

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 be 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 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

Index/Title	Purpose	High-Level Need	Guiding Principle	Instructions for Project Development and Beyond
<p>Consistency with Statewide, Regional, and Local Plans and Visions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be consistent with statewide, regional, and local plans and visions to the maximum extent possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on vision, 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. Develop process for reconciling difference 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.

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<p>Maximizing Use of Existing Facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate potential statewide and interregional corridor improvements in this priority order: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make safety and operational improvements to existing transportation facilities. Add capacity to existing transportation facilities including co-location of facilities within existing disturbed right-of-way and other approaches to transforming existing facilities and right-of-way to accommodate additional modes, uses and functions. Where necessary to address statewide and interregional mobility or connectivity needs, develop new transportation facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and advance safety and operational improvements to existing facilities. Evaluate potential capacity improvements to existing facilities, including their impact on surrounding natural resources, land uses, and communities. 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. Asses connectivity gaps between existing facilities and areas identified as priorities for attraction, and potential opportunities for closing those gaps. Advance specific improvement that support a system meeting the long-term needs of statewide and interregional flows of people and freight.

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Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement infrastructure that supports state-of-the-art vehicles, materials, data, and methodologies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design in anticipation of connected and autonomous vehicles. Provide access to electric vehicle charging. Employ technologies for effective corridor management, such as avoiding wildlife collisions.
Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and develop community and infrastructure development that is resilient, sustainable, and adaptable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop local and regional plans that address sea-level rise and potential population migration/growth. Build on vision, goals, and strategies of the Florida Transportation Plan in addressing resilience.
Social and Community Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support anticipated population growth in coastal communities and urban areas. Help increase economic activity and economic diversity throughout the region with emphasis on inland and rural areas. Enhance access to jobs, education, healthcare, and goods and services. Create employment opportunities, particularly to assist lower income residents and help retain younger residents in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and enhance community character and quality of life consistent with local and regional visions and plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and develop transportation corridors in a manner that improves connectivity to and enhances the quality of existing communities, while avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts on these communities and developments. Avoid cemeteries, historic markers, Avon Park (military site) and its mission critical lands, lands owned by Native American tribal nations and associated historical sites not owned by tribal nations.

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Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalize Rural Communities • Provide Regional Connectivity • Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help increase economic activity and economic diversity throughout the region with emphasis on inland and rural areas. • Enhance access to jobs, education, healthcare, and goods and services. • Create employment opportunities, particularly to assist lower income residents and help retain younger residents in the area. • Improve access and interregional connectivity for residents, freight, and visitors between communities and markets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance economic development, job creation, and community development, with emphasis on rural areas of most need. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with economic development organizations for opportunities to focus on existing industries and target emerging industries including use of limited access facilities. • Maintain and improve transportation connectivity for natural resource dependent businesses.
Conservation Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the Environment and Natural Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, connect, and enhance environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the following priority order for existing and proposed managed conservation lands (including conservation easements and mitigation lands): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where practical, enhance them; 2. To the extent feasible, avoid them; and 3. Minimize and mitigate negative impacts to them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage SB 7068 acquisition authority to identify and preserve additional land for the net benefit of natural resource preservation.

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Wildlife and Plant Habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the Environment and Natural Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, connect, and enhance environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the following priority order to encourage biodiversity by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where practical, enhance existing transportation corridors to address negative impacts of prior projects; 2. Avoid these habitats to the extent feasible; and 3. Minimize/mitigate negative impacts to them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore and provide habitat connectivity through identification and acquisition of lands, adding new wildlife crossings and properly placed wildlife corridors. • Minimize corridor lighting impacts on nearby wildlife habitats and communities.
Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the Environment and Natural Resources • Enhance the quality of life and public safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, connect, and enhance environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the following priority order for fresh water sources, aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, existing conservation easements and wetland restoration project areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where practical, enhance them; 2. To the extent feasible, avoid them; and 3. Minimize and mitigate negative impacts to them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore and enhance water quality and quantity and restore watershed integrity where practical. • Pursue regional or landscape-scale water resource management approaches. • Use wellsite data collection, monitoring, and evaluation to inform decision-making.
Agricultural Land Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the Environment and Natural Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, connect, and enhance environmentally sensitive areas, natural resources, and ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the following priority order for large contiguous agricultural and private lands: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To the extent feasible, avoid fragmentation; and 2. Minimize fragmentation of these lands and other negative impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with landowners, local governments, and management agencies to understand future plans, obtain funding, and implement best management practices.

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Emergency Evacuation and Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local, regional, and statewide emergency management plans and actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with state, regional, and local agencies. • Support statewide approach regarding the need to maintain evacuation times. • Support statewide, regional and local plans for sheltering as appropriate.
Broadband and Other Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Regional Connectivity • Revitalize Rural Communities • Encourage Job Creation • Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety • Leverage Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help rural and underserved areas improve infrastructure for people, freight, and information. • Enhance access to jobs, education, healthcare, and goods and services. • Help increase economic activity and economic diversity throughout the region with emphasis on inland and rural areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support expansion of rural utility infrastructure, including broadband, water, and sewer to enhance quality of life. • Plan and design enhanced or new corridors to enable co-location of utility and broadband infrastructure in right-of-way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and integrate transportation and infrastructure planning processes. • Leverage partnerships with utility providers. • Ensure broadband provider access to FDOT right-of-way is non-discriminatory and competitively neutral.
Transportation Modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand transportation options, such as shared use nonmotorized trails, freight and passenger rail, and public transit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efficient and accessible transportation options and/or modes for people and goods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance transportation corridors by including recreational opportunities, such as adjacent trails. • Coordinate with local governments and freight and transit industry operators.

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Connectivity to Regional and Local Transportation Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Regional Connectivity • Revitalize Rural Communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access and interregional connectivity for residents, freight, and visitors between communities and markets. • Help rural and underserved areas improve infrastructure for people, freight, and technology. • Improve mobility and safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities and improve transportation connections between communities and the regional roadway network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize interchange locations for regional roads. • Work with local and regional governments to identify opportunities to improve or create connections to communities focusing on land use consistency, economic development plans, and interchange management plans.
Freight Mobility and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Regional Connectivity • Encourage Job Creation • Enhance the Quality of Life and Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access and interregional connectivity for residents, freight, and visitors between communities and markets. • Improve mobility and safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve connectivity and safety for major freight flows to support economic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve connectivity to seaports, airports, and rail terminals. • Implement solutions to improve safety, relieve congestion and address shifts in freight movements.