



Florida Department of Transportation

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SECRETARY

POLICY

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Reference: 23 USC Section 109 (h);
23 USC Section 128; 23 USC
Section 135; 23 CFR §450.210; 23
CFR Section 771.111 (a)(1); 23
CFR 771.111 (h); Sections 120.525,
286.011, 335.02 (1), 339.135 (4)(d),
339.135 (4)(g)(1), 339.155 (5),
Florida Statutes

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

It is the policy of the Florida Department of Transportation (Department) to use every possible opportunity to engage with and involve the public when planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining transportation facilities and services to meet the State's transportation needs. The participation of the public is an integral part of the transportation process and results in

- Early and continuous opportunities for public input
- Consideration of public needs and preferences
- Informed decisions through collaborative efforts
- Mutual understanding and trust between the Department and its partners

The Department will promote public involvement and engagement opportunities and information exchange activities in all functional areas using various techniques adapted to the audience, local area conditions, and project requirements.

In carrying out this policy, the Department will:

- Develop and promote effective and efficient opportunities for public engagement early and continuously in each plan or project phase;
- Rely on procedures as outlined in the [Metropolitan Planning Organization \(MPO\) Program Management Handbook, Chapter 6](#); [FDOT Public Involvement](#)

[Handbook; Project Development and Environment Manual, Part 1, Chapter 11;](#)
and the [FDOT Design Manual, Chapter 104;](#)

- Promote effective communications and enhance relationships with all transportation partners, including affected residents and businesses, state agencies, statewide organizations, community leaders, and other stakeholders;
- Utilize a diverse mix of methods to engage and collaborate with the public and stakeholders;
- Strengthen partnerships with all of those who are involved in the transportation process in a proactive and collaborative manner.



Kevin J. Thibault
Secretary