



## Workshop Looks Down The Road

By **GEORGE WILKENS** The Tampa Tribune

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TEMPLE TERRACE - A workshop to revisit Hillsborough County's long-range transportation goals is scheduled for Dec. 4 in Temple Terrace.

The focus group session, one of eight sponsored by the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, is intended to invigorate mass transit planning.

Spiraling costs dictate the need to reassess public transit, MPO Chairman Shawn Harrison wrote in the agency's current newsletter.

"As our population grows and the cost of gas and road construction continues to skyrocket, the need for a multimodal mass transit system is becoming apparent to everyone," Harrison wrote.

"We will look at public transit with a fresh eye and thoroughly review the possibilities. The result of the study will be recommendations for countywide mass transit that can be included in our cost-affordable plan."

Transit technology has advanced since Hillsborough's plan was developed in the late 1990s, planners say. Hillsborough's plan includes high-speed rail to Orlando and light rail between West Shore, downtown and the University of South Florida, all of which is unfunded.

The Temple Terrace meeting is at 7 p.m. Dec. 4 at the city's public works building, 11210 N. 53rd St. (behind city hall).

For a schedule of sessions elsewhere, click on the "MPO News" link at [www.hillsboroughmpo.org](http://www.hillsboroughmpo.org).

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