

TBAG

TAMPA BAY APPLICATIONS GROUP

An Open Forum for
Transportation-Related Issues



Volume 24
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“FROM THE CHAIR”

By: Christopher Hatton, P.E., Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
2003 Chairman for the Tampa Bay Applications Group

While the Tampa Bay Buccaneers were wrapping up their season as Super Bowl champions (Yea!), The Tampa Bay Applications Group (TBAG) was once again ending



A full house at the TBAG Banquet. Thank you everyone for coming out on a wet and windy night.

its year on top of the world. On December 9, 2002, even in a downpour, a great turnout of over 60 transportation professionals and students attended the year-end banquet that was held at Landry's Seafood House on the Courtney Campbell Causeway. We were very fortunate to again have our program headlined by **FDOT, District Seven, Secretary Ken Hartmann**. Secretary Hartmann spoke to the group about the issues and challenges for the FDOT in the upcoming year and the opportunities for transportation projects in the Tampa Bay area.

The TBAG Awards Banquet also recognized all of the people who helped make the TBAG successful in 2002. The first part of our awards program recognized over 20 special individuals who contributed through preparing articles for our newsletter or making a presentation at one of our meetings. Each of the special TBAG helpers received great holiday gifts personally wrapped by TBAG elves recognizing them for their "Outstanding Contribution to the TBAG in 2002".



Brian Smith accepts this award on behalf of Janet Deane and himself.

Every person who contributed to the TBAG in 2002 was in the running for the major TBAG Model Application Award. This was the sixth year this award was presented. The 2002 awards were divided

ATTENTION!!!

TBAG Meeting: March 6, 2003



Randy Goss accepts his award for Best Article.

Best Presentation - Dr. Paul Zwick; Best Article - Randy Goss and Michael Dorweiler (tied for first). Each winner was presented with a beautiful glass sculpture. Congratulations once again to all of our very deserving winners and to all who continue to support the TBAG!

into three major categories: Best Presentation, Best Workshop and Best Article. While the voting by the TBAG Board was once again very close, we were very happy to announce the following winners at the banquet: **Best Workshop - Janet Deane and Brian Smith;**



Michael Dorweiler is also a Best Article winner.



Ken welcomes everyone to the Banquet.

The members of TBAG thank Secretary Hartmann for his time in making this a special night to remember. Special thanks also go out to **Kasey Cursey** for her wonderful job in planning and organizing the banquet, **Wade White** for assembling and creat-

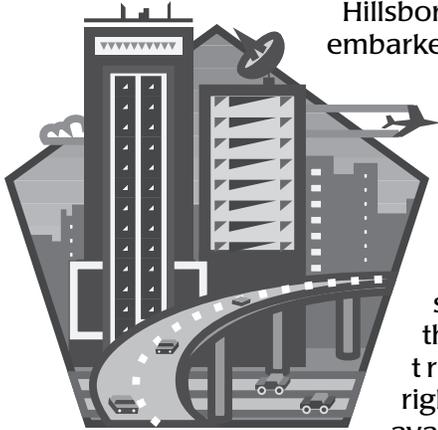
CHAIR - Continued On Page 6

In This Issue:

- Corridor Planning in Hillsborough County. Page 2
- Model Task Force Recommendations. Page 5
- Upcoming Events. Page 5

Hillsborough County Takes a Unique Approach to Corridor Planning

By: Ned Baier, AICP - Hillsborough County Transportation Division Planning Manager,
Planning and Growth Management Department



Hillsborough County has embarked on a year-long study to identify multi-modal transportation facilities to support future land use plans. The major goal of the study is to ensure that adequate transportation rights-of-way will be available to accommodate growth before

development occurs. The study will also examine better connectivity for the existing road network. Protecting these corridors now will save tax dollars in the long term.

This study includes developing a countywide Corridor Plan and Map that promotes coordinated transportation planning and right-of-way protection. The Corridor Plan will be consistent with and implemented by the County's adopted *Land Use and Long Range Transportation Plans* and *Land Development Code*. Recommendations from the project will include proposed general alignments; proposed connections to existing facilities; right-of-way requirements for future roadways, public transit, multi-modal trails and utilities; and implementation procedures to preserve these corridors.

One of the unique and important aspects of this project is that it will go beyond the current 20-year planning horizon of the adopted Plans, and will address possible build-out scenarios for the County. This requires reviewing possible land development scenarios over the next 50 years or more. The Hillsborough County adopted *2025 Needs Plan* will be the base used for the analysis. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Model (TBRPM) was one of the tools used to develop the Needs Plan. Extensive socio-economic data will be developed and traffic analysis zones will be reviewed for use with the TBRPM to create a model that can project development trends and transportation and utility needs necessary for our future.

Extensive public involvement is also another important aspect of this project. Public meetings will be scheduled beginning in April of 2003 to

explain the project and receive comments from the public. Several activities are planned to engage public participation, including a speaker's bureau, web-site, newsletters, video, and a planning charette. Frequent community interaction is planned throughout the study process.

Hillsborough County is one of the first in the Tampa Bay area to embark on a countywide corridor study of this magnitude. As part of the analysis, agencies and jurisdictions that have active corridor preservation programs will be contacted in Florida and throughout the Nation. Extensive technical analysis will also include the use of GIS to visually display alternative scenarios of future conditions and possible socio-economic and environmental impacts.

The study will result in a new countywide Corridor Plan and Map and implementation policies

HILLSBOROUGH - Continued On Page 3

A Big TBAG Thank You to Our Banquet Sponsors:

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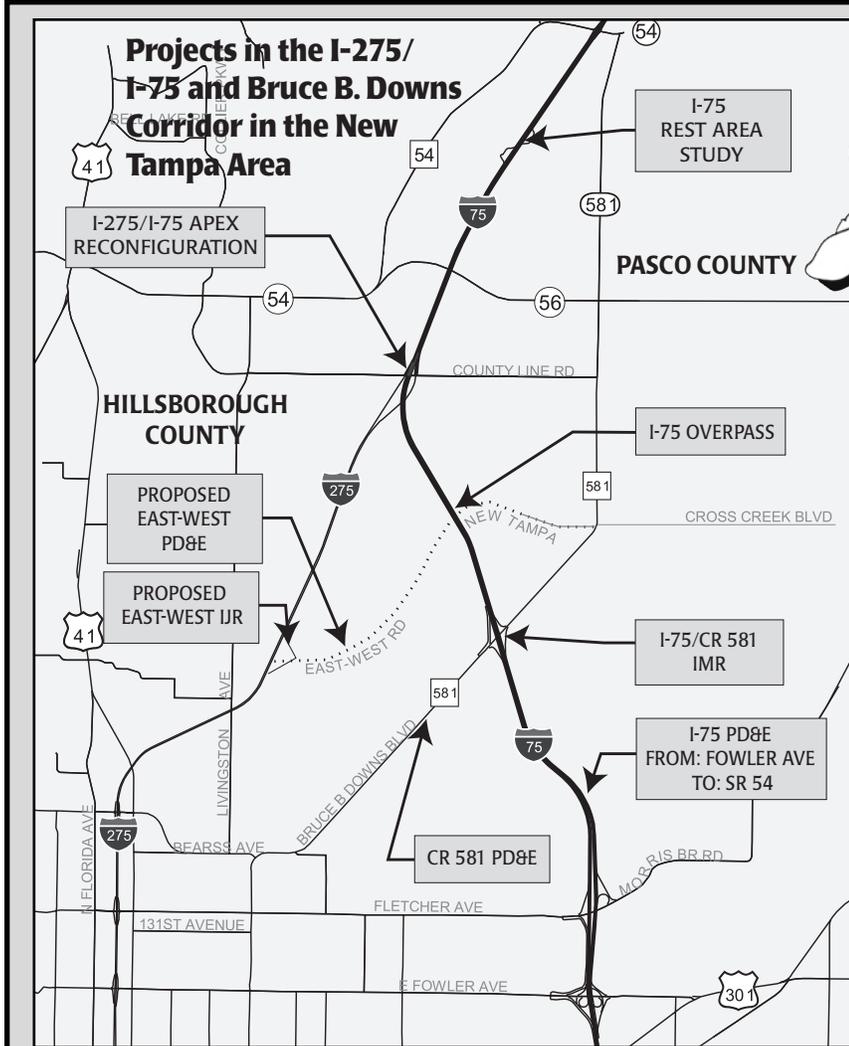
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Coordinated Planning Effort
 \$\$\$ Priceless \$\$\$

Details on the coordinated planning effort for projects in the I-275/I-75/Bruce B. Downs Corridor in the New Tampa Area will be presented on March 6th. See page 4 for information on the speakers and the presentation.

HILLSBOROUGH - Continued From Page 2

that will be used as a guide in preserving future transportation and utility corridors. The Corridor Plan will be adopted in the *County's Comprehensive Plan* and will be used as a tool in the development review process. Once adopted, the Corridor Plan will allow the County to provide transportation impact fee off-sets when corridors are provided by development.

The Hillsborough County Planning and Growth Management Department is the lead agency conducting the study, with TBE Group, Inc. and its team of specialists conducting the work tasks. The team includes the following firms: Cambridge Systematics; Center for Urban Transportation Research at USF; Powell Fragala & Associates; Reynolds, Smith and Hills; Simon Resources, Inc.; and Tom Pelham (former Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs).

For more information, please contact Ned Baier, Project Manager, at (813) 272-5849 or by E-mail at baiere@hillsboroughcounty.org.

Mark Your Calendars
Year 2003 TBAG Program

Multi-modal Planning and Corridor Studies

May 6, 2003

12:00pm - 2:00pm

New Methodologies (Workshop)

May 29 2003

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Land Use and Transportation

August 21, 2003

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Specific FSUTMS Skills (Workshop)

October 30, 2003

12:00pm - 2:00pm

2003 Awards Banquet

Date to be Announced

ATTENTION

Tampa Bay Applications Group

March 6, 2003

FDOT District Seven Office from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Auditorium Opens at 11:30 a.m.)



MULTI-MODAL PLANNING AND CORRIDOR STUDIES

Dr. Steve Polzin, Director of Public Transit Research at CUTR

Reflections on Florida's High Speed Rail Initiative

Dr. Polzin's presentation will include a brief review of the history of high speed rail in Florida, as well as provide some comments on the current status of the project. Vendor bids were opened on February 10, 2003. Therefore, more detail about future prospects will be included. In addition, his presentation will share some of the observations gleaned during the Peer Review process for the ridership forecasts for the High Speed Rail Tampa-Orlando segment. Dr. Polzin was the Chairman for the Peer Panel effort.

Mr. Jeff Weidner, Office of Modal Development, FDOT-District 4

A Success Story: The U.S. 1 Multi-modal Corridor Assessment, Palm Beach, FL

Several multi-modal applications have been developed in Florida for use in analyzing transit, bicycle and pedestrian travel. These applications include the FDOT Pedestrian and Bicycle Level of Service, the FDOT Integrated Transit Demand/Supply (ITSUP) Model, the FDOT Transit LOS software, and the FHWA Transit Capacity and Quality of Service Measures. Yet, no nationally accepted techniques exist to evaluate highways from a multi-modal perspective.

The FDOT, District 4, conducted a project along the U.S. 1 Corridor in northern Palm Beach County to evaluate the multi-modal needs of a major roadway in conjunction with pilot testing the applications listed above. An assessment of redevelopment potential was also conducted. It involved looking at existing transit stops and the surrounding land uses to determine if redevelopment was possible. A design charrette was also held to involve communities in determining aesthetics and costs. Mr. Weidner will address the major aspects of the corridor study, the identified multi-modal deficiencies, and the coordination process for the six cities involved in the project.

Waddah Farah, Kirk Bogen, Yvonne Arens and Ming Gao

Office of Modal Planning and Development, FDOT-District 7

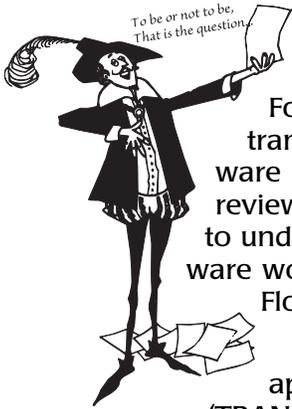
Pulling It All Together: Coordination within the I-75/I-275 and Bruce B. Downs Blvd. Corridor

Due to continued growth in the Northeastern area of Hillsborough County, also known as New Tampa, the FDOT, District 7, has been charged with the unique experience of coordinating eight (8) major transportation projects within the I-75/I-275 and Bruce B. Downs Boulevard corridor. The projects range from conducting an Interchange Justification Report for a new overpass on the Interstate, to conducting three (3) PD&E studies for existing and proposed facilities. A map illustrating the locations of the projects is included on page 3.

Mr. Farah and key transportation managers involved in the day-to-day operations will discuss the major coordination aspects of managing eight planning projects that potentially impact each other due to their proximity within the same corridor.

Final Software Recommendations to be Presented at the Next Model Task Force Meeting

Courtesy of: Mike Neidhart, Volusia County MPO and Model Task Force Member



In October of 2001, a Blue Ribbon Panel was created by the Model Task Force to review the current transportation modeling software used within Florida. The review was initiated in an effort to understand what tools and software would best meet the needs of Florida now and in the future.

A Steering Committee was appointed to evaluate current (TRANPLAN/FSUTMS) software and possible alternatives. Over the course of several months, the Steering Committee attended presentations and hands-on training for five different software packages: VISUM, CUBE/Voyager, EMME/2, TransCAD, and TRANSIMS. Two packages were prioritized for detailed review: TransCAD and CUBE/Voyager. Both are currently being evaluated through application using the Broward 2025 Model to run highway and transit assignments. Evaluation topics include the following:

- ❖ Ease of use
- ❖ Effort and cost involved in model conversion
- ❖ Robustness of software
- ❖ Quality of technical support
- ❖ System performance (run times, memory requirements, etc.)

After initial review by the Steering Committee, the findings of the evaluation will be presented at a Full Model Task Force meeting. The Model Task Force intends to adopt a course of action at this meeting. Please make arrangements to attend this very important session. For further information you may contact Huiwei Shen: huiwei.shen@dot.state.fl.us.

The meeting is scheduled for March 26-27, 2003 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 8978 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819. Hotel phone: 407-352-1400. Room rate: \$89.00 single/double. Hotel reservation deadline: March 5, 2003. Begins on Wednesday at 8:30 AM and finishes on Thursday at 4:30 PM.

Upcoming Events

Land Use Modeling Workshop (FDOT Systems Planning Office)

February 24-26, 2003
Homewood Suites Hotel
8745 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819
(407) 248-2232
Registration fee: None

The Land Use Modeling Workshop provides an overview of land use models used in Florida and detailed instructions on the Urban Land-use Allocation Model (ULAM). Hands-on exercises using ULAM provide experience in input file preparation, model execution, and interpretation of model results. The interface between ULAM and GIS databases is also discussed. Mike Brown, the ULAM software developer, will be the main instructor for this workshop. Completion of the Basic FSUTMS Workshop or other introductory experience with FSUTMS is strongly recommended.

For registration information, please visit our website: <http://www11.myflorida.com/planning/systems/stm/training/training.htm> or contact Terrence Corkery at (850) 414-4903.

Florida Professional Engineers: Please request professional development hour credit in advance (16 PDH credits).

USF Engineering Course on Travel Demand Analysis Methods:

March 10 - 14, 2003 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The USF Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering will be conducting a course on Travel Demand Analysis Methods at the College of Engineering Computer Laboratory (ENC 1000) on the Tampa Campus.

This hands-on computer-based course will cover the theory and application of basic and advanced statistical methods for modeling and analyzing transportation demand and travel behavior. All attendees will receive a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the course.

The fees for the course are \$850 per person and include a pack of course materials and a CD with travel survey data sets and statistical procedures. Discount rates of \$450 per person are available for full-time students and government employees.

You may sign up by contacting Ingrid Hall at 813-974-2275 or by E-mail at hall@eng.usf.edu.

CHAIR continued from Page 1



Are Bob and Danny working together on their pop quizzes or are they cheating? We will never tell.

The presentation of awards was made possible due to the generous sponsorship of 15 consulting firms. In addition to the awards, seven of the firms also sponsored USF students at the banquet.



Danny stops with Ken for a quick snap shot at the TBAG Banquet.

Special kudos to the consultant community for making the banquet possible and for their continued support of the TBAG.

I also want to thank all of the TBAG members who took time to complete the survey which was handed out at the end of the banquet. The results were used by the TBAG Board to determine topics for our 2003 program. These topics are listed on page 3.

I also want to say thank you to Kasey and the TBAG Board for its work this past year and for allowing me to continue to chair this fantastic group.



You can catch "Kasey and the Sunshine Boys" performing at the next TBAG presentation.

The Tampa Bay Applications Group Newsletter is published under contract to the FDOT District Seven Planning Office in Tampa. FSUTMS users and TBAG members contribute all information and material contained in the newsletter. Please contact the editors to submit articles for future issues or to get on the mailing list.

Co-editor: Christopher Hatton
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
1220 Tech Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33619
(813) 620-1460 • Fax (813) 620-1542
christopher.hatton@kimley-horn.com

Co-editor: Kasey Cursey
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
9119 Corporate Lake Drive • Suite 150
Tampa, FL 33634
(813) 882-4366 • Fax (813) 884-4609
kcursey@aol.com

FDOT - District Seven
Planning & Programs
11201 North McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612



FDOT
Planning & Programs District 7
11201 North McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612