

*Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization
Transportation Improvement Program*

TIP INTRODUCTION

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a multi-year program of transportation improvement projects as adopted by state and local government jurisdictions and transportation agencies. The TIP for the Brevard Urban Area is a five-year, financially-feasible multi-modal implementation plan that identifies all transportation projects (including bicycle/pedestrian facilities, transportation enhancements, transit, port, airport, spaceport and rail projects) to be funded by Title 23 USC and the Federal Transit Act. In addition, the TIP identifies major transportation investments for which FHWA or FTA approval is required whether or not the project is federally funded, as well as major improvement projects funded with local sources. The TIP is financially constrained for each year. The federally funded projects can be implemented using current and projected revenue sources based on FDOT's Tentative Work Program and locally dedicated transportation revenues.

PROCESS

The Transportation Improvement Program is prepared in accordance with requirements found in 23 CFR Parts 450 and 613 and in 339.175 Florida Statutes. The TIP is developed and updated annually under the direction of the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) in compliance with these federal and state regulations. The Space Coast TPO solicits project requests for the upcoming five years from FDOT, transit providers, airport, spaceport and seaport agencies and affected local governments. Projects in the TPO's Long Range Transportation Plan are also considered. The Space Coast TPO evaluates the project requests according to criteria set out in 23 CFR 450.324 (f), the priority of the project as established by agency and governmental plans and improvement programs, and the availability of implementation funds. The Space Coast TPO has also adopted a supplemental evaluation process to determine the nature and scope of potential corridor improvements on arterial roads. As specified in the TPO's Public Involvement Plan, the TPO annually holds a minimum of one public workshop to solicit project suggestions from the general public. Project priorities are also posted on the TPO web site prior to consideration by the TPO. Numerous other public meetings are annually attended by TPO staff to discuss upcoming projects with the public and to inform the public of transportation planning policy direction of the TPO and local governments. Project priorities are adopted by the TPO following the workshops and review by the Citizens and Technical Advisory Committees, Growth Management Subcommittee, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Advisory Committee and Traffic Operations Committee, as appropriate.

Following TPO project prioritization in August, the Florida Department of Transportation develops the tentative five-year work program in cooperation with local agencies and transportation providers and following a public hearing. Projects are included in the work program up to the limit of funding availability. The financially-feasible work program is submitted to the TPO for development of the draft TIP. The Citizens and Technical Advisory Committees review the draft TIP and make recommendations to the TPO. The TPO considers and adopts the TIP by mid-July. The tentative FDOT work program, upon which the TIP is based, is considered and adopted by the legislature by April, prior to the adoption of the TIP by the TPO. Projects in the TIP are funded from existing revenue sources, and no new revenue sources are assumed to become available during the five years covered by the TIP.

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Projects selected for inclusion in the TIP are consistent with federal requirements and FDOT's Tentative Work Program; are financially feasible for the appropriate funding category; reflect the TPO's priorities; are consistent to the maximum extent feasible with port and aviation master plans, transit development plans, and local government comprehensive plans; and are selected in part based on the public comment received under the TPO's public involvement process adopted pursuant to the requirements in 23 CFR 450.316 (b) and 450.324 (c). The TIP is a management tool for implementing and monitoring the area's Long Range Transportation Plan in accordance with 23 CFR 450.324 (n) (1 and 2). Admendmets to the TIP may be made from time to time as necessary to remain in compliance with state and federal regulations. Amendments are generally presented to the public as part of the TPO's regular meeting schedule.

Certification reviews of the Space Coast TPO are conducted by FDOT on an annual basis. Every four years, a joint certification by FDOT, FHWA and FTA is performed. The most recent certification was conducted by FDOT in March 2009. The next scheduled joint federal agency certification review will occur in the Spring of 2010. The TPO is required to to publish or otherwise make readily available for public review, an annual listing of projects for which Federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year. That list is included in the TIP and a link to the list is provided on the Space Coast TPO web site.