



Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application



**PART I – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Projects **must meet all** of the **eligibility criteria** to receive consideration for SUN Trail funding.  
SUN Trail will only fund paved multi-use trails.

**1. Will the project be developed as a paved multi-use trail within the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS) Priority Land Trail Network and the SUN Trail Network?**

Yes  No

**2. Is the project identified as a priority by the applicable jurisdiction(s)?** If the project is within a boundary of a Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization (MPO), it must be a MPO priority. Projects outside of an MPO boundary must be identified as a priority of the county (inclusive of their municipalities), tribal government, and federal or state-managing agency. **Attach the prioritization list and complete Part V.**

Yes  No

**Indicate the priority number of the project:** #32 of Pinellas Co. MPO FY 2016/17 – 2020/21 Surface Transportation Program Project Priorities

**3. Has an entity formally committed to operation and maintenance of the project? Complete and sign Part VI (CERTIFICATION OF WILLING MANAGER).**

Yes  No

**4. Is the project consistent with the applicable comprehensive plan(s) or the long-term management plan(s)?**

Yes  No

**Indicate the type of plan(s) and date(s) of adoption.** Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan – adopted March 8, 2008

*Do not proceed to Part II if the project resulted in a “no” response in Part I.*



Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application



**PART II – PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Name:** Pinellas Trail Loop

**Project Location** (attach a labeled location map with aerial view; optional: submit shape files)

**Municipality** Pinellas County, Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, and St Petersburg

**County:** Pinellas County

**DOT District Number:** District 7

**Termini Begin:** John Chesnut Sr. Park

**Termini End:** North Bay Trail

**Total Length:** 21.35 Miles

**Briefly describe the scope of the project:** The project includes trail construction of two segments to complete the Pinellas Loop Trail. The Pinellas Trail Loop is a 75-mile trail network that encircles the Pinellas County peninsula. Over 53 miles have been constructed; whereas, two segments require construction to result in a fully connected, multi-modal pathway that links people to local service, jobs, and educational opportunities. The Pinellas Trail Loop provides a vital link to the emerging Southwest Coast Regional Trail and provides a cross state connection to the planned Coast to Coast Trail; this will result in the longest continuous trail in Florida.

(SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED PROJECT NARRATIVE)





**Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application**



**PART IV – SELECTION CRITERIA**

Projects may not meet all of the following selection criteria, a numerical ranking will not be calculated, and Individual Trail Projects with the greatest strengths will advance more quickly.

**Optional:** provide attachments if additional space is needed.

**1. Does the project enhance the safety of bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists?**

Yes  No

If yes, check applicable attributes and briefly describe how the project meets the selection criteria.

Project includes a safety component.

Project is located in an area identified as a hazardous biking/walking zone or in an area with significant numbers of safety concerns.

Project implements a bicycle and pedestrian safety action plan. Provide the name of the plan and date of adoption. Pinellas County Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (report completion April 2009)

Other (list)

The Pinellas Trail Loop will result in over 75-miles of designated, off-street pedestrian/bicycle pathways that connect over 84 schools and 69 major employers; this will greatly reduce safety conflicts between motorists and bicyclists/pedestrians traveling throughout area.

The project implements action items identified in the Pinellas County Pedestrian Safety Action Plan; the plan calls to identify potential opportunities to improve pedestrian’s ability to safely cross major roadways.

**2. Is the project recognized as having regional, state or national importance?**

Yes  No

If yes, check applicable attributes and briefly describe how the project meets the selection criteria.

Project is a component of a Regional Trail System prioritized by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. List the Regional Trail System(s).

Southwest Coastal Regional Connector (this part of the Pinellas Trail Loop is a part of the Southwest Coast Regional Connector that was selected as the #3 priority trail by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council) The Southwest Coast Regional Connector links to the Coast to Coast Regional Connector.

Project is a component of a National Recreational Trail, East Coast Greenway or a trail that has other national importance. List the national recognitions.

The project is a component of the Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail, Clearwater East-West Trail (Ream Wilson), and North Bay Trail.

The Pinellas Trail has received the following national recognitions:

2008 – Induction into the Natural Rail to Trail Hall of Fame – Rails to Trails Conservancy National Award

2003 – National Recreation Trail Designation – National Park Service, Department of the Interior

2000 – Millennium Trail of 2000 – The “White House Millennium Council” certificate signed by Hillary Clinton.

1998 – Take Pride in America - National Award



**Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application**



Project implements an adopted regional bicycle, pedestrian or trail master plan. Provide the name of the regional plan(s). TBARTA 2015 Master Plan and Multi-Use Trails Map

Other (list) Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation | Southwest Coastal Regional Trail

The proposed project will close the last remaining gaps to complete the Pinellas Trail Loop. Additionally, the Pinellas Trail Loop provides a link in creating the Southwest Coast Regional Trail/Connector; this provides a continuous trail link from Pinellas to Collier Counties. The Pinellas Trail Loop also provides local trail link to the Coast to Coast Trail providing for cross-state connections.

**3. Is there an additional financial contribution committed to the project?**

Select the most appropriate response.

Yes, funds are leveraged by multiple public/private sources of investments dedicated to this specific trail segment (i.e. federal, state, local, non-profit, private landowner contributions). If yes, what are the sources?

What is the total percentage of match?

Yes, funds are leveraged by at least one additional public/private source of investment dedicated to this specific trail segment.

If yes, what is the source? Pinellas County FS, PD&E, PE, CON, and CEI

What is the total percentage of match? 28.59%

No, funds are not leveraged by public/private sources of investments dedicated to this specific trail segment.

**4. Does the project blend transportation modes by completing, improving or enhancing existing facilities?**

Yes  No

If yes, check applicable attributes and briefly describe how the project meets the selection criteria.

Project implements Complete Streets objectives and initiatives.

Project implements Safe Routes to Schools objectives and initiatives.

Project provides a direct connection to regional transit systems (i.e. rail stations, express or local bus routes).

Project is located in a designated multi-modal district.

Project has the potential to reduce vehicular congestion.

Project improves access in a Bicycle Friendly Community or Bicycle Friendly University, as designated by the League of American Bicyclists. If yes, indicate the name of the designated community or university.



**Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application**



City of St Petersburg (Bicycle Friendly Community)

Project improves access in a Walk Friendly Community, as designated by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center. If yes, indicate the name of the designated community.

Other (list) The project connects directly into existing segments to create a complete trail system; Clearwater Ream Wilson Trail, Duke Energy Trail, and the North Bay Trail  
The project provides for designated, direct multi-modal routes for bicycles and pedestrians that are physically separated from motor vehicle travel lanes. The project provides links to transit routes and transfer hubs.

**5. Is the project ready for construction?** Select the most appropriate response.

Project is ready for immediate construction and all pre-construction phases are complete.

Yes  No

Project is capable of near term development. The design is nearly complete and permitting is underway. This project includes pre-construction. If yes, include the schedule.

Yes  No

Project proposal is feasible but still needs to be designed. Construction will occur in the future.

Yes  No

**6. Does the project have a high level of documented public support?**

Yes  No

If yes, select from the following and briefly explain how the project meets the selection criteria.

The greater community supports the project as demonstrated by recently adopted proclamations or resolutions expressing commitment. Provide the resolution number, adopted date and participating parties.

Demonstration of public support is consistent across multiple entities representing the greater community, rather than a select few interest groups. Briefly explain. Public support for completing the Pinellas Trail Loop was identified in: (a) The 2014 Pinellas Trail Users Survey Report and (b) as part of the community engagement plan for the Pinellas MPO 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan; the engagement strategy included community Focus Group Meetings, On-line Surveys, a Steering Committee, and One-on-One meetings with major stakeholders/employers/property owners. Both efforts included a broad range of community participants to identify the local preference for future transportation projects.

Recent community surveys provide an indication of need and support. Briefly explain. The 2014 Pinellas Trail Users Survey indicated a strong community desire to complete the Pinellas Trail Loop to achieve a complete trail system and provide for route choices. The On-line Surveys



Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application



and Focus Groups for the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) showed support for completing the Pinellas Trail Loop.

An advertised public meeting for discussing the project occurred. Provide the date and type of meeting. As part of the 2040 LRTP, eight (8) Focus Group meetings were advertised, conducted, and recorded to identify public support for future transportation projects including completing the Pinellas Loop Trail. Two meetings occurred on each of the following dates: 10/29/2012, 10/30/2012, 10/31/2012, and 11/02/2012.

Other (list) As part of the 2040 LRTP, the MPO hosted an On-Line Survey, facilitated regular Stakeholder Meetings, and conducted One-on-One Interviews with major employers/property owners; all efforts revealed strong support for completing the Pinellas Trail Loop, providing multi-modal transportation options, and improving pedestrian/bicycle safety.

**7. Does the project have a significant immediate impact to the quality of life by enhancing economic opportunities and providing connectivity to destinations?**

Yes  No

If yes, check applicable attributes and briefly describe how the project meets the selection criteria.

The project connects to or through federal, state or local conservation/recreation areas. List the conservation/recreation areas. John Chesnut Sr Park, Weedon Island, Moccasin Lake Nature Park, Brooker Creek Preserve, and Honeymoon Island

The project connects people to jobs, businesses or civic resources.

The project is located along or connects to a Florida Scenic Highway. List the Scenic Highway(s). Courtney Campbell Causeway

The project is part of a public/private partnership where developers, linear corridor owners, small businesses, corporations, foundations or private sector partners are directly supporting the project.

The project is located within a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Community defined pursuant to Section 288.0656, Florida Statutes. List the REDI area. Enter REDI Area.

The project is located within a Rural Area of Opportunity (RAO) defined pursuant to Section 288.0656, Florida Statutes. Select the RAO area:  
Select RAO Area.

Other (list) The completed Pinellas Trail Loop provides premium pedestrian/bicycle access to employment and higher educational institutions; there are an estimated 380,000 residents and 260,000 jobs within one-half mile of the completed, 75-mile Pinellas Trail Loop. The completed Pinellas Trail Loop is planned to link into larger state-wide trail systems to create a signature tourist attractor; the project is a vital link to the Southwest Coast Regional Connector and provides connections the Coast to Coast Trail



**Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application**



**8. Does the project enhance or preserve environmental resources?**

Yes  No

If yes, check applicable attributes and briefly describe how the project meets the selection criteria.

- The project ensures the Florida Ecological Greenway Network (FEGN) maximizes protection of high priority linkages; the project is within a Priority 1 or 2 Critical Linkage as identified by the FEGN.
- The project restores or mitigates impacts of environmental degradation.
- The project incorporates water quality or drainage improvements.
- The project incorporates conservation initiatives to restore/maintain connectivity by reducing vehicle-caused wildlife mortality.
- The project's environmental impact assessment or statement does not identify specific issues.
- The project's environmental approval and permitting process is complete.

**9. Does the project facilitate a system of interconnected trails by closing a gap in the SUN Trail Network?**

Yes  No

If yes, how many miles of trail will be available once this gap is complete? 75  
List the trail names. Pinellas Trail Loop

**10. The project includes cost-saving elements.**

Yes  No

If yes, briefly describe the potential for overall cost savings for completing this project in conjunction with another project (i.e. new/resurfacing roadway, redevelopment/new development project, trail phase/extending trail project). Remember to provide the other project(s) scope and schedule, the funding source, the funding year, and if funding is through FDOT, provide the Financial Management Number.

The project is planned almost entirely within existing easements and rights-of-way to lessen the cost of property acquisition. The project connects into existing and committed trail segments/infrastructure to create a complete trail loop within the County.





Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application



**PART V – CERTIFICATION OF PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

1. For projects within a MPO/TPO boundary, complete the following information. If the project is outside of a MPO/TPO boundary, proceed to Part V – question #2.

Pinellas County MPO

Name of Metropolitan/Transportation Planning Organization

Whit Blanton, FAICP

Name of Contact

310 Court Street

Address

Clearwater, FL 33756

City, State and Zip Code

wblanton@pinellascounty.org

Contact email

727-464-8250

Telephone Number

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: Whit Blanton

Title: Executive Director

DATE: 6/9/2016

Signature confirms the requested project is consistent with MPO/TPO plans and documents, it is an eligible priority, the MPO/TPO supports the project and you possess authorization to submit the funding request.



Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application



2. For projects outside of a MPO/TPO boundary, complete the following information.

Choose a County.  
Name of County

N/A  
Name of Contact

N/A  
Address

N/A  
City, State and Zip Code

N/A  
Contact email

N/A  
Telephone Number

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: N/A

Title: N/A

DATE:

Your signature confirms the requested project is consistent with applicable comprehensive plan(s) and/or the long-term management plan(s), it is an eligible priority, the County (tribal government, federal or state managing agency) supports the project, and you possess authorization to submit the funding request.



**Florida Department of Transportation  
Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
Individual Trail Application**



**PART VI – CERTIFICATION OF WILLING MANAGER(S)**

The managing entity will provide routine regular maintenance, is responsible for the daily upkeep and operation of the trail to protect users, will reduce safety hazards that occur, and will ensure a quality level of service is maintained on the facility. Projects traversing multiple jurisdictional boundaries may have multiple managers. Submit the Certification of Willing Manager(s) for all proposed trail segments.

**Routine Maintenance:** Involves the day-to-day upkeep of a trail. Activities may consist of litter pick-up, trash removal, debris removal, soil and weed control, maintenance of drainage, graffiti removal, mowing, sweeping, sign replacement, shrub trimming and other regularly scheduled maintenance activities.

- For FDOT Constructed Trails Inside of FDOT ROW – FDOT will maintain the pavement and any bridge structures for a trail in its ROW, and will apply normal roadway maintenance standards such as mowing and litter control to the entire ROW inclusive of the trail. Beyond this, a local sponsor/agency will enter into a maintenance agreement with the department to undertake all other trail maintenance. The area of responsibility will be the footprint of the trail within FDOT ROW as defined by the District. The local agency/sponsor will be responsible for any mowing and litter control above FDOT roadway standards and maintenance of trail specific facilities, drainage, and features such as ornamental landscaping, wayside areas, benches, litter receptacles, and restrooms. The local sponsor/agency will be identified prior to programming the PD&E phase. The maintenance agreement detailing the full maintenance requirements of that entity must be executed prior to letting for construction.
  
- For FDOT Constructed Trails Outside of FDOT ROW – Trails that are constructed outside of FDOT ROW shall be maintained by an entity other than FDOT. The department will enter into an agreement or other form of documented commitment to ensure that a local sponsor/agency is committed to long-term trail maintenance. The local sponsor/agency will be responsible for all trail operation and maintenance needs which includes routine pavement and bridge structure repair, drainage, litter control, sweeping, vegetation management, and the maintenance of trail specific facilities and features such as ornamental landscaping, wayside areas, benches, litter receptacles, and restrooms.

**RE:** Pinellas Trail Loop

Name of Project

Pinellas County, Florida (between John Chesnut Sr Park and North Bay Trail)

Address or Location of Project



Florida Department of Transportation  
 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail  
 Individual Trail Application



**FROM:**

Pinellas County – Public Works Department  
 Name of Managing Entity  
Ken Jacobs  
 Name of Contact  
2221 US 19 / Building 1  
 Address  
Clearwater, Florida 33769  
 City, State and Zip Code  
 kjacobs@pinellascounty.org  
 Contact email  
727-464-8928  
 Telephone Number

Signature: 

Print Name: Ken Jacobs

Title: Traffic Engineering Manager

DATE:

Your signature serves as certification of (1) a commitment from your agency to maintain the facility requested and that your agency will enter into a Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement with the Department for the Project prior to the completion of design, or prior to the letting/advertisement for construction for any project proposed for a later phase; (2) the information in this application is true and accurate; (3) to comply with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Acquisition Policies Act (The Uniform Act) for any right-of-way actions required for the project; (4) lands developed with SUN Trail funds will be available for public use for the lifespan of the improvement; and (5) support of other actions necessary to fully implement the proposed project.

A separate application must be used for each project proposal that meets the minimum Individual Trail Eligibility Criteria. The applicable jurisdiction must **prioritize and submit completed application(s) to your District Trail Coordinator no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 20, 2016.**

**FOR FDOT USE ONLY**

Application Complete  Yes  No

Project Eligible  Yes  No

Implementation Feasible  Yes  No

District Prioritization Number District Prioritization Number.

Central Office Prioritization Number Central Office Prioritization Number.

**Final Determination for inclusion in the Work Program**  Yes  No