

**PRESS RELEASE**

**USF MURP FACULTY APPOINTED TO HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

Evangeline “Van” Linkous, Associate Professor and Program Director of the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) at the USF School of Public Affairs, was appointed to the [Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission](#) for a four-year term beginning in February 2025. Dr. Linkous is an appointee of the City of Temple Terrace.

The Planning Commission serves the citizens of Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, the City of Temple Terrace, and the City of Plant City, as well as the MacDill Air Force Base and the Hillsborough County Public School District, by providing a vision for improving the quality of life. It is an independent, consolidated planning agency, led by 10 citizen appointees from all 4 local jurisdictions, which along with a staff of professional planners, promotes and coordinates comprehensive long-range planning, growth-management, transportation, and environmental protection.

Dr. Linkous, an AICP certified planner, conducts research and teaches in the areas of land use policy and law, growth management, fiscal and legal instruments in land policy, and agricultural, rural, and conservation lands planning. She earned her Ph.D. and Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, and has a Bachelor of Arts in English from the New College of Florida. Dr. Linkous currently directs the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) program at the University of South Florida.