

**PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT
CONCERNING THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN OF THE
TAMPA BAY AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

The Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (“TBARTA”) is an agency of the State of Florida created to plan, develop, finance, construct, own, purchase, operate, maintain, relocate, equip, repair and manage multimodal systems in Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota Counties.

Improved mobility and expanded multimodal transportation options for passengers and freight throughout TBARTA’s seven-county region is the goal and mission of TBARTA. Since its creation in 2007 by the Florida Legislature, TBARTA has worked closely and cooperatively with local governments and transit agencies, as well as the Florida Department of Transportation, to carry out its responsibilities and work toward achieving this goal by developing and adopting the Regional Transportation Master Plan (“Master Plan”).

The Master Plan is the product of significant efforts that have engaged the public, as well as local, regional and state agencies in open dialogue through innovative outreach, special working groups, and discussions which have fostered a spirit of cooperation and continued communication throughout the region.

The Tampa Bay region now has an unprecedented opportunity to improve regional prosperity by advancing the TBARTA Master Plan which will compliment and coordinate with local efforts to create a seamless network to move residents and visitors in and out of the region, as well as connect our workplaces, homes, beaches, airports and other destinations in order to achieve a world-class transportation system.

The implementation of projects identified in the Master Plan as well as the projects identified in local Transit Development Plans and local Long Range Transportation Plans will have a positive impact on the economy of TBARTA’s seven-county region along the west coast of Florida and will also enhance economic opportunities for the entire state of Florida.

There is now a critical need to identify and adopt the principles which will establish the framework for implementation of the TBARTA’s Master Plan while also supporting the efforts of local governments, transit agencies and the Florida Department of Transportation to assist in addressing this need for improved mobility and expanded multimodal transportation options.

THEREFORE, the undersigned Parties hereby adopt and agree to the following principles which shall serve to guide and direct further development and implementation of the TBARTA Master Plan and local transportation initiatives:

1. **The Master Plan.** – TBARTA’s Master Plan is recognized as the region’s plan for achieving improved mobility and expanded multimodal transportation options for passengers and freight throughout TBARTA’s seven-county region. Implementation of the Master Plan is critical for the region because it will achieve an interconnected and balanced transportation network that includes seamless and sustainable connections with local transportation services.

2. **Dedicated Funding Source.** – In order to implement the Master Plan, a dedicated and sustainable funding source for TBARTA must be identified and approved by the Florida Legislature. This will enable TBARTA to carry out its responsibilities as directed by the Florida Legislature in TBARTA’s enabling legislation by leveraging multiple financing opportunities and partnerships, while not impacting transportation funding sources and agreements available to local governments, transit agencies and service providers.

3. **Land Use Decisions.** – Local governments in TBARTA’s seven-county region shall consider and, where possible, facilitate implementation of Master Plan projects and related transit oriented development through the exercise of their respective zoning and land use powers.

4. **TBARTA’s Role.** – In its role as convener, facilitator and manager of the regional transportation vision, TBARTA shall partner with local governments, transit agencies and service providers to ensure that plans and projects (including the Master Plan as well as the projects identified in local Transit Development Plans and local Long Range Transportation Plans) that are undertaken throughout the seven-county region are coordinated, consistent and integrated through formal processes where all stakeholders are provided the opportunity for input, feedback and concurrence. Through TBARTA, the region is best able to speak with one voice with local, state and federal officials and agencies about the transportation needs of this region. As the regional agency created by the Florida Legislature to address the transportation needs of this region, TBARTA shall facilitate a decision with its partner local governments and transit agencies on the development of regional services detailed in the Master Plan, including a single rail operating entity.

5. **Local Services, Projects and Funding.** – TBARTA shall support transportation funding initiatives and referenda of local governments, transit agencies and service providers whose documented plans and funding provisions include services and projects which ensure compatibility of technologies, alignments and operating systems in order to integrate such services and projects into a regional network as part of the TBARTA Master Plan. Alternatives analyses, local services and projects must also be coordinated, consistent and integrated with the TBARTA Master Plan, Transit Development Plans and the Long Range Transportation Plans of the other local governments and transit agencies in the seven-county region.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED: [Signatories to be listed with date approved]