SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Good Neighbor Trail Downtown Brooksville

Established in 2015 with enacted changes in 2023 under Section 339.81, Florida Statutes (F.S.), the Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program receives an annual allocation from the redistribution of new vehicle tag revenues deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund for administration by the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Systems Implementation Office. The competitively awarded funding is one source for expanding a safe statewide system of interconnected, high priority, strategic paved multi-use trails (SUN Trail network) for bicyclists and pedestrians and improving connectivity for lands of the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act.

In 2016 FDOT received an application requesting SUN Trail funding, supported by the Hernando / Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization, for the Good Neighbor Trail (GNT) Downtown Brooksville connection. The project began receiving funding in 2017, with annual allocations through 2023. Implementing the route identified by the initial feasibility study funded in 2015 by other FDOT sources, the two-and-a-quarter mile GNT segment meanders from Main Street near Russell Street Park's Trailhead, through Tom Varn Park and over State Road (SR) 50 / Cobb Road. Construction began in September 2022. In May 2023 the City of Brooksville became a Florida Trail Town, which is a program overseen by the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways and Trails pursuant to Chapter 260, F.S., recognizing vibrant destinations for people to enjoy unique community heritage and resources, benefiting the town economically and socially. The $19.3 million SUN Trail funded project phases included Project Design and Environment, Environmental / Mitigation, Design, Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition, Construction, and Construction Engineering Inspections. Even with land acquisition, due to lack of willing sellers GNT sections were developed within existing ROW resulting in width variation from eight to 12 feet. The project includes a culvert extension crossing of Wombles Creek and metal enclosed bridges over SR 50 / Cortez Boulevard south of SR 50A / West Jefferson Street and the CSX Railroad at Broad Street just west of downtown.

Completing this project provides nonmotorized traveling options for experiencing resources of the Trail Town and Brooksville Main Street Community, including the 1885 Train Depot operated by the Hernando Historical Museum Association. The Florida Department of State's Main Street Community program provides technical assistance with the goal of revitalizing historic downtowns and encouraging economic development within the context of historic preservation. Main Streets help build community pride and partnerships while celebrating downtowns. Trail travelers may continue east to the Withlacoochee State Trail or west to the Suncoast Trail and beyond. The GNT is part of the developing regional Coast to Coast Trail (C2C). When complete, the C2C will traverse nine counties through Central Florida linking communities from St. Petersburg to Titusville. See: **C2Cconnector.org**

To visit the trail or for more information, contact

City of Brooksville • 352-540-3810

www.WeLoveBvl.org • www.traillink.com/trail/good-neighbor-trail

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 7

CITY: Brooksville

COUNTY: Hernando

WIDTH: Varies from eight to 12 feet

LENGTH: 2.2 miles

SURFACE TYPE: Asphalt, concrete

PROJECT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT NUMBERS: 437264-2

LIMITS: From west of the intersection of State Road 50 / Cortez Boulevard and State Road 50 A / Jefferson Street to Russell Street

CONSTRUCTION START: September 2022

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: May 2024

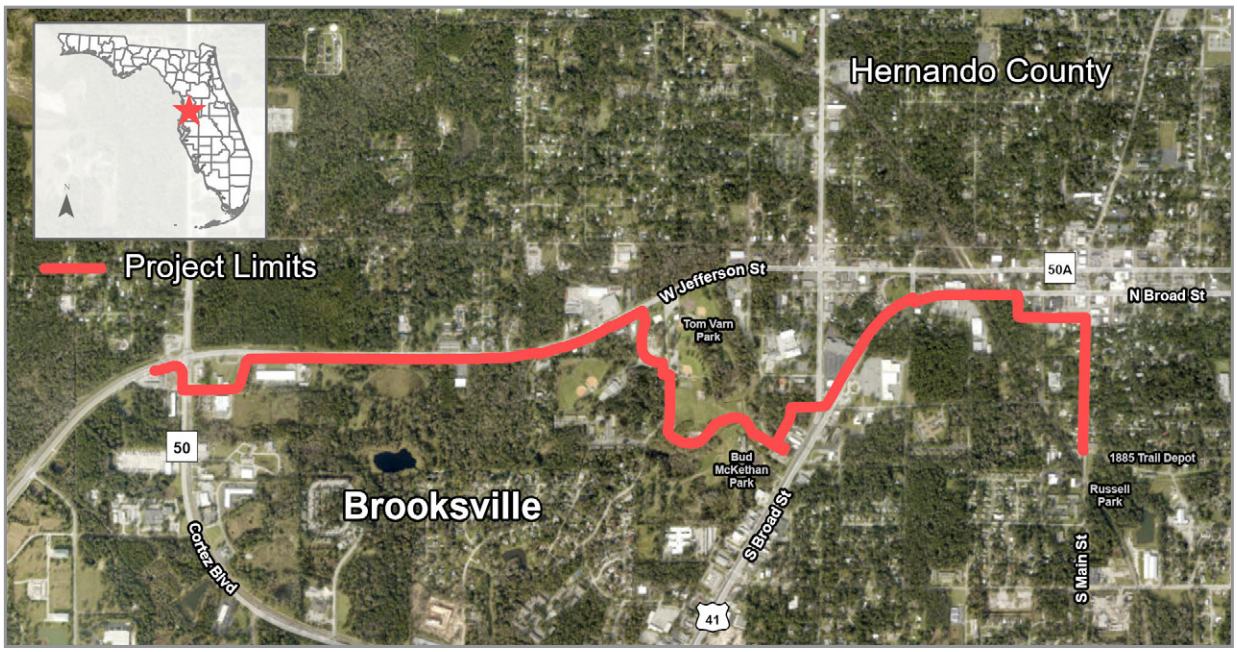
PHASES: Project Design and Environment, Environmental / Mitigation, Design, Right-of-Way acquisition, Construction, Construction Engineering Inspections

Trail bridges become memorable features and provide safe gateways to destinations

FUNDING

FISCAL YEAR: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

AMOUNT: SUN Trail awarded a total of $19,335,191 beginning in 2017 for completion of this project. Within the project boundary an additional $11,207,747 was provided by other FDOT (state and federal) sources beginning in 2015 (includes Financial Management 437264-1). Local funds totaling $125,141 were provided in 2024.



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

Systems Implementation Office
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FloridaSunTrail.com

06/2024