INSTRUCTIONS

FREIGHT PRIORITIES
PROGRAM
powered by the Broward MPO

2026 Freight Priorities Program (FPP) Overview

1. **Changes to the 2026 Freight Priorities Program.**

   ➤ No significant changes to the Program from last year.

   ➤ MPOs will be able to submit up to six total projects to the FPP. These will be limited to three State Highway System (SHS) roadway projects and three non-SHS roadway projects.

2. **Identify up to three SHS roadway projects that meet the defined criteria.**

   ➤ Roadway projects should fall on the State Highway System.

   ➤ Projects must be post-PD&E or have a PD&E funded or underway.

   ➤ Projects should be unfunded, partially funded, or able to accept accelerated funding.

3. **Identify up to three non-SHS roadway projects that meet the defined criteria.**

   ➤ Projects should be a non-SHS roadway, Intermodal Logistical Center (ILC) access, truck parking, or rail projects.

   ➤ Projects must be post-PD&E or have a PD&E funded or underway if a PD&E is required for the project.

   ➤ Projects should be able to pass the project readiness screening questions and identify funding programs they are eligible for.

4. **Complete the online project application starting on <u>February 27th</u>.**

   ➤ A 60-minute Zoom training webinar will be held on <u>February 23rd</u> (2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

   ➤ On <u>February 27th</u>, each planning agency will be given login information so they can access their accounts and begin to submit project applications at www.my-fpp-portal.org.

   ➤ The Committee's consultant team will then review submissions and reach out if additional information or clarifications are needed.

   ➤ The consultant team will be available for support and to answer any questions. You can contact Tom Brandenstein at tbrandenstein@whitehousegroup.com or 717-980-5418 and Haitao Yu at hyu@camsys.com or 617-848-2133.

5. **Collaborate with your partner District Freight Coordinators to complete the project application.**

   ➤ MPO staff should work with their District Freight Coordinators (DFC) to know which projects they are planning on selecting as a District Priority Project and to ensure FDOT is aware of any additional projects the MPO may want them to support.

   o Your DFC will likely know which projects within your region align well with FDOT's Work Program scoring criteria, the Freight Mobility and Trade Plan prioritization process, and the criteria of other funding programs (e.g., NHFP, SIS).

   o It benefits each MPO to know what projects their DFC has in mind for their District Priority Project list, because you may have a mutual project that allows you to work together to complete the project application.

MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

1

- o If your DFC does not have your desired project(s) on their District Priority Project list, fill out a project application anyway and work with your DFC to get project-specific information for your submissions. Additionally, provide them with the necessary information (e.g., the project is new and has been identified in a new regional freight plan) to advocate for your projects when going after this and other funding opportunities (e.g., INFRA, BUILD, NHFP, SIS, district discretionary funds).
- ➢ A workflow checklist to help work with your DFCs will be provided to you during/after training sessions.

6. **Submit the completed online applications by <u>March 27th</u> and respond to any follow-up questions from the consultant team and your DFC.**

   - ➢ The completed online applications should be submitted by <u>March 27th</u>.
   - ➢ Follow-up questions may be necessary after projects are submitted. Questions will focus on confirming eligibility, details from your project application, and documenting that the project(s) is an MPO freight priority.

7. **The finalized list will be prepared and presented to the MPOAC for approval:**

   - ➢ All vetted projects will be summarized into a final project list. The lists will feature MPO freight priority projects, presented with available backup, for discussion and approval. The discussion will focus on alignment with key partnerships throughout the project selection process and whether the projects benefit goods movement in Florida.
   - ➢ The Project List will be brought before the MPOAC Freight & Rail Committee, Staff Directors, and Governing Board on April 30th for approval.

8. **The approved list will be transmitted to FDOT for consideration.**

   - ➢ The approved FPP Project List will be transmitted to: the FDOT Secretary, FDOT Office of Freight Logistics and Passenger Operations, FDOT Office of Policy Planning, FDOT Systems Planning Office, and the DFCs.
   - ➢ Projects will be identified by network designation (e.g., NHFN, SIS, Regional Freight Network) and FDOT districts to facilitate eligibility for available funding programs.

9. **The approved lists should be used to promote MPO freight priorities nationwide.**

   - ➢ Each MPO should use the completed list to advocate for their submitted (and unsubmitted) projects.
   - ➢ Share the completed list with your regional, state, and national partners and collaborate with them to promote freight in Florida.

MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

MPOAC

2

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions: Completing the Online Project Application

All Projects	SHS Only
Questions in boxes shaded blue will apply to all project submissions.	Questions in boxes shaded green will only apply to SHS roadway project submissions.

General Information

Question	Desired Response
1a. Project Name:	*Enter the project name as it appears in your approved plans (TIP, Work Program).*
2a. Facility Name:	*Enter the roadway/facility name (identify the state route if applicable).*
3a. Project Category:	*Select the appropriate project category from the dropdown list.* • *State Highway System Roadway* • *Non-SHS Roadway* • *Intermodal Logistics Center Access* • *Truck Parking* • *SIS Rail* • *Non-SIS Rail* *This choice will direct you to the correct project information questions depending on your selection.*
4a. Are any other MPOs involved in the project?	*Select Yes/No. If Yes, select the other participating agencies.*
5a. Which counties are involved in the project?	*Enter all counties that are involved in the project.*
6a. Are there any private partners involved in the project?	*Select Yes/No. If Yes, enter all private partners that are involved in the project.*
7a. Is this a District Freight Coordinator Priority Project?	*Select Yes/No.*
Click **Continue** to move to the next set of questions.	

MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

3

INSTRUCTIONS

Project Information

Question	Desired Response

1s/1n. Project Type:	*Select the project type that best describes the project.*
	  • *Capacity Expansion (e.g., add lanes)*
	  • *New Connection (e.g., create new roadway)*
	  • *Reconstruction (e.g., rebuild or replace existing infrastructure)*
	  • *Management and Operation (e.g., ITS installments, upgrade signals, TSMO treatments)*
	  • *Maintenance (e.g., resurface roadways, repair facilities)*
	  • *Grade Separation (e.g. separation or improvements to a rail crossing)*
	  • *Truck Parking (e.g. new facility or expansion)*
	  • *Bridge (e.g. replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement)*
	  • *Other (Select if any other type may better define the project and specify the type)*

2s/2n. Provide a brief description of the project:	*Provide a short description of the project that **clearly indicates the primary purpose of the project** (e.g., widening roadway from 4 to 6 lanes).*
3s/3n. Describe the project rationale:	*Provide a detailed statement that explains how the project advances goods movement in Florida (e.g., Additional road capacity to address highway freight bottlenecks). Ask your District Freight Coordinator what details would be most helpful and **see National Highway Freight Program [eligible activities] and [BIL updates]. Also, SIS funding [eligibility requirements (pg 17)] for more guidance**.*
4s. What is the FM Number(s)?	*If applicable, enter the project's Financial Management number from FDOT's Work Program. If the project is associated with more than one FM number, provide all relevant FM numbers.*
5s. What is the FDOT Roadway ID(s)?	*Enter facility Roadway ID(s) from FDOT's GIS database.*
6s. What is the direction of the project?	*Indicate the roadway direction impacted by the project (i.e., eastbound, southbound, northbound, westbound, or both directions).*

**MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL**
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

4

INSTRUCTIONS

7s/4n. What is the extent of the project? (Milepost, grade crossing or area)	*Enter the facility's distance values of the project starting (From) and ending (To) points. If the project is an area give a brief location description.*
8s. What is the extent of the project? (Intersected Roadway)	*Enter the names of the intersected roadways at the project starting (From) and ending (To) points.* Skip "To" if the project is an interchange/intersection.
9s/5n. What is the existing activity at the project location? (e.g. - truck traffic, number of trains, truck parking capacity, site acreage)	*Provide truck AADT and truck traffic percentage on project roadways. Provide other related activity measures for the other project types.*
6n. What are the costs of the project? ($Millions)	*Enter the total project cost and the unfunded project costs in the full dollar amount.*
10s/7n. Define the requested action:	*Define the requested action (e.g., allocate new funding to an unfunded project or partially funded project; advance funding to an earlier year in the work program). Note, the project must be able to be funded and/or advanced in the requested year. This text should clearly indicate the **dollar amount** and the **year of your funding request**.*
11s/8n. What funding programs is the project eligible for?	*List all of the funding programs that the project is eligible for.*
12s/9n. Upload a map showing the location of the project:	*Upload any type of map file or image showing the exact location and geographic extent of the project. If you cannot upload, please contact Tom Brandenstein at* tbrandenstein@whitehousegroup.com.
13s/10n. Select PD&E status and please provide reference documentation and accompanying information:	***Select the status of the PD&E.*** *Non-SHS roadway projects will first need to indicate if the project requires a PD&E. Please identify the Work Program version (e.g., a previous 5-year work program) that contains the PD&E phase, provide the year it began, funding amount, and status/date completed. Please include the URL, page number, and project reference number.*
14s. Project Schedule and Funding Status in the FDOT 5 - Year Work Program:	***Work with your District Freight Coordinator*** *to get the latest information from the* FDOT Work Program *(e.g., funding by year for PD&E, PE, ROW, Construction, CEI, Environmental). Please indicate the status (completed, on-going, funded, unfunded, or N/A) and reference(s).*
Click **Continue** to move to the next set of questions.	

MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

MPOAC

5

INSTRUCTIONS

Screening Questions

Question	Desired Response
1c. Is the project identified as a freight priority by the MPO and its partners (e.g., municipalities, seaports, airports, railroads)?	*Select Yes/No. If yes, provide how this project was identified to be a priority and which entity made the determination.*
2c. Identify the plan(s) (e.g., freight plan, LRTP, TIP, CIP, master plan) documenting the project and provide specific reference(s):	*Identify the plan(s) documenting the project and provide the related link(s), page number(s), and project reference number(s).*
3c. Identify project matching fund(s) sources (e.g., local)	*Identify related funding source(s) and indicate the amount(s).*
4c. Is the project on a priority freight network?	*Select Yes/No. If yes, identify the network(s) and provide documentation of the designation (e.g., URLs, maps, tables).*
5c. Please identify the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) goals supported by the project:	*Check all goals addressed by the project and provide a brief statement explaining how the project supports the FTP.*
6c. Provide a brief statement explaining how the project supports the FTP:	*Briefly address how the project will fulfill each of the FTP goals selected in question 5c.*
Click **Submit** to finish the project application.	

MPOAC FLORIDA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
850-414-4821 | Amanda.Carpenter@dot.state.fl.us
www.mpoac.org

6