

Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)

CUTR Boardroom and via Teams

February 24, 2026 – 1:00 – 3:00PM

§334.065, Florida Statutes – Center for Urban Transportation Research

- 1) *There is established at the University of South Florida the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research. The responsibilities of the center include, but are not limited to, conducting and facilitating research on issues related to urban transportation problems in this state and serving as an information exchange and depository for the most current information pertaining to urban transportation and related issues.*
- 2) *The center shall be a continuing resource for the Legislature, the Department of Transportation, local governments, the nation's metropolitan regions, and the private sector in the area of urban transportation research.*
- 3) *An advisory board shall be created to periodically review and advise the center concerning its research program.*

Board Members:

- Ron Howse, CUTR Advisory Board Chair and Chairman, Florida Transportation Commission
- Thornton J. Williams, CUTR Advisory Board Vice Chair and Managing Partner, Williams Law Group, P.A.
- Jared Perdue, P.E., Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation / Justin Hall, Secretary, FDOT District 7/Kelli Bradley, Director of Transportation Development, FDOT District 7
- J. Alex Kelly, Secretary, Florida Department of Commerce / Scott Rogers
- Kimberlee DeBosier, Vice President, Transportation Division, WGI, Inc.
- Ram Kancharla, Vice President Planning and Development, Port Tampa Bay
- Ysela Llort, Principal, Renaissance Planning Group, Inc.
- LK Nandam, Senior Vice President, GFT (Senate President Appointee)

Ex Officio Members:

- Lisa Bacot, Executive Director, Florida Public Transportation Association
- Ralph Yoder, Executive Director, FTC

CUTR Leadership:

- Fred Mannering, Ph.D., CUTR Executive Director
- Lisa Staes, CUTR Associate Director
- CUTR Program Directors

Agenda:

Welcome and Roll Call/Introductions (5 minutes)

- Chair, Ron Howse
- Advisory Board Members
- Participants

Topic #1: Approval of Minutes CUTR (Appendix A) (5 minutes)

- Ron Howse
- Advisory Board Members

Topic #2: FDOT Update (10 minutes)

- Kelli Bradley, Director of Transportation Development, FDOT District 7

Topic #3: CUTR Advisory Board Updates/Business (10 minutes)

- Members

Topic #4: CUTR Updates

- Executive Director
- Towards a CUTR Infrastructure/Civil Engineering Thrust Area
- CUTR Budget Briefing
- Florida's Transportation Hall of Fame Selection Committee (2026)
- CUTR Performance Dashboard
- CUTR Annual Report
- Fred Mannering, Executive Director
- Zachary Haber, PhD, Assistant Professor, Structures and Materials, Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Lisa Staes, CUTR Associate Director
- Sarah Perez, CUTR Marketing / Communications Director

(45 minutes)

Topic #5: CUTR Project Presentations

- Microtransit in Florida: Strategic Considerations and Research Needs
- Optimizing Access to Interoperability Resources in Mobility through Context-Aware Large Language Models (LLMs)
- Vicky Perk, Ph.D.
- Jennifer Flynn, Sr. Research Associate
- Sudarsana Varma Mandapati, GRA

(30 minutes)

Public Comment

Meeting Adjourn (Approximately 3:00PM)

