



Date: July 29, 2014

To: Policy Leadership Group Members

From: Michael Merrill, County Administrator
Katharine Eagan, Interim CEO, HART
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Subject: Agenda Materials for August 12, 2014 Policy Leadership Group (PLG) Meeting

In preparation for the August 12, 2014 PLG meeting, we respectfully submit to you the following agenda materials in draft format to support a Comprehensive Mobility Proposal:

1. Two videos; one presenting a general overview of the Proposal and the other providing more detailed information on proposed projects and funding sources.
2. Detailed lists of proposed transit and non-transit projects comprising the Proposal that will be reviewed with HART on August 4, 2014.
3. A proposal for the governance of HART to be voted on by HART on August 4, 2014. .
4. A recommended plan for public engagement to solicit input on the Proposal.
5. A description and evaluation of funding options.
6. Information summarizing the key elements of the Proposal that could be used to develop a brochure.

Since the PLG's first formal meeting on May 22, 2013, many organizations and individuals have been working diligently and collaboratively to gather information, assemble material for PLG meetings, evaluate transportation options, study key economic spaces and competitive sites, evaluate potential funding sources, and meet with various citizen and stakeholder groups. The organizations involved in this endeavor include the County, the three cities, HART, MPO, FDOT, the Planning Commission and the Expressway Authority.

The staff of these organizations who participated are too numerous to mention here but number in the dozens: transportation planners and engineers, financial experts, lawyers, and communications professionals. The many hours, late nights, competing priorities, and complexity faced by these individuals is a testament to the rigor and seriousness with which this challenge was approached. No matter one's opinion of the results, no one can dispute the passion and devotion to the task. We want to express our sincere gratitude to all involved.

This Comprehensive Mobility Proposal is not the end of the process. Rather, it is the beginning of a serious community debate over our future. This is, in fact, a transformational moment for Hillsborough County, calling for us to recognize that we have reached a tipping point: the decisions we will make as a community about strategic transportation investments must ensure our economic prosperity, competitive advantage and quality of life for generations to come.

The community's commitment to fund and create a comprehensive, integrated, multi-modal transportation network in Hillsborough County is the occurrence that will change the identity of this community and will transform our transportation culture. The reality of a "systems" approach to transportation solutions with regional connectivity requires leadership, innovation, robust and sustainable funding sources, and comprehensive transit products and services.

Beyond moving forward with transportation improvements that promote and encourage future economic development, we have an opportunity before us for the greater community to come together to define enhancements that will ensure an improved quality of life for our neighborhoods well into the future.

Following the August 12 meeting, at your direction, we will begin an extensive community outreach effort to get input and suggestions on the Proposal from individual residents and from businesses. At the conclusion of the public engagement, the PLG will deliberate changes to the Proposal and consider funding options.

We have scheduled a media briefing for July 29 to provide the attached agenda materials, explain the Proposal and process, and answer questions.

Briefings have been scheduled with all PLG members to prepare for the August 12 meeting. In the meantime, please contact any of us for assistance and further information.