



FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

# EMBRACE THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION NOW:

PROVIDE DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES TO MEET THE STATE'S GROWING AND CHANGING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

The Florida League of Cities **SUPPORTS** legislation directing the Florida Department of Transportation to establish a grant program to provide financial assistance for the installation of publicly available electric vehicle charging infrastructure on public or private property, to provide technical assistance for the development and adoption of local or regional plans for charging infrastructure and associated equipment and to identify additional transportation revenue to support innovative infrastructure and transit projects to meet the surging transportation demands driven by dramatic growth throughout Florida.

## BACKGROUND

The growth in population, visitors and the economy means **our roads and highways are congested**. This public safety issue means slower 911 response times and sluggish evacuations during natural disasters.

Additionally, with more residents and visitors, **our road system will fall into further disrepair unless acted upon now**. If we wait to fund our roads, the costs of supplies and labor will only go up while the quality of our roads goes down.

**Only a handful of states – including Florida – have failed to increase gas taxes to fund infrastructure.** Federal, state and county governments have multiple ways to pay for transportation demands, but cities are limited.

The continued **growth of electric and autonomous vehicles means an increased need for the infrastructure to support them**. Currently, Florida doesn't have a dedicated revenue source to help ensure the supply keeps up with the demand.

## KEY MESSAGES FOR 2022

Florida needs to prepare for the future by embracing the growth of electric and autonomous vehicles, which require completely **different infrastructure needs than their gas counterparts**. This preparation will require a **dedicated revenue source or fee and technical guidance on a local and regional level** about how to provide the appropriate resources to ensure Florida remains a leader in this area.

By investing in these overdue infrastructure needs now, other transit options like public buses, electric scooters, electric bikes and high-speed rail can be expanded to help **alleviate congestion on our roads and improve the quality of life for residents and tourists**.

**When we improve access to highways and cut travel delays and transportation costs, the economy benefits**, as do all the people who live and work here.

As more residents and businesses embrace electric and autonomous vehicles, **Florida must be ready to serve their needs**.

To prosper, **Florida cities need greater funding flexibility**.

The League will continue to monitor the federal infrastructure bill. If it passes, it may impact or address these funding priorities.

*NOTE: American Rescue Plan Act funding has specific use guidelines and may not be used to fund these priorities.*



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