

Mayor Susan Haynie
Chair

Legislative Update for the week ending 01/12/2018

Overview

We began the second week of full session and are 49 days away from Sine Die. That is a lot of time in the legislative world and there is much to be done between now and the end of session. Namely, a budget needs to be built by each chamber, differences worked out and the final product of those compromises sent to the Governor for final approval. Of course, the Governor has already announced his vision for a state budget and both chambers have indicated that the budget proposed by the Governor is larger than what both the House and Senate are going to propose. This makes for some interesting dynamics leading into the budgetary process which has a lot of components. It could get interesting.

In a previous newsletter we had talked about the budget priorities of each chamber's leaders, this week Senate President Joe Negron stated that he is interested in purchasing more land for the Lake Okeechobee auxiliary reservoir. This is a new spending item as far as can be determined. As readers will remember from last year, funding to clean up water on Florida's shores which had turned an unpleasant shade of green was a priority of the Senate President. The green, stinky water started with discharges from Lake O which must release water when levels get too high or risk breaching the Herbert Hoover dike surrounding the lake. Remember, the state is still looking at a lot of expense from Hurricane Irma and a projected budget surplus of about \$75 Million out of a \$82 Billion budget. This is a new wrinkle in the budgetary process.

Let's take a moment to talk about budgets, transportation project funding and earmarks. A common practice for communities and counties is to submit a request to the legislature for funding. This works well if you are asking for monies to build a library or new fire station since any state money a local government gets is something that the local government was not likely to receive unless requested. Libraries and Fire Stations are projects are commonly built with local funds. Transportation projects are a bit different. Many transportation projects are funded with a combination of federal, state and local funds. The state and federal funds flow through the state budgeting process. If a local community puts in an earmark request for a transportation project, two things happen. First, if the request is included in the final budget sent to the Governor, the funding for overall transportation projects in that FDOT district is reduced by the amount of the earmark. The second thing that happens is the project goes in front of the Governor's veto pen. This is the risky part. If the Governor line item vetoes the transportation earmark then the project does not get the requested funding and because of the veto the project cannot have state dollars (or federal dollars flowing through the state) spent on it during the state fiscal year because the Governor specifically vetoed the project and has, through the veto, declared that the project is not to receive funding. This brings another problem, the Florida DOT district office has already had the funds removed from their district allocation, or share, of the transportation funding and it does not come back. Thus, earmarks have the potential to create a situation where there is no project, no funding from the state is allowed for one year and the Florida DOT district loses funds. All of this is brought up to remind members that earmarks for transportation projects

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can be risky and this budget year is not a good one to pursue earmarks. This particular year, the math just doesn't add up to a good idea.

On the minds of MPOAC membership is HB 575 and it's companion bill SB 1516. Earlier this week I had an opportunity to sit down with Representative Beshears and talk about the MPO bill he introduced. First and foremost, a huge thank you to Representative Beshears for taking the time from his busy schedule to meet with me and chat. At the last committee stop he mentioned that he was willing to consider changes to the bill based upon what he heard from his fellow Representatives. With that said, we must keep in mind that this bill has advanced through two committees rapidly and with only one no vote in the two committee meetings. HB 575 has the momentum of a locomotive and may see a full vote of the House. Representative Beshears and I had a great visit about the features of the bill and the operations of MPOs. Obviously, the bill would affect how MPOs operate and could result in a re-designation if board membership is changed by the bill. In a few years the 2020 census may have some MPOs looking at revising their board membership again based upon the revision of the census defined urbanized area(s). Since changing the make-up of an MPO board and the re-designation process is a time-consuming effort we talked about aligning the effective date of the bill with the census effort. That would push the effective date of the legislation out to late 2023 and I am not sure that will sit well with the members of our legislature who like to see results quickly. I must reiterate that we had a great visit and I look forward to working with Representative Beshears. He did not commit to specific changes and I am certain this is because he has other individuals to meet with before crafting any changes to his bill. The bill has one more committee stop before going to the House floor. I would bet on an amendment to the bill at the last committee stop.

The Senate companion bill SB 1516 has been introduced and assigned to committees however it has not yet been scheduled to be heard in committee. If the Senate companion is not advanced then the changes in HB 575 and SB 1516 will not happen, however we may see a set of similar bills next year. Your MPOAC Legislative Newsletter will keep you up to date on these two bills. Here is an update on the other bills we are tracking.....

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy this edition of the MPOAC Legislative Update.

Important Dates for the 2018 Legislative Session

- August 01, 2017 – Deadline for filing claim bills
- November 17, 2017 - Deadline for submitting requests for drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including requests for companion bills
- January 5, 2018 – Deadline for approving final drafts of general bills and joint resolutions, including companion bills
- January 9, 2018 - Regular Session convenes, deadline for filing bills for introduction
- February 24, 2018 - All bills are immediately certified, motion to reconsider made and considered the same day
- February 27, 2018 - 50th day, last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
- March 9, 2018 - 60th day, last day of Regular Session

Legislation of interest to the membership

This is a summary of bills filed and published on the legislature's website as of January 19, 2018. The bills are listed in numerical order for your convenience. As the session and bills progress, this ordering of bills will make it easier to follow the status of any particular bill you are tracking.

Changes from last update are shown in RED

HB 33: Texting While Driving – (Toledo; Slosberg – Co-Introducers: Ahern; Burgess; Fitzenhagen; Jacobs; Metz; Stark; Altman; Asencio; Berman; Beshears; Boyd; Clemons; Cortes, J.; Cruz; Daniels; Diaz, M.; Donalds; Drake; Duran; Edwards-Walpole; Grant, M.; Gruters; Hager; Harrell; Harrison; Ingoglia; Killebrew; Leek; Mariano; McClain; McClure; Miller, M.; Moskowitz; Olszewski; Payne; Perez; Plasencia; Raschein; Russell; Smith; Spano; Stevenson; Stone; Watson, C.; White; Willhite; Williams) – Similar Bill SB 90. Revises legislative intent; requires law enforcement officer to inform motor vehicle operator of certain rights; prohibits certain actions by such officer; removes requirement that enforcement be accomplished as secondary action. The bill has added many cosponsors and gained the support of the Speaker of the House. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Judiciary Committee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; YEAS 14 NAYS 0, now in Judiciary Committee.

SB 72: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Garcia – Co-Introducers: Rodriguez; Mayfield;) – Withdrawn. Identical to SB 90.

CS/SB 90: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Perry – Co-Sponsor: Garcia; Mayfield; Rodriguez; Campbell; Baxley Stewart; Taddeo) – Identical to SB 72. Similar to HB 33. Revising the legislative intent relating to the authorization of law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are texting while driving; requiring deposit of fines into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund, etc. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. Committee Substitute (amendment) and passed by Communications, Energy and Public Utilities (Yeas 7, Nays 1). This bill also picked up three more co-sponsors. Now in Transportation. The bill now has seven co-sponsors. The bill passed the Transportation Committee with a vote of 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. The bill now moves to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development. **On the Committee Agenda for Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, 01/18/2018, 9:00AM 110 Senate Office Building.**

SB 116: Operation of Vehicles – (Baxley – Co-Introducers: Passidomo; Book) - Requiring drivers to vacate lanes closest to, or reduce speed and pass, vulnerable road users, authorized emergency, sanitation, and utility service vehicles or workers, and wrecker operators under certain circumstances, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

HB 117: Operation of Vehicles – (Stone – Co-Introducers: Hahnfeldt; Jacobs; Killebrew; Stark) - Companion Bill to SB 116. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Committee Substitute passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on a vote of 11 Yeas, 0 Nays. Pending review of Committee Substitute. **Now in Government Accountability Committee.**

HB 121: Texting While Driving – (Slosberg; Stark) – Similar to SB 72 and SB 90. Revises short title & legislative intent; revises penalties for violations of provisions re: texting while driving; provides enhanced

penalties for violations committed in school zones & crossings; requires law enforcement agencies to adopt policies prohibiting racial profiling in enforcement; removes requirement that enforcement be accomplished as secondary action. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Judiciary Committee; Government Accountability Committee. This bill was withdrawn and the bill sponsor (Slosberg) is a cosponsor of the newly filed HB 33: Texting While Driving bill.

SB 176: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Hutson) – Similar to HB 6001 - Repealing provisions relating to the installation and use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal, provisions that authorize the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a county, or a municipality to use such detectors, and the distribution of penalties collected for specified violations, etc. Referred to Transportation; Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

SB 182: Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program – (Rodriguez) – Similar Bill HB 567. Requiring the Department of Transportation to create a Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program; requiring the program to disburse grants using funds allocated to the department by the Legislature to certain qualified businesses for the purpose of maintaining the businesses during a construction project of the department, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

SB 188: Public School Transportation – (Steube) – Companion bill is HB 1299. Requiring district school boards to provide transportation to certain students; revising the speed and road conditions that meet the requirements for a hazardous walking condition; requiring a district school superintendent to request a review of a hazardous walking condition upon receipt of a written request from a parent of a student, etc. Referred to Education; Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12 Education; Appropriations.

SB 206: Highway Memorial Markers – (Perry) – Requiring the Department of Transportation to establish a process, including the adoption of any forms deemed necessary by the department, for submitting applications for installation of a memorial marker; authorizing the department to install a certain sign at no charge to an applicant; authorizing an applicant to request an emblem of belief not specifically approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration for incorporation in a memorial marker, subject to certain requirements, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

HB 215: Autocycles – (Payne) – Related bill SB 504 (Perry). Defines "autocycle" & revises definition of "motorcycle"; requires safety belt usage by autocycle operator/passenger; authorizes autocycle operation without motorcycle endorsement; provides applicability. Definition of an autocycle: A three-wheeled motorcycle that has two wheels in the front and one wheel in the back; is equipped with a roll cage or roll hoops, a seat belt for each occupant, antilock brakes, a steering wheel, and seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride it; and is manufactured in accordance with the applicable federal motorcycle safety standards provided in 49 C.F.R. part 571 by a manufacturer registered with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Not knowing from the description what an autocycle looks like, I thought it best to share with you a picture of one. The image of an autocycle is shown below. Bill referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Bill passed the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee (Yeas 12, Nays 2) and is now on the Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee agenda for 11/15/2017. Bill passed the Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, now in Government Accountability Committee. The bill passed the Government Accountability Committee with 19 Yeas, 2 Nays. **The Bill has now been placed on the Calendar for a full House vote on 01/24/2018.**



HB 243: Charter County and Regional Transportation System Surtax – (Avila; Perez) – Companion Bill is SB 688. Requires certain counties to use surtax proceeds for specified purposes related to fixed guideway rapid transit systems & bus systems; authorizes use of surtax proceeds for refinancing existing bonds; prohibits use of such proceeds for certain purposes. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Ways and Means Committee; Government Accountability Committee. The bill was amended by the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee to define eligible uses of surtax monies. The bill as written does not allow for surtax monies to be used for salaries or other personnel expenses. The bill passed 12 Yeas, Zero Nays. The bill has passed the Ways and Means Committee with a vote of 14 Yeas, 6 Nays. It is now in the Government Accountability Committee.

SB 272: Local Tax Referenda - (Brandes) – Companion bill HB 317. Revises the voter approval threshold required to pass a referendum to adopt or amend local government discretionary sales surtaxes when the referendum is held at any date other than a general election. During a general election a simple majority would be required to pass a change to a sales tax, in a non-general election the threshold would be 60 percent. Referred to Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations; and Rules. Passed Community Affairs, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax. On the Committee agenda for 01/16/2018 at 10:00AM in room 401 Senate Office Building. **Passed Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax with an amendment, 6 Yeas, Zero Nays, now in Appropriations.**

HB 317: Local Tax Referenda – (Ingoglia) – Companion bill SB 272. Requires local government discretionary sales surtax referenda to be held on specified dates & approved by specified percentage of voters. During a general election a simple majority would be required to pass a change to a sales tax, in a non-general election the threshold would be 60 percent. Referred to Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; Ways and Means Committee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee. Bill is now in Ways and Means Committee. Bill passed Ways and Means Committee, 18 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Government Accountability Committee. **An amended version of the bill passed Government Accountability Committee with 17 Yeas, 3 Nays. The amendment removes the ability to hold a local tax referenda item on a non-general election ballot.**

SB 346: Motorcycle and Moped Riders – (Perry) – Increasing the age (from age 16 to age 21) at which persons who are operating or riding upon a certain motorcycle are exempt from protective headgear requirements, etc. Bill referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. On Transportation Committee agenda for 11/14/2017. Passed Transportation Committee, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development.

HB 353: Autonomous Vehicles – (Fisher; Brodeur – Co-introducers: Jacobs; Payne) – Related to SB 712. Authorizes person to operate, or engage autonomous technology to operate, autonomous vehicle in autonomous mode; provides that autonomous technology is deemed operator of autonomous vehicle operating in autonomous mode; provides construction & applicability; defines "human operator." Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Appropriations Committee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, now in Appropriations Committee. **On Appropriations Committee agenda for 01/22/2018, 3:00PM, Webster Hall.**

SB 384: Electric Vehicles – (Brandes) – Companion bill is HB 981. Requiring the Florida Transportation Commission to review all sources of revenue for transportation infrastructure and maintenance projects and prepare a report to the Governor and the Legislature when the commission determines that electric vehicles make up a certain percentage or more of the total number of vehicles registered in this state; requiring a long-range transportation plan to consider infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate the increased use of autonomous technology and electric vehicles, etc. Bill referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. Bill was amended to add hybrid vehicles, when hybrid and electric vehicles comprise 2% of the total number of vehicles registered in the state, the Florida Transportation Commission must conduct a study of the fiscal impact to transportation funding. Bill as amended passed Transportation Committee 7 Yeas, Zero Nays.

SB 504: Autocycles – (Perry) – Related bill HB 215 (see HB 215 for an image of an autocycle). Defining the term "autocycle"; requiring safety belt or, if applicable, child restraint usage by an operator or passenger of an autocycle; including an autocycle in the definition of the term "motorcycle"; authorizing a person to operate an autocycle without a motorcycle endorsement, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. On agenda for Transportation Committee 11/14/2017. Passed Transportation Committee, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development.

HB 525: High-Speed Passenger Rail – (Grall; Magar) – Similar bill SB 572. Requires railroad companies operating high-speed passenger rail system to be responsible for certain maintenance, improvement, & upgrade costs; specifies that governmental entity is not responsible for such costs unless it consents in writing. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee.

HB 535: Statewide Alternative Transportation Authority – (Avila) – Companion bill is SB 1200. Please see the 11/17/2017 MPOAC Legislative Update Newsletter Overview for more information on this bill. Renames Florida Rail Enterprise as Statewide Alternative Transportation Authority; revises annual allocations for Transportation Regional Incentive Program; specifies annual allocations to TBARTA & authority for certain purposes; provides requirements for use of funds provided to authority; requires enterprise contracts to remain with authority; provides requirements for funding requests & county matching funds; revises & provides definitions; replaces powers & duties of enterprise re: high-speed rail system with powers & duties of authority re: alternative transportation system; exempts proposed projects funded under authority from certain development requirement. The bill was referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Bill was amended by Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, passed 13 Yeas, Zero Nays.

SB 542: Public Financing of Construction Projects – (Rodriguez) – Prohibiting state-financed constructors from commencing construction of certain structures in coastal areas without first conducting a sea level impact projection study and having such study published and approved by the Department of Environmental Protection; requiring the department to publish such studies on its website, subject to certain conditions, etc. Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environment and Natural Resources; Appropriations.

SB 544: Procurement Procedures – (Brandes) – Specifying the applicability of procedures for the resolution of protests arising from the contract solicitation or award process for certain procurements by specified transportation, expressway, and bridge authorities, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. On Transportation Committee agenda for 11/14/2017. Was Temporarily Postponed. Passed Transportation, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development.

SB 548: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Campbell) – Companion Bill is HB 6001. Repealing provisions relating to the definitions of “local hearing officer” and “traffic infraction detector,” respectively and relating to the installation and use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal, provisions that authorize the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a county, or a municipality to use such detectors and that cap fines and provide for the deposit and use of fines, and the distribution of specified penalties, respectively, etc. Referred to Transportation; Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

HB 567: Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program – (Richardson) – Similar Bill SB 182. Requires DOT to create Small Business Roadway Construction Mitigation Grant Program; requires disbursement of grants to qualified businesses; limits grant amount; provides application & eligibility requirements; requires assistance by DEO; provides for award prioritization; requires report & rulemaking. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Bill was amended by Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, passed 12 Yeas, Zero Nays.

SB 572: High-Speed Passenger Rail – (Mayfield; Co-Introducer: Gainer) – Similar bill HB 525.

Designating the "Florida High-Speed Passenger Rail Safety Act"; providing powers and duties of the Florida Department of Transportation; requiring the Florida Division of Emergency Management to offer, under certain circumstances, the local communities and local emergency services located along the rail corridor training specifically designed to help them respond to an accident involving rail passengers or hazardous materials; requiring a railroad company operating a high-speed passenger rail system to be solely responsible for certain maintenance, improvement, and upgrade costs, etc. Referred to Transportation; Community Affairs; Appropriations. On Transportation Committee agenda for 11/14/2017. Passed Transportation Committee 6 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Community Affairs. **The bill will be presented in a workshop forum at the Community Affairs Committee on 01/23/2018 at 5:00PM, Room 301, Senate Office Building.**

HB 575: Metropolitan Planning Organizations – (Beshears) – Revises MPO voting membership requirements according to population; prohibits entire county commission from being members of governing board; revises percentage of membership which may be composed of county commissioners; requires adoption of certain bylaws; revises member reappointment provisions; requires compliance with certain provisions by specified date. MPOs with an urbanized population under 500,000 must have a board of between 5 and 11 members, MPOs with an urbanized population over 500,000 must have a board of between 5 and 15 members. The bill does not affect the Miami-Dade TPO. The bill bans weighted voting and places term limits on Governing Board Members. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee with 13 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Local, Federal and Veteran Affairs Subcommittee. The bill passed Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee with a vote of 13 Yeas, 1 Nay. The bill now moves to the Government Accountability Committee.

HB 633: Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program – (Fischer; Co-Introducer: Jacobs) – Companion bill is SB 852. Creates Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program within DOT; provides program goals & grant eligibility requirements; requires DOT to issue request for proposals; provides proposal requirements, grant award requirements, & requirements for use of grant funds; requires reports; requires administrative support by DOT; provides appropriation. Annual amount: \$15,000,000.00. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. **On the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee agenda, 01/23/2018 at 9:00AM, Reed Hall.**

SB 688: Charter County and Regional Transportation System Surtax – (Garcia) – Companion bill is HB 243. Requiring counties, except under certain circumstances, to use surtax proceeds only for specified purposes; prohibiting the use of such proceeds for non-transit purposes, etc. Referred to Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations. Passed Community Affairs with 5 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax.

SB 712: Autonomous Vehicles – (Brandes) – Related to HB 353. Exempting an autonomous vehicle being operated in autonomous mode from a certain prohibition on the operation of a motor vehicle if the vehicle is actively displaying certain content that is visible from the driver's seat while the vehicle is in motion; authorizing a fully autonomous vehicle to operate in this state regardless of whether a licensed human operator is physically present in the vehicle; authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to enroll the state in any federal pilot program or project for the collection and study of data for the review of automated driving systems, etc. Referred to Transportation; Banking and Insurance; Rules.

SB 782: Bollards Grant Program – (Rodriguez) - Requiring the Department of Transportation to develop the Bollards Grant Program in order to provide grants to municipalities and counties for the installation of bollards in their jurisdictions; requiring a county or municipality to specify in its application the area, which may include private property, where it intends to install bollards and why the installation is needed, etc. Annual amount: \$250,000.00. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

HB 807: Metropolitan Planning Organizations – (Diamond) – Companion Bill is SB 984. Allows MPOs designated after July 01, 2018 as the result of a merger of two or more existing MPOs to have at least 5 Governing Board members. The bill does not place an upper limit on the number of Governing Board members for MPOs designated after July 01, 2018 as a result of the merger of two or more existing MPOs. Assigned to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. **On the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee agenda for 01/23/2018 at 9:00AM, Reed Hall.**

HB 815: County and Municipal Public Officers and Employees – (Avila; Co-Introducers: La Rosa) – Companion bill is SB 1180. This bill does a number of things, of importance to MPOs are two requirements related to travel in the bill. First, out of state travel for public officials must be approved by the full governing body of the county or municipality at a publicly noticed meeting and must be on the meeting agenda with an itemized list detailing all anticipated travel expenses. The public official travel must be approved by a majority vote of the governing body. This may create problems for MPO board members to attend events/conferences and USDOT led events given that short notice travel would be virtually impossible to be approved in advance. The second issue for MPOs is the cap of lodging expenses in excess of \$120 per night. For MPOs that are administratively housed within a County or Municipality, the lodging cap of \$120 per night would apply to you. Foreign travel by county or municipal officers cannot be paid by their government body. Travel expenses incurred by public officers and employees may only be paid for if it is incurred 24 hours before, during and after the event necessitating the travel. Travel expenses outside those timeframes cannot be paid for by the government entity. The bill has been referred to Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; Public Integrity and Ethics Committee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee with 12 Yeas and 2 Nays. **Now in Public Integrity and Ethics Committee.**

SB 852: Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program – (Brandes; Co-Introducer: Taddeo) – Companion bill is HB 633. Creates Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program within DOT; provides program goals & grant eligibility requirements; requires DOT to issue request for proposals; provides proposal requirements, grant award requirements, & requirements for use of grant funds; requires reports; requires administrative support by DOT; provides appropriation. Annual amount: \$15,000,000.00. Referred to Transportation; Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; Appropriations. On the Transportation Committee agenda for 01/18/2018 at 10:00AM in Room 401 of the Senate Office Building. **Passed Transportation Committee with 7 Yeas, Zero Nays.**

HB 981: Electric Vehicles – (Olszewski) – Companion bill is SB 384. Requiring the Florida Transportation Commission to review all sources of revenue for transportation infrastructure and maintenance projects and prepare a report to the Governor and the Legislature when the commission determines that electric vehicles make up a certain percentage or more of the total number of vehicles registered in this state; requiring a long-range transportation plan to consider infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate the increased use of autonomous technology and electric vehicles, etc. Bill referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability. Bill passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee 13 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Transportation and Tourism Subcommittee.

SB 984: Metropolitan Planning Organizations – (Brandes) – Companion Bill is HB 807. Allows MPOs designated after July 01, 2018 as the result of a merger of two or more existing MPOs to have at least 5 Governing Board members. The bill does not place an upper limit on the number of Governing Board members for MPOs designated after July 01, 2018 as a result of the merger of two or more existing MPOs. The bill has been filed but not yet assigned to committees.

SB 1012: Alligator Alley Toll Road – (Passidomo) – Requiring fees generated from tolls to be used to reimburse, by interlocal agreement effective for a specified period of time, a county or another local governmental entity for the direct actual costs of operating a specified fire station, which may be used by a county or another local governmental entity to provide fire, rescue, and emergency management services to the public, etc. Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development; Appropriations. On Transportation Committee agenda for 01/18/2018 at 10:00AM in room 401 of the Senate Office Building. **Passed Transportation Committee with 7 Yeas, Zero Nays. Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development.**

HB 1033: Dockless Bicycle Sharing – (Toledo) – Companion bill is SB 1304 by Young. Providing insurance requirements for a bicycle sharing company; providing requirements for dockless bicycles made available for reservation by such company, etc. Bill referred to Careers and Competition Subcommittee; Commerce Committee. On the agenda for Careers and Competition Subcommittee for 01/16/2018 at 3:00PM in room 216 in the Capitol Building. **Amended version passed Careers and Competition Subcommittee with 13 Yeas, 1 Nay.**

SB 1180: County and Municipal Public Officers and Employees – (Steube) – Companion bill is HB 815. This bill does a number of things, of importance to MPOs are two requirements related to travel in the bill. First, out of state travel for public officials must be approved by the full governing body of the county or municipality at a publicly noticed meeting and must be on the meeting agenda with an itemized list detailing all anticipated travel expenses. The public official travel must be approved by a majority vote of the governing body. This may create problems for MPO board members to attend events/conferences and USDOT led events given that short notice travel would be virtually impossible to be approved in advance. The second issue for MPOs is the cap of lodging expenses in excess of \$120 per night. For MPOs that are administratively housed within a County or Municipality, the lodging cap of \$120 per night would apply to you. Foreign travel by county or municipal officers cannot be paid by their government body. Travel expenses incurred by public officers and employees may only be paid for if it is incurred 24 hours before, during and after the event necessitating the travel. Travel expenses outside those timeframes cannot be paid for by the government entity. The bill has been referred to Ethics and Elections; Community Affairs; Rules.

SB 1188: Strategic Intermodal System – (Rouson) – Companion Bill is HB 1277. Specifies that the Strategic Intermodal System and the Emerging SIS shall include existing or planned corridors that are managed lanes of transit. Referred to Transportation; Community Affairs; Rules.

SB 1200: Statewide Alternative Transportation Authority – (Young; Co-Introducer: Galvano) – Companion bill is HB 535. Please see the 11/17/2017 MPOAC Legislative Update Newsletter Overview for more information on this bill. Renames Florida Rail Enterprise as Statewide Alternative Transportation Authority; revises annual allocations for Transportation Regional Incentive Program; specifies annual allocations to TBARTA & authority for certain purposes; provides requirements for use of funds provided to authority; requires enterprise contracts to remain with authority; provides requirements for funding requests & county matching funds; revises & provides definitions; replaces powers & duties of enterprise re: high-speed rail system with powers & duties of authority re: alternative transportation system; exempts proposed projects funded under authority from certain development requirement. The bill was referred to Transportation; Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; Appropriations.

HB 1277: Strategic Intermodal System – (Willhite) – Companion Bill is HB 1188. Specifies that the Strategic Intermodal System and the Emerging SIS shall include existing or planned corridors that are managed lanes of transit. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee; Government Accountability.

HB 1299: Public School Transportation – (Raburn) – Companion bill is HB 188. Requiring district school boards to provide transportation to certain students; revising the speed and road conditions that meet the requirements for a hazardous walking condition; requiring a district school superintendent to request a review of a hazardous walking condition upon receipt of a written request from a parent of a student, etc. Referred to PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee; PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee; Education.

SB 1304: Dockless Bicycle Sharing – (Young) – Companion bill is HB 1033 by Toledo. Providing insurance requirements for a bicycle sharing company; providing requirements for dockless bicycles made available for reservation by such company, etc. Bill referred to Banking and Insurance; Community Affairs; Rules.

SB 1350: Airports – (Perry) – Increasing eligibility for certain funding by the DOT to include airports that have fewer than a specified number of commercial passenger enplanements annually. Bill referred to Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

SB 1516: Metropolitan Planning Organizations – (Perry) – This is a companion bill to HB 575, at this time the two bills are identical – HB 575 is likely to undergo revisions. Revises MPO voting membership requirements according to population; prohibits entire county commission from being members of governing board; revises percentage of membership which may be composed of county commissioners; requires adoption of certain bylaws; revises member reappointment provisions; requires compliance with certain provisions by specified date. MPOs with an urbanized population under 500,000 must have a board of between 5 and 11 members, MPOs with an urbanized population over 500,000 must have a board of between 5 and 15 members. The bill does not affect the Miami-Dade TPO. The bill bans weighted voting and places term limits on Governing Board Members. The bill was filed on 01/04/2018, on 01/12/2018 it was referred to Transportation, Community Affairs and Rules.

HB 6001: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Avila; Ingoglia) – Similar to SB 176. Companion Bill is SB 548. Repeals provisions relating to installation & use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when driver fails to stop at traffic signal, provisions that authorize DHSMV, county, or municipality to use such detectors, & provisions for distribution of penalties collected for specified violations. Referred to Appropriations Committee, on the Committee agenda for 10/10/2017. Bill passed Appropriations Committee (Yeas 16, Nays 10). Bill has been placed on Calendar for Full House Vote. The Bill passed the full House on a vote of 83 Yeas, 18 Nays.