



Executive Director's Report - May 20, 2021

1. **TPA Staff and Committee Update:** We are excited to welcome Melissa Murray as our new Public Relations Director. We look forward to her contributions as we work collaboratively to advance the TPA's mission and vision. Also, following today's meeting we are still seeking seven nominations to the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC). Each TPA Governing Board Member may nominate one CAC Member via submittal of a written request to the TPA along with a concise summary of the nominee's credentials for ratification by the TPA Governing Board. Please contact Margie Pierce, TPA Executive Administrator, with any questions.
2. **2020 Census Update:** On April 26, the U.S. Census Bureau released the 2020 apportionment populations, the numbers that determine the seats in the U.S. House of Representatives apportioned to each of the 50 states. As the 3rd largest state by population, Florida has grown from 5 seats in 1930 to 28 seats today.
3. **2021 Florida Legislative Roundup:** The 2021 legislative session concluded on April 30. The following transportation bills passed both houses and relate to TPA priorities:
 - a. SB 100 - Repeals Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES)
 - b. HB 337 - Imposes caps on impact fee increases
 - c. SB 950 - Amends laws related to bicycle safety and operations
 - d. SB 1194 - Various transportation provisions, including allowing excess managed-lane toll revenues to be used for public transportation (i.e., transit) projects
4. **Recent Transit Workshops:** The Southeast Florida Transportation Council hosted a virtual workshop to discuss the future implementation of Commuter Rail on the FEC railway on April 30. The recording is available at PalmBeachTPA.org/SEFTCWorkshop. Additionally, the TPA held a workshop on May 14 to hear from transit industry leaders on how they are moving forward with enhanced transit. The recording is available at PalmBeachTPA.org/Meetings
5. **AIA Safety Improvements:** Per TPA Board request at the April Board meeting, TPA staff and consultants are identifying pedestrian and bicycle facility gaps along SR-AIA in Palm Beach County. The TPA will work with FDOT to construct the missing facilities as part of upcoming resurfacing projects.
6. **FY 21 RAISE Grants:** The USDOT issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE, formerly BUILD and TIGER) with applications due July 12, 2021. The FY 21 appropriations act included \$1B for RAISE Grants, with a \$25M cap per project.
7. **High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) Funding:** FDOT offers local enforcement agencies funding contracts for HVE to improve pedestrians and bicycle safety. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, visit AlertTodayFlorida.com/HVE.
8. **National Bicycle Month:** May is National Bicycle Month and FDOT is hosting a statewide Love to Ride Florida challenge to get more people bicycling May 1 - May 31, 2021. Participants can register as workplace teams, social groups or as individuals. For more information and to register, visit LovetoRide.net/Florida.
9. **Bicycle Friendly Business:** The Bicycle Friendly Business program recognizes employers for their efforts to encourage a more welcoming atmosphere for bicycling employees, customers, and the community. The application window is open through June 10, 2021. To apply, visit BikeLeague.org/Business.
10. **Walk Friendly Communities:** Municipalities are encouraged to apply for the Walk Friendly Communities designation through June 15, 2021. For more information, visit WalkFriendly.org.
11. **Transportation Conferences:** Pursuant to its Strategic Plan and travel policy, the TPA reimburses board member costs to attend transportation conferences. To register, visit PalmBeachTPA.org/Conferences.