Task Force Meeting #6: Draft High-Level Needs, Guiding Principles, and Instructions Worksheet

Definitions

- **Purpose** – the overarching reason for accomplishing an activity; for M-CORES, the purpose is defined in s. 338.2278 (1), F.S.

- **High-Level Needs** - key regional opportunities and challenges corridor investments and related actions are intended to address. These can be transportation specific and transportation supported and should informed by the six purposes and 13 potential benefits in s. 338.2278 (1), F.S. The high-level needs, along with the purpose, answer the question "*why?*".

- **Guiding Principles** - A set of core values that guides decision making related to a transportation corridor or other type of project throughout the planning, development, and implementation process. These answer the question "*how?*".

- **Instructions for Project Development and Beyond** - Direction provided by the Task Force for future project development and implementation activities to ensure the Task Force's guiding principles are applied to subsequent activities as intended. This direction could address f corridor location and design, as well as strategies to be carried forward and refined during planning, project development, design, and other implementation phases. These answer the question "*what's next?*".

Draft Language for Discussion at Task Force Meeting 6

Topic	Purpose	High-Level Need	Guiding Principle	Instructions for Project Development and Beyond
Consistency with Statewide, Regional, and Local Plans and Visions	• All purposes	• All needs	• Ensure planning and development of the corridor is consistent with local, regional, and state plans and visions to the maximum extent possible	• Build on visions, goals, and strategies of the Florida Transportation Plan • Consider goals, objectives, policies, and resources identified in local government comprehensive plans, metropolitan long-range transportation plans, strategic regional policy plans, and adopted regional and community visions; place emphasis on future land use maps and look to these plans for consistency and language • Develop process for reconciling differences among state, regional, and local plans and visions • Identify needs to update plans to address Task Force recommendations and designate corridors, including statutory requirements to address land use and natural resource protection around proposed interchanges; coordinate with planning agencies on updates • Consider providing technical assistance with updates and revisions to plans or polices where needed to accommodate the corridor

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Maximizing Use of Existing Facilities	• All purposes	• All needs	• Evaluate potential statewide and interregional corridor improvements in this priority order: 1) Make safety and operational improvements to existing transportation corridors 2) Add capacity to existing transportation facilities including co-location of facilities within existing disturbed right-of-way to accommodate additional modes, uses, and functions 3) Where necessary to address statewide and interregional mobility or connectivity needs, develop new transportation facilities	• Identify and advance safety and operational improvements to existing facilities • Evaluate opportunities for co-location within or adjacent to existing disturbed right-of-way, including their impact on surrounding natural resources, land uses and communities • Assess connectivity gaps between existing facilities and areas identified as priorities for attraction, and potential opportunities for closing those gaps • Advance specific improvements that support a system meeting the long-term needs of statewide and interregional flows of people and freight

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Technology	• All purposes	• All needs	• Leverage and prepare for emerging technologies to meet all needs	• Leverage existing technology to help minimize impacts • Consider how future and emerging technologies may also be accommodated
Resilience (climate/ weather, health, and economic shifts)	• All purposes	• All needs	• Ensure that any new transportation infrastructure considers extreme weather events in addition to climate, social, and economic changes and can adapt to and mitigate risks	• Plan and develop corridors that consider vulnerability to risks such as inland flooding and changing coastlines/sea level rise
Transportation Modes	• All purposes	• All needs	• Plan, design, construct and operate a corridor that accommodates multiple modes of transportation	• Consult with local communities, adopted plans, and the public on needs and preferences for multimodal forms of transportation to be included with the corridor • Asses the opportunity for the inclusion of multiple forms of travel during corridor development (for future improvements)

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Community Identity and Character	• Enhance quality of life and public safety • Protect the environment and natural resources	• Preserve and improve the character and quality of communities	• Seek opportunities to maintain and enhance the character and quality of life in communities, and ensure the corridor provides for their future vitality	• Continue to identify and prioritize community resources for enhancement or avoidance • Work with communities on preferences and ensure local input and feedback is incorporated into corridor planning, interchange locations, additional infrastructure needs, and project development • Ensure that corridor planning and project development considers the context of the region and communities and impacts to the natural and human environment (context sensitive design)
Historic and Cultural Resources	• Protect the environment and natural resources	• Preserve and improve the character and quality of existing communities	• Prioritize avoiding impacts to historic and cultural resources; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to them	• Work with communities to identify needs for enhancement or protection of historic and cultural resources • Avoid lands owned by Native American Tribes, cultural sites with human remains, cemeteries, and historic resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

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Economic Development	• Revitalize rural communities • Encourage job creation • Enhance quality of life and public safety	• Enhance workforce development, access to education, and job creation	• Maximize opportunities to enhance local community and economic development with an emphasis on rural areas • Avoid and minimize negative economic impacts to individual communities, businesses, and resources	• Work with communities on preferences and consistency with economic development plans and visions • Conduct early outreach to communities and the public and private sectors to fully understand economic development needs including job training, education, and workforce development
Conservation Lands	• Protect the environment and natural resources	• Protect, restore, enhance, and connect public and private environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems	• Seek opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance the integrity and connectivity of existing and planned regionally significant conservation lands • Prioritize avoiding impacts to identified conservation resources; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to them	• Continue to identify and prioritize conservation lands for enhancement or avoidance • Work with private and public conservation organizations to develop a land protection program for protection and acquisition of identified conservation lands
Wildlife Habitats	• Protect the environment and natural resources	• Protect, restore, enhance, and connect public and private environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems	• Seek opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance the integrity and connectivity of regionally significant wildlife and native plant habitats and corridors • Prioritize avoiding impacts to wildlife and native plant habitats, with emphasis on	• Continue to identify and prioritize wildlife areas for enhancement or avoidance • Work with private and public wildlife conservation organizations to develop a land protection program for protection and acquisition of identified wildlife conservation lands/corridors

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			threatened and endangered species; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to these habitats	• Ensure corridor minimizes impacts to wildlife corridors and bridges areas identified for protection if avoidance is not feasible
Water Resources	• Protect the environment and natural resources	• Protect, restore, enhance, and connect public and private environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems	• Seek opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance the integrity of regionally significant water resources • Prioritize avoiding impacts to water resources; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to them	• Continue to identify and prioritize water resources for enhancement or avoidance • Work with local jurisdictions to ensure best management practices (BMPs) are utilized and that water quality within the corridor is maintained, restored, and enhanced
Ecosystem Connectivity	• Protect the environment and natural resources	• Protect, restore, enhance, and connect public and private environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems	• Seek opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance the integrity and connectivity of federal, state, local, and regionally significant ecosystems • Prioritize avoiding impacts to identified resources; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to them	• Continue to identify and prioritize ecosystems for enhancement or avoidance • Work with local organizations and businesses to understand the needs for ecotourism improvements and protections

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Agricultural Land Uses	• Revitalize rural communities • Encourage job creation • Protect the environment and natural resources	• Improve connectivity to agricultural businesses, manufacturing, warehousing, freight terminals, and intermodal logistic centers	• Plan and develop transportation corridors in a manner that protects the region's most productive agricultural lands and other rural lands with economic or environmental significance • Improve transportation connectivity to, from, and between working farms and other economically valuable rural lands	• Emphasize protection and enhancement of farmland preservation areas designated within local government comprehensive plans • Work with owners/operators of agriculture/silviculture lands to understand their needs and plans • Work with private and public organizations for potential acquisition of identified conservation and agricultural lands for protection
Highway Safety	• Enhance quality of life and public safety	• Enhance safety for all transportation users	• Plan, design, construct and operate a corridor that safely accommodates multiple modes of transportation and types of users	• Identify and address the needs for improved transportation safety throughout the corridor • Reduce transportation incidents and improve response by using advanced safety strategies including innovative technology, design, and operations
Emergency Management	• Enhance quality of life and public safety	• Enhance emergency management at the local, regional, and state levels	• Seek opportunities to support and enhance local, regional, and state emergency management plans at all phases: preparedness, response recovery, and mitigation	• Evaluate the needs and demand for emergency evacuation and sheltering at the local, regional, and state levels

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Broadband and Other Utilities	• Revitalize rural communities • Encourage job creation • Leverage technology	• Expand rural broadband infrastructure and access to broadband service	• Plan and design the corridor to enable co-location of broadband and other utility infrastructure in right-of-way • Plan for broadband and other utility needs at a regional scale, independent from the transportation facility; address these needs through the corridor, where feasible	• Assist in providing broadband for schools, libraries, and other civic buildings • Ensure corridor is wide enough to include space for multiple broadband or other utility providers • Consider future technology, sustainability and ways to improve opportunities for virtual education and health (online learning and tele-medicine) • Ensure broadband provider access to FDOT right-of-way is non-discriminatory and competitively neutral