SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Lynn Haven Rails-to-Trails

Partnerships and statewide momentum for safely connecting people and places continue with the progression of projects funded by the Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program. Established in 2015 under 339.81, Florida Statutes, the SUN Trail program receives an annual allocation from the redistribution of new vehicle tag revenues deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund. Administration of the program is 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, and strategic paved multi-use trails (SUN Trail network) for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Led by former Commissioner Frances Wittkopf, local advocacy, and community visioning for transforming the historic Bay Line Railroad spur into a trail began in the late 1990s. Commissioner Rodney Friend maintained the community's momentum. Following a public hearing on June 14, 2016, the City of Lynn Haven adopted Resolution 2016-6-649 proclaiming commitment to and support for the project. On June 22, 2016, the Bay County Transportation Planning Organization passed Resolution Bay 16-13 approving the project priority list for the West Florida Regional Planning Council ranking the importance of this project for receiving funding from the SUN Trail program. Subsequently in 2016, FDOT received an application to secure funding from the SUN Trail program for developing the rail trail from State Road (SR) 390 / East 10th Street to SR 75 / US 231. The project received $268,000 for design and $4,147,021 for construction from the SUN Trail program.

Completion of the design and engineering of the 12-foot-wide asphalt trail and gravity wall, to 10th Street, occurred in 2017. Hurricane Michael, a category five storm that devastated the area impacted the construction timeline. Lynn Haven City Manager Vickie Gainer expressed excitement for this new community feature saying "...in Lynn Haven, we have a lot of cyclists who are interested in getting outside...". The ability to secure SUN Trail funding the City's first trail segment is an example of how FDOT helps meet the needs of the communities throughout Florida by working together developing trails to provide safe bicycling and pedestrian opportunities for healthier communities. This phase of construction extends from SR 390 to US 231. This trail is a catalyst for implementing the City's vision of connecting people to destinations – including the Mowat Subdivision, to the Lynn Haven Plaza, which provides shopping and dining. The larger regional vision is to continue connecting the Great Northwest Coastal Trail – east from Lynn Haven to Mexico Beach, westward to Panama City Beach and beyond.

SUNTRAIL

To visit the trail or for more information, please contact

The City of Lynn Haven
850-265-2121

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 3

CITY: Lynn Haven

COUNTY: Bay

WIDTH: 12 feet

LENGTH: 3 miles

SURFACE TYPE: Asphalt

PROJECT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT NUMBER: 439928-1, 439928-2

LIMITS: Design from East 10th Street to SR 75 / US 231. Construction from SR 390 to SR 75 / US 231

CONSTRUCTION START: January 2023

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: August 2023

PHASE: Design, Construction

Connecting peoples' homes to shopping and dining opportunities

FUNDING

FISCAL YEAR: 2017, 2022

AMOUNT: $4,415,021

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

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

FloridaSunTrail.com

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