SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Coastal Trail

Funding assistance from the Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program is helping connect the Capital City to the Sea Trails (CC2ST) through Wakulla County.

In 2017 the SUN Trail program provided nearly $2.2 million for design of the 9.2-mile connection of the Coastal Highway Shared-Use Path extending from the existing Ochlocknee Bay Trail (OBT) to State Road (S.R) 61 (U.S. 319/ Crawfordville Highway) and Crawfordville High School. Receiving over $7.6 million in 2022 and 2023 from the SUN Trail program, this 6.6-mile segment is the second phase to open. It extends along U.S. 98 (S.R.) 30 from south of Tower Road to Crawfordville Highway at Crawfordville High School.

Even before the adoption of the CC2ST Master Plan, the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (C R T P A) held public outreach events such as workshops, advisory and advocacy meetings, surveys, and stakeholder interviews to gain input. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) conducted a Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) study for a series of shared-use trails throughout Leon and Wakulla counties. In June 2015 a public meeting at the Wakulla Senior Citizens Center documented support for the study. Through the local process, stakeholders identified the Coastal Trail as their highest priority.

Business and homeowners in the waterfront community of Panacea expressed their desire for a sidewalk and less support for a shared-use trail during the public engagement process. Fitting the context of Panacea's vision, just under one mile of the sidewalk was constructed (with non-SUN Trail funds) through downtown. Now, the 24-mile Coastal Trail links the Tallahassee-Saint Marks Historic Railroad State Trail to the OBT and is a contributing resource to the following networks:

- Capital City to the Sea Trails- A developing system in Leon and Wakulla counties that connects Tallahassee, Sopchoppy and other communities along the Gulf of Mexico. **www.facebook.com/CC2ST/**
- Big Bend Scenic Byway- A National Scenic Byway and a Florida Byway. **floridabigbendscenicbyway.org**

Designated as a Rural Economic Development Initiative (R E D I) community, Wakulla County is one of four counties in the C R T P A area and is within one of the three Rural Areas of Opportunity (R A O). Defined as adversely affected by extraordinary economic events or natural disasters, designation of R A O communities is by Executive Order of the Governor.

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, the SUN Trail program receives an annual allocation from the redistribution of new vehicle tag revenues deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund. It is one funding source for expanding a safe statewide system of interconnected, high priority, and strategic paved multi-use trails (SUN Trail network) for bicyclists and pedestrians.

SUNTRAIL

To visit the trail or for more information, please contact

Wakulla County

850-926-0919 • visitwakulla.com/things-to-do/trails/

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 3

CITY: Crawfordville

COUNTY: Wakulla

WIDTH: Varies from 10 to 12 feet

LENGTH: 6.6 miles

SURFACE TYPE: Asphalt

PROJECT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT NUMBER: 439926-1, 439926-3
Note: 439926-1 includes a larger project boundary

LIMITS: Along U.S. 98/S.R. 30 from south of Tower Road to U.S. 319/ S.R. 61/ Crawfordville Highway

CONSTRUCTION START: August 2021

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: January 2023

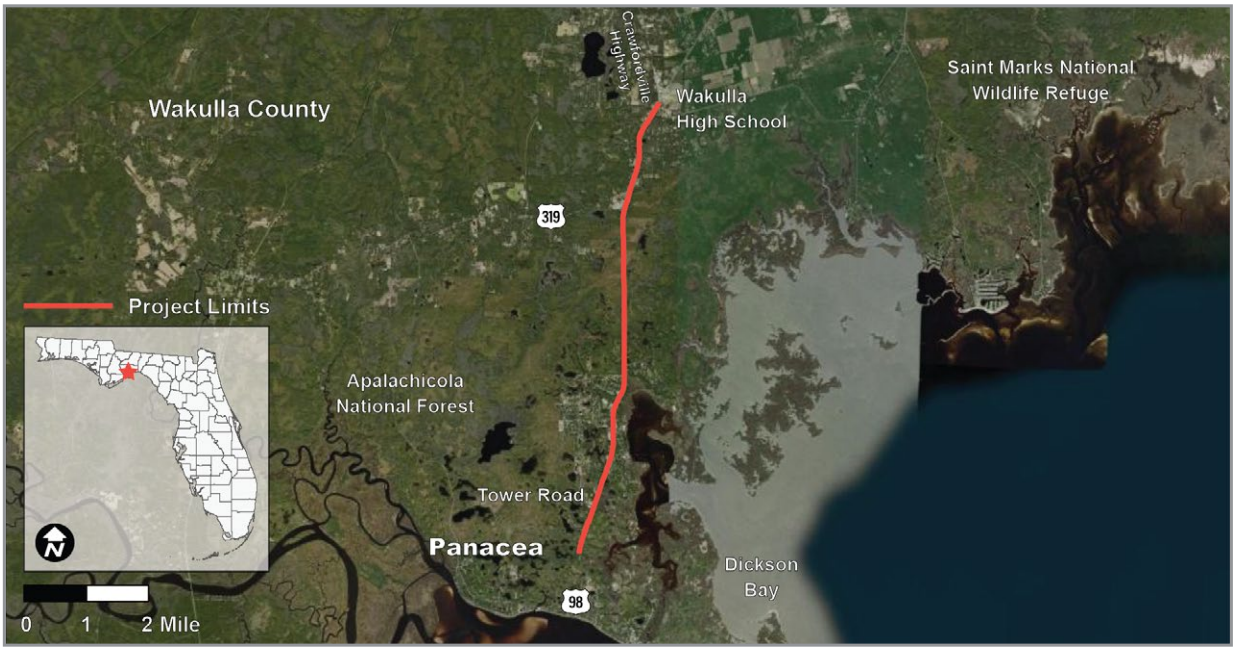
PHASE: Design, Construction, and Construction Engineering Inspections

Wakulla County Tourist Development Council supports this trail system and the economic impacts

FUNDING

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

AMOUNT: $7,605,286 was awarded by the SUN Trail project for construction and construction engineering inspections; the SUN Trail program also awarded nearly $2.2 million for design of a larger project boundary. Within this project boundary over $2.3 million was provided from other state and federal 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

1/2023