



FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

Date: November 3, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: FDOT Burns Building Auditorium, Tallahassee, Florida

1. Call to Order

- **Roll call**

- Chairman Howse called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.
- In attendance was Chairman Ron Howse, Vice-Chairman David Genson, Commissioners John Browning, Barbara Haselden, Alex Lastra, Hung Mai, and Rusty Roberts.

2. Consent Agenda

- **FTC Meeting Minutes – August 21, 2025**
- **FTC Meeting Minutes – August 22, 2025**
 - ❖ On an amended motion by Vice-Chairman Genson and seconded by Commissioner Lastra, the August 21, 2025, and August 22, 2025, revised meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Reports/Presentations

- **FTC Transit Performance Measures Overview – Ralph Yoder, Executive Director**

Mr. Yoder provided an overview of the proposed Transit Performance Measures FARES Framework—Financial Management, Administrative Cost, Ridership Utilization and Effectiveness, Events of Safety, and Service Reliability. The framework will establish consistent statewide performance metrics for agencies receiving state block grant funding.

 - Mr. Yoder also introduced the Category by Service Area Population concept. The 31 transit agencies are categorized by Service Area Population and are assigned a category A-D.
 - Category A has a service area population of 1 million or more
 - Category B has a service area population of 350,000-999,999
 - Category C has a service area population of 100,00-349,999
 - Category D has a service area population of 99,999 or less
 - Chairman Howse mentioned that at the October FTC Workshop we discussed the Commission for Transportation of Disadvantaged (TD). The Chairman shared that the TD has its own governing board and will not be included as part of the FTC's transit performance measures oversight responsibility. However, Commissioner Browning requested the FTC review the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged reports for awareness. Chairman Howse agreed.
 - Commissioner Mai asked which transit agencies were created by Florida Statute.
 - Mr. Yoder responded that LYNX, Tri-Rail, JTA, HART, and PSTA are statutorily referenced, while Citrus Connection in Polk County was created by an interlocal agreement.



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- Chairman Howse noted that there is a difference between rural and urban areas and recommended developing subcategories for rural and urban hybrid systems that feed to urban core systems.
 - Commissioner Mai agreed with considering subcategories.
- Chairman Howse noted it is the Commission's responsibility to recommend policies, and we could hold a future meeting to further discuss.
- Commissioner Haselden discussed the transit concept of coverage vs. core.
- Vice-Chairman Genson stated some services might not be financially feasible but are needed.
- Commissioner Haselden mentioned that over time the transit agencies will need more equipment and more drivers.
- **Transit Agency Dashboard Mockup Overview – Ralph Yoder, Executive Director**
 - Mr. Yoder shared an overview of the FARES framework, which stands for:
F = Financial Management, A = Administrative Cost, R = Ridership Utilization and Effectiveness, E = Safety Events, and S = Service Reliability.
 - **F = Financial Management**
 - Chairman Howse recommended that each transit agency's financial audit be reviewed, with particular attention to ensuring follow-up on management recommendations included in audited financial statements.
 - Commissioner Mai suggested that transit agencies be mindful of potential conflicts of interest when hiring executive leadership and noted that some agencies are retaining significant maintenance reserves and remaining COVID-related funds.
 - Commissioner Lastra asked whether any analyses have been conducted on transit assets. Mr. Yoder responded that the FTC recently conducted a survey of transit fleets but has not performed an analysis of transit-owned real estate.
 - Commissioner Haselden agreed that transit real estate assets should be considered, including charging stations.
 - She also recommended that farebox performance be included as part of the financial management review.
 - **A = Administrative Cost**
 - Mr. Yoder noted that administrative costs are currently reported in accordance with statutory requirements and will be included as part of the Commission's oversight.
 - Commissioner Mai stated that statutorily established transit agencies with independent boards and authority to hire executive leadership are not directly comparable to other transit agencies, and emphasized the need to consider executive compensation, including CEO salaries.
 - Mr. Yoder explained that, pursuant to statute, these agencies are required to report their top five executive salaries.



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- Vice-Chairman Genson added that agencies must report all salaries and are required to make that information available on their websites.
- **R = Ridership**
 - Chairman Howse recommended conducting both ridership and non-ridership surveys.
 - Commissioner Roberts stated that developing effective ridership measures will be a work in progress.
 - Chairman Howse emphasized the importance of best management practices and suggested that funding could potentially be tied to performance.
 - Commissioner Haselden suggested that the Commission use common terminology, such as “unlinked passenger trips.”
- **E = Events of Safety**
 - Mr. Yoder stated that safety on the system and major incidents is currently reported to the National Transit Database.
- **S = Service Reliability**
 - Commissioner Haselden inquired about the use of AI or live agents in customer service centers.
 - Commissioner Lastra asked if AI is being used to optimize trips?

Transit Performance Dashboard Example

- Mr. Yoder shared a draft of the Transit Performance Dashboard.
 - Commissioner Browning suggested comparative dashboards incorporating all 31 agencies and simplified high-level metrics.
 - Chairman Howse recommended the farebox metric be a percentage.
 - Commissioner Mai mentioned the need to categorize in a way to compare similar agencies.
 - Commissioner Haselden stated that there is a need to evaluate Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and the costs associated with their use
 - Mr. Yoder outlined the next steps and stated that an update will be provided in January 2026. Commissioner Lastra asked when the first review effort would be targeted, and Mr. Yoder responded that the initial review of the transit agencies is anticipated to occur in 2026 for Fiscal Year 2025.
- **FDOT Performance and Production Review – Ralph Yoder, Executive Director, FTC**
 - Executive Director Yoder presented FDOT’s performance and production results, summarizing FY 2024–2025 performance, and noted that five performance measures were not met.
 - Commissioner Roberts asked about the number of consultants FDOT employs and the associated contract estimates.



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- Commissioner Mai inquired about the FY 2025–2026 budget, and Mr. Yoder stated that it is approximately \$15 billion.
 - Commissioner Mai also asked whether roll-forward funds from one fiscal year to the next require Commission approval, and Mr. Yoder responded that roll-forward funds do not require Commission approval and instead fall under the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission.
- **FDOT Secretary’s Response to the Performance and Production Review, Agency Update – Jared W. Perdue, P.E., FDOT Secretary**
 - Secretary Perdue presented an overview of the Florida Department of Transportation, including 2025 highlights, the 2025 Legislative Session, and items on the horizon for 2026, such as the 2026 Legislative Session and the 2026 federal reauthorization. He also provided an overview of FDOT’s overall performance.
 - Commissioner Roberts asked about recent changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and how the Department is addressing those changes. Secretary Perdue stated that the Department has previously operated under NEPA assignment and is encouraged by the changes. Commissioner Mai asked whether FDOT plans to sign the new comprehensive U.S. Department of Transportation memorandum of understanding (MOU) for NEPA assignment. Secretary Perdue responded that the Department is currently evaluating the options available.
 - Commissioner Mai inquired about FDOT’s plans for using roll-forward funds. Secretary Perdue responded that there may be future opportunities to address this, noting that public-private partnership (P3) projects still involve debt service and require careful consideration, particularly with respect to bonding. He added that the Department intends to remain efficient and fiscally conservative.
 - Commissioner Mai stated that local trucking companies in the Tampa Bay region have expressed interest in dedicated toll or truck-only lanes on I-4.
 - Chairman Howse asked whether the winter weather gear recommended by the Commission last year had been procured, and the Secretary confirmed that the equipment had been purchased.
- 4. Executive Director Update – Ralph Yoder, Executive Director**
- Mr. Yoder shared informational updates, including the proposed 2026 FTC meeting schedule, the 2025-2026 interim committee week schedule, and other upcoming events.
- 5. General FTC issues/business**
- No additional items were raised for discussion.
- 6. Public Comment and Adjournment – Ron Howse, Chairman**



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- Chairman Howse opened the meeting for public comment; however, no comments were received.
- With no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.