



- Coastal protection and encouragement of development in upland areas
- Affordable housing
- Attracting new business and economic development
- Need to better understand and address parking and its effect on land use and transportation
- Level of Service (LOS) standard D or E in most places

Additionally, the Cities of Bradenton and Sarasota reference provision of quality rental units and maintaining the grid network, respectively. The City of North Port specifically addresses urban sprawl through protection of green space around their urban areas. There is also mention of mobility for aging populations in Venice and farm work housing in Palmetto. Both of these challenges speak to a need for transportation options and a need for affordable housing with good accessibility to essential services.

The mainland cities also address the concepts of smart growth with a call for transportation demand management strategies (TDM) and electric vehicles. A focus on establishing mobility plans to assess development and its impact on multi modal transportation is also a common theme in the mainland cities plans.

### *Island Cities*

The following are common themes in the Island Cities comprehensive plans:

- Land development regulations that recognize vulnerability to tropical storms, topography, and soil conditions
- Planning for hurricane evacuation
- Limitation of public expenditures in coastal high hazard areas
- Bicycle and pedestrian connections from residential areas to the mainland, recreation, school, shopping, and transit
- Peak season transit connections between mainland and island cities
- Promotion of increased transit
- LOS standard D in most places
- Protection and preservation of natural resources

The City of Holmes Beach plan has the strongest wording on provision of affordable housing. The City of Bradenton Beach discourages strip commercial development and Anna Maria Island will not support or finance new local transportation corridors in coastal high hazard areas. A common challenge in the island communities, and specifically called out in Longboat Key, is providing infrastructure to support the peak season population. This must be balanced with the constrained environment on the islands and the desire to minimize new development in coastal high hazard areas.

### *Counties*

The following are common themes in the counties' comprehensive plans:

- Multi modal mobility and connectivity
- Reduction of traffic congestion through transit
- Encouragement of infill and redevelopment
- Economic development
- Protection of existing rural character, and agriculture economy
- Affordable housing near employment
- Direct development away from areas subject to flooding
- LOS standard D in most places

Additionally, Manatee County's comprehensive plan includes continued support for Port Manatee operations. Sarasota County has a greater emphasis on aging in place, after releasing the Age-Friendly Sarasota County Action Plan in 2017.

### *Link to LRTP*

The comprehensive plan themes will be used to inform the MPO's LRTP scenario planning process. The themes found throughout the plans may influence the following:

- **Accessibility** – Access to affordable housing options near employment and transit service connecting affordable housing with employment
- **Reliability** – Technology strategies for incident management
- **Congestion** – Implementing congestion management strategies and encouraging non-auto modes to reduce vehicle miles traveled
- **Resiliency** – Mitigation and adaptation strategies including limiting new development in coastal high hazard areas

## PUBLIC INPUT

Meeting attendees were asked to prioritize the following transportation investment areas:

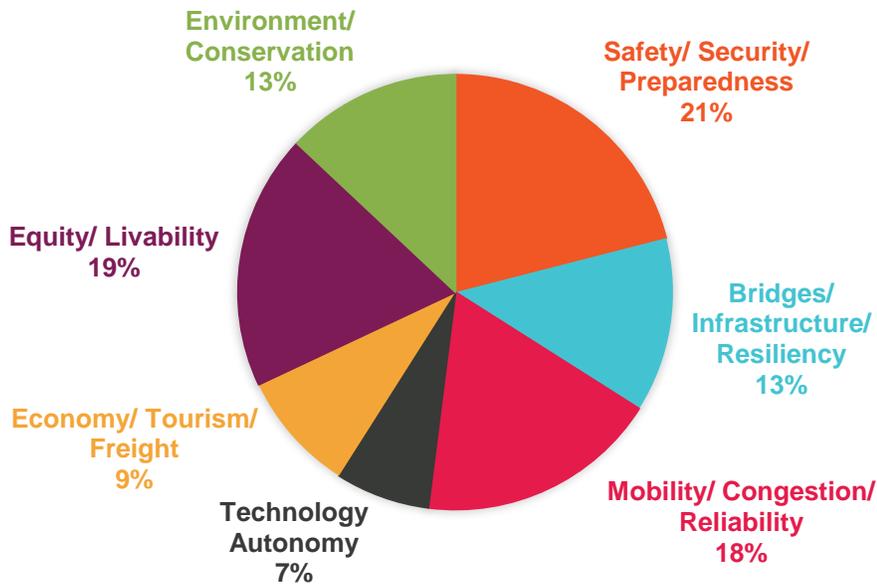
- Safety/Security/Preparedness
- Bridges/Infrastructure/Resiliency
- Mobility/Congestion/Reliability
- Technology/Autonomy
- Economy/Tourism/Freight
- Equity/Livability
- Environment/Conservation

Participants were given \$100 “MPO bucks” and could invest their money in any of the seven areas, in increments of \$10. The results are summarized in Table 1 and Figure 1. The top investment priorities among meeting attendees were: (1) Safety/Security/Preparedness, (2) Equity/Livability, and (3) Mobility/Congestion/Reliability.

**Table 1: Transportation Investment Activity**

Investment Area	Total Investment	Additional Comments
Safety/Security/Preparedness	\$1,190	Address High Crash Locations
Equity/Livability	\$1,080	Improve Access to Affordable Housing (x2)
Mobility/Congestion/Reliability	\$1,040	Increase Transit Options Reduce Auto Dependency Bikeways (x3)
Bridges/Infrastructure/Resiliency	\$750	Reduce Roadway Flooding Integrate Sustainable Development Maintain Current Infrastructure
Environment/Conservation	\$730	Promote Energy Conservation (x2) Minimize Environmental Impact Improve Air Quality
Economy/Tourism/Freight	\$490	Improve Routes to Tourist Destinations
Technology Autonomy	\$420	Accommodate Autonomous Vehicles Improve Efficiency Using Technology Maximize Tech Advances

**Figure 1: Investment Area Priorities**



Participants filled out a survey where they were asked what they believe are the top three issues Manatee and Sarasota Counties will need to address in the next 20 years. Common responses include:

- Providing access to affordable housing
- Improving multimodal connectivity
- Supporting the economy and job growth
- Increasing safety
- Increasing equity
- Improving walkability
- Protecting the environment
- Preparing for sea level rise/climate change
- Reducing congestion
- Preparing for evacuations and other emergencies