



CITY OF BARTOW
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025 AT 5:00 PM
OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
450 NORTH WILSON AVE., BARTOW, FL 33830

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
2. SPECIAL PRESENTATION
 - a. Update on the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) — Ryan Kordek, Executive Director, Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)
3. ADJOURNMENT

Please be advised that if you desire to appeal from any decisions made because of the above hearing or meeting, you will need a record of the proceedings and in some cases a verbatim record is required. You must make your own arrangements to produce this record. (Florida Statute 286.0105). The City Commission may continue the public hearing(s) to other dates and times as it deems necessary. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of these or continued public hearings may be announced during the hearing and that no further notices regarding this matter will be published. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 450 N. Wilson Avenue, P.O. Box 1069, Bartow, Florida 33831-1069 or phone (863) 534-0100 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771. Posted at City Hall, Bartow Public Library, the City's website: www.cityofbartow.net and Facebook page on November 13, 2025.



Envision 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Bartow City Commission Workshop

November 17, 2025



Polk Transportation
Planning Organization

What is the TPO

Established in 1977, the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) plans for all of Polk County to help make decisions about transportation investments needed to meet travel needs.

23-member board of elected officials committed to building consensus among member governments and providing input on how Federal and state transportation funds are spent.

In order to receive Federal aid for planning, MPOs/TPOs, transportation projects must be based on a continuing, comprehensive and cooperative Planning Process (the 3-C planning process).



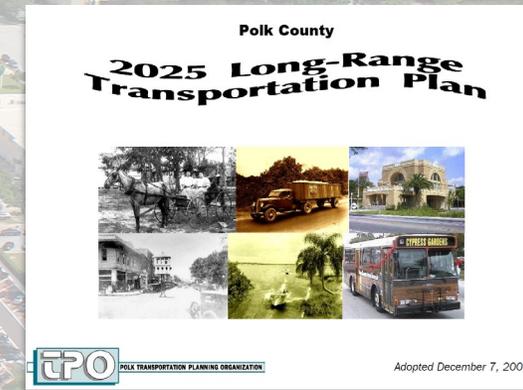
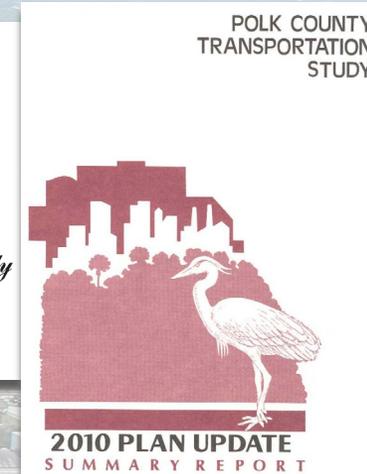
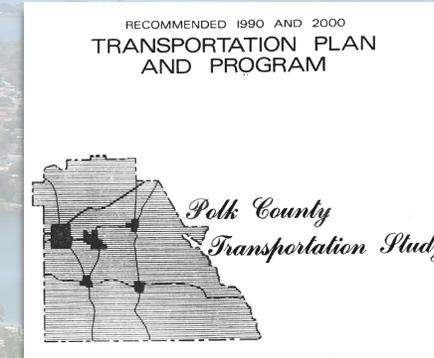
Polk Transportation
Planning Organization

What is an LRTP?



A Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a comprehensive blueprint for the development of the region's transportation system for the next 25 years.

- ❑ The LRTP outlines strategies and projects that address future transportation needs, improve connectivity, enhance safety, and support economic growth.
- ❑ Fiscally Constrained (must show revenues for projects)
- ❑ Basis for Annual Priority Projects
- ❑ Adopted by the TPO's Governing Board (Dec. 9, 2025)
- ❑ We've called this LRTP:



Video Series – LRTP Projects



CENTRAL POLK PARKWAY
WESTERN SEGMENT - WINTER LAKE RD TO SR 60



WINTER HAVEN TRANSIT
CITRUS CONNECTION



FORT FRASER
TRAIL EXTENSION



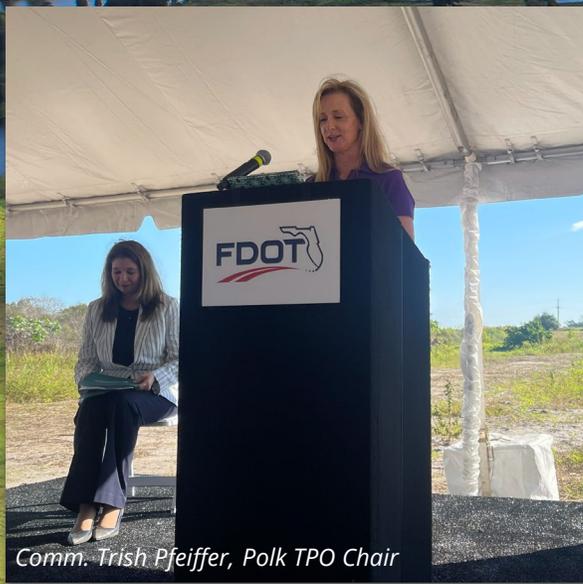
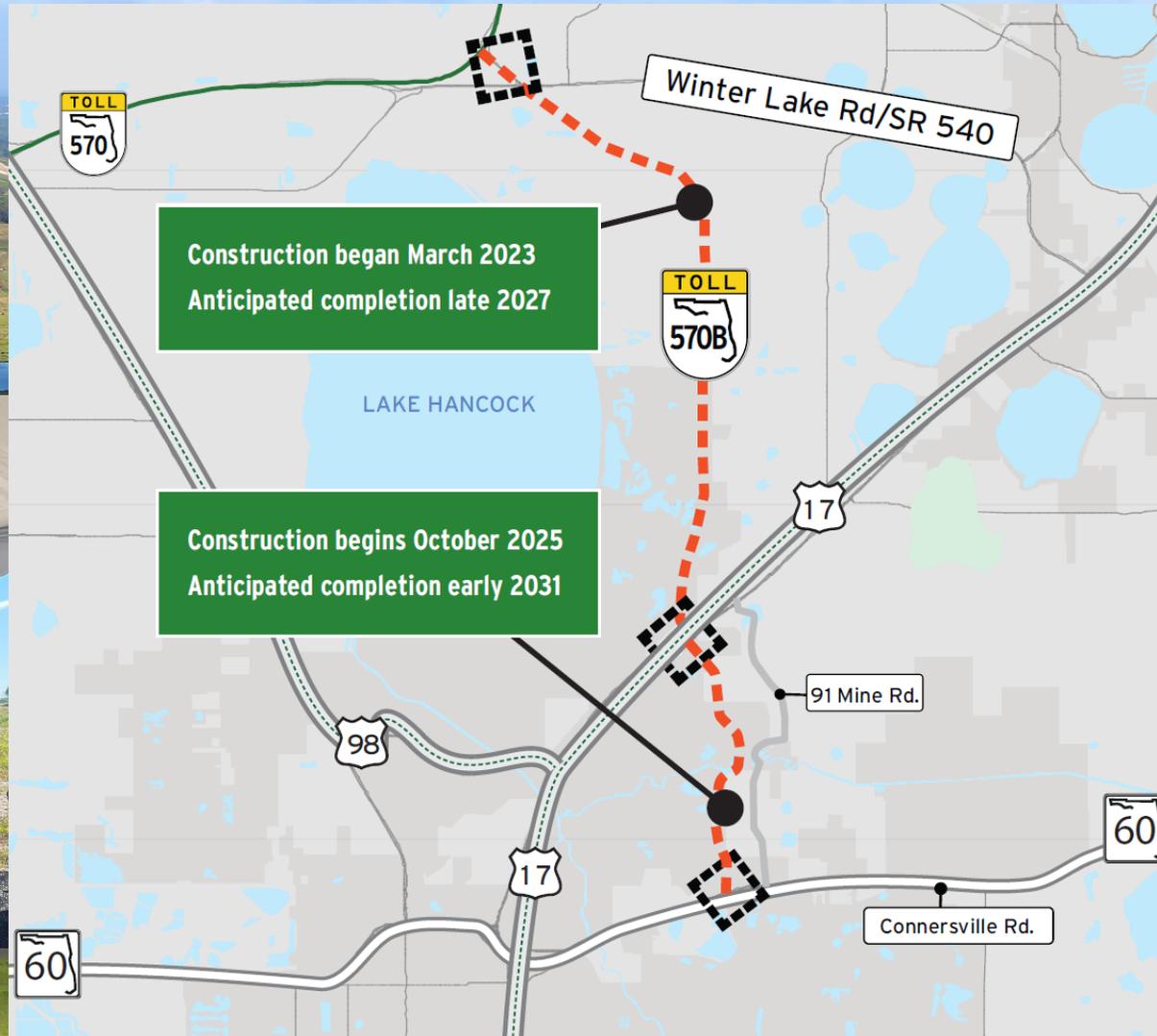
LAKE SILVER DRIVE
COMPLETE STREETS IMPROVEMENTS



Central Polk Parkway



Central Polk Parkway





Fort Fraser Trail Bridge
FPN: 440272-1 January 2026
\$12.2M Construction

Van Fleet Drive

Fort Fraser Trail



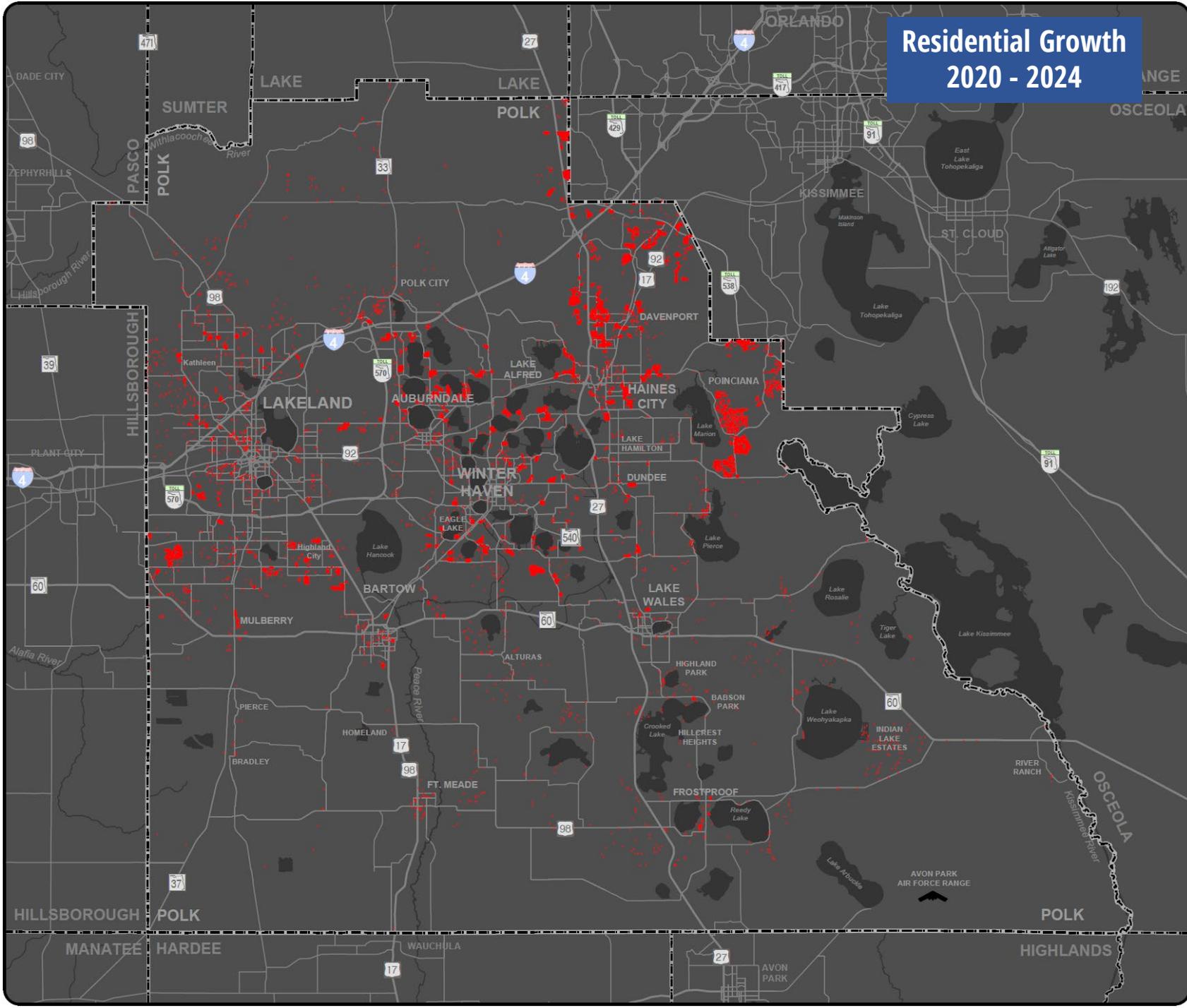
SR 60 (Van Fleet Drive) Bartows





Fort Fraser Trail Extension





Residential Growth 2020 - 2024

Polk ranks among nation's fastest-growing metro areas

By Sara-Megan Walsh
 Posted Apr 23, 2019 at 5:58 PM
 Updated Apr 24, 2019 at 9:18 AM
 Lakeland-Winter Haven area increase trailed just Miami-Conway area of the Capital

LOCAL

Polk County is the fastest-growing county in Florida, 7th in the nation

Maya Lora
 The Ledger
 Published 6:00 a.m. ET March 26, 2022

More people moved to Polk County in 2023 than any other county in US, census data show

Paul Nutter Lakeland Ledger
 Published 2:41 p.m. ET March 14, 2024 | Updated 3:13 p.m. ET March 14, 2024

The sale of citrus groves and other agricultural land for housing developments has helped propel Polk County to the top of the list of counties nationwide with the most people moving in from other areas in the U.S., the latest 2023 census data shows.

In data released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau, Polk County saw a net domestic migration of 26,029 in 2023, the highest in the United States. Two other Florida communities made the top 10 for domestic migration: Pasco County, with 23,750, and Marion County with 15,167.

In total numeric growth, which includes net migration plus births and deaths, Polk County placed fifth among U.S. counties in the U.S., with 29,906 more people in July 2023 than in the same month in 2022.

"Almost all the growth in Polk County — 88% — was driven by domestic migration, or people moving from another part of the U.S.," an Associated Press report citing census data said.

"Only four other counties in metro Houston, metro Dallas, and Phoenix grew by more people, thanks to their higher numbers of births outnumbering deaths," the AP report said.

Among metro areas, the Lakeland-Winter Haven area was second in the nation in annual percentage growth in 2023, growing from 788,382 in July 2022 to 818,330 in July 2023 for a 3.8% growth rate. The top growing metro area by percentage was Wildwood-The Villages, about 45 minutes north, with 4.7% growth. It went from 144,767 in July 2022 to 151,565 in July last year. Ocala placed fourth in annual percentage growth with 3.4%, growing from 396,437 to 409,959 people in that time span.

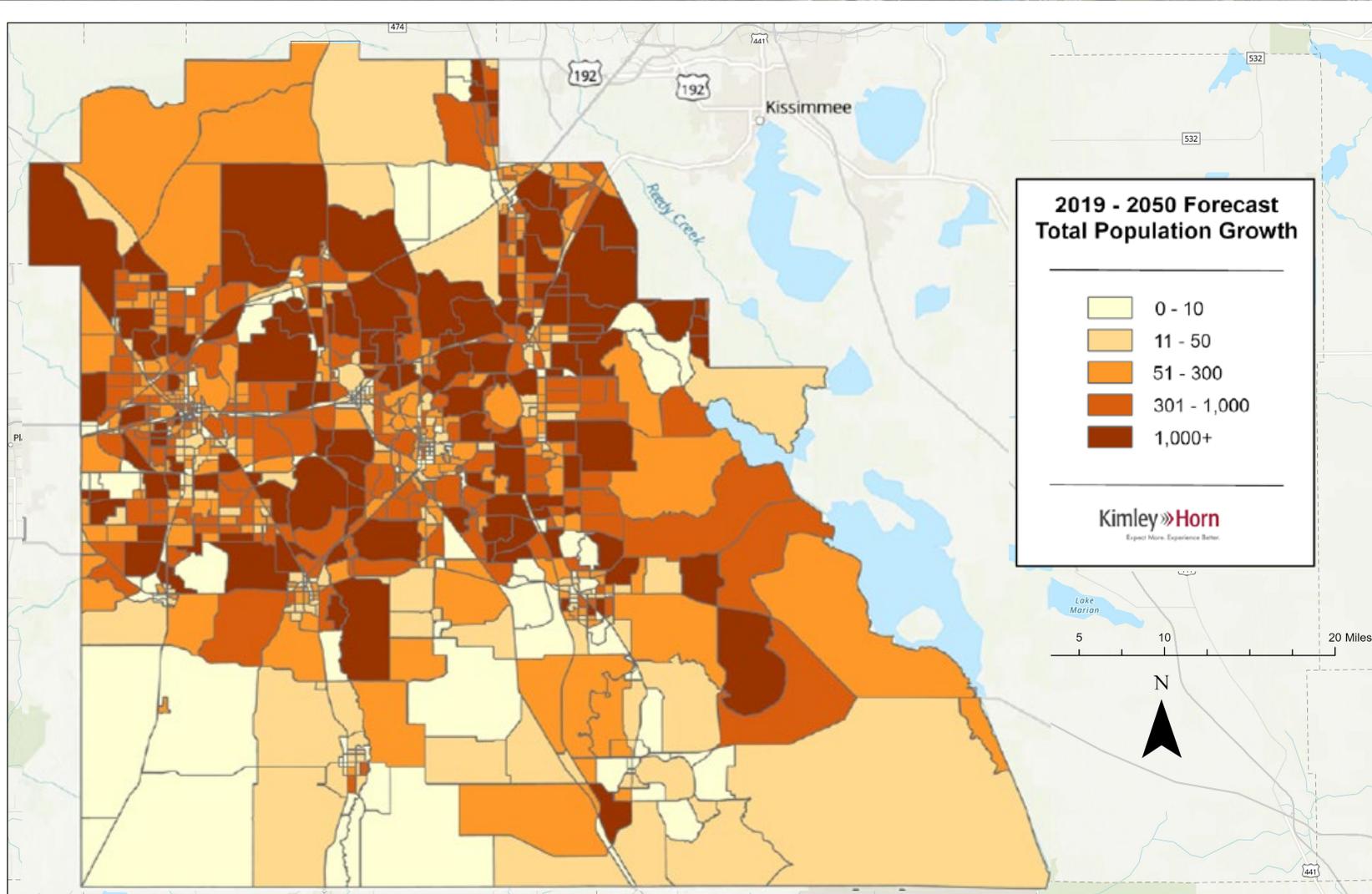


Between 2010 and 2020 Polk County's population increased by 122,951 (20.4%).

Polk County Population:
 2010: 602,095 2020: 725,046
 2024: 852,878 (+127,832) (17.6%)
Average annual increase of nearly 32,000 since 2020 (88 people a day)
 Source: US Census



Polk County Population Growth



2050

TOTAL POPULATION
1,196,700

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
364,963



Commuter Trends



Polk County residents spend more time in their cars commuting compared to other counties in Florida.

Polk ranks second in the State for longest commute time to work.

Table 4 - Florida Counties Ranked by Travel Time to Work, 2023

Rank	County	Minutes
1	Osceola County	36.3
2	Polk County	32.4
2	Walton County	32.4
4	Pasco County	31.9
5	Lake County	31.7
6	Hernando County	31.6
7	Charlotte County	31.5
8	Clay County	31.3
9	Miami-Dade County	30.9
10	St. Lucie County	30.2
11	Nassau County	29.8
12	Putnam County	29.7
13	Lee County	29.6
14	Broward County	29.5
14	Hillsborough County	29.5
14	Santa Rosa County	29.5
17	Manatee County	28.8
18	Volusia County	28.4
19	Citrus County	28.2
20	Orange County	27.8
21	Martin County	27.6
22	Flagler County	27.3

Rank	State	Minutes
22	Okaloosa County	27.3
22	St. Johns County	27.3
25	Pinellas County	27.2
26	Palm Beach County	26.7
27	Marion County	26.5
28	Sumter County	26.1
29	Seminole County	25.6
30	Collier County	25.3
31	Columbia County	25.1
31	Sarasota County	25.1
33	Highlands County	24.9
34	Duval County	24.5
35	Escambia County	24.4
36	Brevard County	24.3
37	Bay County	23.8
38	Indian River County	22.0
39	Leon County	21.7
40	Alachua County	21.6
41	Monroe County	19.7
	Florida	28.5
	United States	26.8

Data Source: Commuting Trends in Florida 2023 & Google Maps

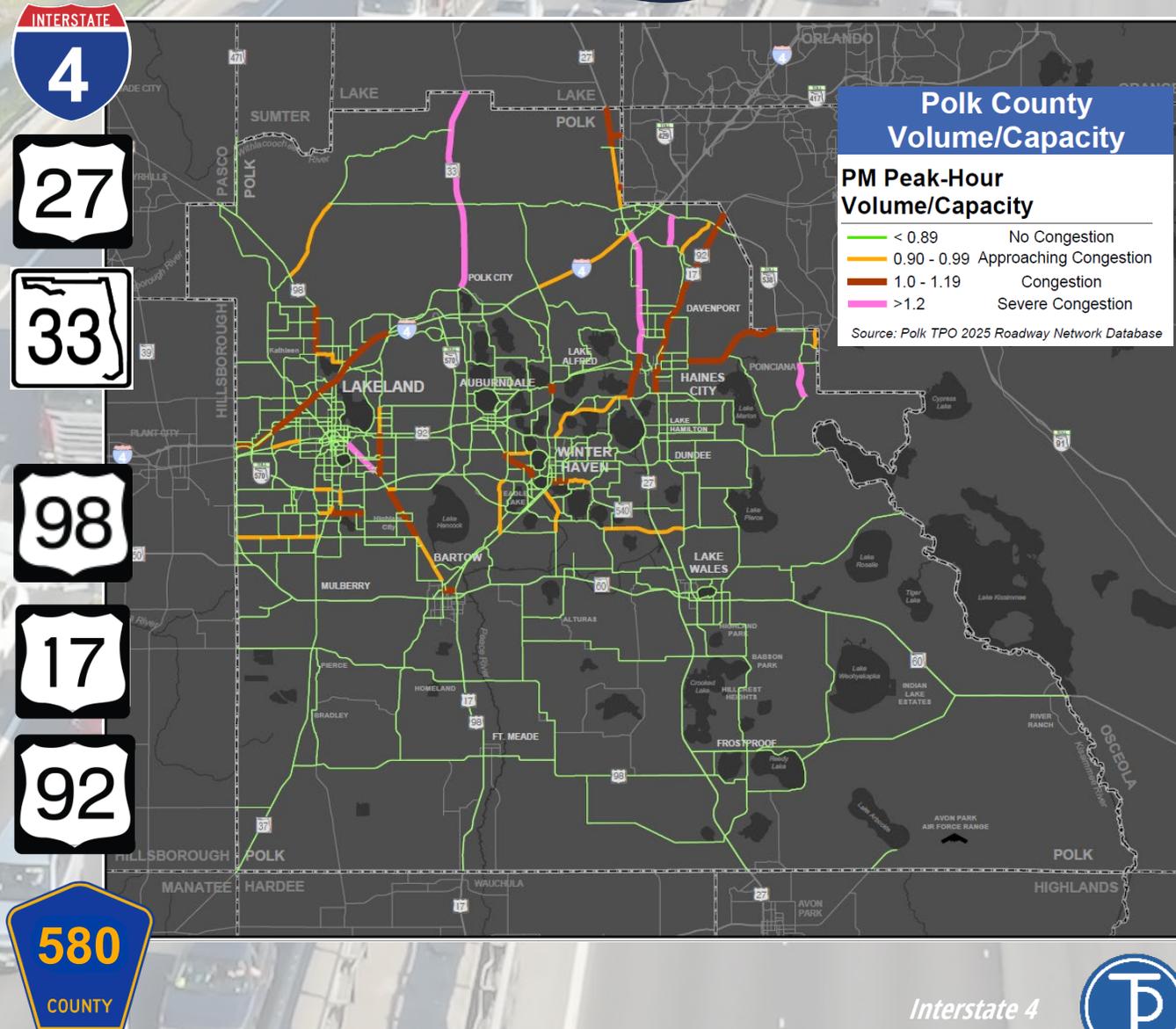
Traffic Conditions – Now & 10-Years



Volume-to-Capacity (V/C)

Traffic demand or volume (V) is compared to the estimated capacity (C) of each roadway during the evening peak period

- ❑ Currently, 28 miles of roads have a V/C over 1.0
- ❑ In the next 10 years and with only committed projects implemented, over 82 miles could operate above 1.0 V/C



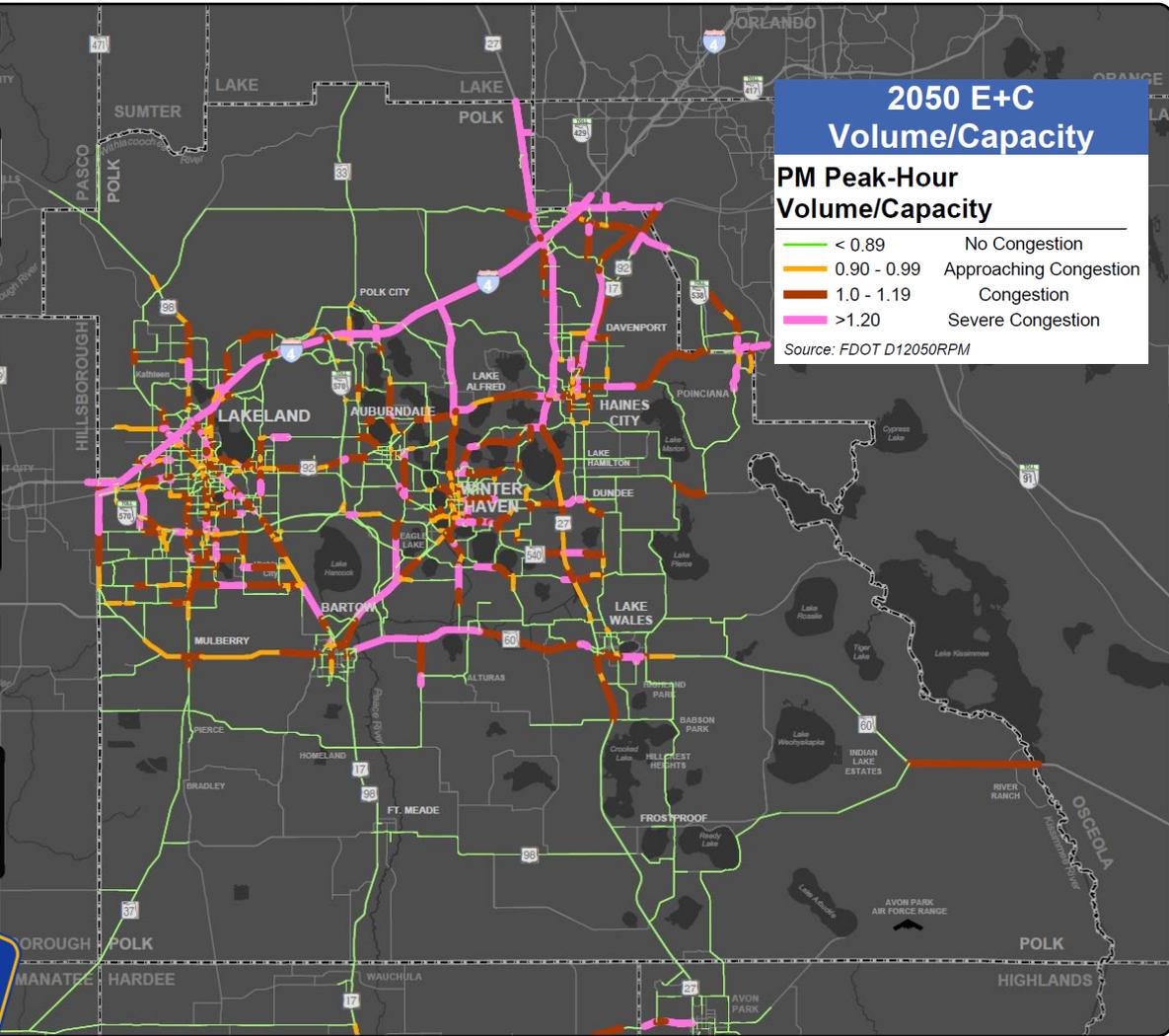
2050 Future Traffic Conditions



Volume-to-Capacity (V/C)

Traffic demand or volume (V) is compared to the estimated capacity (C) of each roadway during the evening peak period

- Looking out to the year 2050 and with only committed (funded) improvements implemented, significant congestion is expected



2050 E+C Volume/Capacity	
PM Peak-Hour Volume/Capacity	
< 0.89	No Congestion
0.90 - 0.99	Approaching Congestion
1.0 - 1.19	Congestion
> 1.20	Severe Congestion

Source: FDOT D12050RPM

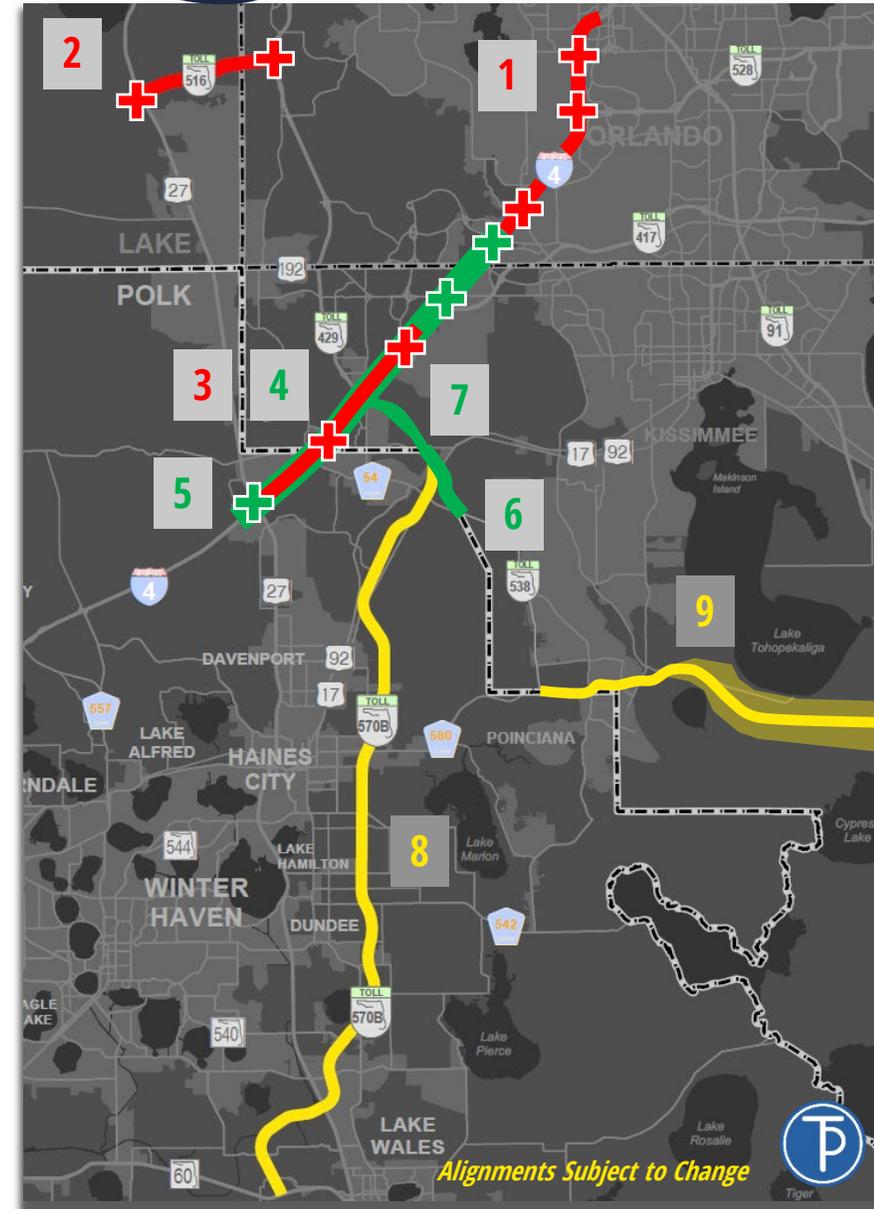


NE Polk County – Regional Roads



Committed and Planned Projects

- 1 I-4 “Beyond the Ultimate” (Orange County)** 
- 2 Lake/Orange Expressway (SR 516 – Toll)** 
- 3 Moving I-4 Forward (Accelerated Project)** 
- 4 Moving I-4 Forward (Polk/Osceola)** 
- 5 US 27 Interchange** 
- 6 Poinciana Parkway Extension (Part I)** 
- 7 Poinciana Parkway Extension (Part II)** 
- 8 Central Polk Parkway (East)** 
- 9 Southport Connector** 



SR 60 Traffic - Existing and Forecast

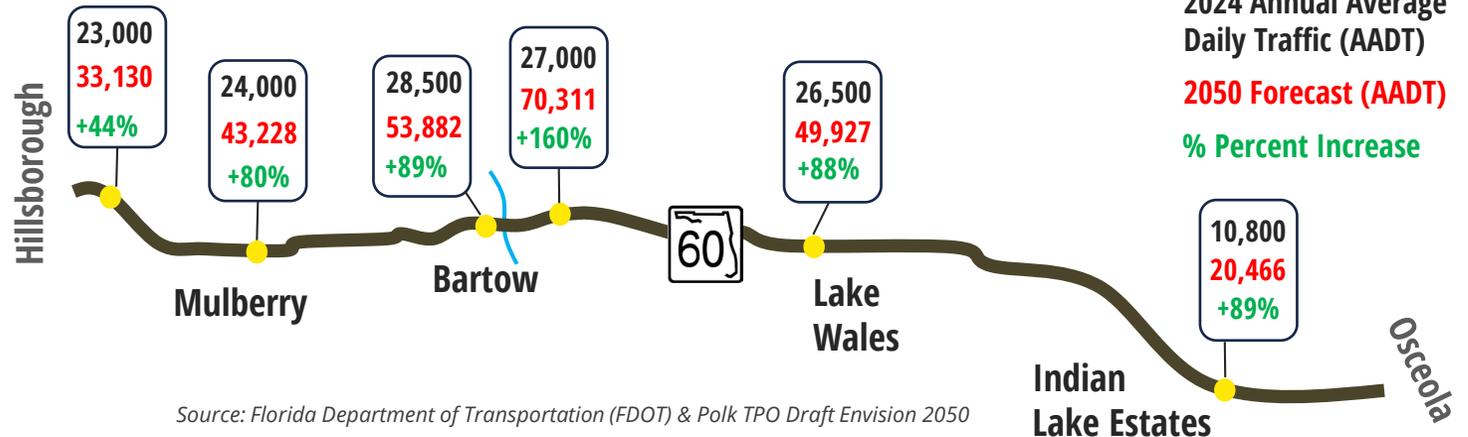
SR 60 Traffic

- ❑ Traffic Volumes are expected to increase along much of State Road 60 by 2050
 - ❑ Currently, SR 60 experiences traffic congestion in Mulberry and Bartow (Van Fleet Drive). By 2050, these conditions could extend along much of the corridor between Mulberry and Lake Wales



DRAFT

Map of State Road 60



Legend

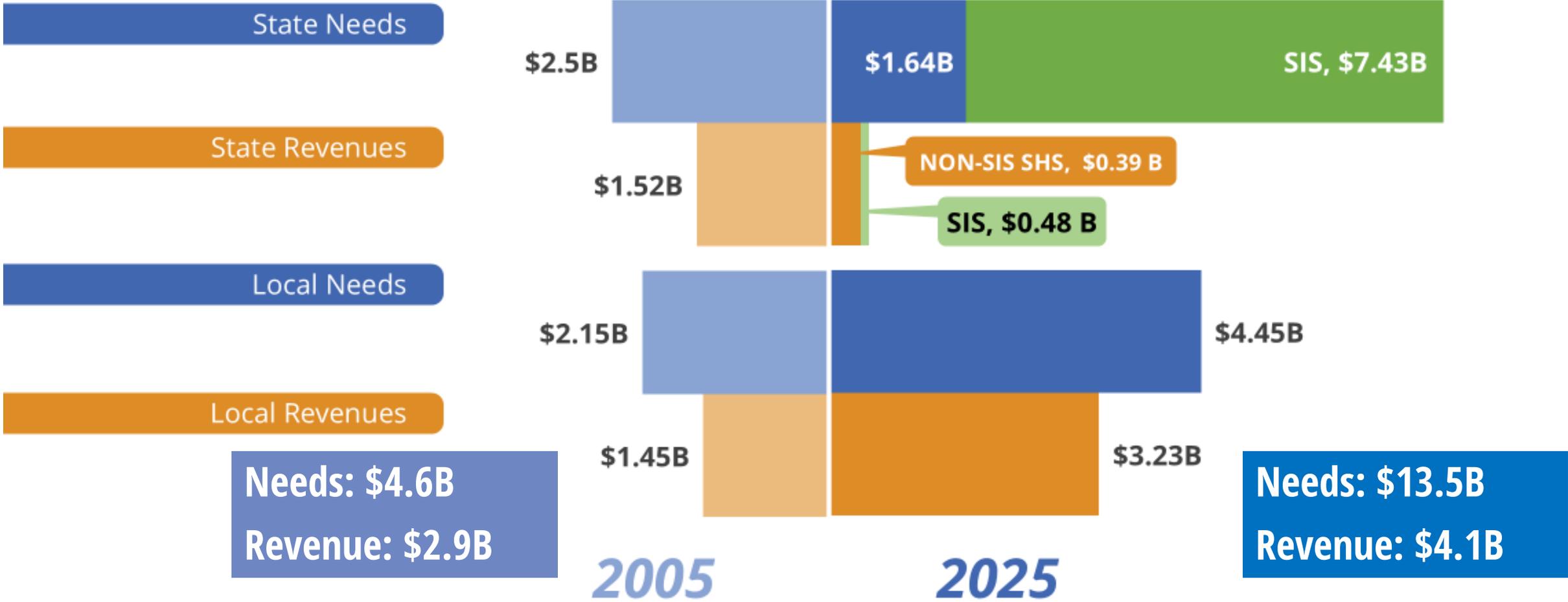
2024 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
2050 Forecast (AADT)
% Percent Increase



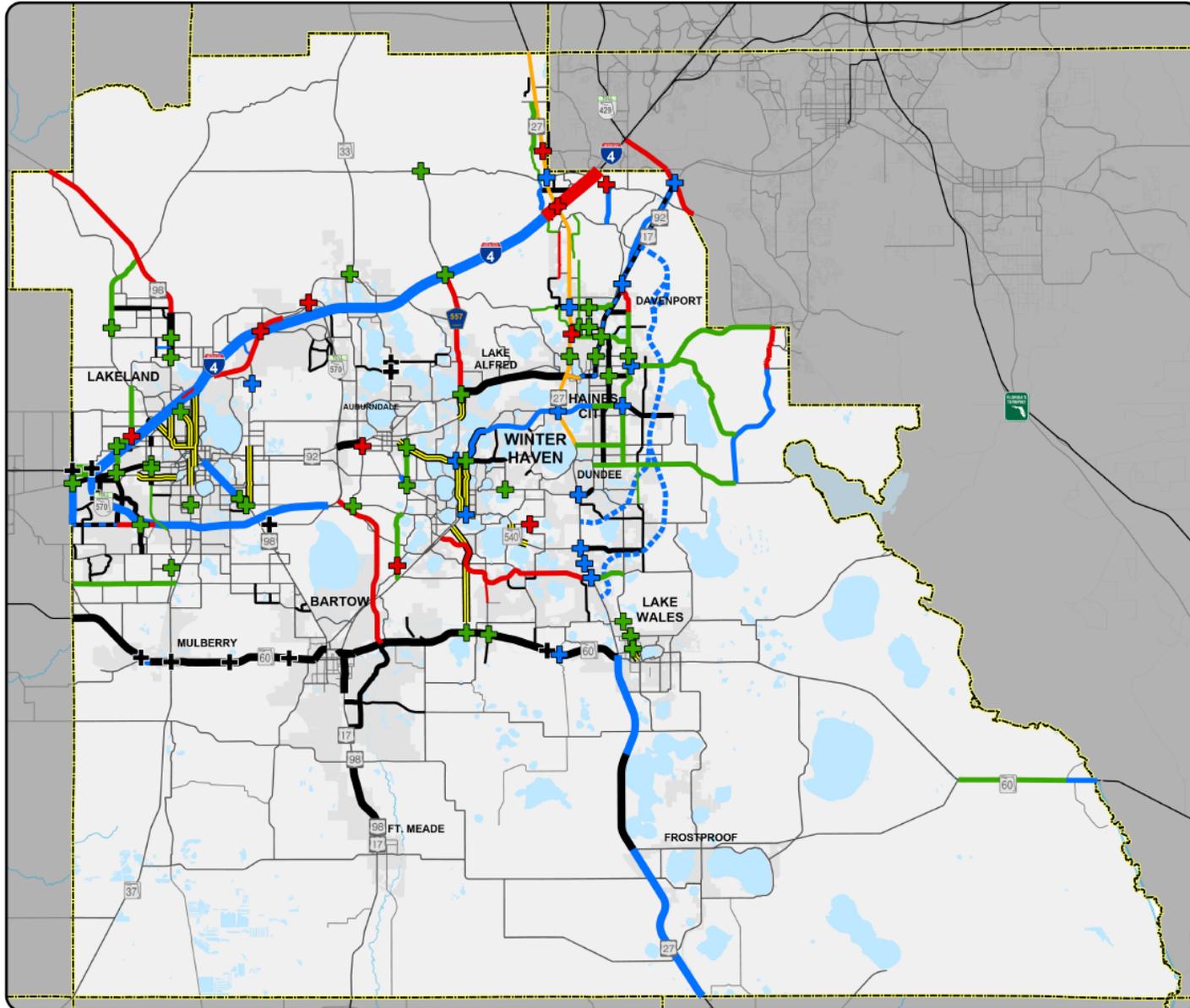
Annual Average Daily Traffic, or AADT, is the average number of vehicles that pass a specific point on a roadway over the course of a year, calculated by dividing the total annual traffic volume by 365. AADT is a simple, but useful, measurement of how busy the road is.

Source: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) & Polk TPO Draft Envision 2050

Roadway Needs vs Revenues



Cost Feasible Plan - Highways



ENVISION
2050

2050 Cost Feasible Roadway Projects

Tier I - Committed Highway Network 2025 - 2030

Improved Number of Lanes

- 2 Lanes
- 4 Lanes
- 12 Lanes

- + Interchange/Intersection Improvement

Tier II & III - Cost-Feasible Highways 2030 - 2050

Improved Number of Lanes

- 2 Lanes
- 4 Lanes
- 12 Lanes

- + Interchange/Intersection Improvement

- Powerline Road Study Area

Tier IV & V - Illustrative Projects or Partially Funded through 2050

Improved Number of Lanes

- 2 Lanes
- 4 Lanes
- 6 Lanes
- 10 Lanes

- + Interchange/Intersection Improvement

- - - Central Polk Pkwy East Potential Alignments

- Complete Street Corridor

- Operational Improvements

Tier VI & VII - Unfunded Needs or Visionary Roads 2030 - 2050

Improved Number of Lanes

- 2 Lanes
- 4 Lanes
- 6 Lanes

- Complete Street Corridor

- + Interchange Improvement

ENVISION
2050



ADOPTED 10-YEAR TRANSIT NEEDS



Polk Transportation
Planning Organization



CitrusConnection
PROGRESS IN MOTION

Existing Services

- Existing Transfer Facility
- Existing Park-and-Ride
- Unchanged Bus Routes
- Existing SunRail

New Transit Services

- Florida Avenue BRT
- US 98 BRT
- I-4 Hopper
- Lakeland to Tampa Express
- US 27 LX
- Polk City to Winter Haven LX
- Proposed Network Changes
- Proposed SunRail*

New App-Based On-Demand Services

- Davenport
- Dundee
- Lakeland Highlands
- Southeast

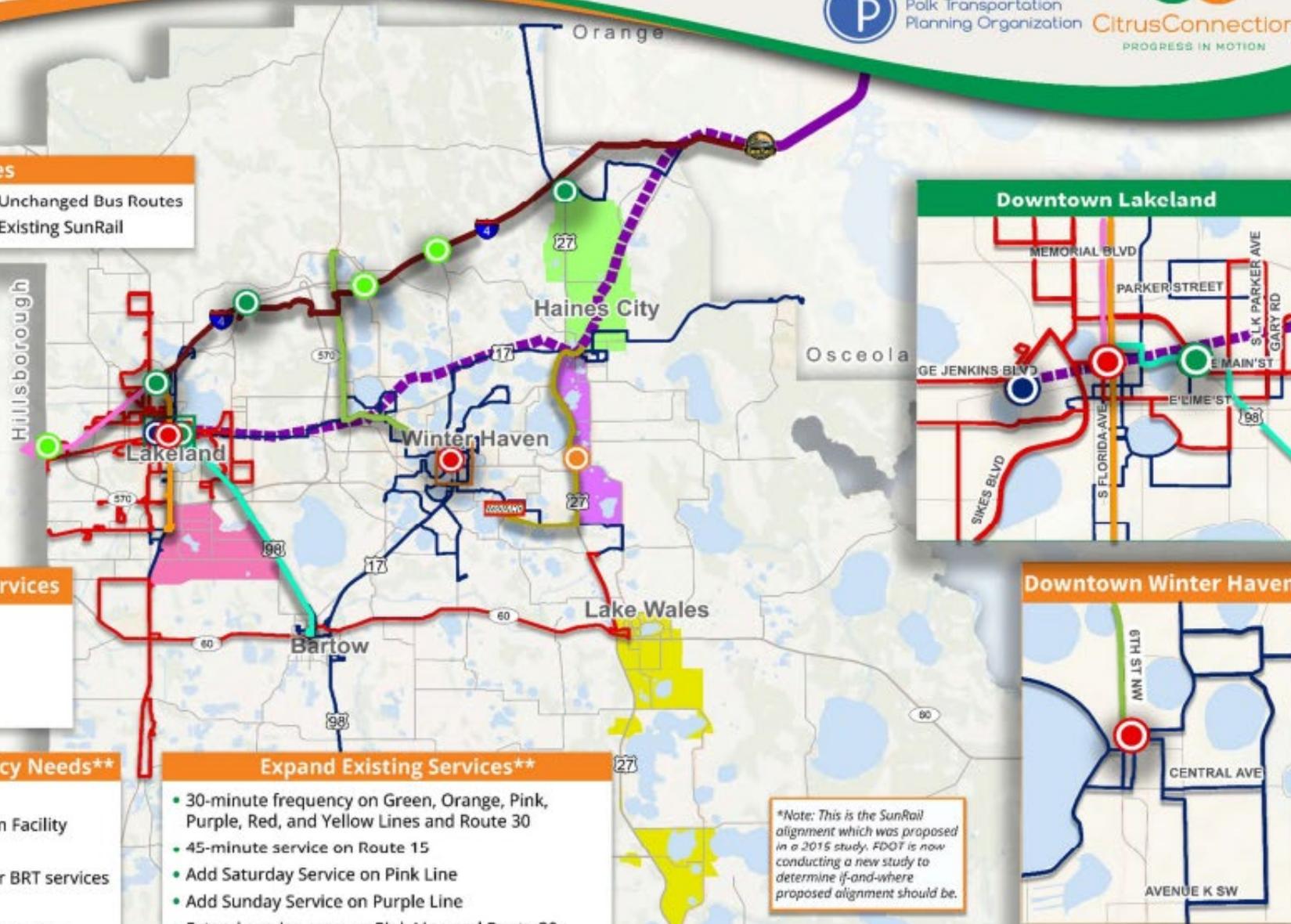
Infrastructure/Technology/Policy Needs**

- New Intermodal Center in Lakeland
- East Polk Transit Maintenance & Admin Facility
- New Park-and-Rides
- Transit Signal Priority/Queue Jumps for BRT services
- Electric Bus Vehicles
- Expand Universal Access Partnership Program
- Enhanced Marketing/Awareness Program

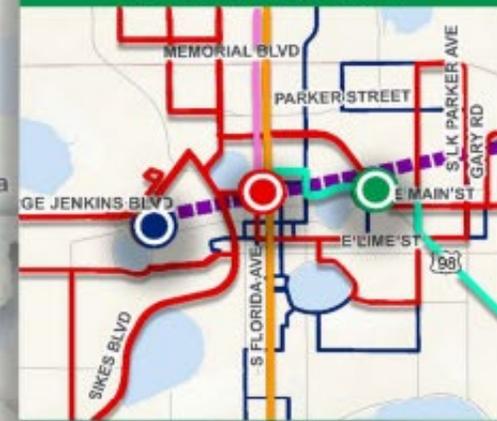
Expand Existing Services**

- 30-minute frequency on Green, Orange, Pink, Purple, Red, and Yellow Lines and Route 30
- 45-minute service on Route 15
- Add Saturday Service on Pink Line
- Add Sunday Service on Purple Line
- Extend service span on Pink Line and Route 30

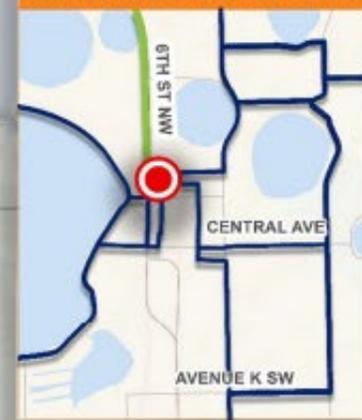
**Not shown on map.



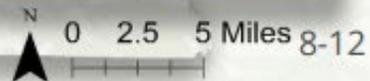
Downtown Lakeland



Downtown Winter Haven



*Note: This is the SunRail alignment which was proposed in a 2015 study. FDOT is now conducting a new study to determine if-and-where proposed alignment should be.



Regional Passenger Rail



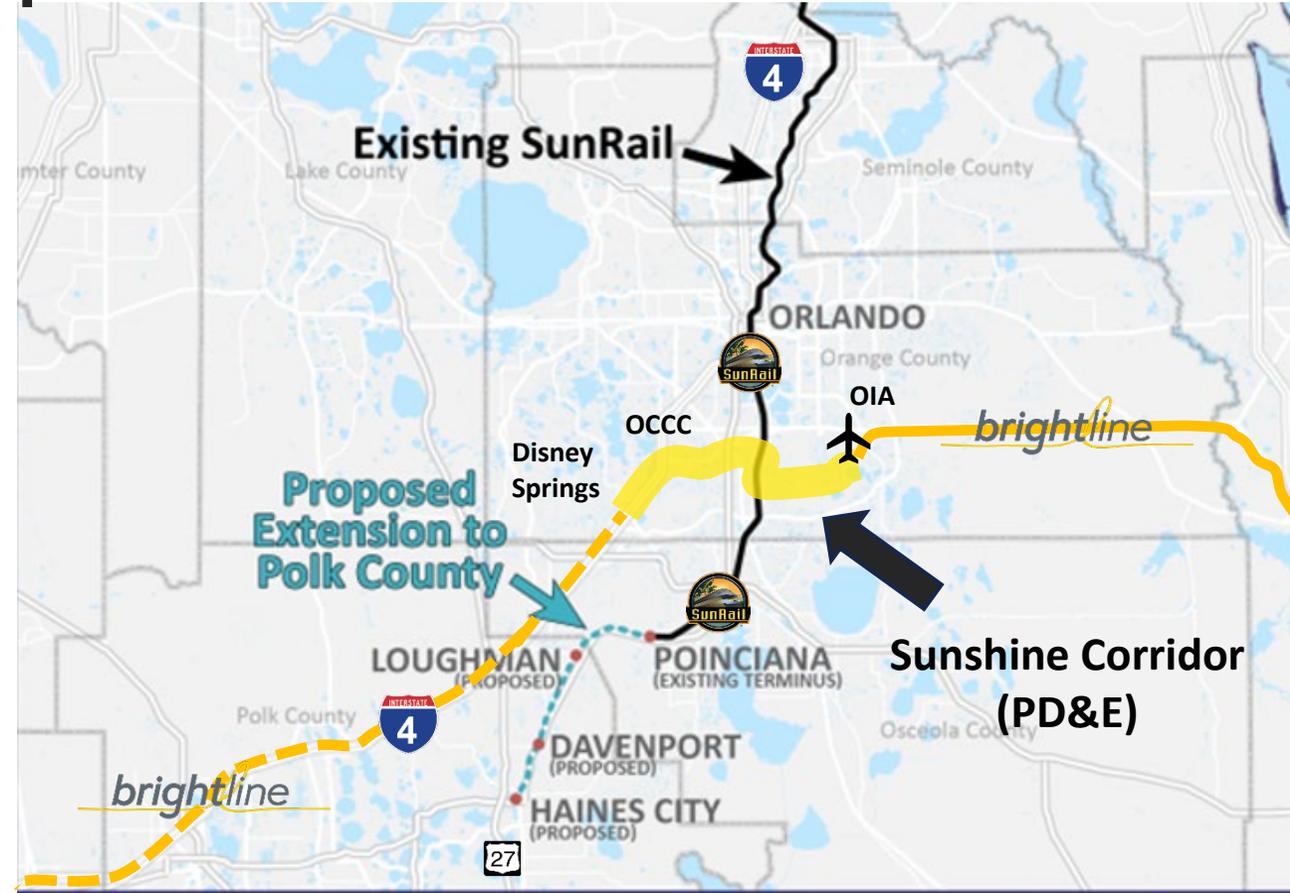
How do you get to Polk County and Tampa from Orlando International Airport?

☐ Sunshine Corridor

- ☐ SunRail & Brightline Service
- ☐ Access to Major Attractions & I-4

☐ Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study

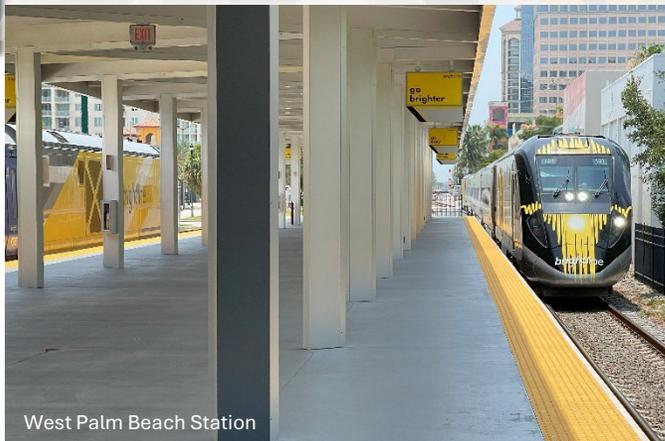
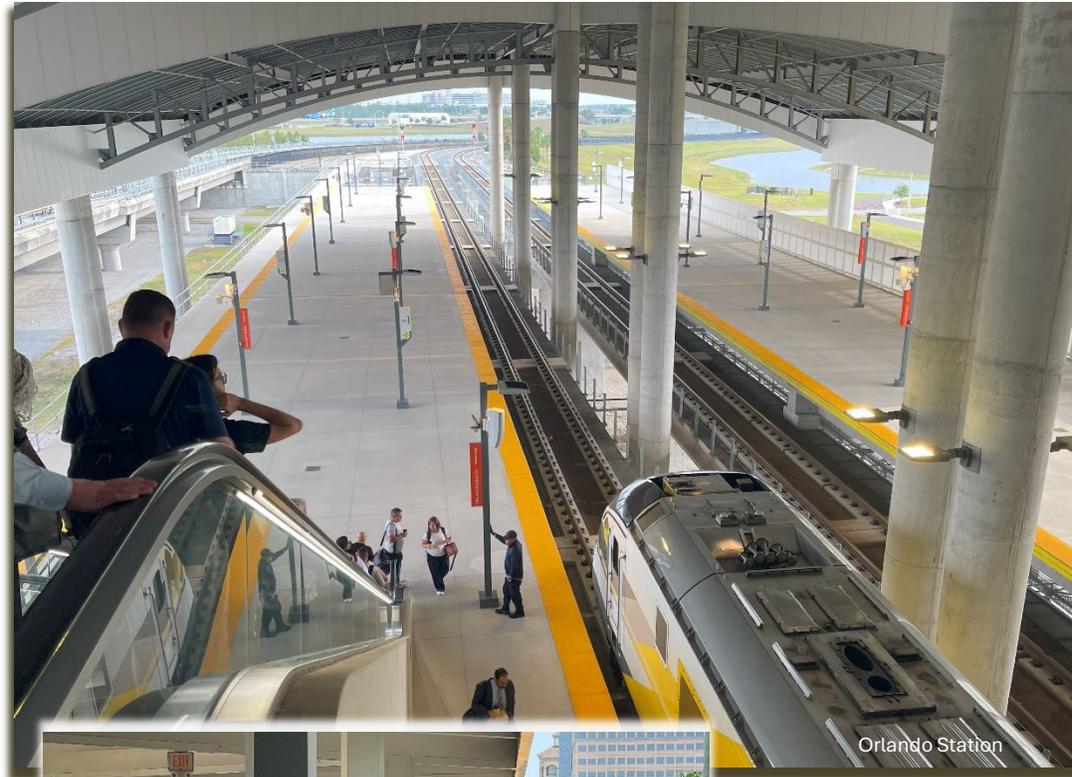
- ☐ Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission announced the PD&E Study will begin later this summer



Existing and Planned Service



Florida
brightline



6
total
stations



235 mi

of track between Miami
and Orlando.



Top speeds up to

125 mph

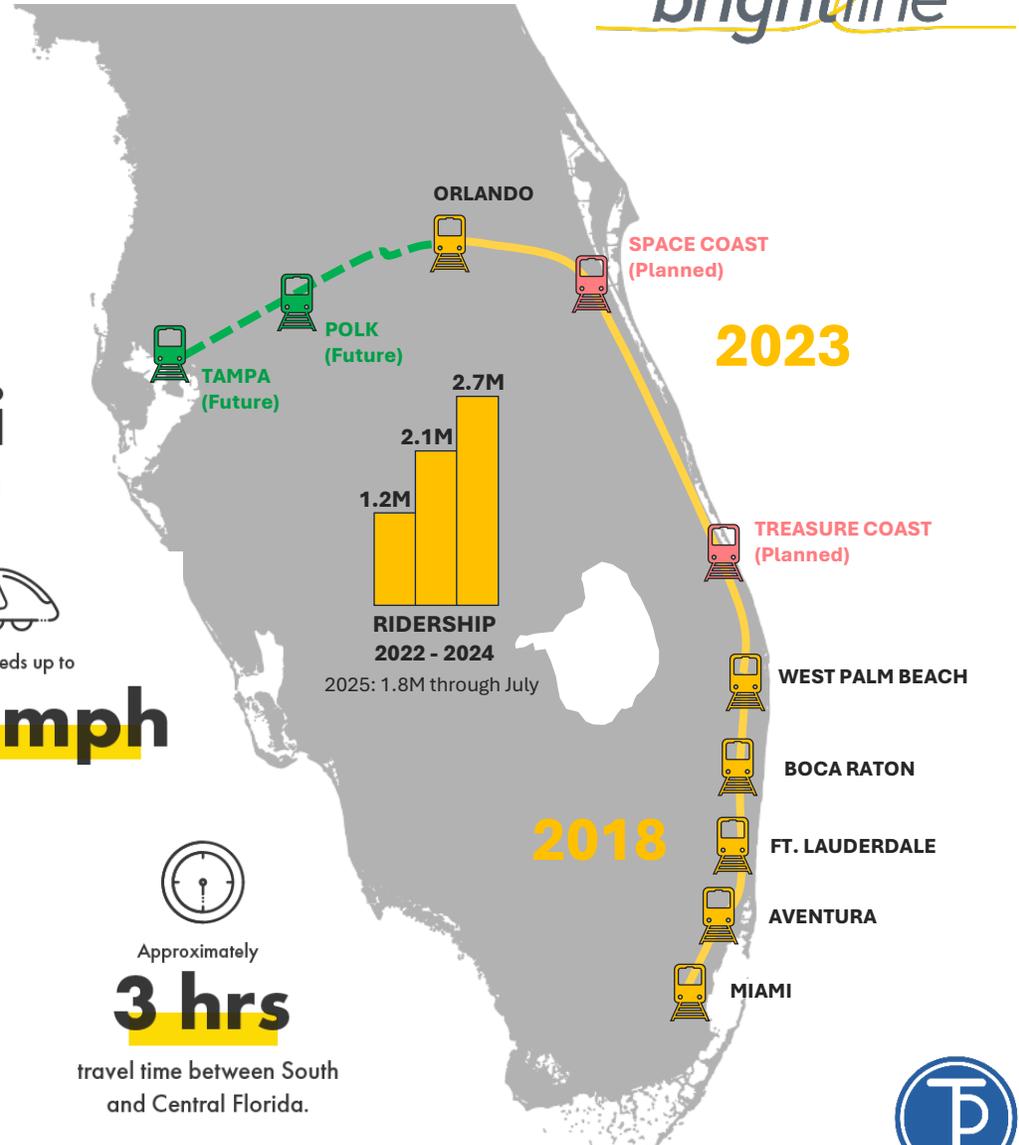


Approximately

3 hrs

travel time between South
and Central Florida.

Source: Brightline



Brightline became the nation's first private passenger rail to launch in a century when it started its 67-mile service between Miami and West Palm Beach in 2018.



The Polk TPO has adopted a target of Zero (0) fatalities and serious injuries on Polk County roads.



ONE LIFE LOST IS **TOO MANY**

8 FATALITIES **49** SERIOUS INJURIES

ON FLORIDA'S ROADS **EACH DAY**

Fatality Count (146)

#7

Ped/Bike Fatality & Serious Injury Count (86)

#13

#17

Fatality Rate* (1.86)

Serious Injury Rate* (5.53)

#45

WORST

1

Polk's Rank – Florida Counties

67

BEST

Population **#9**

#12

Serious Injuries Count (437)



Since 2021, the number of serious injuries and fatalities on Polk County's roads has decreased by 23%. 2021: 636 – 2024: 487



In 2024, the Lakeland-Winter Haven area was listed as the 21st most dangerous metro area in the country to be a pedestrian. Between 2019 and 2023 167 bicyclists & pedestrians have been killed on Polk County's roads. *Smart Growth of America - Dangerous by Design & Signal Four Analytics*

Bicycle/Pedestrian and Safety



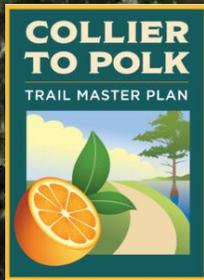
\$41M of Investment



Multi-Use Trails



OLD DIXIE TRAIL



\$31M of Investment in Multi-Use Trails



Public Involvement Opportunities



Virtual Workshops

- June 20th
- October 15th @ Noon

Public Comment

PolkEnvision2050.com

Public Comment Period

- October 9 – December 9
- Public Hearing
December 9, 2025

We Need Your Input!

A Long Range Transportation Plan is shaped by public input, and Envision 2050 is no different. In order to shape a transportation system that suits our community, we need to hear from you: what is working, what isn't, and what are your aspirations for the future of the region. We are seeking your input to assist the Envision 2050 team in developing goals, objectives, and policies, and to understand community preferences and priorities for the future. We want Polk County's transportation system to meet the needs of all users.

So, share your ideas! We have numerous ways to get involved. Select a tab at the top of the page to take you to our interactive map, survey, or comment wall!

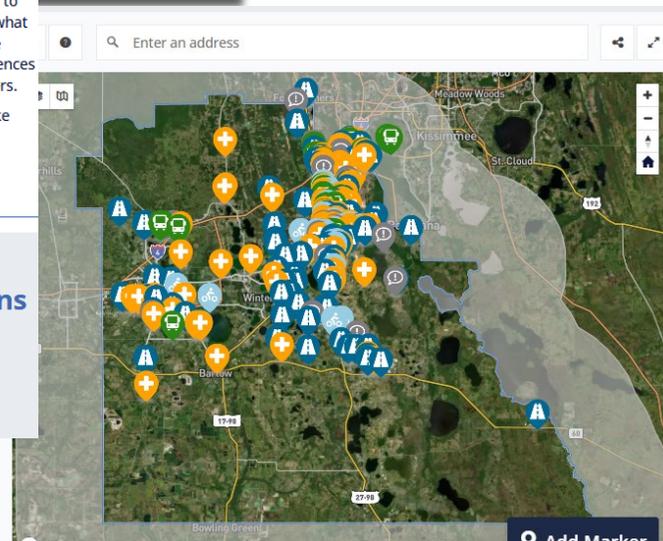
Interactive Map Comment Wall Survey Rank Our Themes

Open

Interactive Map - Show Us Where You Have Concerns or See Opportunity!

Please select the information icon in the map itself to view instructions on using the interactive map

295 contributions so far





Polk Transportation
Planning Organization

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RyanKordek@Polk-County.net