

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## ***MPO Adopts Multi-Modal Transportation Plan***

Tampa, FL, December 10, 2009 – The Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) held a Public Hearing to adopt the **2035 Transportation Plan** on Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. in the BOCC Chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the County Center Building. The culmination of the 30-day public comment period required by law, the Public Hearing offered citizens and the business community one more opportunity to weigh-in prior to Plan adoption. Twenty people made comments in person, while seventeen took advantage of call-in line to have their comments recorded and read to the MPO Board.

“The 2035 Plan represents a new vision for our community and relates land use and transportation more closely than any previous plan,” said Ray Chiamonte, AICP, MPO Executive Director. “Our transportation vision supports multi-modal concepts and builds upon recently updated comprehensive and community plans. We were extremely aggressive pursuing input from citizens, the business community and partner planning agencies throughout the plan update process.” Overall, more than 15,000 people participated in 115 meetings and events, including two Town Call meetings held in November, where the community gave input into the Plan.

“The 2035 Plan is filled with new ideas, like the concept of ‘Complete Streets’, to carry Hillsborough County into a future where we reinvest in our neighborhoods and are more economically competitive with other metropolitan areas, and are still providing the highest possible quality of life for our current and future residents,” said Temple Terrace Mayor Joe Affronti, Sr., MPO Chair. The plan was adopted unanimously by the MPO Board. After some discussion on public comments made, the Board also directed staff to work with County staff and the SouthShore community to expedite needed bicycle connections in South County. Plan details and a video overview of the plan and its significance can be viewed online at [www.mpo2035.org](http://www.mpo2035.org).

The Hillsborough County MPO is a transportation policy board comprised of representatives from local governments and transportation agencies focusing on transportation planning and programming decisions that support the mobility needs and economic development of Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City and unincorporated Hillsborough County.



In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status.

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