

**SB 506 PASSED THE SENATE THIS MORNING AND IS NOW ONTO THE GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURE.** (The Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority bill)

Also, there is \$1 million in the budgets of the House and Senate for start up costs. It still must pass both chambers. FDOT will be staffing this organization. It will be interesting to see who they hire as executive director and how serious they will be regarding transit and light rail. Since the "beltway" was mentioned a few times on record in session, it wouldn't surprise me if this is the FIRST thing they look at in their master transportation plan.

Tampa Bay Area has a new kid in town on transportation. We all need to watch and participate in the regional transportation visioning and implementation. Our future is at stake.

Thank you to all who participated in this bill.

Denise Layne, Executive Director  
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