Environmental Protection in Transportation Planning

Office of Greenways and Trails

Florida Park Service - Department of Environmental Protection

Focused on Florida's Future
The Office of Greenways and Trails was established to fulfill the Florida Greenways and Trails Act...

To “conserve, develop, and use the natural resources of this state for healthful and recreational purposes”

Florida Greenways and Trails Act (Ch. 260, F.S.)
Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan Goals

- Delineate Regional Systems
- Strategic Investment of Resources to Advance System Completion
- Promote and Market the Florida Greenways and Trails System to Residents and Visitors
- Establish Partnerships and Engage Stakeholders
Purpose

Coordinate and Advance the Florida Greenways and Trails System to support Florida’s:

- Quality of Life
  - Economy
  - Transportation
  - Recreation
  - Conservation
  - Tourism
  - Health
Community

Lake Nona Orlando, FL

We’ve got 44 miles of trails.
Economy

Pinellas Trail  Pinellas County
Regional Trail Study

- 516 jobs
- Annual economic impact of $42.6 million
- Supported 61 jobs in downtown Winter Garden
2017 Economic Study of Florida Recreational Pursuits

- **Fitness walking and jogging**: $13.5 Billion
- **Bicycling on paved roads and trails**: $6 Billion
- **Bicycling on unpaved trails**: $2 Billion
- **Paddling**: $3 Billion
Designated trail towns receive signs, stickers for participating businesses, website presence and publicity.
Trail Town Program Goals

• Enhance the quality of the trail experience
• Promote tourism and growth of Florida’s trails
• Increase the amount and frequency of trail users
• Boost economy via purchases from trail users
• Engage citizens through community participation
What Makes a Florida Trail Town?

Florida's Designated Trail Towns

- Dunedin
- Titusville
- Malabar
- Vilano Beach
- Clermont
- Palatka
- Inverness
- Deltona
- Everglades City
For every $1 spent on walking trails approximately $3 is saved in medical expenses

(American Heart Association, 2016)
Conservation-Recreation

Dunnellon Trail Bridge
Marion County
“Bicycling significantly reduces transportation emissions while also reducing traffic congestion and the need for petroleum”

Bay Area Bike to Work Day, 2018
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