SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Coastal Highway Shared-Use Path

Funding from the Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program is helping connect the Capital City to the Sea Trails, known as the "backbone" of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency's bike and pedestrian element of the long-range transportation plan. In 2017 the SUN Trail Program provided nearly $2.3 million for design of the 9.2-mile connection of the Coastal Highway Shared-Use Path between the existing Ochlocknee Bay Trail to U.S. 319/State Road 61. Receiving over $5.9 million from the SUN Trail program in 2019 and 2020, this 2.7-mile segment is the first to open. Crossing salt marshes, tidal creeks, and estuaries it is along U.S. 98/State Road 30, the "Coastal Highway" of Wakulla County, from the Ochlockonee Bay Trail at County Road 372/Surf Road to south of Tower Road. Wakulla County is a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) community and within one of the three Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAO). Adversely affected by extraordinary economic events or natural disasters designation of RAO communities is by Executive Order of the Governor. According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) "Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation Activities in Florida" trails provide economic opportunities for communities they traverse.

Florida lawmakers established the SUN Trail program in 2015 under Section 339.81, Florida Statute. Administered by the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Systems Implementation Office, Program receives an annual allocation from the redistribution of new vehicle tag revenues deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund for helping communities expand a safe statewide system of interconnected, high priority and strategic paved multi-use trails (SUN Trail network) for bicyclists and pedestrians. FDOT strives to improve safety for all travelers, enhance mobility for a growing Florida, inspire innovation in our mobility solutions, and foster talent. The Coastal Highway Shared-Use Path helps achieve vital few goals by providing safer travel routes for bicyclists and pedestrians for efficient transportation and to fit the diverse needs of Florida's growing population for decades to come. This project is a contributing resource to the following networks:

- **Capital City to the Sea Trails, which is a developing regional system in Leon and Wakulla Counties, connecting Tallahassee, Sopchoppy and coastal communities along the Gulf of Mexico.** See: cc2st.com
- **Big Bend Scenic Byway, distinguished as a National Scenic Byway and a Florida Byway.** See: floridabigbendscenicbyway.org

SUNTRAIL

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

Wakulla County • (850) 926-0919 • www.visitwakulla.com/things-to-do/trails

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 3

CITY: Panacea

COUNTY: Wakulla

WIDTH: 10 feet

LENGTH: 2.7 miles

SURFACE TYPE: Asphalt, concrete bulkheads with steel sheet piling, and timber composite bridge

PROJECT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (ITEM) NUMBERS: 439926-1, 439926-2
Note: 439926-1 included a larger project boundary

LIMITS: Along U.S. 98/State Road 30 from County Road 372/Surf Road to south of Tower Road

CONSTRUCTION START: January 2020

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: April 2021

PHASES: Design, Construction, and Construction Engineering Inspections

Connecting the Capital City to the Sea Trails is an economic catalyst for Rural Areas of Opportunity

FUNDING

FISCAL YEARS: 2017, 2019, 2020

AMOUNT: $5,921,640 was awarded by the SUN Trail program for construction and construction engineering inspections; the SUN Trail program also awarded $2,285,208 for design of a larger project boundary. Within the project boundary an additional $212,065 was provided from other state funding sources beginning in 2017.

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

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

FloridaSunTrail.com

8/2021