# Tourism, Transportation and Land Use



- State legislature expanded potential Tourist Development Tax revenue uses to include developing or operating public facilities
- Public facilities must be needed to increase touristrelated business activities or recommended by the TDC
- Major capital improvements with a lifespan of 5 or more years, including transportation



Credit: Visit St Pete Clearwater



- Better infrastructure to support increasing tourism demands on facilities and services
- Allows for potential leveraging of resources (federal, state, local funds) for public infrastructure like transportation
- Connects workers to tourism-related jobs and provides better transportation choices for visitors and residents





- More than 6% increase in Pinellas hotel rooms sold in 2017 over 2016
- 6.3 million visitors in 2016, an increase of more than 2% from 2015
- 57% of 2016 visitors used a rental car on their trip



March and February 2018 Visitor Survey Results

- Top three attractions or services that would enhance the destination experience outside of doing nothing
  - Cheaper and more parking
  - Less congestion/traffic
  - More public transportation options
- More than 6% used public transportation during their stay
- Visitors spend \$33.40/day on transportation-related expenses



#### **Connecting Workers to Jobs**

- Tourism accounts for 7.2% of Pinellas County's jobs (source: Economic Development)
- Pinellas tourism contributes ~\$10 billion to the regional economy
- The average Pinellas household spends 60% of income on housing + transportation
  - 45% is considered affordable





## Transit Currently Supports Tourism

- Suncoast Beach Trolley
- Jolley Trolley
- Hotel corporate pass
- Special Events:
  - Beach Goes Pop
  - Spring Break
  - Sugar Sand
  - Oldsmar BMX
  - Pride Parade



#### THE REWARDS OF C-PASS

Participate in the C-Pass Program and you can look forward to increased productivity from a workplace that arrives ready to start the day.

Partner with PSTA to extend sustainable, low-cost transportation options to your staff. As an employer, you want to offer benefits to attract and retain quality employees.



### **Benefits of Improved Transit**

- Increased wages per worker
- Congestion alternative
- Reduces demand for parking at destinations
- Health advantage over those who drive
- Increases foot traffic and development value

