

DRAFT POLK TPO RESOLUTION 2025-04

RESOLUTION OF THE POLK TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all its residents and visitors, recognizing the importance of safe, accessible, and efficient transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, the Polk TPO has adopted the Vision Zero Polk initiative, aiming to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries, with a focus on vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) recognizes that Polk County ranks within the top 25 counties for pedestrian injuries and fatalities within the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety Program is a proven, data-driven initiative that combines community education, high-visibility enforcement, and low-cost engineering recommendations to improve driver compliance with pedestrian right-of-way laws, thereby reducing pedestrian injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, implementing the Best Foot Forward Program in Polk County will complement existing efforts, such as the Polk Vision Pedestrian and Bike Team Tactical Plan and the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant applications, by providing a structured framework for pedestrian safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Polk TPO recognizes the value of collaborative partnerships among local governments, law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations in promoting pedestrian safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO):

SECTION I: Support for Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety. The Polk TPO supports the principles and practices of Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety Program and joins with other local cities, counties, law enforcement agencies, regional planning agencies, and FDOT in a regional effort to reduce pedestrian injuries and fatalities. As such, the TPO encourages collaboration among county departments, municipalities, law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations to effectively implement the program's education, enforcement, and engineering components. These

actions will enhance the health and well-being of the residents and visitors and contribute to Polk TPO's goal of creating a safer and more livable community.

SECTION II. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

Signed:

Commissioner Trish Pfeiffer, Chairwoman
Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

June 12, 2025
Date

ATTEST:

Ryan Kordek, TPO Executive Director

Approved by the TPO Attorney as to
form and legal sufficiency:

Heather Bryan, TPO Attorney