

RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 605 Suwannee Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450 KEVIN J. THIBAULT, P.E. SECRETARY

POLICY

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LANDSCAPE

It is the policy of the Florida Department of Transportation to conserve, protect, and enhance Florida's natural resources and scenic beauty when planning, constructing, and maintaining the State Transportation System. Under this policy, Florida can have:

- Safe, attractive, and high-quality transportation facilities that reflect and recognize the beauty and nature of Florida.
- Corridors with landscapes that improve air and water quality, benefit ecosystems, and enhance communities.
- A transportation system that attracts and supports diverse economic opportunities and tourism.

In carrying out this policy, the Department will:

- Develop and commit to aesthetics, landscape opportunities, and landscape conservation and protection concepts early in programming, planning, and designing of transportation facilities.
- Rely on interdisciplinary planning and design processes.
- Engage in public outreach and communicate with local governments and communities to form strong partnerships.
- Accommodate existing and proposed landscapes.
- Utilize a diverse mix of context appropriate, resilient, Florida Friendly, primarily native plants that reflect the regional identity.
- Implement design and construction solutions to streamline landscape maintenance activities.
- Promote awareness of the many benefits of transportation landscapes enjoyed by the public and within the Department.
- Measure the costs and benefits.

Kevin J. Thibault, P.E.

Secretary