

PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME:

Bay County Transit Governance Analysis

PROJECT SPONSOR:

Funded by the *Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)*

DURATION:

October 2022 – February 2024

PROJECT STATUS:

- Creation of the Bay County TPO Governance Transit Committee
- Completion of a Situational Analysis
- Established preferred alternative to move towards the creation of a local independent transit authority for Bay County with no taxing authority
- Ongoing coordination with key Stakeholders and the Public



PROJECT BACKGROUND

In July 2022, as part of a discussion involving the endorsement of the Bay County TPO's annual Transit Development Plan update, the Bay County TPO Transit Subcommittee made a recommendation for the TPO Board to initiate an analysis of potential governance alternatives for the establishment of a new independent transit authority in Bay County. In August 2022, the TPO Board approved this recommendation put forth by the Transit Subcommittee to conduct a comprehensive analysis for the purposes of considering governance alternatives for the development of an independent transit agency in Bay County.



OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study are to conduct a comprehensive process and analysis to define the role, responsibilities, and governance characteristics for the establishment of an independent transit authority in Bay County.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The expected outcome of study is to create a new independent transit authority for the purposes of enhancing the mobility and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Bay County. As an independent transit authority, the existing division of public transit services provided by the TPO (fixed-route bus service) and County (on-demand transportation disadvantaged services) will be consolidated into a single organization. This authority will have a dedicated Board with the power to establish policies and more flexibility in addressing the needs of Bay County's communities in an effective and efficient manner.

