

What is the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)?

The Ocala Marion Transportation Planning Organization's (TPO) **Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** is the cornerstone of the transportation planning process for the Ocala Marion County planning area, which includes the municipalities of Belleview, Dunnellon, Ocala and the entirety of Marion County. The LRTP serves as a twenty-five (25) year blueprint for transportation improvements for the entire county. The LRTP considers all modes of transportation, including roadways, transit, bicycles, pedestrians, trails, freight and aviation. The development of the LRTP is based on an extensive participatory process with input from partners, stakeholders and the general public.

The LRTP document describes the current status of transportation in Marion County, and projects future population/employment, and analyzes impacts on the anticipated transportation system. In addition, the LRTP includes a vision, set of goals and objectives, and financial projections, as well as estimates of future traffic. To ensure the recommendations are financially feasible, all projects included in the LRTP are linked to specific federal, state and local funding sources. Based on Federal regulations, the LRTP must be updated every five (5) years.

The two core elements of the LRTP include the **Needs Plan** and **Cost Feasible Plan**.

A project that is included in the **Needs Plan** must go through a careful vetting process to ensure it is supported by the community, is reflected in local plans and programs, and meets the approval of elected leaders. A Needs Plan project is further prioritized based on available funding and whether it effectively supports the vision and goals of the TPO. If a project meets these thresholds, it is identified in the **Cost-Feasible Plan** and will be eligible to be funded and completed within the next 25 years.

The ultimate goal of the LRTP is to identify the highest priority improvements that are cost restrained to the available revenues, and for the TPO to submit these projects to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on an annual basis with the intent of receiving funding towards implementation. For more information on how projects each year are submitted to FDOT, please review the TPO's Fact Sheet on the **List of Priority Projects (LOPP)**.

The TPO began developing the 2045 LRTP in May 2019 and is scheduled to be adopted by the TPO Board no later than November 2020. To learn more about the LRTP and future transportation projects in Marion County, visit the TPO website at: www.OcalaMarionTPO.org and the 2045 LRTP website at: www.OcalaMarion2045.com.

