

*Commissioner Nick Maddox*  
*Chairman*

February 28, 2019

Senator Bill Galvano, Senate President  
404 South Monroe Street, Suite 409  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Galvano,

On behalf of the twenty-seven members of the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC), I want to express our appreciation for your leadership in advocating for innovative approaches to enhancing and funding Florida's infrastructure as expressed in your January 30, 2019 memorandum to members of the Florida Senate.

We agree that transportation improvements can and should be considered within the broader context of the overall infrastructure needs of a corridor, region or state. As representatives of planning agencies, we too recognize that decisions to invest in transportation infrastructure are not made in a vacuum. In order to be successful, we need to plan for and fund infrastructure using a holistic approach, one that takes into account the interconnectedness of traditional transportation elements and other infrastructure resources. The newly formed Committee on Infrastructure and Security will enhance the Florida Senate's ability to address the existing and future needs of our infrastructure systems. While communications, security and other infrastructure are not in our purview, we applaud your vision and recognize how important connected infrastructure is to our future.

That said, we encourage you and the members of the Senate to prioritize the needs of our existing transportation network. Florida's transportation system is in excellent condition due to many years of proper funding of maintenance and a policy of first maintaining our existing assets. We recognize the necessity to plan for and invest in infrastructure expansion that supports the growing needs of our state. We believe that our top priority is to ensure the preservation and enhancement of Florida's existing transportation system. But as you correctly point out in your memorandum, our efforts to ensure the continued effectiveness of the state's existing transportation system should be considered in tandem with the needs of other infrastructure systems. As we look to expanding our infrastructure we ask that you consider ways to insure the new infrastructure is financially self-sustaining so as to allow existing infrastructure to continue to be maintained in a state of good repair.

We look forward to working with you to improve Florida's transportation system to the benefit of Florida's citizens, visitors and businesses.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Nick Maddox  
Chairman