SUN Trail Funding Fact Sheet

Tower Road Multi-Use Path

Alachua county completed construction of a 10-foot-wide Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program funded multi-use path next to Tower Road (also known as SW 75th Street) from 26th Place to SW 8th Avenue just west of I-75 and downtown Gainesville. The northern end of the Tower Road Multi-Use Path (Path) connects to the SW 8th Avenue Multi-Use Path. Visitors traveling to the southern end of the Path, may continue easterly along the Archer Braid Trail to the Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Implementing the Alachua countywide bicycling master plan, the Path gives students an opportunity to increase their physical activity by walking or bicycling between their homes and Oak Hall School.

Significant cost saving occurred for completing the construction of the 1.2-mile path in tandem with other improvements, including resurfacing of Tower Road and installing a new bus stop for the Gainesville's Regional Transit System. Originally, the SUN Trail program awarded $950,000 for trail construction. The total cost of trail construction was $536,421, resulting in an overall cost savings of $413,579.

The remaining funds were reallocated to other SUN Trail projects. The improvements enhance transportation in a previously identified hazardous area. Future development proposals along Tower Road include mixed use residential, and may include medical facilities, professional offices, restaurants and/or retail. Nationwide a growing trend is creating mixed-use communities centered around bicycling, walking and transit facilities.

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. Implementing these Tower Road improvements are integral to transportation and furthers the state's commitment to improving safety and mobility.

SUNTRAIL

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

Alachua County • 352-374-5249 • www.alachuacounty.us

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

TRAIL

FDOT DISTRICT NUMBER: 2

CITY: Gainesville

COUNTY: Alachua

WIDTH: 10 feet

LENGTH: 1.2 miles

SURFACE TYPE: Asphalt

PROJECT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (ITEM) NUMBER: 439933-1

LIMITS: Parallel to Tower Road (also known as SW 75th Street) from 26th Place to SW 8th Avenue

CONSTRUCTION START: May 2018

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: April 2019

PHASE: Construction

Creating mixed-use communities centered around bicycling, walking and transit facilities is a growing nationwide trend

FUNDING

FISCAL YEAR: 2017

AMOUNT: $536,421

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

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

FloridaSunTrail.com

Revised 6/2020