



## Transit System Efficiency Improvements

Due to the current economic recession, becoming more efficient is the highest priority for most public transportation systems. The significant economic downturn has reduced anticipated revenues at the same time that increases in fuel prices began driving people to use transit in record numbers. These issues have been further heightened in Florida because of the property tax reform of January 2008 that reduced ad valorem revenues for many systems.

TOA has been involved in many efficiency studies, assessments, and reviews across Florida over the last several years, helping local transit systems do more with their resources. These efforts have been useful in Hernando, Polk, Hillsborough, Martin, St. Lucie, and Leon counties. Now, TOA is helping its transit system partners try to do more (or at least the same) with less. A current project for StarMetro in Tallahassee is a prime example of this type of beneficial assistance.

### StarMetro (Leon County) Efficiency Study (2008-2009)

The goal of this study was to review existing practices and determine where policy, procedural, and operational improvements and changes could reduce expenses to meet actual revenues and eliminate the need to cut back existing services. Significant results of the study include:

- Targeted \$500,000 revenue shortfall
- Identified eight areas with varying levels of concern:
  - transportation overtime expenses
  - fuel expenses
  - information technology
  - bus operations
  - maintenance
  - administration
  - fares
  - paratransit
- Identified 15 recommendations with potential cost savings of up to \$1.6 million.



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# Planning & Engineering Solutions

## Public Finance



### City of Tampa Transportation Impact Fee Study Update and CIP Preparation

TOA is currently updating the City of Tampa's transportation impact fee. The study calculates a multi-district fee, which is a different approach for impact fees. In addition to impact fee rates and revenue projections, the study provides demographic and economic information/projections for each district. The information and analysis are integrated into the City's CIP process and are being used as a tool to prioritize future roadway projects in various districts.

### City of Helena and Lewis & Clark County Impact Fee Study

TOA is retained by the City of Helena and Lewis & Clark County in Montana to develop impact fees in five program areas. While some program areas will result in a combined fee for the City and County, others, such as fire rescue, the City, and three Volunteer Fire Districts, will have their own fee. As part of the study, TOA conducted local trip characteristics studies.



## Planning



*Improvements included the restoration of two-way traffic and the relocation of surface parking adjacent to the historic Plant Hall, constructed in 1891.*

### University of Tampa: Campus Transportation Master Planning

TOA has assisted the University of Tampa with the transportation component of its campus master plan for over eight years. This work includes a combination of short-term and long-term traffic and pedestrian circulation improvements, as well as parking. In 2008, TOA supported the University in implementing a major improvement project that resulted in the reconfiguration of traffic patterns and relocated surface parking in the historic central campus area. This allowed the construction of the \$19.5 million Sykes Chapel and Center for Faith and Values. The recently-implemented transportation improvements on campus reduced pedestrian/vehicle conflicts, and a reduction in surface parking allowed for increased landscaping that enhanced the campus environment for students and visitors.



## Transportation Engineering

### Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL)

Traffic delays and pollution caused by congestion in and around popular national parks and other federal lands detract from the visitor's experience and adversely impact natural resources. Congress established the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL) program (now known as the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks Program) to enhance the protection of these lands and to increase the enjoyment of those visiting them. Lee County Transit (LeeTran), in cooperation with its partners, the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and the City of Sanibel, was awarded a grant through the ATPPL program. TOA is providing transportation engineering services as part of the consultant team.

This study is designed to explore appropriate and environmentally-sensitive solutions for managing the transportation needs of visitors to achieve an appropriate balance between an enjoyable visitor experience and the disturbance of wildlife.

Technical analysis and an extensive

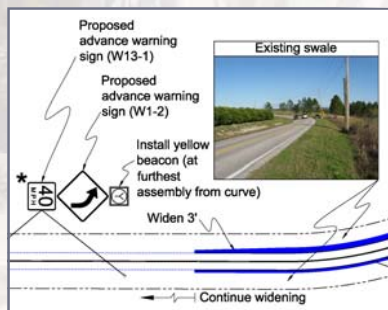
public involvement process will be instrumental in identifying opportunities and desired outcomes. The consultant team will examine existing and desired capacities for automobile, pedestrian, bicycle, and waterborne traffic, in addition to parking. To ensure that this complex natural environment is fully understood, a carrying capacity analysis and resource studies will encompass the full context of the sensitive habitats on Sanibel Island and incorporate them into the alternatives development.

To learn more about the project or to view the existing conditions report, visit [www.dingdarlingtransportation.com](http://www.dingdarlingtransportation.com).



## Safety

Annually, approximately 4,000 traffic fatalities occur in Florida; the economic costs of property damage, injuries, deaths, and crash-related delay total billions of dollars. Since 2001, TOA has actively worked with Florida DOT districts and local agencies to manage safety data and identify safety problems and opportunities. While it is not uncommon for traffic engineering and planning agencies to identify "high crash locations," TOA's safety screening approach also identifies opportunities to:



- implement low-cost, high-impact countermeasures
- cross-reference safety issues with planned and programmed roadway projects
- evaluate long-range transportation plans based on safety performance

To learn more about this approach to Safety Analysis, visit: [www.tindaleoliver.com/safetyprojects.html](http://www.tindaleoliver.com/safetyprojects.html)





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## TOA Celebrates 20 Years!



*Bill Oliver (l) and Steve Tindale (r) established TOA in 1989.*

Tindale-Oliver & Associates officially turned 20 years old on February 13, 2009. TOA President and CEO Steve Tindale, P.E., AICP, envisioned spending his life enjoying his passion—engineering, specifically in Tampa. “Not many people get to do what they absolutely love and get paid for it” says Tindale. “I have been very fortunate”.

“Our employees have made us successful,” noted Senior Vice President Bill Oliver, P.E., PTOE. “We pride ourselves on striving to get better with each project. We have learned many valuable lessons in 20 years.”

TOA’s underlying company philosophy is captured by our vision statement, which is “to create value for clients and employees by providing planning, growth management, transportation, traffic, and civil engineering services to selected public and private sector clients, with talented staff, using technological innovations and high-quality, proven processes.”

Today, TOA has 62 employees in 3 offices (Tampa, Orlando, and Bartow). We have enjoyed the working relationships that have developed with over 600 clients, and we look forward to the next 20 years!

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