An act relating to the Department of Transportation; amending ss. 311.07 and 311.09, F.S.; revising the minimum amount of funds that the department must request for the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; defining the terms "driver-assistive truck platooning technology" and "port of entry"; directing the Department of Transportation to study the operation of driver-assistive truck platooning technology; authorizing the department to conduct a pilot project to test such operation; providing security requirements; requiring a report to the Governor and Legislature; amending s. 316.303, F.S.; revising the prohibition from operating, under certain circumstances, a motor vehicle that is equipped with television-type receiving equipment; providing exceptions to the prohibition against displaying moving television broadcast or pre-recorded video entertainment content in vehicles; amending s. 316.545, F.S.; providing a specified penalty for drivers of commercial motor vehicles who obtain temporary registration permits entering the state at, or operating on designated routes to, a port-of-entry location; amending s. 316.85, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a licensed driver is

authorized to operate an autonomous vehicle in autonomous mode; amending s. 316.86, F.S.; deleting a provision authorizing the operation of vehicles equipped with autonomous technology on roads in this state for testing purposes by certain persons or research organizations; deleting a requirement that a human operator be present in an autonomous vehicle for testing purposes; deleting certain financial responsibility requirements for entities performing such testing; amending s. 319.145, F.S.; revising provisions relating to required equipment and operation of autonomous vehicles; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to assume certain responsibilities of the United States Department of Transportation with respect to highway projects within the state; authorizing the department to enter into certain agreements related to the federal surface transportation project delivery program under specified federal law; authorizing the department to adopt rules and relevant federal environmental standards; providing a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to civil suit in federal court; amending s. 334.30, F.S.; revising requirements for the development and approval of a proposal to finance or refinance a transportation project; authorizing the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of

Administration to make certain recommendations to the Governor; creating s. 337.027, F.S., relating to highway project contracts; authorizing the department to establish a program that would assist small businesses; defining the term "small business"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 338.165, F.S.; removing certain facilities from a list of facilities whose toll revenues may be used to secure bonds; authorizing the department's Pinellas Bayway System to be transferred by the department and become part of the turnpike system under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law; providing applicability; repealing chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended, relating to the Pinellas Bayway; creating s. 339.0809, F.S.; establishing the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation; providing for a board of directors; providing for membership and organization; providing powers and duties of the corporation; authorizing the corporation to borrow money; providing for effect of dissolution with respect to property owned by the corporation; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; revising requirements for amendments to the department's adopted work program to be submitted to the Legislative Budget Commission; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; requiring certain long-range transportation plans to include assessment of

capital investment and other measures necessary to make the most efficient use of existing transportation facilities to improve safety; requiring the assessments to include consideration of infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances in vehicle technology; amending s. 339.64, F.S.; requiring the department to coordinate with certain partners and industry representatives to consider infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances in vehicle technology in Strategic Intermodal System facilities; requiring the Strategic Intermodal System Plan to include a needs assessment regarding such infrastructure and technological improvements; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 311.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

311.07 Florida seaport transportation and economic development funding.—

(2) A minimum of $25 ~~$15~~ million per year shall be made available from the State Transportation Trust Fund to fund the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program. The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development

Council created in s. 311.09 shall develop guidelines for project funding. Council staff, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Economic Opportunity shall work in cooperation to review projects and allocate funds in accordance with the schedule required for the Department of Transportation to include these projects in the tentative work program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4).

Section 2. Subsection (9) of section 311.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

311.09 Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.—

(9) The Department of Transportation shall include at least $25 ~~no less than $15~~ million per year in its annual legislative budget request for the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program funded under s. 311.07. Such budget shall include funding for projects approved by the council which have been determined by each agency to be consistent. The department shall include the specific approved Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program projects to be funded under s. 311.07 during the ensuing fiscal year in the tentative work program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4). The total amount of funding to be allocated to Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program projects under s. 311.07 during the successive 4 fiscal years shall also be included in the tentative work program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4). The council may submit to the

department a list of approved projects that could be made production-ready within the next 2 years. The list shall be submitted by the department as part of the needs and project list prepared pursuant to s. 339.135(2)(b). However, the department shall, upon written request of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council, submit work program amendments pursuant to s. 339.135(7) to the Governor within 10 days after the later of the date the request is received by the department or the effective date of the amendment, termination, or closure of the applicable funding agreement between the department and the affected seaport, as required to release the funds from the existing commitment. Notwithstanding s. 339.135(7)(c), any work program amendment to transfer prior year funds from one approved seaport project to another seaport project is subject to the procedures in s. 339.135(7)(d). Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the department may transfer unexpended budget between the seaport projects as identified in the approved work program amendments.

Section 3. Subsections (94) and (95) are added to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, to read:

316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

(94) DRIVER-ASSISTIVE TRUCK PLATOONING TECHNOLOGY.—Vehicle

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

automation and safety technology that integrates sensor array, wireless vehicle-to-vehicle communications, active safety systems, and specialized software to link safety systems and synchronize acceleration and braking between two vehicles while leaving each vehicle's steering control and systems command in the control of the vehicle's driver in compliance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration rules regarding vehicle-to-vehicle communications.

(95) PORT OF ENTRY.—A designated location that allows drivers of commercial motor vehicles to purchase temporary registration permits necessary to operate legally within the state. The locations and the designated routes to such locations shall be determined by the Department of Transportation.

Section 4. The Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, shall study the use and safe operation of driver-assistive truck platooning technology, as defined in s. 316.003, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of developing a pilot project to test vehicles that are equipped to operate using driver-assistive truck platooning technology.

(1) Upon conclusion of the study, the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, may conduct a pilot project to test the use and safe operation of vehicles equipped with driver-assistive truck platooning technology.

(2) Notwithstanding ss. 316.0895 and 316.303, Florida

Statutes, the Department of Transportation may conduct the pilot project in such a manner and at such locations as determined by the Department of Transportation based on the study.

(3) Before the start of the pilot project, manufacturers of driver-assistive truck platooning technology being tested in the pilot project must submit to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles an instrument of insurance, surety bond, or proof of self-insurance acceptable to the department in the amount of $5 million.

(4) Upon conclusion of the pilot project, the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, shall submit the results of the study and any findings or recommendations from the pilot project to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 316.303, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.303 Television receivers.—

(1) No motor vehicle may be operated on the highways of this state if the vehicle is actively displaying moving television broadcast or pre-recorded video entertainment content that is ~~shall be equipped with television-type receiving equipment so located that the viewer or screen is~~ visible from the driver's seat while the vehicle is in motion, unless the vehicle is equipped with autonomous technology, as defined in s. 316.003(90), and is being operated in autonomous mode, as

provided in s. 316.85(2).

(3) This section does not prohibit the use of an electronic display used in conjunction with a vehicle navigation system; an electronic display used by an operator of a vehicle equipped with autonomous technology, as defined in s. 316.003; or an electronic display used by an operator of a vehicle equipped and operating with driver-assistive truck platooning technology, as defined in s. 316.003.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 316.545, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.545 Weight and load unlawful; special fuel and motor fuel tax enforcement; inspection; penalty; review.—

(2)

(b) The officer or inspector shall inspect the license plate or registration certificate of the commercial vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(66), to determine if its gross weight is in compliance with the declared gross vehicle weight. If its gross weight exceeds the declared weight, the penalty shall be 5 cents per pound on the difference between such weights. In those cases when the commercial vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(66), is being operated over the highways of the state with an expired registration or with no registration from this or any other jurisdiction or is not registered under the applicable provisions of chapter 320, the penalty herein shall apply on the basis of 5 cents per pound on that scaled weight which exceeds 35,000 pounds on laden truck tractor-semitrailer combinations or

tandem trailer truck combinations, 10,000 pounds on laden straight trucks or straight truck-trailer combinations, or 10,000 pounds on any unladen commercial motor vehicle. A driver of a commercial motor vehicle entering the state at a designated port-of-entry location, as defined in s. 316.003(94), or operating on designated routes to a port-of-entry location, who obtains a temporary registration permit shall be assessed a penalty limited to the difference between its gross weight and the declared gross vehicle weight at 5 cents per pound. If the license plate or registration has not been expired for more than 90 days, the penalty imposed under this paragraph may not exceed $1,000. In the case of special mobile equipment as defined in s. 316.003(48), which qualifies for the license tax provided for in s. 320.08(5)(b), being operated on the highways of the state with an expired registration or otherwise not properly registered under the applicable provisions of chapter 320, a penalty of $75 shall apply in addition to any other penalty which may apply in accordance with this chapter. A vehicle found in violation of this section may be detained until the owner or operator produces evidence that the vehicle has been properly registered. Any costs incurred by the retention of the vehicle shall be the sole responsibility of the owner. A person who has been assessed a penalty pursuant to this paragraph for failure to have a valid vehicle registration certificate pursuant to the provisions of chapter 320 is not subject to the delinquent fee authorized in s. 320.07 if such person obtains a valid

registration certificate within 10 working days after such penalty was assessed.

Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 316.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.85 Autonomous vehicles; operation.—

(1) A person who possesses a valid driver license may operate an autonomous vehicle in autonomous mode on roads in this state if the vehicle is equipped with autonomous technology, as defined in s. 316.003.

Section 8. Section 316.86, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.86 ~~Operation of vehicles equipped with autonomous technology on roads for testing purposes; financial responsibility;~~ Exemption from liability for manufacturer when third party converts vehicle.—

~~(1) Vehicles equipped with autonomous technology may be operated on roads in this state by employees, contractors, or other persons designated by manufacturers of autonomous technology, or by research organizations associated with accredited educational institutions, for the purpose of testing the technology. For testing purposes, a human operator shall be present in the autonomous vehicle such that he or she has the ability to monitor the vehicle's performance and intervene, if necessary, unless the vehicle is being tested or demonstrated on a closed course. Before the start of testing in this state, the entity performing the testing must submit to the department an~~

~~instrument of insurance, surety bond, or proof of self-insurance acceptable to the department in the amount of $5 million.~~

~~(2)~~ The original manufacturer of a vehicle converted by a third party into an autonomous vehicle is ~~shall~~ not ~~be~~ liable in, and shall have a defense to and be dismissed from, any legal action brought against the original manufacturer by any person injured due to an alleged vehicle defect caused by the conversion of the vehicle, or by equipment installed by the converter, unless the alleged defect was present in the vehicle as originally manufactured.

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 319.145, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

319.145 Autonomous vehicles.—

(1) An autonomous vehicle registered in this state must continue to meet applicable federal standards and regulations for such ~~a~~ motor vehicle. The vehicle must ~~shall~~:

(a) Have a system to safely alert the operator if an autonomous technology failure is detected while the autonomous technology is engaged. When an alert is given, the system must:

1. Require the operator to take control of the autonomous vehicle; or

2. If the operator does not, or is not able to, take control of the autonomous vehicle, be capable of bringing the vehicle to a complete stop ~~Have a means to engage and disengage the autonomous technology which is easily accessible to the operator~~.

(b) Have a means, inside the vehicle, to visually indicate when the vehicle is operating in autonomous mode.

~~(c) Have a means to alert the operator of the vehicle if a technology failure affecting the ability of the vehicle to safely operate autonomously is detected while the vehicle is operating autonomously in order to indicate to the operator to take control of the vehicle.~~

(c)~~(d)~~ Be capable of being operated in compliance with the applicable traffic and motor vehicle laws of this state.

Section 10. Subsection (34) is added to section 334.044, Florida Statutes, to read:

334.044 Powers and duties of the department~~; powers and duties~~.—The department shall have the following general powers and duties:

(34) To assume the responsibilities of the United States Department of Transportation with respect to highway projects within the state under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. ss. 4321 et seq., and with respect to related responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other action required under any federal environmental law pertaining to review or approval of a highway project within the state. The department may assume responsibilities under 23 U.S.C. s. 327 and enter into one or more agreements, including memoranda of understanding, with the United States Secretary of Transportation related to the federal surface transportation project delivery program for the delivery of highway projects,

as provided by 23 U.S.C. s. 327. The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection and may adopt relevant federal environmental standards as the standards for this state for a program described in this subsection. Sovereign immunity from civil suit in federal court is waived consistent with 23 U.S.C. s. 327 and limited to the compliance, discharge, or enforcement of a responsibility assumed by the department under this subsection.

Section 11. Subsection (13) is added to section 334.30, Florida Statutes, to read:

334.30 Public-private transportation facilities.—The Legislature finds and declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for the purpose of traveling within the state, and that it is in the public's interest to provide for the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(13) In connection with a proposal to finance or refinance a transportation facility pursuant to this section, the department shall consult with the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration. The department shall provide the division with the information necessary to provide timely consultation and recommendations. The Division of Bond Finance may make an independent recommendation to the Executive Office of the Governor.

Section 12. Section 337.027, Florida Statutes, is created

to read:

337.027 Authority to implement a business development program.—

(1) The department may establish a program for highway projects which would assist small businesses. The purpose of this program is to increase competition, lower prices, and provide increased support to meet the department's future work program. The program may include, but is not limited to, setting aside contracts, providing preference points for the use of small businesses, providing special assistance in bidding and contract completion, waiving bond requirements, and implementing other strategies that would increase competition.

(2) For purposes of this section, the term "small business" means a business with yearly average gross receipts of less than $15 million for road and bridge contracts and less than $6.5 million for professional and nonprofessional services contracts. A business' average gross receipts is determined by averaging its annual gross receipts over the last 3 years, including the receipts of any affiliate as defined in s. 337.165.

(3) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 13. Subsection (4) of section 338.165, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

338.165 Continuation of tolls.—

(4) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, pursuant to s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution, and subject to the requirements of subsection (2), the Department of Transportation may request the Division of Bond Finance to issue bonds secured by toll revenues collected on the Alligator Alley and~~,~~ the Sunshine Skyway Bridge~~, the Beeline-East Expressway, the Navarre Bridge, and the Pinellas Bayway~~ to fund transportation projects located within the county or counties in which the project is located and contained in the adopted work program of the department.

(11) The department's Pinellas Bayway System may be transferred by the department and become part of the turnpike system under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law. The transfer does not affect the rights of the parties, or their successors in interest, under the settlement agreement and final judgment in Leonard Lee Ratner, Esther Ratner, and Leeco Gas and Oil Co. v. State Road Department of the State of Florida, No. 67-1081 (Fla. 2nd Cir. Ct. 1968). Upon transfer of the Pinellas Bayway System to the turnpike system, the department shall also transfer to the Florida Turnpike Enterprise the funds deposited in the reserve account established by chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 95-382 and 2014-223, Laws of Florida, which funds shall be used by the Florida Turnpike Enterprise solely to help fund the costs of repair or replacement of the transferred facilities.

Section 14. Chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended by

chapters 95-382 and section 48 of 2014-223, Laws of Florida, is repealed.

Section 15. Section 339.0809, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

339.0809 Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation.—

(1) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation is created as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of financing or refinancing projects for the department as provided in subsection (4).

(2) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the director of the Office of Policy and Budget within the Executive Office of the Governor, the director of the Division of Bond Finance, and the Secretary of Transportation. The director of the Division of Bond Finance shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall direct and supervise the administrative affairs of the corporation and shall control, direct, and supervise the operation of the corporation. The corporation shall have such other officers as may be determined by the board of directors.

(3) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation shall have all the powers of a corporate body under the laws of the state to the extent not inconsistent with or restricted by this section, including, but not limited to, the power to:

(a) Adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws.

(b) Sue and be sued.

(c) Adopt and use a common seal.

(d) Acquire, purchase, hold, lease, and convey such real and personal property as may be proper or expedient to carry out the purposes of the corporation and this section and to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property.

(e) Elect or appoint and employ such other officers, agents, and employees as the corporation deems advisable to operate and manage the affairs of the corporation, which officers, agents, and employees may be officers or employees of the department and the state agencies represented on the board of directors of the corporation.

(f) Borrow money and issue notes, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness necessary to finance or refinance projects as provided in subsection (4).

(g) Make and execute any and all contracts, trust agreements, and other instruments and agreements necessary or convenient to accomplish the purposes of the corporation and this section.

(h) Select, retain, and employ professionals, contractors, or agents, which may include the Division of Bond Finance, as necessary or convenient to enable or assist the corporation in carrying out the purposes of the corporation and this section.

(i) Take any action necessary or convenient to carry out

the purposes of the corporation and this section and the powers provided in this section.

(4) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation may enter into one or more service contracts with the department to provide services to the department in connection with projects approved in the department's work program, which approval specifically provides that the department may enter into a service contract for the project pursuant to this section. The department may enter into one or more such service contracts with the corporation and provide for payments under such contracts, subject to annual appropriation by the Legislature. The proceeds from such service contracts may be used for the corporation's administrative costs and expenses after payments under subsection (5). Each service contract may have a term of up to 35 years. In compliance with s. 287.0641 and other applicable law, the obligations of the department under such service contracts do not constitute a general obligation of the state or a pledge of the full faith and credit or taxing power of the state, and such obligations are not an obligation of the State Board of Administration or entities for which it invests funds, other than the department as provided in this section, but are payable solely from amounts available in the State Transportation Trust Fund, subject to annual appropriation. In compliance with this subsection and s. 287.0582, the service contract must expressly include the following statement: "The State of Florida's performance and

obligation to pay under this contract is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature."

(5) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation may issue and incur notes, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, and other obligations or evidences of indebtedness payable from and secured by amounts payable to the corporation by the department under a service contract entered into under subsection (4) for the purpose of financing or refinancing projects approved as provided in subsection (4). The duration of any such note, bond, certificate of indebtedness, or other obligation or evidence of indebtedness may not exceed 30 annual maturities. The corporation may select its financing team and issue its obligations through competitive bidding or negotiated contracts, whichever is most cost-effective. Indebtedness of the corporation does not constitute a debt or obligation of the state or a pledge of the full faith and credit or taxing power of the state but is payable from and secured by payments made by the department under the service contract.

(6) The fulfillment of the purposes of the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state and serves as essential governmental functions and a paramount public purpose.

(7) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation is exempt from taxation and assessments on its income, property, and assets or revenues acquired, received, or

used in the furtherance of the purposes provided in this chapter. The obligations of the corporation incurred under subsection (5) and the interest and income on such obligations and all security agreements, letters of credit, liquidity facilities, or other obligations or instruments arising out of, entered into in connection with, or given to secure payment of such obligations are exempt from taxation; however, such exemption does not apply to any tax imposed under chapter 220 on the interest, income, or profits on debt obligations owned by corporations.

(8) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation may validate obligations to be incurred under subsection (5) and the validity and enforceability of any service contracts providing for payments pledged to the payment of such obligations by proceedings under chapter 75. The validation complaint may be filed only in the circuit court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County. The notice required to be published by s. 75.06 must be published in Leon County, and the complaint and order of the circuit court may be served only on the State Attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit. Sections 75.04(2) and 75.06(2) do not apply to a complaint for validation filed under this subsection.

(9) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation is not a special district for purposes of chapter 189 or a unit of local government for purposes of part III of chapter 218. Chapters 120 and 215, except the limitation on the

interest rates provided by s. 215.84, which applies to obligations of the corporation issued pursuant to this section, and part I of chapter 287, except ss. 287.0582 and 287.0641, do not apply to this section, the corporation, the service contracts entered into pursuant to this section, or debt obligations issued by the corporation as contemplated in this section.

(10) The benefits and earnings of the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation may not inure to the benefit of any private person.

(11) Upon dissolution of the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation, title to all property owned by the corporation shall revert to the state.

(12) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation may contract with the State Board of Administration to serve as a trustee with respect to debt obligations issued by the corporation as contemplated by this section; to hold, administer, and invest proceeds of such debt obligations and other funds of the corporation; and to perform other services required by the corporation. The State Board of Administration may perform such services and may contract with others to provide all or a part of such services and to recover its and such other costs and expenses thereof.

(13) The department may enter into a service contract in conjunction with the issuance of debt obligations as provided in this section which provides for periodic payments for debt

service or other amounts payable with respect to debt obligations, plus any administrative expenses of the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation.

Section 16. Paragraph (g) of subsection (7) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (h) is added to that subsection, to read:

339.135 Work program; legislative budget request; definitions; preparation, adoption, execution, and amendment.—

(7) AMENDMENT OF THE ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM.—

(g) Any work program amendment which also requires the transfer of fixed capital outlay appropriations between categories within the department or the increase of an appropriation category is subject to the approval of the Legislative Budget Commission. ~~If a meeting of the Legislative Budget Commission cannot be held within 30 days of the department submitting an amendment to the Legislative Budget Commission, then the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission may authorize such amendment to be approved pursuant to the provisions of s. 216.177.~~

(h) Any work program amendment that also adds a new project, or phase thereof, to the adopted work program in excess of $3 million is subject to approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. Any work program amendment submitted under this paragraph must include, as supplemental information, a list of projects, or phases thereof, in the current 5-year adopted work program which are eligible for the funds within the

appropriation category being used for the proposed amendment. The department shall provide a narrative with the rationale for not advancing an existing project, or phase thereof, in lieu of the proposed amendment.

Section 17. Paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section 339.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

(7) LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each M.P.O. must develop a long-range transportation plan that addresses at least a 20-year planning horizon. The plan must include both long-range and short-range strategies and must comply with all other state and federal requirements. The prevailing principles to be considered in the long-range transportation plan are: preserving the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure mobility. The long-range transportation plan must be consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with future land use elements and the goals, objectives, and policies of the approved local government comprehensive plans of the units of local government located within the jurisdiction of the M.P.O. Each M.P.O. is encouraged to consider strategies that integrate transportation and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The approved long-range transportation plan must be considered by local governments in the development of the transportation elements in local government comprehensive plans and any amendments thereto. The

long-range transportation plan must, at a minimum:

(c) Assess capital investment and other measures necessary to:

1. Ensure the preservation of the existing metropolitan transportation system including requirements for the operation, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of major roadways and requirements for the operation, maintenance, modernization, and rehabilitation of public transportation facilities; and

2. Make the most efficient use of existing transportation facilities to relieve vehicular congestion, improve safety, and maximize the mobility of people and goods. Such efforts must include, but are not limited to, consideration of infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances in vehicle technology, such as autonomous technology and other developments.

In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan. The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the M.P.O.

Section 18. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of

section 339.64, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of that section is amended to read:

339.64 Strategic Intermodal System Plan.—

(3)

(c) The department shall coordinate with federal, regional, and local partners, as well as industry representatives, to consider infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances in vehicle technology, such as autonomous technology and other developments, in Strategic Intermodal System facilities.

(4) The Strategic Intermodal System Plan shall include the following:

(a) A needs assessment that must include, but is not limited to, consideration of infrastructure and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances in vehicle technology, such as autonomous technology and other developments.

Section 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.