



TRANSFORM»»  
**2045**

SARASOTA-MANATEE MPO  
**LONG RANGE  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

ADOPTED OCTOBER 26, 2020

**SUMMARY REPORT**

# Welcome



## **Mayor Shirley Groover-Bryant (2020 MPO Chair)**

The Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to develop a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to assess transportation needs for 25 years. We began our effort to develop our region's LRTP, otherwise known as Transform 2045, in January 2019 and we have spent the last year and a half gathering information from our local partners and the community to create a vision for the future that promotes economic diversity, preserves environmental health, and creates vibrant places. Over 2,500 citizens participated in the planning process. The plan truly addresses the ideas and needs we heard from our constituents and will transform our region over the next 25 years.



## **Commissioner Liz Alpert (2020 Vice Chair)**

This is an exciting day for the MPO because the Transform 2045 LRTP includes projects for every community and every type of transportation. The Transform 2045 LRTP includes investments totaling just over \$2 billion dollars in our regional transportation infrastructure over the next 25 years. These investments will support our local economy and make this a great place to live, work, play, and travel.

## Overview of the MPO and LRTP

The Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is tasked to develop plans, policies, and priorities that guide local decision-making on transportation issues. Principal responsibilities of the MPO include development of the following:

- 20-year Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP);
- 5-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP);
- 2-year Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP);
- Congestion Management Process (CMP); and
- Other related transportation planning studies and projects.

Transform 2045 is the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update for Sarasota and Manatee counties. An LRTP is one of the most important guiding documents for an MPO because it prioritizes and allocates funding for roadway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation projects that are needed today, and in the future, to help move people and goods safely and efficiently about Sarasota and Manatee counties. The LRTP is required for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO to receive state and federal funding for transportation projects.



*Transform 2045 Development Schedule*

# Public Engagement

Involvement from elected officials, stakeholders, and the community at large was crucial to guiding the LRTP. Public engagement was essential for defining a future vision for the community and preparing a financially feasible transportation network for the region that reflects that vision. For this reason, the public engagement process was designed to ensure early and continuous opportunities for the public to express views on transportation issues and to become active participants in shaping the 2045 LRTP.

The overall objectives of the Public Engagement Element were to encourage meaningful participation amongst the region's diverse communities and to build support for the 2045 LRTP from both residents and the MPO's partner agencies. To achieve these objectives the MPO used a variety of engagement strategies during the implementation of this plan.

## TransForums



**5 TransForums averaging 100 participants**

TransForums were held in 15 different locations across both counties from Palmetto to North Port. TransForum events allowed the MPO Board, Committees, and the public to provide advice and guidance at strategic junctures during the update. TransForum topics included:

- ① Florida Economy and New Technology
  - ② Walking, Bicycling, and Transit
  - ③ Land Use, Smart Growth, Resiliency, and Equity
- Scenarios:
    - Economic Diversity
    - Environmental Health
    - Vibrant Places
  - 2045 Community Vision

## Online Responses



**2000+ Online Survey Responses**

Three surveys were conducted at key intervals throughout the LRTP update process to help the MPO understand the public's transportation needs, attitudes toward potential solutions, and key transportation priorities. The survey's sample was demographically and geographically representative of the region.



## Meetups



### 7 Millennial Meetups



Meetups were comprised of young professionals and other people in the region under the age of 45 who provided their input on transportation technology and future transportation needs in the area.

## Town Tour



### 8 Town Tour presentations



Presentations were conducted during each member jurisdiction's City/County Council/Commission Board meetings and consisted of a review of the list of proposed transportation needs for each respective jurisdiction. This presented an opportunity for greater coordination and participation between the MPO and each jurisdiction.

- City and County Elected Officials
- Live-streamed and available to the public

## Podcast



### 7 Online Tuesday Traffic Jam podcasts



The podcast program was created to be a more accessible format for digesting the technical information in the LRTP. The Tuesday Traffic Jam podcast was a virtual forum for people across the Sarasota/Manatee region to review LRTP documents and talk about transportation. There were over 3000 online views.






# Vision and Goals

A critical step in the long range planning process is to identify a vision for the plan and the goals that will support reaching it. The vision and goals serve as the foundation of the LRTP and set the context for funding and prioritizing transportation improvements through the year 2045.

## Vision:

This vision includes three specific statements about the region's transportation system:

 <p><b>Promote Economic Diversity:</b> Attract high-tech businesses and employees, focus on port centers as economic engines, brand and plan for the higher education/ cultural corridor on US-41, prepare transportation infrastructure for new technology.</p>	 <p><b>Preserve Environmental Health:</b> Safeguard treasured environmental assets, plan for resiliency from storms and flooding, balance protection and land use, increase density, and decrease auto dependency.</p>	 <p><b>Create Vibrant Places:</b> Increase housing and transportation choices, provide more multi modal options including safe walking and bicycling, preserve corridors for future premium transit to connect urban centers.</p>
---	---	--

## Goals




The key to the LRTP update is a focus on developing LRTP goals that are supported by performance measures, consistent with the community's vision for the transportation network, and built on the guiding factors listed in the state and federal governing documents.

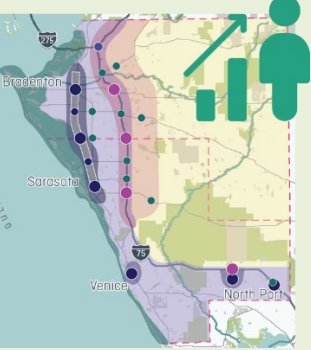






# Scenarios and Themes

The MPO implemented a multi-step scenario planning process to build a greater understanding of the public’s vision for the future. Each scenario was intended to be theme-based, telling a story of how the region could change based on a set of guiding principles and decisions developed during the visioning workshop. These themes were converted into three transportation and land use scenarios that led to development of the Vision.

Themes		
 <p><b>Promote Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full range of jobs</li> <li>• Safe and efficient access to jobs and services</li> <li>• Affordable housing and transportation</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Preserve What is Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability over generations</li> <li>• Resiliency from storms and flooding</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Provide Choices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where to live (neighborhood types)</li> <li>• Where to work and shop (center types)</li> <li>• How to travel (modes)</li> </ul>

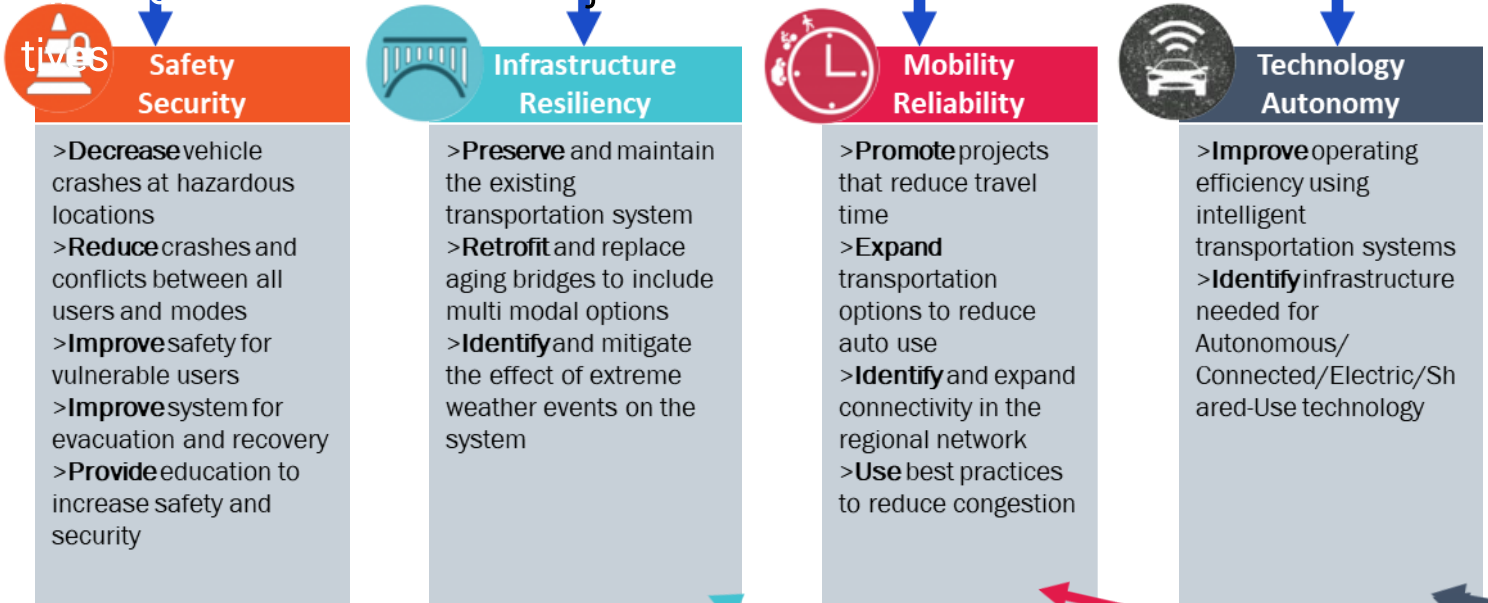
Scenarios		
 <p><b>Economic Diversity</b></p>	 <p><b>Environmental Health</b></p>	 <p><b>Vibrant Places</b></p>

# National Goals and MPO LRTP

## National Goals and Planning Factors

Safety	Infrastructure Condition	Freight & Economic Vitality	Congestion Reduction
<p>Significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users</li> <li>• Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users</li> </ul>	<p>Maintain highway infrastructure in a state of good repair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system</li> <li>• Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation</li> </ul>	<p>Improve national freight network, strengthen rural communities' access to national and international trade markets, support regional economic development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency</li> <li>• Enhance travel and tourism</li> </ul>	<p>Significant reduction in congestion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight</li> </ul>

## MPO 2045 LRTP Goals and Objectives



## State Planning Emphasis Areas





### System Reliability

Improve efficiency of surface transportation system.

- Promote efficient system management and operation

### Environmental Sustainability

Enhance performance of the system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns
- Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight

### Reduce Project Delivery Delays

Reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy, expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through eliminating delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices.



### Economy Tourism

- > **Stimulate** economy in enterprise or economic development zones and opportunity zones
- > **Maintain** the regional freight network
- > **Improve** access to major tourist destinations

### Environment Conservation

- > **Reduce** vehicle miles traveled
- > **Safeguard** critical habitat, wetlands, and endangered species
- > **Support** green infrastructure, energy conservation, and natural redevelopment
- > **Achieve** climate appropriate tree cover, community-wide
- > **Promote** environmental and public health
- > **Increase** infill development to reduce urban sprawl

### Equity Livability

- > **Increase** access to bus stops and transfer stations; and availability of park-n-rides.
- > **Expand** access to essential services and affordable housing
- > **Improve** access for persons with disabilities
- > **Ensure** equity in all transportation decisions

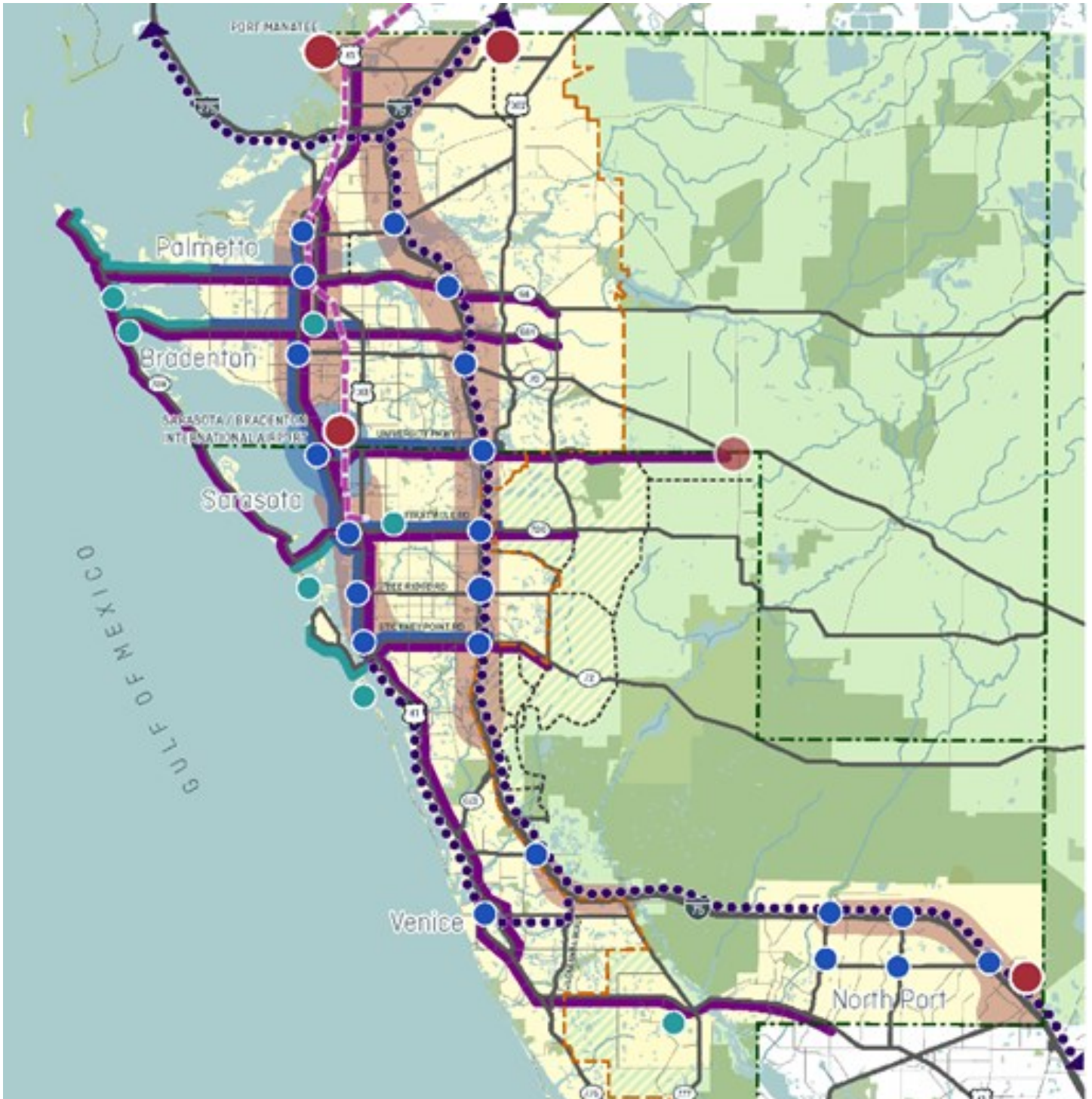
### Project Delivery

- > **Analyze** project readiness and monitor progress to reduce delay
- > **Prioritize** projects with local match and/or public/private partnership
- > **Implement** projects recommended from plans, studies, and LRTP

System Connectivity

ACES Vehicles

# Vision Map



Legend will go here

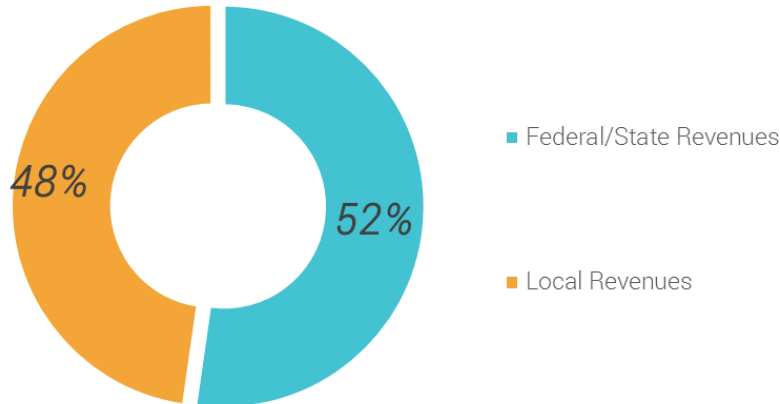


## Revenues and Cost Feasible Plan



The total revenues available in the 25-year period between 2020 and 2045 include a total of \$8.8 billion in future year of expenditures (YOE) dollars, including \$4.6 billion in state/federal revenues, and \$4.2 billion in local revenues (including Sarasota County and Manatee County Transit Agencies Capital and Operating funding). Of the \$8.8 billion, \$2 billion is prioritized by the MPO and the remaining \$6.8 billion is prioritized in coordination with State and local governments.

Sources of Available Transportation Revenue (YOE)



Cumulatively, the Cost Feasible Plan includes over \$2 billion in transportation projects and investments that promote economic diversity, safety, preservation of environmental health, and the creation of vibrant places.

There are a variety of diverse projects including roundabouts, significant intersections improvements, the development of complete streets, and multimodal corridors that encourage safety and reduce traffic congestion, fixing the most dangerous roads and intersections in the area. The plan includes \$1.3 billion for over 100 individual projects in the region; as well as:

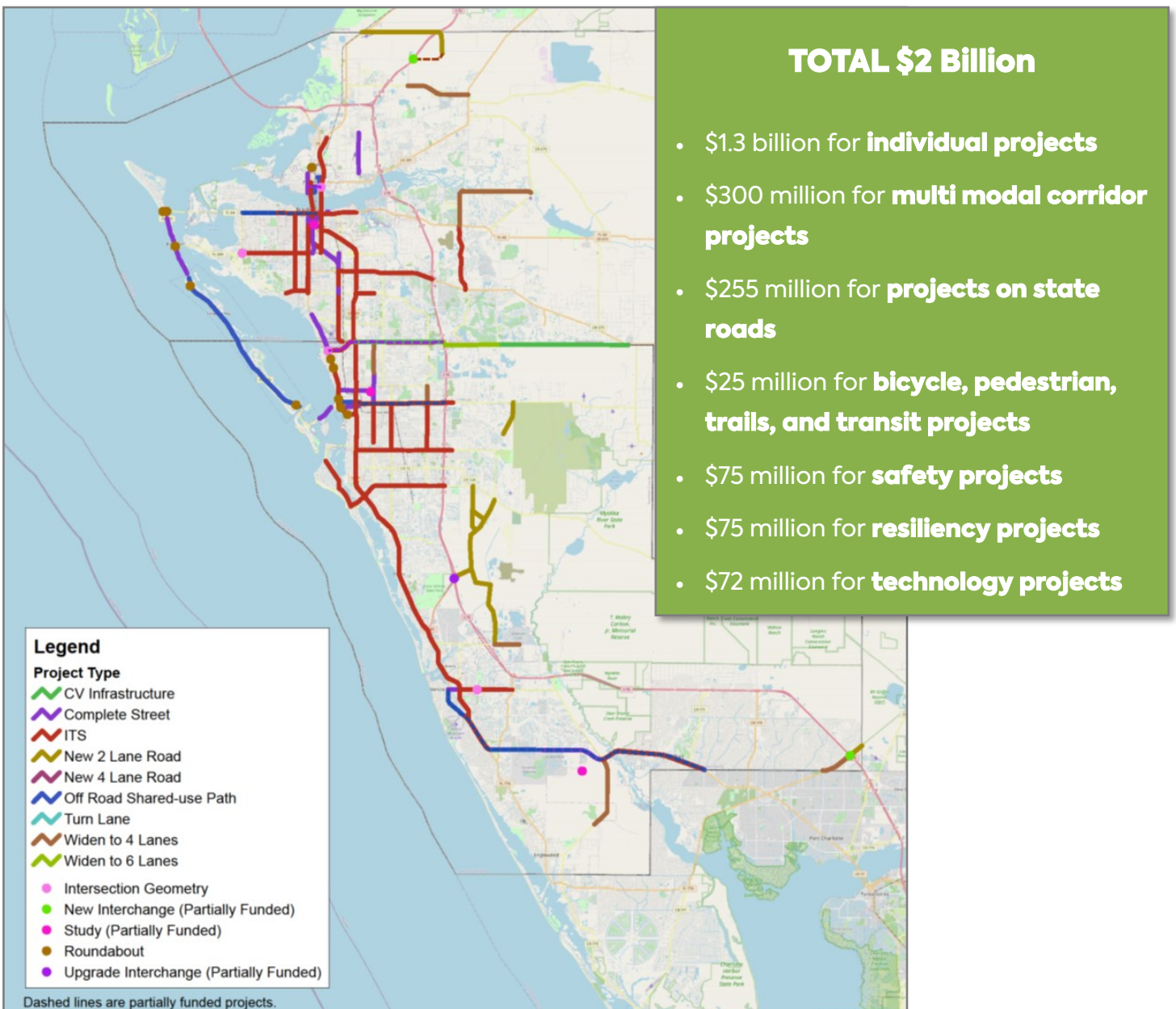
-  **65 Miles \*** of bicycle, pedestrian, and complete streets improvements
-  **160 Miles\*** of technology improvements for traffic management and future autonomous vehicles
-  **55 Miles\*** of new roadways and roadway widenings
-  **20+ Projects** for urban core redevelopment including 11 new roundabouts
-  **2 new Interchanges** creating 2 new commerce centers to support economic diversity

# Funded and Partially Funded Projects

## Transform Tomorrow

To support the economy and the diversity of the region's counties and cities, the plan includes a collection of local projects like complete streets and intersection improvements that say, "Welcome to our community." Studies in the areas around the three Major League Baseball spring training facilities will address transportation, parking, and event management. There are also trail projects and studies to determine the best routes to connect existing and planned trails creating a regional network that will ultimately be part of the Gulf Coast Trail linking multiple counties on the west coast of Florida.

Funded and Partially Funded Projects

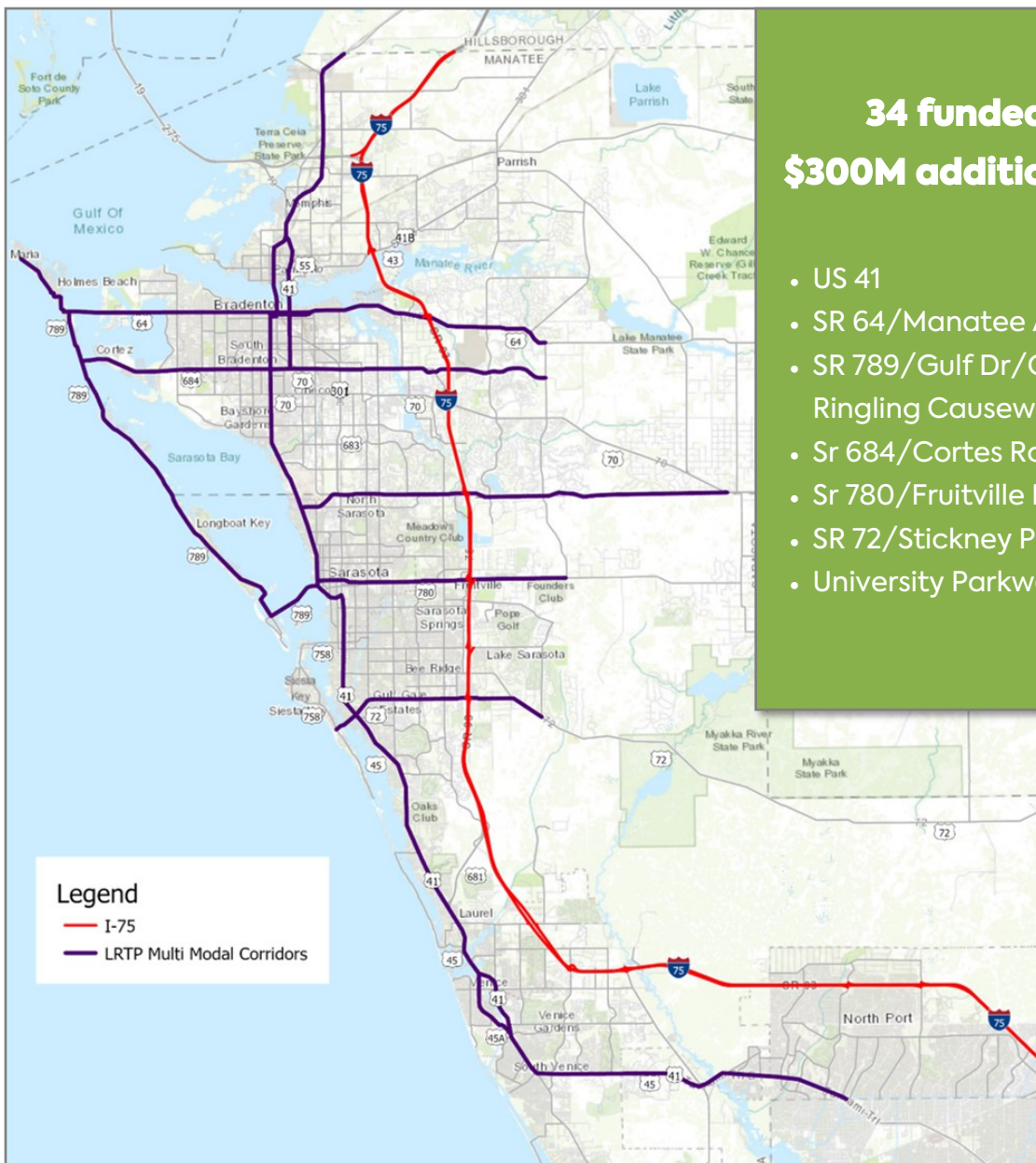




## Multi Modal Emphasis Corridors (MMEC)

The Multi Modal Emphasis Corridor (MMEC) establishes a linkage between land use and transportation strategies through urban design that improve traffic movement as well as walking, bicycling, and transit accessibility conditions. The plan includes 33 funded projects on the MMEC corridors and an additional \$300 million in boxed funds designated for local priorities. Qualifying projects include complete streets, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, multi-use trails, traffic calming, intersection improvements including roundabouts, congestion management, landscaping, and transit infrastructure or capital to support transit routes on the targeted corridors.

### Multi Modal Emphasis Corridors (MMEC)



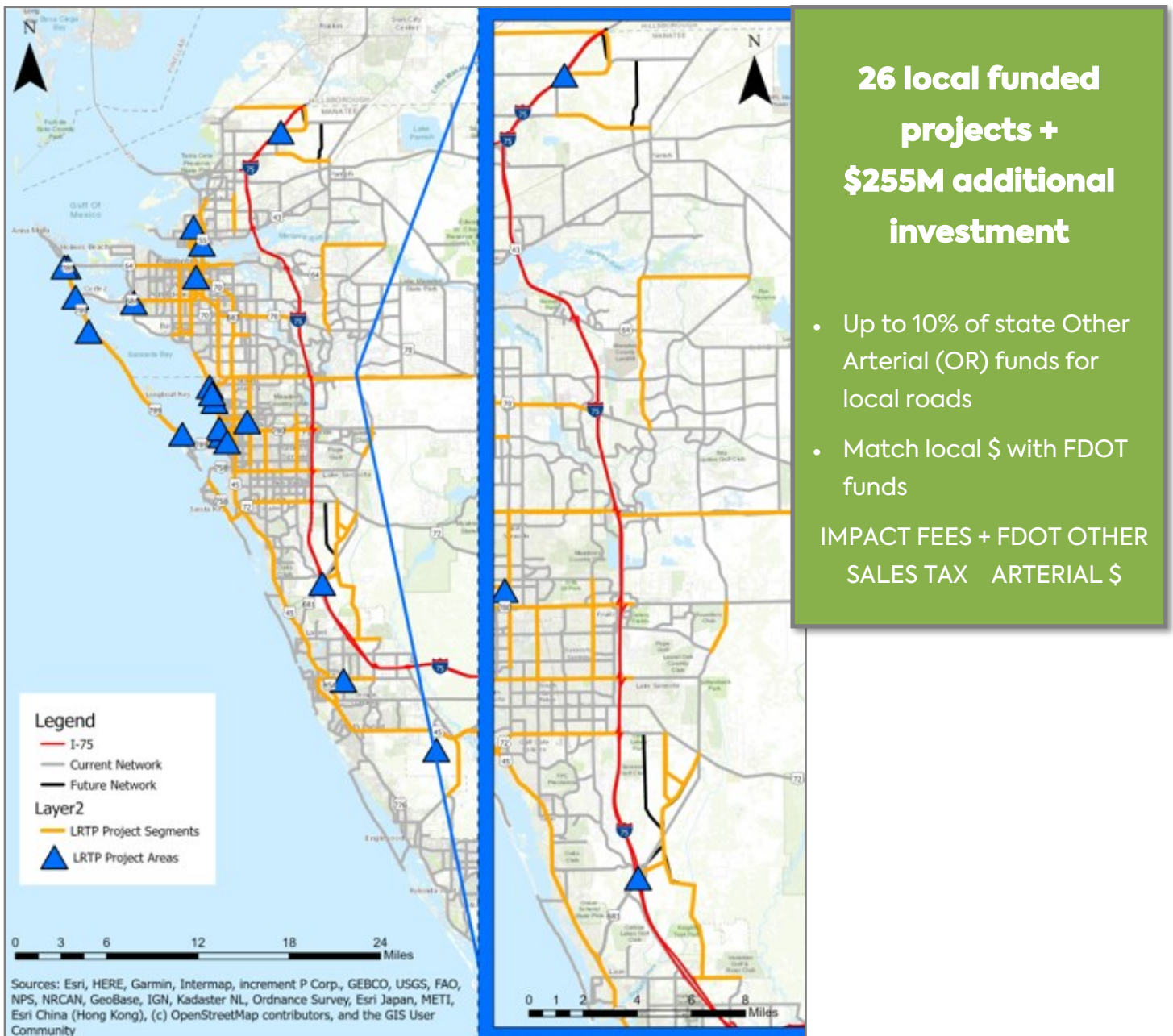
**34 funded projects +  
\$300M additional investment**

- US 41
- SR 64/Manatee Ave
- SR 789/Gulf Dr/Gulf of Mexico/Ringling Causeway
- Sr 684/Cortes Road
- Sr 780/Fruitville Road
- SR 72/Stickney Point/Clark Road
- University Parkway (SIS)

## FDOT Partnership

The MPO worked closely with FDOT to develop a new partnership opportunity so that FDOT, the MPO, counties, and cities have the potential to fund a significant number of local and state capacity projects that support growth and new development with a mix of local and state funding. This collaborative effort provides an additional \$118 million to support 26 local priority projects. Partnership projects may be funded with a combination of impact fees or other local revenue matched with state funds. The plan also includes \$255 million to be used primarily on state roads. Local jurisdictions may submit applications for projects on state roads, or other local roads, to access these funds by providing local match.

FDOT Partnership Program



## Implementation

To advance the vision and goals established as a part of the LRTP, three action plans are currently being developed for funding because of the LRTP analysis. These three scopes have been developed to address the goals of Equity/Livability through the Transit Alternatives Study, Safety/Security through the Safety Plan, and Infrastructure/Resiliency with the Resiliency/Vulnerability Assessments.



### Public Transportation Alternative Study

Since the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan, US 41 has been one of the focus corridors of the Sarasota/Manatee MPO as a multi modal emphasis corridor. Transit service on US 41 has the highest ridership in the area connecting Downtown Bradenton and Downtown Sarasota. A Transit Concept and Alternatives Review (TCAR) will be conducted on US 41 to determine travel demands, define existing deficiencies and future transportation needs that support the MPO's LRTP Vision. A successful TCAR Study will provide the information necessary to request entrance into the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) project development stage and move the transit project into the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study phase.



### Safety Plan: Fatality/Injury Reduction

The Sarasota/Manatee MPO Board adopted Vision Zero as a long-term goal in September 2018 and again in January 2020 to reduce fatalities and serious injuries. The purpose of this study will be to develop a plan to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in the Sarasota/Manatee region aligned with FDOT's Driving Down Fatalities initiative and vision.

The Safety Plan will serve as a roadmap that guides the MPO towards its ultimate vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries on the transportation system. Additionally, the MPO's Vision Zero Action Plan will provide an educational framework for jurisdictions to catalyze the development of their own local Vision Zero Action Plans.



### Resiliency/Vulnerability Assessments

The purpose of this project is to develop and apply new methods that integrate resilience corridor planning with transportation planning and decision making to assess and mitigate risks from all hazards that affect the Sarasota/Manatee region's transportation system. Vulnerability, risk and mitigation-evaluation methods and tools will be developed and applied to the region and refined based on lessons-learned and guidance provided by experts, stakeholders, and the All-Hazards Recovery Training.



8100 15TH STREET EAST  
SARASOTA, FL 34243  
(941) 359-5772

[WWW.MYMPO.ORG](http://WWW.MYMPO.ORG)

