

**PRESS RELEASE**

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

Evangeline “Van” Linkous, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the USF’s School of Public Affairs, was appointed to the [Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission](#) for a four-year term beginning in February 2021. Dr. Linkous is an appointee of the City of Temple Terrace.

The Planning Commission serves the citizens of Hillsborough County, City of Plant City, City of Temple Terrace, and the City of Tampa 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 PhD and a Master’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, and has a Bachelor of Arts in English from the New College of Florida. Dr. Linkous previously worked as Director of UF/IFAS Sarasota County Extension and as a Smart Growth Planner for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. She has previously served on the Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee and Malvern Borough Planning Commission.