



January 15, 2016

MOBILITY 2040: A VISION FOR THE 54/56 CORRIDOR
~Phase I Study- Defining Transportation Alternatives~

PASCO COUNTY --- The Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the designated organization in charge of countywide transportation planning, is initiating a study to define transportation alternatives that could be implemented over the next twenty years along the S.R. 54/56 corridor. The MPO adopted the MOBILITY 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) in December 2014 that set the stage for additional study of potential improvements including both highway and transit modes for S.R. 54/56 corridor. The study limits are from U.S. 19 to Bruce B. Downs Blvd (S.R. 581). The MPO is utilizing a study approach that is citizen driven, with two Task Forces, one east of U.S. 41 and one west of U.S. 41.

The approach to the study is divided into two phases. During the first phase, MPO staff will facilitate a citizen led discussion of the numerous studies that have been completed over that past five years. The objective of Phase 1 is for each Task Force to recommend to the MPO Board, up to 6 viable and practicable highway and transit options or combination thereof, including a no-build option in which no major improvements in the corridor are implemented. The MPO Board would have the option to authorize Phase 2 of the study that will focus on the limited set of alternatives defined in Phase 1, and additional technical evaluation would be completed by MPO staff. Phase 2 would involve both Task Forces again in reviewing and ultimately recommending one alternative (or combination thereof) to the MPO Board. As part of Phase 2, extensive public outreach will be conducted to engage a larger number of the general populace who want to provide their input into the selection/recommendation process. At the conclusion of Phase 2 the MPO Board will conduct a public hearing, address comments, and consider amending the adopted LRTP to show the selected alternative. Once an alternative is reflected in the adopted LRTP transportation authorities including the FDOT and Pasco County will determine available funding and project phasing over the next twenty years.

Phase 1 of the study includes a series of three meetings that are open to the public and will occur over the next seven months. The first series of meetings were conducted in September and December 2015. The schedules for remaining and final meetings are presented below.

Vision 54/56 Corridor Study Task Force Meetings

Rasmussen College
18600 Fernview Street, Land O'Lakes, FL 34638

Joint East and West Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
5:30- 7:30 p.m.

West Task Force Meeting

Monday, March 28, 2016
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

East Task Force Meeting

Thursday, March 31, 2016
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

More information regarding this study and updates to future meetings can be found by visiting the study website at www.vision54-56.com or contact the Pasco MPO staff at (727) 847-8140.