



SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail

The Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program provided nearly \$5 million for this construction project in Putnam county. It extends the existing trail six miles from Robert's Lane to the eastern boundary of the state-owned property, across from the St. Johns River Water Management Office. It creates a continuous trail for 26 miles connecting Putnam, Clay, and Bradford counties. Highlights include the 291-foot long bridge crossing at Rice Creek and a bridge culvert crossing at Stripper Swamp. FDOT and the contractor took careful measures for protecting environmentally sensitive resources.

The trail corridor was purchased on June 26, 2001 with Preservation 2000 funds by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection acting as agent for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Governor and Cabinet) through the Florida Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program. The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy played a key role in preserving the corridor for conversion to a rail-trail. The first three-time winner of the Gold Medal honoring the nation's best state park system, the Florida Park Service manages the trail.

Established during the 2015 legislative session and administered by the Florida Department of Transportation, the SUN Trail program receives \$25 million annually, from new vehicle tag fees, to expand the statewide system of paved multi-use trails (SUN Trail network) for bicyclists and pedestrians. The SUN Trail network aligns to the statewide Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan's Land Trail Priority network. This project is integral to transportation in Florida. Other distinctions include:

- **Designation as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System in 2007.**
See: <https://floridadep.gov/parks/ogt/content/designations>
- **The Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) follows portions of the trail corridor. Spanning 1,300 miles from the Panhandle to the Everglades, the FNST, often known as the Florida Trail, is one of 11 elite Congressionally designated trails in the nation.**
See: <https://www.floridatrail.org/>



To visit the trail or for more information, please contact:

Florida Park Service • 352-473-4701 • www.floridastateparks.org/trail/Palatka-Lake-Butler

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 2 **LENGTH:** 6 miles
CITY: Palatka **SURFACE TYPE:** Asphalt
COUNTY: Putnam
WIDTH: 12 feet

PROJECT

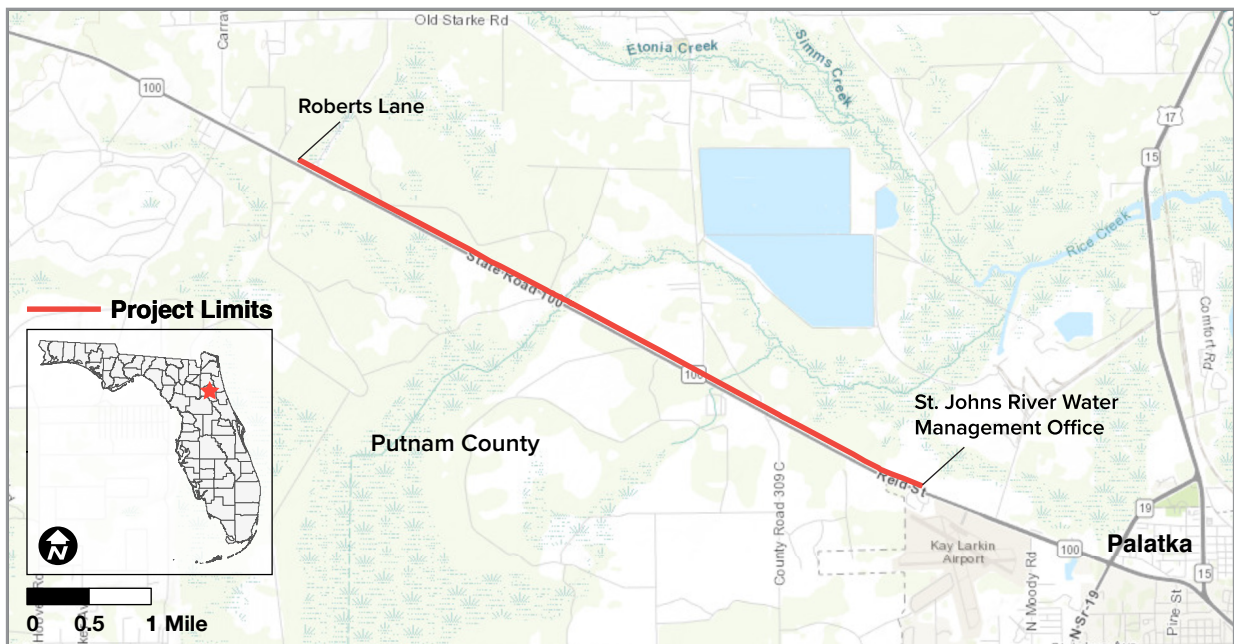
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (ITEM) NUMBER: 428202-3
LIMITS: Built on the former railroad corridor along State Road 100 from Roberts Lane to across from the St. Johns River Water Management Office.
CONSTRUCTION START: October 2017
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: October 2018
PHASES: Construction and Construction Engineering Inspections

FUNDING

FISCAL YEARS: 2017, 2018, 2019
AMOUNT: \$4,995,820 was awarded by the SUN Trail program. Within the project boundary, an additional \$1,169,919 million was provided by FDOT and federal sources beginning in 2014.



This trail is built on the historic Georgia Southern and Florida Railway, later known as the Norfolk Southern Railroad



Florida Department of Transportation Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Program

Systems Implementation Office
605 Suwannee Street, MS 19
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

FloridaSunTrail.com