



MOBILITY 2040



Pasco County MPO
Transportation Plan

Draft Technical Report No. 6 Socio-Cultural Effects and Environmental Justice



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planning | design | engineering

Technical Report No. 6
SOCIO-CULTURAL EFFECTS
AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



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Section 1: Introduction

Technical Report No. 6 was prepared in support of the MOBILITY 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to identify, evaluate, and address socio-cultural effects and environmental justice (EJ). Compliance with EJ is required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and reinforced by the Executive Order on Environmental Justice, #12898 (February 11, 1994).

EJ prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin and requires the inclusion of minority and low-income populations in the planning process to ensure that the following three major components are addressed:

- Avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental impacts, including social and economic effects, on minority and low-income populations.
- Ensure the participation of the traditionally under-served and under-represented segments of the population in the transportation plan development process.
- Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

The MOBILITY 2040 LRTP development process included efforts to assess county-wide performance with regard to socio-cultural effects and EJ. The potential positive and adverse impacts of proposed transportation projects were considered for transportation projects identified in MOBILITY 2040. Efforts in this update focused on impacted areas with a high concentration of minority, low-income, and other traditionally under-served and under-represented populations.

Overview of Report

This report is organized into three sections, including this Introduction.

Section 2 presents the **Socio-Cultural and Environmental Justice Profile** for Pasco County. A county-wide profile for selected demographics was compiled to serve as a starting point for understanding socio-cultural effects and EJ. The section also identifies EJ areas (high concentrations of minority and/or low-income populations) and an inventory of community facilities in Pasco County, including parks and recreation facilities, libraries, schools, hospitals, and cultural and older adult facilities. In addition, various law enforcement agency and fire station locations were identified. This information is presented in a series of maps and tables.

Socio-Cultural Effects and Environmental Justice

Section 3 summarizes the **Public Involvement** activities undertaken as part of MOBILITY 2040 and the socio-cultural/environmental justice assessment. In particular, two discussion group workshops were facilitated to focus on obtaining input from representatives of various agencies that, in turn, represent under-served and under-represented citizens of Pasco County (especially minority, low-income, and older adult populations). The public involvement process is summarized, along with the specific citizen input received throughout the MOBILITY 2040 plan development process.

Section 2: Social-Cultural and Environmental Justice Profile

The social-cultural and environmental justice profile for the MOBILITY 2040 LRTP is a compilation of demographic data related to traditionally under-represented or under-served (minority and low-income) populations and an inventory of community facilities in Pasco County.

County-wide Demographic Profile

Minority Population

Table 2-1 shows the percent of the Hispanic or Latino and Black or African-American populations in Pasco County for 2000 and 2013. The Hispanic or Latino population increased from 5.7 percent to 13.0 percent, an increase of approximately 128 percent. The Black or African-American population increased from 2.1 percent to 5.3 percent, an increase of roughly 152 percent.

Table 2-1

Racial Distribution, Pasco County, 2000 and 2013

Racial or Ethnic Group	2000	2013	% Change
Hispanic or Latino	5.7%	13.0%	128%
Black or African-American	2.1%	5.3%	152%

Source: American Community Survey, 2013 and 2000 Census

Age Distribution

Table 2-2 presents the age breakdown for Pasco County and Florida. The age distribution in Pasco County is somewhat similar to Florida as a whole. However, Pasco County does have a slightly higher percentage of population age 65 and over than the statewide average (22.1% vs. 18.6%).

Table 2-2

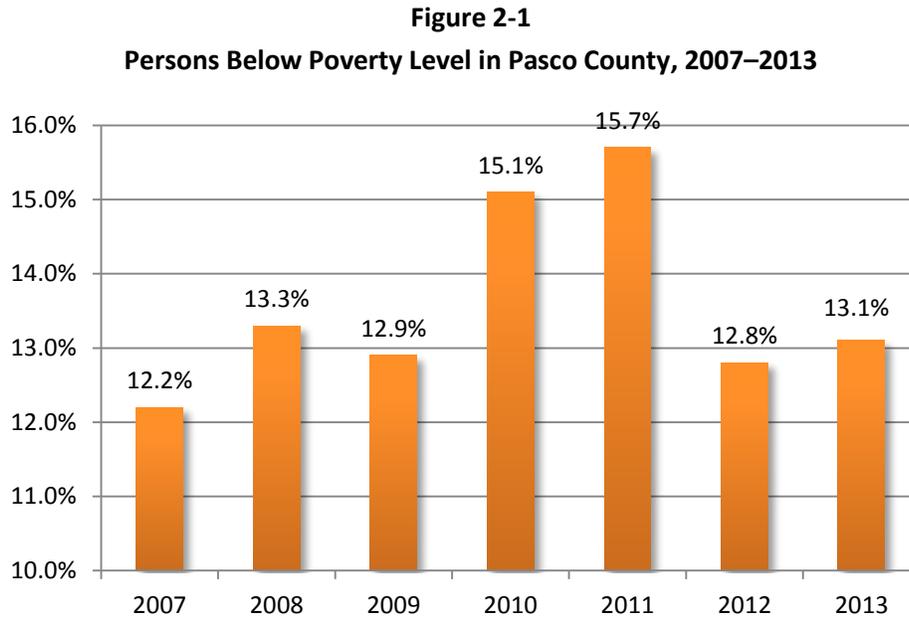
Age Distribution, Pasco County and Florida, 2013

Age Category	Pasco County	Florida
Under 15 yrs	16.9%	17.0%
15–44 yrs	33.8%	37.6%
45–64 yrs	27.2%	26.8%
65 yrs and over	22.1%	18.6%

Source: American Community Survey, 2013

Persons Below Poverty Level

Figure 2-1 illustrates the historical percentage of persons below the poverty level in Pasco County. From 2007 to 2013, the percentage of persons below the poverty level in Pasco County has increased since 2007, peaking at 15.7 percent in 2011, then falling to 13.1 percent in 2013.



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate (2007–2013)

Community-level Socio-cultural & Environmental Justice Profile

The community-level social-cultural and environmental justice profile includes a presentation of maps and tables to reflect the under-represented or under-served populations in Pasco County. The data collection methodology is summarized below, followed by a series of maps and tables.

Data Collection

As summarized below, two sources of data were used in the development of environmental justice profiles for MOBILITY 2040.

U.S. Census 2010 Dataset

The U.S. Census is compiled every 10 years, assembling demographic information for every person in the United States. Consequently, the decennial census dataset provides the demographic data with the highest degree of data accuracy and is the ideal data source. Data are organized geographically in standard census “blocks,” the smallest geographic unit available for map illustration purposes. Data from the most recent census in 2010 were used.

2007–2011 Five-Year American Community Survey Dataset

The American Community Survey (ACS) is administered every year, compiling demographic information from a sampling that is extrapolated to the total population. ACS data are available over one-, three-, or five-year increments and are organized geographically in census “block groups.” The ACS data are available in five-year increments, and the dataset used in this analysis is the 2007–2011 five-year dataset.

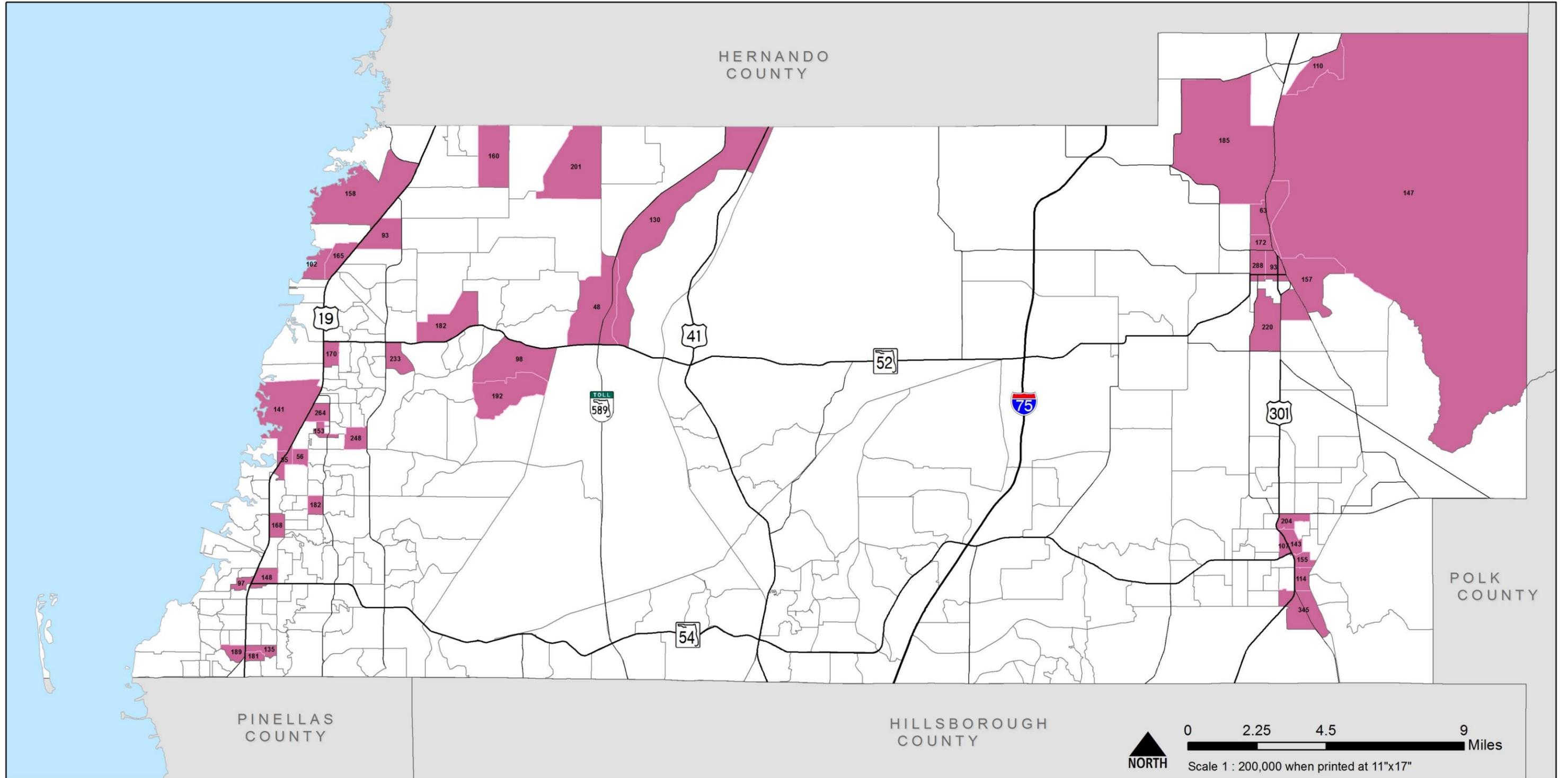
As indicated previously, EJ areas refer to the areas in the Pasco County with high concentrations of minority and low-income populations. Ideally, minority and low-income information should be compiled from the U.S. Census 2010 dataset. Although minority population information was available in the U.S. Census 2010 dataset at the time of this analysis, low-income information was not. Consequently, low-income information from the 2007–2011 ACS dataset was used to support the EJ profile.

Socio-Cultural & Environment Justice Profile Summary

A series of maps was prepared to present the social-cultural and environmental justice profile. These maps include a low-income household map by census block group, a minority population map by census block, environmental justice areas by traffic analysis zone (TAZ), and a community facility map.

- Map 2-1 illustrates the low-income households within Pasco County using the 2007–2011 five-year ACS dataset. All block groups that had 25 percent or more of households with poverty status are highlighted. Of these block groups, any single block group that had more than 150 households with poverty status was included. To account for smaller population areas, the block groups with 25 percent or more low-income households were further evaluated to include contiguous areas. To do this, any set of block groups with 25 percent or more low-income households that were adjacent to each other and also added up to at least 150 households were highlighted for the analysis.
- Map 2-2 illustrates the minority populations within Pasco County using the 2010 Census data. The minority population is defined as total population minus the non-Hispanic White population. All blocks that had 25 percent or more minority population are highlighted. Of these blocks, any single block that had 150 or more minorities was included. Again, to account for smaller population areas, the blocks with 25 percent or more minorities were further evaluated to include contiguous areas. To do this, any set of blocks with 25 percent or more minorities that were adjacent to each other and also added up to at least 150 households were highlighted and included in the analysis.
- Map 2-3 shows the combination of low-income and minority areas by TAZ. Maps 2-1 and 2-2 are overlaid with the TAZ boundaries and TAZs overlapping with low-income block groups, and minority blocks were flagged as poverty zones, minority zones, or both.
- Map 2-4 shows the final EJ areas and non-environmental areas by TAZ.
- Map 2-5 illustrates the inventory of community facilities within Pasco County to reflect the social-cultural profile, including police stations, libraries, schools, hospitals, and clinics. Data for this map were obtained from the Florida Geographic Data Library.

Map 2-1: Poverty Status by Household



Legend

Low-Income EJ Areas

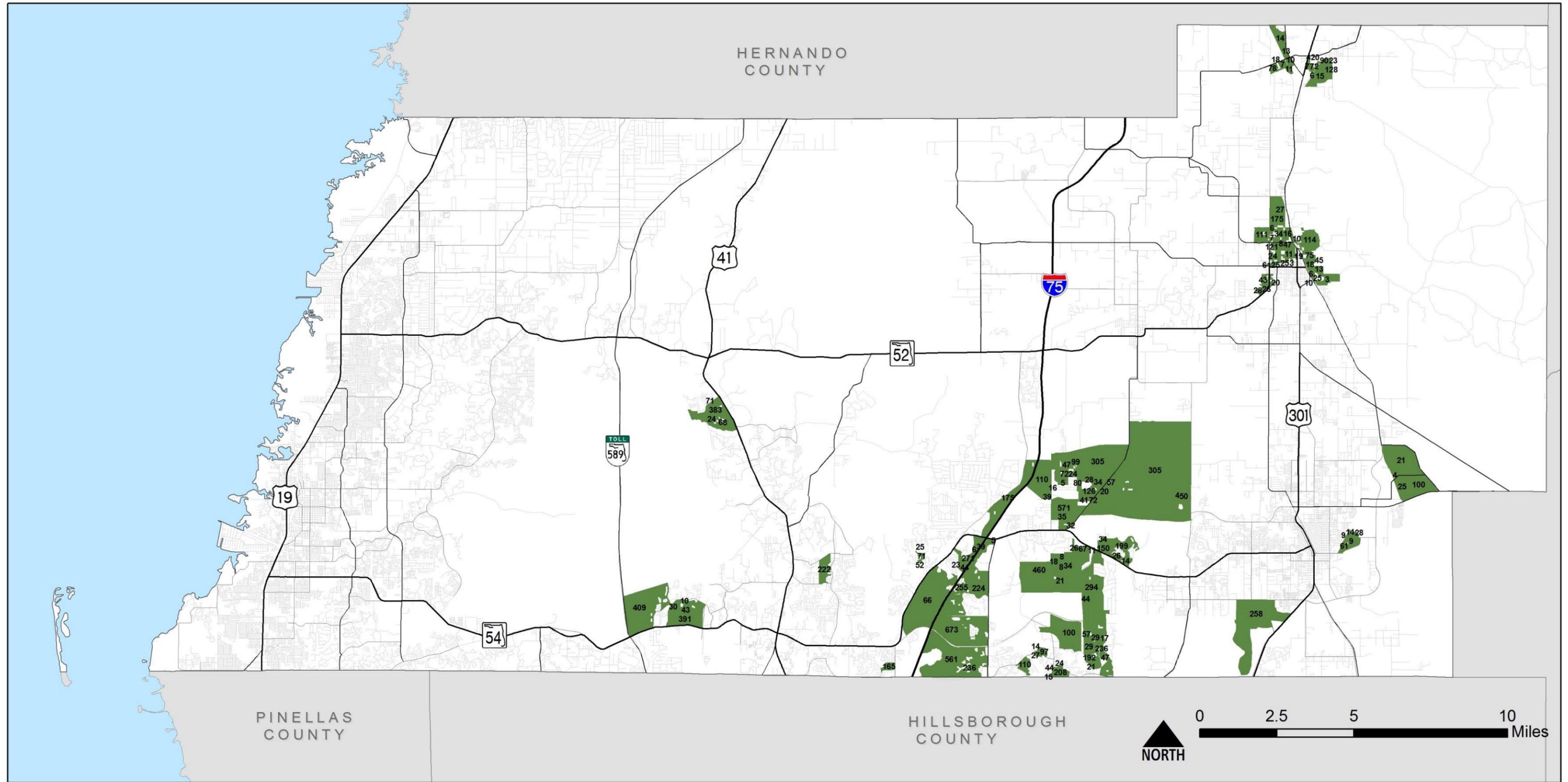
Pink areas identify EJ zones based on low income, where at least 25%+ of households are below the poverty line AND where the total number of households below the poverty line is 150+ (including contiguous areas)*. Label shows actual number of households below the poverty line.

Methodology: Poverty Status for this map is defined as dividing households with poverty status in the past 12 months by the total number of households. The resulting percent was used to set the threshold at 24.5%. *Contiguous areas are defined as adjacent TAZs that add up to at least 150 households.

Data Source: 2007-2011 ACS Block Group data, by 2013 Census Block Group
Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet



Map 2-2: Minority Population by Census Block



Legend

Minority EJ Areas

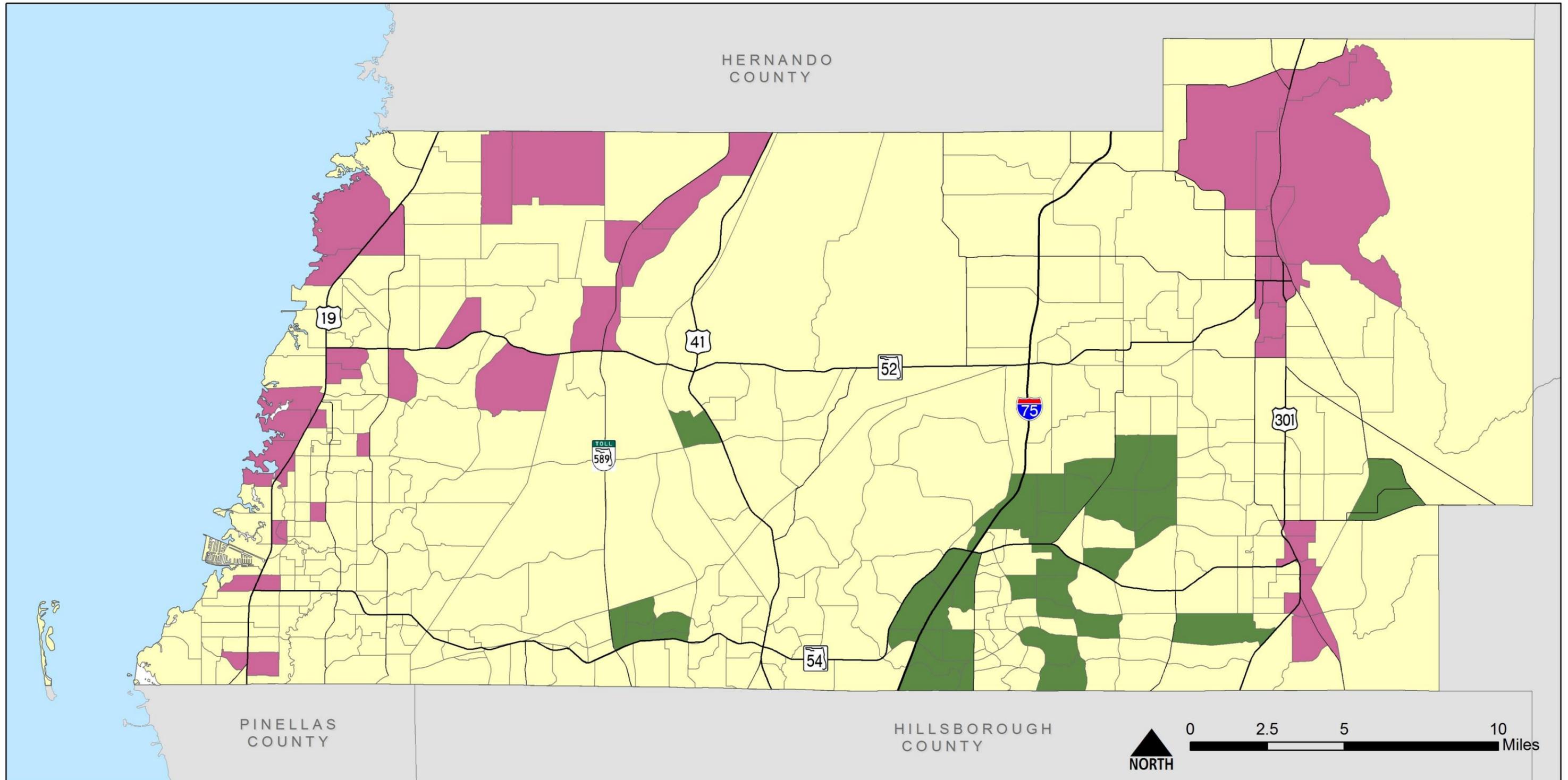
Areas in dark green show individual blocks that meet the 25% and 150+ criteria. Areas in light green show blocks with 25% minorities that were used to form contiguous areas of 150+. Label is raw minority population.

Methodology: Minority Population for this map is defined as Total Population minus White Population. The resulting population is divided by the total population to get the percent shown.

Data Source: 2010 Census data, by Census Block
Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet



Map 2-3: Poverty Status and Minority Population by TAZ



Legend

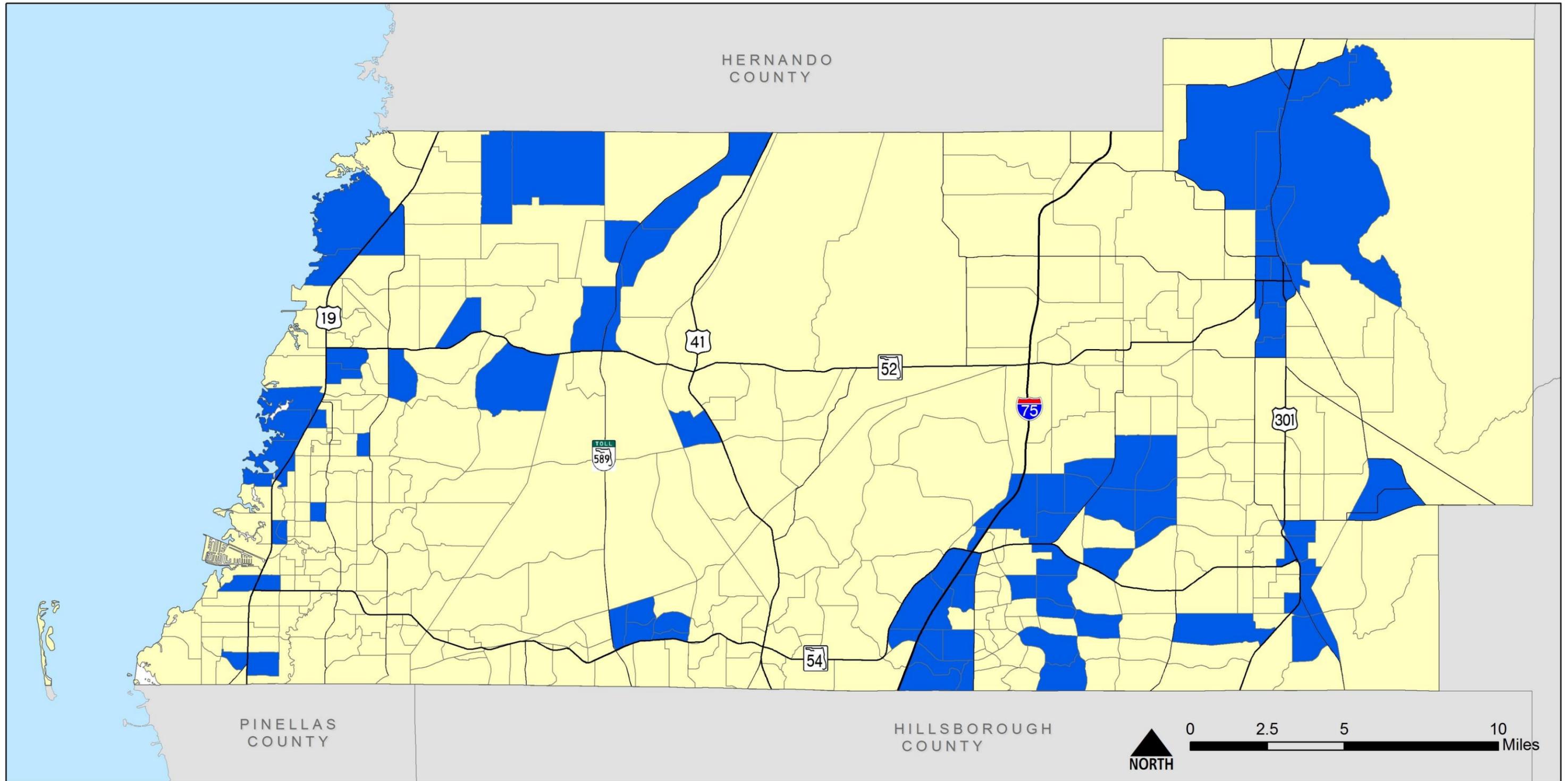
- Low-Income EJ Area
- Minority EJ Areas

Description: Pasco County Environmental Justice Areas for Mobility 2040

Data Source: Census 2010 and ACS 2011 Data, 2040 LRTP Analysis
Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet



Map 2-4: Environmental Justice Areas by TAZ



Legend

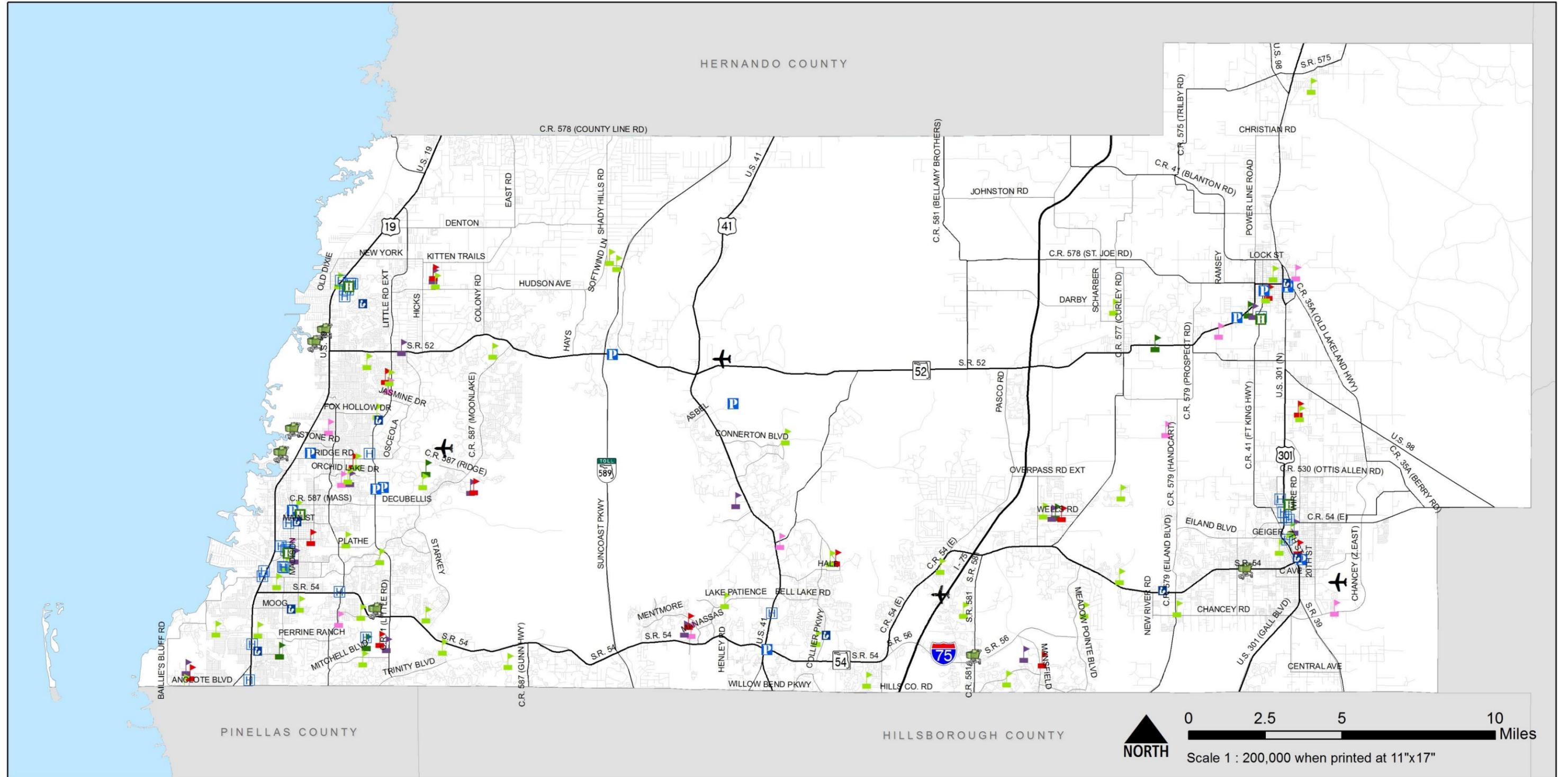
 EJ Areas

Description: Pasco County Environmental Justice Areas for Mobility 2040

Data Source: Census 2010 and ACS 2011 Data, 2040 LRTP Analysis
Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet



Map 2-5: Community Facilities in Pasco County



Legend

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------------|--|--------------------|--|---------------|
| | Hospitals | | Police Stations | | Elementary Schools | | Other Schools |
| | Clinics | | Libraries | | Middle Schools | | Colleges |
| | | | | | High Schools | | Airports |

0 2.5 5 10 Miles
 Scale 1 : 200,000 when printed at 11"x17"

Data Source: Florida Geographic Data Library
 Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet



Tables 2-3 through 2-9 summarize the facilities inventory presented in Map 2-5. Future transportation projects that provide access to these community facilities will have positive social-cultural impact.

Libraries

Pasco County operates nine libraries. These public facilities, which provide an excellent knowledge base for Pasco residents, are located in Holiday, New Port Richey, Hudson, Land O’Lakes, Zephyrhills, and Dade City. Table 2-3 is a list of the libraries and their respective locations.

**Table 2-3
Libraries in Pasco County**

Facility Name	Address	City
South Holiday Library	4649 Mile Stretch Road	Holiday
Centennial Park Library	5740 Moog Road	Holiday
New Port Richey City Library	5939 Main Street	New Port Richey
Hudson Regional Library	8012 Library Road	Hudson
Regency Park Library	9701 Little Road	New Port Richey
Land O'Lakes Library	2818 Collier Parkway	Land O'Lakes
New River Library	34034 State Road 54	Zephyrhills
Zephyrhills Public Library	5347 Eighth Street	Zephyrhills
Hugh Embry Library	14215 Fourth Street	Dade City

Hospitals and Clinics

Pasco County is served by 5 comprehensive hospitals and 27 clinics/dialysis centers. Most of these medical facilities are located in the areas of New Port Richey, Hudson, and Zephyrhills. An inventory of hospitals and clinics/dialysis is provided in Table 2-4.

Table 2-4
Hospital and Clinics in Pasco County

Facility Name	Address	City
North Bay Medical Center	6600 Madison Street	New Port Richey
Community Hospital New Port Richey	5637 Marine Parkway	New Port Richey
Regional Medical Center at Bayonet Point	14000 Fivay Road	Hudson
Florida Hospital	7050 Gall Boulevard	Zephyrhills
Pasco Regional Medical Center	13100 Fort King Road	Dade City
GCOC Institute	7315 Hudson Avenue	Hudson
Hudson Kidney Dialysis	14144 Nephron Lane	Hudson
Gulf Coast Kidney Center	14153 Yosemite Drive	Hudson
Pasco Eye Institute	13910 Fivay Road	Hudson
Suncoast Eye Center	14003 Lakeshore Boulevard	Hudson
Atria Windsor Woods	13719 Dallas Drive	Hudson
Gambro Healthcare Dade City	37205 Medical Drive	Dade City
Ridge Plaza Walk-in Clinic	8743 Ridge Road	New Port Richey
Premier Surgery Center	37834 Medical Arts Court	Zephyrhills
Caring Physicians Medical Center	6755 Gall Boulevard	Zephyrhills
Florida Medical Clinic	38135 Market Square	Zephyrhills
Gambro Healthcare	6610 Stadium Drive	Zephyrhills
All Children's Outpatient Clinic	5640 Main Street	San Antonio
Johnson Eye Institute	5923 7 th Street	Zephyrhills
New Port Richey Surgery Center	5415 Gulf Drive	New Port Richey
MR Imaging	5626 Gulf Drive	New Port Richey
Richey Medical Plaza	5341 Grand Boulevard	New Port Richey
Urology Health Center	5652 Meadowlane Street	New Port Richey
New Port Richey Kidney Center	4807 Grand Boulevard	Holiday
Gulf Coast Kidney Center	4802 Grand Boulevard	Holiday
Gulf Harbor Medical Clinic	4527 US 19	New Port Richey
Suncoast Outpatient Surgery Center	4519 US 19	New Port Richey
Severn Springs Medical Center	6329 SR 52	New Port Richey
Family Doctors Clinic	3508 Land O Lakes Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Trinity Outpatient Center	2101 Trinity Oaks Boulevard	New Port Richey
Helen Ellis Walk-in Care	2280 US 19	Holiday
Lazenby Eye Care Center	1109 US 19	Holiday

Schools

As of the 2013–2014 school year, the Pasco County School Board operates 45 elementary schools (enrollment 29,676), 15 middle schools (enrollment 15,315), 13 high schools (enrollment 19,878), and 7 charter schools (enrollment 2,345). An inventory of the Pasco County public schools is provided in Tables 2-5 through 2-8.

**Table 2-5
Elementary Schools in Pasco County**

Facility Name	Address	City
Northwest Elementary	14302 Cobra Way	Hudson
Hudson Elementary	7229 Hudson Avenue	Hudson
Schrader Elementary	11041 Little Road	New Port Richey
Moon Lake Elementary	12019 Treebreeze Drive	New Port Richey
Fox Hollow Elementary	8309 Fox Hollow Drive	Port Richey
Calusa Elementary	7520 Orchid Lake Road	New Port Richey
Cypress Elementary	10055 Sweet Bay Court	New Port Richey
Richey Elementary	6807 Madison Street	New Port Richey
Cotee River Elementary	7515 Plathe Road	New Port Richey
Deer Park Elementary	8636 Trouble Creek Road	New Port Richey
Mitty P. Locke Elementary	4439 Evans Avenue	Elfers
Gulfside Elementary	2329 Anclote Boulevard	Holiday
Anclote Elementary	3610 Madison Street	New Port Richey
Seven Springs Elementary	8025 Mitchell Ranch Road	New Port Richey
Mary Giella Elementary	14710 Shady Hills Road	Spring Hill
Lake Myrtle Elementary	22844 Weeks Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Denham Oaks Elementary	1422 Oak Grove Boulevard	Lutz
Chester W. Taylor Elementary	3638 Morris Bridge Road	Zephyrhills
West Zephyrhills Elementary	37900 14th Avenue	Zephyrhills
Woodland Elementary	38203 Henry Drive	Zephyrhills
Centennial Elementary	38501 Centennial Road	Dade City
Pasco Elementary	37350 Florida Avenue	Dade City
Rodney B. Cox Elementary	37615 Martin Luther King Boulevard	Dade City
Lacoochee Elementary	38815 Cummer Road	Dade City
San Antonio Elementary	32416 Darby Road	Dade City
Sand Pine Elementary	29040 County Line Road	Wesley Chapel
James M. Marlowe Elementary	5642 Cecelia Drive	New Port Richey
Sunray Elementary	4815 Sunray Drive	Holiday
Chasco Elementary	7906 Ridge Road	Port Richey
Trinity Elementary	2209 Duck Slough Boulevard	New Port Richey

Facility Name	Address	City
Wesley Chapel Elementary	30243 Wells Road	Wesley Chapel
Pine View Elementary	5333 Parkway Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Longleaf Elementary	3253 Town Avenue	New Port Richey
Seven Oaks Elementary	27633 Mystic Oak Boulevard	Wesley Chapel
Oakstead Elementary	19925 Lake Patience Road	Land O' Lakes
Trinity Oaks Elementary	1827 Trinity Oaks Boulevard	New Port Richey
Gulf Highlands Elementary	8101 Long Branch Drive	Port Richey
New River Elementary	4710 River Glen Boulevard	Wesley Chapel
Double Branch Elementary	31500 Chancey Road	Wesley Chapel
Gulf Trace Elementary	3303 Gulf Trace Boulevard	Holiday
Veterans Elementary	26940 Progress Parkway	Wesley Chapel
Watergrass Elementary	32750 Overpass Road	Wesley Chapel
Connerton Elementary	9300 Flourish Drive	Land O' Lakes
Odessa Elementary	1874 Ketzal Drive	New Port Richey
Crews Lake K-8	15144 Shady Hills Road	Spring Hill

**Table 2-6
Middle Schools in Pasco County**

Facility Name	Address	City
Hudson Middle	14540 Cobra Way	Hudson
Bayonet Point Middle	11125 Little Road	New Port Richey
Gulf Middle	6419 Louisiana Avenue	New Port Richey
River Ridge Middle	11646 Town Center Road	New Port Richey
Seven Springs Middle	2441 Little Road	New Port Richey
Pine View Middle	5334 Parkway Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Thomas E. Weightman Middle	30649 Wells Road	Wesley Chapel
Raymond B. Stewart Middle	38505 Tenth Avenue	Zephyrhills
Pasco Middle	13925 14th Street	Dade City
Chasco Middle	7702 Ridge Road	Port Richey
Centennial Middle	38505 Centennial Road	Dade City
Paul R. Smith Middle	1410 Sweetbriar Drive	Holiday
Dr. John Long Middle	2025 Mansfield Boulevard	Wesley Chapel
Charles S. Rushe Middle	18654 Mentmore Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Crews Lake Middle	15144 Shady Hills Road	Spring Hill

Table 2-7
High Schools in Pasco County

Facility Name	Address	City
Hudson High	14410 Cobra Way	Hudson
Ridgewood High	7650 Orchid Lake Road	New Port Richey
Gulf High	5355 School Road	New Port Richey
River Ridge High	11646 Town Center Road	New Port Richey
Land O' Lakes High	20325 Gator Lane	Land O' Lakes
Zephyrhills High	6335 12th Street	Zephyrhills
Pasco High	36850 SR 52	Dade City
Wesley Chapel High	30651 Wells Road	Wesley Chapel
James W. Mitchell High	2323 Little Road	New Port Richey
Wiregrass Ranch High	2909 Mansfield Boulevard	Wesley Chapel
Sunlake High	3023 Sunlake Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Anclote High	1540 Sweetbriar Drive	Holiday
Fivay High	12115 Chicago Avenue	Hudson

Table 2-8
Charter Schools in Pasco County

Facility Name	Address	City
Academy at the Farm	9500 Alex Lange Way	Dade City
Countryside Montessori Elementary	5852 Ehren Cut-Off	Land O' Lakes
Dayspring Academy Elementary	8911 Timber Oaks Avenue	Port Richey
Dayspring Academy Middle	9509 Palm Avenue	Port Richey
Athenian Academy of Pasco	3118 Seven Springs	New Port Richey
Imagine School at Land O' Lakes	2940 Sunlake Boulevard	Land O' Lakes
Florida Autism Center of Excellence	39735 Chancey Road	Zephyrhills

Colleges

Pasco County currently has five colleges that provide educational opportunities to adult students. These colleges are presented in Table 2-9.

Table 2-9
Colleges in Pasco County

Facility Name	Address	Location
Trinity College	8252 Mitchell Ranch Road	New Port Richey
St. Leo College	33701 SR 52	New Port Richey
Pasco-Hernando State College	10230 Ridge Road	New Port Richey
Dayspring Academy	8911 Timber Oaks Avenue	New Port Richey
Rasmussen College	18600 Fernview Street	Land O' Lakes

Section 3: Public Involvement

Two workshops were held to discuss the potential impacts of transportation improvements for older adult, minority, and low-income populations in Pasco County. In particular, transportation improvements that abutted or bisected minority and/or low-income communities were discussed and scored by participants in the discussion groups. Participants included agencies that represent transportation under-represented and under-served populations in Pasco County. The results of public involvement efforts that focused on environmental justice are summarized in this section.

Discussion Group Workshops

To conduct an assessment of countywide performance related to socio-cultural effects and environmental justice, it was important to gather the feedback and opinions from the traditionally under-served and under-represented populations in Pasco County. This was done in compliance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, reinforced by the Executive Order on Environmental Justice (#12898), which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin and requires the inclusion of minority and low-income populations in the planning process. The feedback and opinions received were used to develop and prioritize the future transportation improvement projects so the proposed transportation projects will not have a negative impact on low-income, minority, and/or other traditionally under-served population segments.

To ensure the above, two discussion groups were held, one on March 10, 2014, in central Pasco County (Land O' Lakes), and one on August 6, 2014, in Eastern Pasco County (Lacoochee). The sites were chosen to ensure close proximity to bus service (within 1/10 of a mile of a bus route). Special emphasis was placed on ensuring that social service agencies were represented at these meetings since they deal directly with the populations defined by EJ. Local social service agencies provide valuable insight as to what geographic areas and modes of transportation can provide increased mobility for the targeted populations. The discussion groups were conducted to provide a forum to generate ideas that could be used to determine priorities for transportation improvements.

The Pasco County MPO and Pasco County Public Transportation (PCPT) provided a recently-updated list of social service organizations and agencies with whom they maintain contact. Invitations were sent to the contacts on this list. The meeting format for both workshops was an informal discussion group. To ensure that the opinions of the participants were accurately reflected, both oral and written responses were noted. The format was designed to facilitate discussion of the potential positive and negative impacts of future transportation improvements, or the lack thereof, on older adult, minority, and low-income communities in Pasco County. The objectives of the meetings were as follows:

- To discuss environmental justice and make sure the concept is understood by all participants.
- To review and discuss maps illustrating high concentrations of older adult, minority, and low-income populations.
- To review and discuss maps illustrating existing and future road widening improvements, bus routes, bicycle facilities, and sidewalks.
- To identify and discuss potential positive impacts of future transportation improvements on specific communities and determine if any of these impacts are disproportionately high.
- To identify and discuss potential negative impacts of future transportation improvements on specific communities and determine if any of these impacts are disproportionately high.
- To identify and discuss transportation improvements that are needed by specific communities but are not currently reflected in the maps and determine if any of these impacts are disproportionately high.
- To determine what can be done to increase the participation of the older adult, minority, and low-income communities in the transportation decision-making process

In addition to a presentation, maps were presented to the participants to illustrate where improvements are planned and to show demographic trends. The maps also were made available on-line to allow participants to re-examine and/or print them if desired after the workshops were held. Maps presented in the discussion group workshops included:

- 2040 Transit Needs Plan
- 2040 Bicycle Needs
- 2040 Pedestrian Needs
- 2040 Needs Plan Number of Lanes

Each meeting is described briefly in the remainder of this section.

Land O' Lakes Discussion Group Workshop

The Land O' Lakes meeting was held on March 19, 2014, from 3:30–5:30 PM at Rasmussen College, Room 110, 18600 Fernview Street in Land O' Lakes. This workshop was attended by 10 people representing 5 organizations: Pasco County Veterans Services Office, Pasco County BayCare Services, Pasco County Disability Achievement Center, Pasco Hernando Workforce Board, and Pasco Light House.

At the beginning of the workshop, a presentation was given that provided an overview of the MOBILITY 2040 LRTP process and a general discussion of environmental justice. Then, the map series noted previously was shown to the participants to demonstrate demographic trends and to illustrate where potential transportation improvements may occur. To obtain a more accurate and recordable feedback from the participants, a handout was distributed to each participant that included a map series and four exercises. Participants were asked to indicate comments and mark locations at which they would like to

see transportation improvements. The handout is included in Appendix A. Results for each of the exercises are summarized below.

Exercise 1: Traditionally Under-Represented and Under-Served Populations

The first exercise included two components to identify traditionally under-represented and under-served populations in Pasco County.

- The first component asked participants to identify the types of traditionally under-represented and/or under-served populations they represent. Participants were allowed to circle as many descriptions as applicable. Based on the information provided, the most frequent descriptions of traditionally under-represented and under-served populations identified included persons with visual impairment, persons with disabilities, veterans ages 18–40, veterans with disabilities, and persons with mental health disabilities/substance abuse addictions.
- The second component asked participants to identify on a map of Pasco County where the population segments identified in the first component live. Several areas were identified by the participants, including:
 - Wesley Chapel
 - Shady Hills
 - Land O’Lakes
 - Heritage Springs
 - Zephyrhills
 - Dade City
 - Port Richey
 - Moonlake
 - Trinity Road

Exercise 2: Potential Transportation Improvements

The second exercise included two components to identify potential transportation improvements. The first component asked participants to identify locations in the county where they would like to see public transportation improvements. The following is a summary of the major transportation improvements preferred by the participants:

- Bus service needs:
 - On Moon Lake at Ridge Road and SR 52 (need safe access to activity centers)
 - From Lacoochee, San Antonio, and St. Leo to US 301
 - In Shady Hills – connection to US 19
 - More frequent service along SR 54 near Trinity (currently once every two hours)
- Bus stop on US 301 in front of the Business Center in Dade City should move back into the Business Center.

- More connections from main roads to/from neighborhoods (more flexible bus service).
- More regional transit connections between Pasco/Hillsborough and Pasco/Pinellas counties. Some do not exist or are only one-way (e.g., no commuter connections for people who live in Hillsborough but work in Pasco).

The second component asked participants where they would like to see bicycle and pedestrian improvements that support public transportation. These improvements include the following:

- Sidewalks needed:
 - On Hudson to provide access to public transportation on Little Road
 - At Trouble Creek between Rowan Road and Grand Boulevard
 - At Carlton Arms Apartments (Rowan Road and Massachusetts Avenue)
 - At US 98 Bypass and Martin Luther King Boulevard
 - To connect bus stops to activity centers
 - In Mickens Subdivision, Victory subdivision, and Larkin Sunnybrook
 - More sidewalks in selected locations in rural areas
- Paratransit services should be county-wide and not just within ¼ mile of existing bus routes.
- Paratransit should be available at night/on weekends for social/recreational activities, not just for essential trips (doctor visits, groceries).
- Connected systems – clearly, systems cannot be everywhere, but the ones that exist should be connected to each other.
- Crossings over SR 54 and other main roads need to be safer, with crosswalks and audible pedestrian signals for the visually impaired.

Exercise 3: Critical Transportation Improvements

The third exercise asked participants to identify transportation improvements in the preliminary Needs Plan that are most important (either positive or negative) to any of the traditionally under-represented and/or under-served communities identified in the previous exercises.

None of the participants mentioned adverse impacts, but they had strong opinions on what critical improvements were needed to directly affect their mobility. These include:

- Bus access to jobs and services
- Safe, connected sidewalks
- Safe crosswalks over large roadways (like SR 54) with audible pedestrian signals
- Paratransit at night and on weekends

Exercise 4: Funding Prioritization

The fourth exercise asked participants to allocate \$100 to 4 mobility categories. Eight responses were provided that resulted in the following average allocation:

- Roadway widening: \$15
- Roadway maintenance: \$14
- Transit improvements: \$50
- Sidewalks/bike/trails: \$21

The result of Exercise 4 indicate that transit service improvements are the top priority for the social service agency representatives participating in this workshop.

Lacoochee Discussion Group Workshop

The second discussion group meeting was held on August 6, 2014, from 5:00–7:00 PM at the Lacoochee Elementary School Media Center, located at 38815 Cummer Road in Dade City. This workshop was attended by 11 people representing 6 organizations: Pasco Hernando Workforce Board, Sunrise of Pasco County, Inc., Pasco County Habitat for Humanity, Formers Self-Help, Pasco Kids First, Inc., and St. Paul Baptist Church.

Similar to the structure of the first discussion group workshop, the participants were given an overview of the 2040 LRTP process and the meeting objectives. However, since this workshop was held in the Lacoochee area, which is a highly-concentrated area of under-represented and under-served populations, this workshop mainly focused on the public opinions of transportation issues and improvement needs around the Lacoochee area. The same handout used in the first workshop was distributed to each workshop participant and the following three exercises were included:



- Exercise 1: Traditionally Under-Represented and Under-Served Population
- Exercise 2: Potential Transportation Improvements
- Exercise 3: Critical Transportation Improvements

Discussions resulted in the following preferred transit improvements around Lacoochee area:

- Bus service needed along US 301 and SR 52 to connect Lacoochee area to St. Leo College on SR 52.
- Fill the current service gap and extend PCPT Route 31 from Fort King Road to US 301 along Clinton Avenue.
- Extend current Route 30 or implement a new circulator service that operates from Bower Road along Coit Road, Durden Road, then extends east to Withlacoochee River RV Park along CR 575, and finally returns to Bower Road along CR 575.
- Extend current Route 30 just north from where it currently ends to the U.S. Post Office at the intersection of Arena Road and CR 575.

Summary

The discussion group workshops held in Land O' Lakes and Lacochee were attended by representatives of service agencies primarily serving low-income and minority populations. The focus of these discussion groups was public transportation and sidewalk needs rather than roadway projects. The consensus of these social service agency representatives was that although public transportation, bicycle, and pedestrian projects make up a small percentage of the total planned improvements, the ability for low-income populations to fulfill their transportation needs is predominantly dependent on the availability of reliable fixed-route bus transit services and support facilities such as accessible sidewalks.

The recommended public transportation and bicycle/sidewalk facility improvements were considered in the MOBILITY 2040 LRTP Needs Plan and further evaluated against other transportation improvements. The top priority projects are included in the final MOBILITY 2040 LRTP Cost Affordable Plan.

Appendix A
Environmental Justice
Discussion Group Workshop Material



Agenda

- 1) Introductions**
- 2) Workshop Presentation**
- 3) Exercise 1: Identify Traditionally Under-Represented and Under-Served Populations**
- 4) Exercise 2: Discuss Potential Transportation Improvements**
- 5) Exercise 3: Identify Critical Transportation Improvements**
- 6) Exercise 4: Funding Prioritization**
- 7) Conclusion and Follow-up Activities**



Thank you for participating in today's workshop. Pasco County wants your opinions on how to improve its transportation decision-making process as it relates to the county's older adult, minority, and low-income populations. We are asking you to review this handout, listen to a brief presentation, and discuss several questions related to this topic and the Mobility 2040 Transportation Plan.

Introduction

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act states that "No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

The President's Executive Order on Environmental Justice extends Title VI even further by providing that "each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations."

The Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is sponsoring two workshops to identify and discuss efforts to address environmental justice as part of the Mobility 2040 Transportation Plan. This is the first of the two workshops; the next is planned for mid-2014.

The discussion groups are designed to facilitate discussion of the potential positive and negative impacts of future transportation improvements, or the lack thereof, on older adult, minority, and low-income communities in Pasco County. Individuals were invited to participate in these discussion groups based on their association with agencies and organizations that provide services to or represent older adult, minority, and/or low-income populations throughout the county.

Three Principles of Environmental Justice

- 1) Avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental impacts, including social and economic effects, on minority and low-income populations.
- 2) Ensure the participation of the traditionally under-served and under-represented segments of the population in the transportation plan development process.
- 3) Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.



Objectives for Today's Meeting

- 1) Discuss Environmental Justice and make sure the concept is understood by all participants.
- 2) Review and discuss maps illustrating high concentrations of older adult, minority, and low-income populations.
- 3) Review and discuss maps illustrating existing and future road widening improvements and bus routes and existing bicycle facilities and sidewalk information.
- 4) Identify and discuss potential positive impacts of future transportation improvements on specific communities. Are any of these impacts disproportionately high? Please complete the attached form.
- 5) Identify and discuss potential negative impacts of future transportation improvements on specific communities. Are any of these impacts disproportionately high? Please complete the attached form.
- 6) Identify and discuss transportation improvements that are needed by specific communities but are not currently reflected in the maps. Are the impacts of not having these transportation disproportionately high? Please complete the attached form.
- 7) What can we do to increase the participation of older adult, minority, and low income communities in the transportation decision-making process?

Maps Available for Review

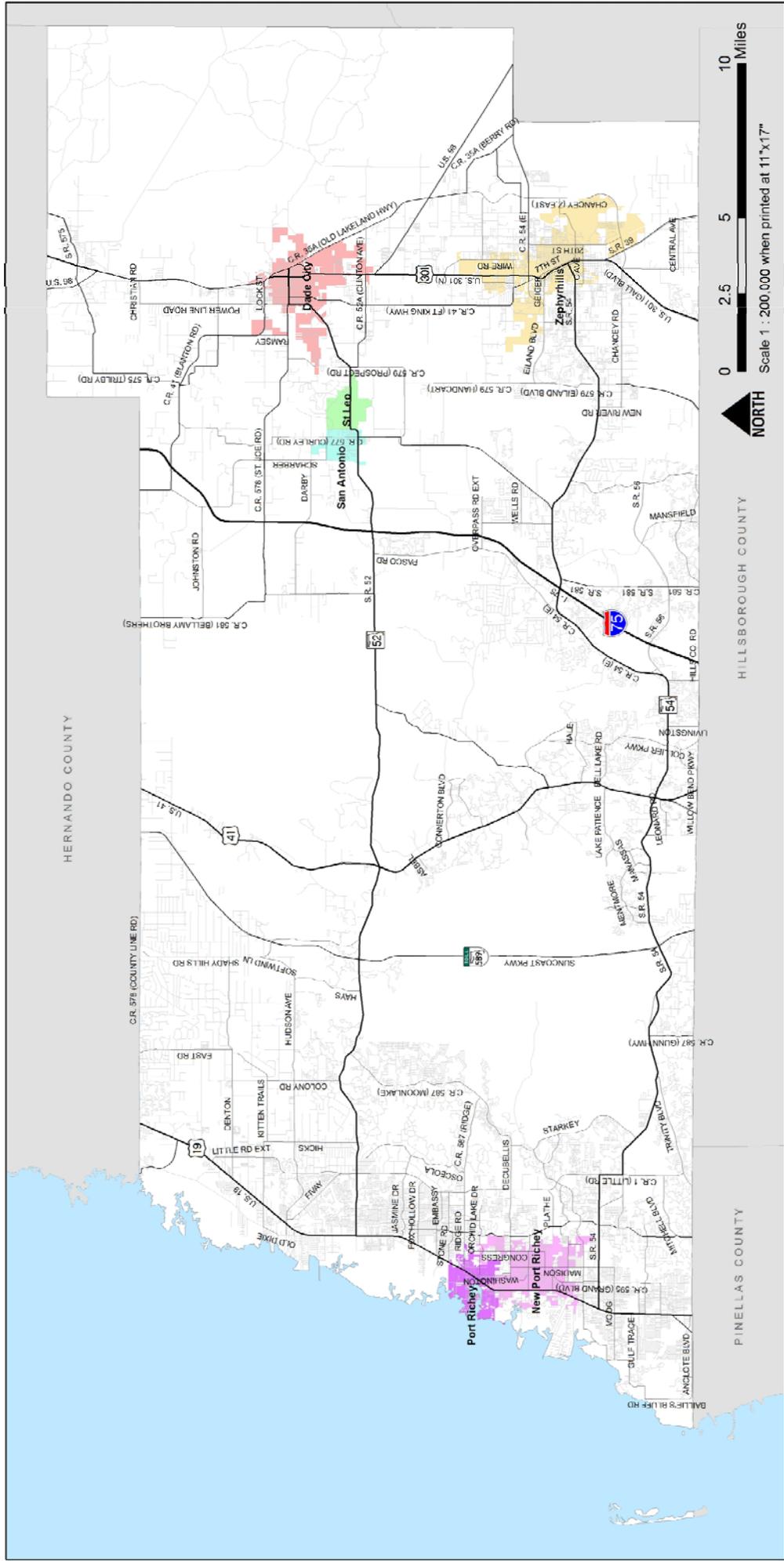
In Packet

- Older Adult, Minority, and Low-income Areas
- Existing Facilities and Activity Centers

On Display

- 2040 Transit Needs
- 2040 Bike Needs
- 2040 Pedestrian Needs
- 2040 Needs Plan Number of Lanes

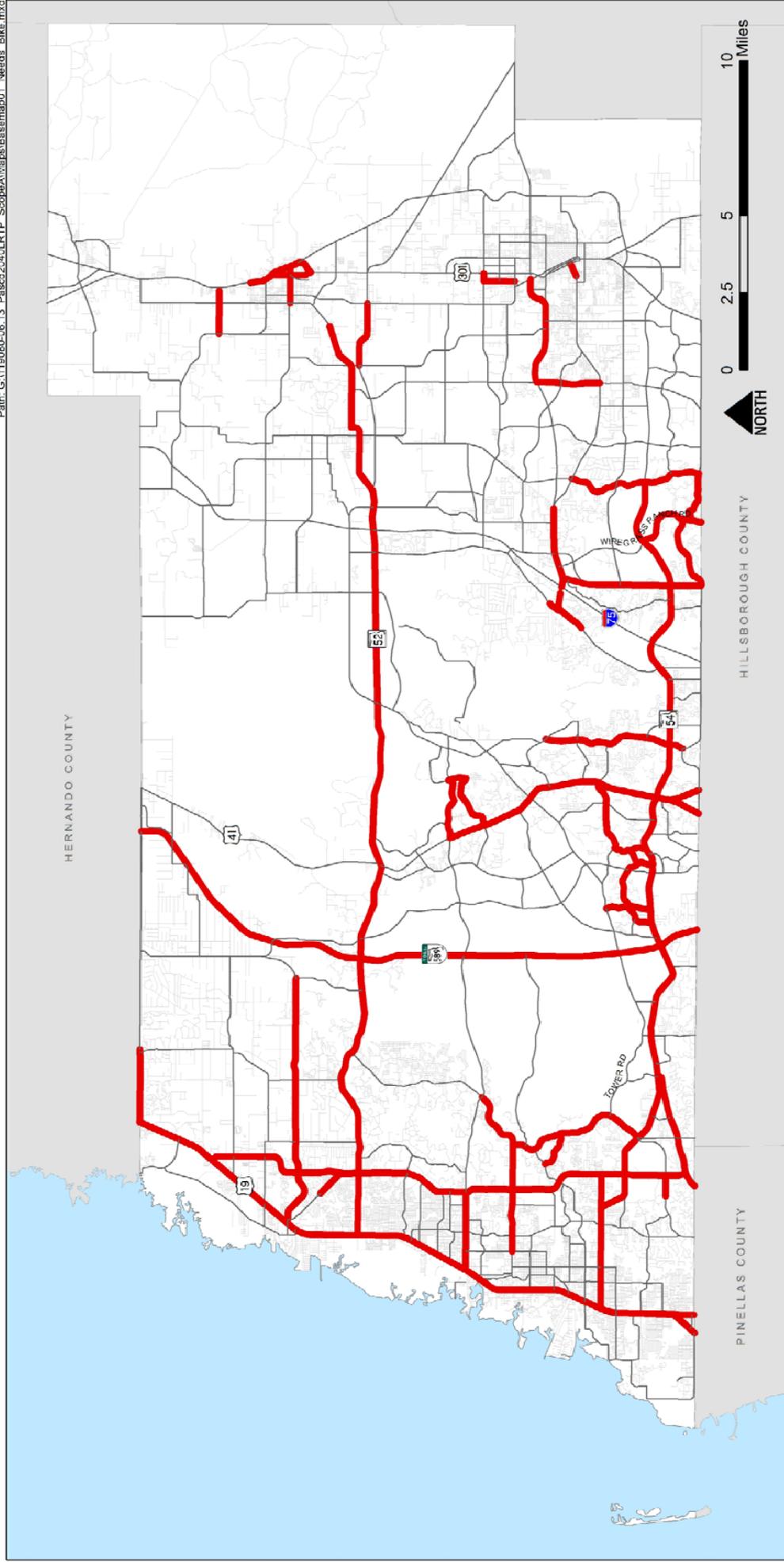
Map A: Identification of Traditionally Under-Represented and Under-Served Populations



Data Source: Florida Geographic Data Library
 Datum/Projection: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Florida_West_FIPS_0902_Feet

Map C: Existing Bicycle Facilities and Identification of Bicycle Improvements

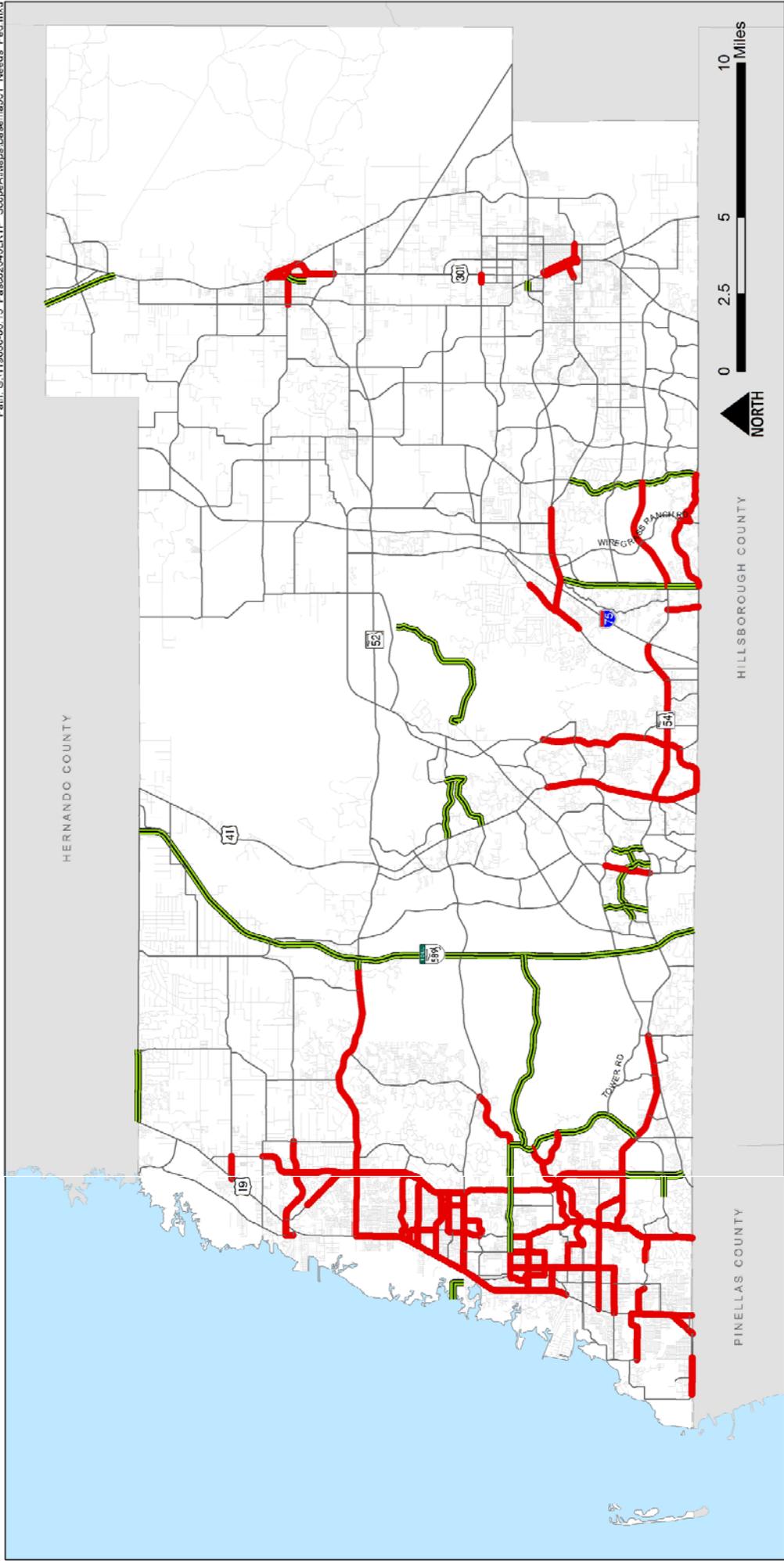
Path: G:\115060-06-13_Pasco2040LRTP_ScopeA\Maps\Basemap01_Needs_Bike.mxd



Data Source: Markup of 2035 Plan

Map D: Existing Sidewalks/Trails and Identification of Sidewalk/Trail Improvements

Path: G:\119030-06.13_Paso2040LRTP_ScopeA\Maps\Base\Map01_Needs_Ped.mxd





Exercise 3: Critical Transportation Improvements

The Preliminary Needs Plan maps identify potential transportation improvements from a technical perspective. In your opinion, do any of these transportation improvements, or the lack thereof, have a significant impact (positive or negative) on the areas indicated below?

Transportation Improvement(s)

(Road name, cross streets, etc): _____

- Improvement is already in Needs Plan
- Improvement should be added to the Needs Plan

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on an Older Adult Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on a Minority Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on a Low Income Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on another Community (how?)

Transportation Improvement(s)

(Road name, cross streets, etc): _____

- Improvement is already in Needs Plan
- Improvement should be added to the Needs Plan

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on an Older Adult Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on a Minority Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on a Low Income Community (how?)

Improvement will have a positive negative neutral impact on another Community (how?)



Exercise 4: Funding Prioritization

If you had \$100 to spend on transportation, how much do you think the County should spend on each type of transportation in the next 25 years?



Roadway widening or new construction, including intersections

\$ _____



Roadway maintenance

\$ _____



Transit improvements, including operations and maintenance, expanded service, more frequent service, more hours of service, express bus service

\$ _____



Sidewalks, trails, bicycle facilities

\$ _____

Total \$ 100



Comments

Your Contact Information

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ZIP: _____

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Thank you for your participation!