online/Social Media surveys – **PHASE 1 COMPLETE**
- Stakeholder/Community interviews
- Presentations with the MPO Board & Committees
- Other public outreach/meetings

2. Develop TDP that provides a detailed look at:

- Existing and projected conditions
- Evaluation of existing TheBus system
- Analysis of other plans and partner agencies (such as the MPO, FDOT, municipalities, employers) that can help in the success TheBus
- Updating of agency goals & objectives
- Detailed service and capital project cost and revenue estimates
- Strategies to implementing all identified service and capital needs

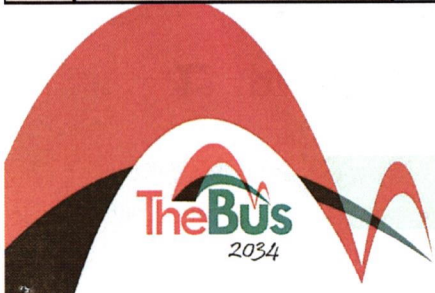
3. TDP project update to the LCB, MPO & BOCC in August & September



Project Schedule

Tasks	2024												2025	
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan	Feb.	
1 Project Management	Kickoff Mtg.	WRG Mtg. #1	WRG Mtg. #2	WRG Mtg. #3		WRG Mtg. #4	WRG Mtg.#5	WRG Mtg. #6						
2 Public Involvement Program		★ Submit PIP to FDOT	On-Board Survey	Stakeholder Meetings	Operator Mtgs./Surveys	Direct & Social Media Outreach to the General Public								
3 Assessment of Existing Conditions														
4 Performance Evaluation						Tech Memo #2								
5 Situation Appraisal														
6 Update of Policy Framework and Goals & Objectives							Tech Memo #3							
7 Definition & Evaluation of Alternatives														
8 Ten-Year Action Plan								Tech Memo #4						
9 Review & Adoption by BOCC, Submittal to FDOT										BOCC Approval	★ Submit to FDOT for Review & Approval	Complete Final Edits & TDP Document		

➤ Planned BOCC TDP Approval Date: 11/19/24



We are here to listen and help you build on your success!

Jonathan Roberson, AICP

Research Associate

Transit Management & Innovation Group

Center for Urban Transportation (CUTR)

University of South Florida

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Martin Catala

Program Director

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catala@usf.edu

Thank You!





SYSTEM SAFETY CERTIFICATION

CITRUS COUNTY
Community Services
Weatherization Assistance

HERNANDO COUNTY
Affordable Housing
Children's Advocacy Center
Community Services
Early Head Start
Head Start
Senior Services
Transportation
(Trans Hernando)
Weatherization Assistance

LAKE COUNTY
Senior Services

PASCO COUNTY
Community Services
Weatherization Assistance

POLK COUNTY
Senior Services

SUMNER COUNTY
Community Services
Head Start
Senior Services
Weatherization Assistance

VOLUSIA COUNTY
Early Head Start
Head Start
Weatherization Assistance

DATE: February 6, 2024

NAME: Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.

ADDRESS: 1122 Ponce DeLeon Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34601

THE BUS TRANSIT SYSTEM NAMED ABOVE HEREBY CERTIFIES TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. The adoption of a System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) in accordance, at a minimum, with established FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION safety standards set forth in Chapter 14-90, Florida Administrative Code (FAC).
2. Compliance with the adopted standards of the SSPP.
3. Performance of safety inspections on all buses operated in accordance with Rule 14-90.009 (FAC).
4. SPP Adoption of Security Program Plan

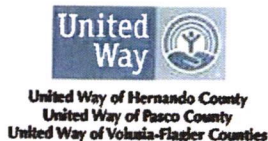
Miranda Maldonado
Transportation Director

820 Kennedy Boulevard
Brooksville, FL 34601

P.O. Box 896
Brooksville, FL 34605-0896

PH (352) 796-1425
Fax (352) 796-9952

www.mfcs.us.com



Sponsored by the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs, State of Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, Florida Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services - Administration for Children and Families, Sumter County Board of County Commissioners, Volusia County Council, Corporation for National & Community Service, United Way of Hernando County, United Way of Pasco County and United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties, Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, National Children's Alliance, Office for Victims of Crimes, Meals on Wheels America and Wells Fargo.

DRAFT



HERNANDO/CITRUS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION 2025 BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Agendas are available approximately one week before the meeting.

<p>MPO Board Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Lecanto Government Bldg. 3600 W Sovereign Path Room 166 <u>Lecanto, Florida</u></p> <p>January 9, 2025 February 6, 2025 March 6, 2025 April 3, 2025 May 1, 2025 June 5, 2025 July 10, 2025 August 7, 2025 September 4, 2025 October 2, 2025 November 6, 2025 December 4, 2025</p>	<p>LCB (Citrus) Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Lecanto Government Bldg. 3600 W Sovereign Path Room 166 <u>Lecanto, Florida</u></p> <p>February 13, 2025(Annual Public Workshop) February 13, 2025(Regular Meeting/2:00 pm) May 8, 2025 August 14, 2025 November 13, 2025</p>	<p>TDLCB (Hernando) Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Hernando Co. Bldg. Training Facility 1661 Blaise Drive <u>Brooksville, Florida</u></p> <p>February 13, 2025(Annual Public Workshop) February 13, 2025(Regular Meeting/10:00 am) May 8, 2025 August 14, 2025 November 13, 2025</p>
<p>TAC Thursday, 9:00 a.m. (HC) Hernando Co. Bldg. Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida (CC) Lecanto Gov't Bldg, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166 Lecanto, Florida</p> <p>(HC) January 23, 2025 (HC) February 27, 2025 (CC) March 27, 2025 (HC) April 24, 2025 (HC) May 22, 2025 (CC) June 26, 2025 (CC) July 24, 2025 (HC) August 28, 2025 (HC) September 25, 2025 (CC) October 23, 2025 (HC) November 20, 2025</p>	<p>Joint Meeting of the CAC and BPAC Thursday, 10:30 a.m. (HC) Hernando Co. Bldg. Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida (CC) Lecanto Gov't Bldg, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166 Lecanto, Florida</p> <p>(HC) January 23, 2025 (HC) February 27, 2025 (CC) March 27, 2025 (HC) April 24, 2025 (HC) May 22, 2025 (CC) June 26, 2025 (CC) July 24, 2025 (HC) August 28, 2025 (HC) September 25, 2025 (CC) October 23, 2025 (HC) November 20, 2025</p>	

Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization
Office: 789 Providence Boulevard, Brooksville, FL 34601, Phone: (352) 754-4082
www.HernandoCitrusMPO.us

8/1/2024



Engage with the 2055 Florida Transportation Plan

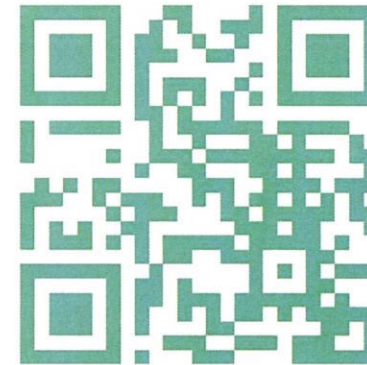
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GULF COAST
Safe Streets Summit

2024

SAVE THE DATE



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

GIL PENALOSA MBA, PhD, CSP

Gil is the Founder and Chair of 880 Cities, leading initiatives like Cities for Everyone. Notably, he orchestrated the development of over 200 parks and pioneered the globally acclaimed "new Ciclovía" program in Bogotá, Colombia.

Learn more at gpenalosa.ca

ABOUT

The Summit is a regional educational event that brings together community partners to enhance our efforts in designing and implementing safe and equitable transportation facilities for all modes of transportation.



October 9, 2024
1:00 PM–5:00 PM

**Plus Mobile Tours, Dignitary Discussion,
and Evening Networking Event!**



Port Tampa Bay Cruise Terminal – 2
651 Channelside Dr, Tampa, FL

HOSTED BY



Hillsborough TPO
Transportation
Planning Organization



SCTPA
Sun Coast Transportation Planning Alliance