Welcome to the

Coast to Coast Connector Summit

Winter Garden, Florida
City Hall
October 1, 2014

Why are we here?

Objectives

1. Inform key stakeholders on the current state of the C2C Initiative, creating a common baseline of knowledge

2. Establish a framework for how to organize and implement a regional system of local trails

Purpose

To discuss C2C Objectives, Challenges, Tasks, and Opportunities

The Office of Greenways and Trails Mission

Establish the
Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS)
for recreation, conservation and
alternative transportation to support

Economy
Health
Recreation
Quality of Life

Tourism
Transportation
Conservation

Accomplishing the Mission

OVERVIEW…

Planning

Identification and Prioritization

Coordination

Project Development

Acquisition

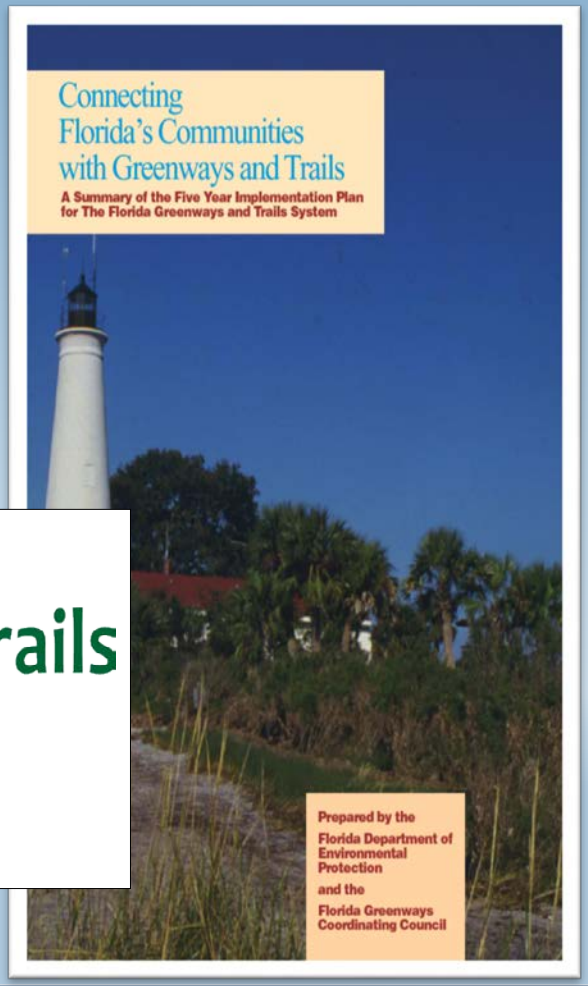
Designation

Promotion and Information

2013-2017 Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan

The ***Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan 2013-2017***

is the first update to the FGTS Plan. It outlines the new vision for the Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS).



Florida Greenways & Trails System Plan

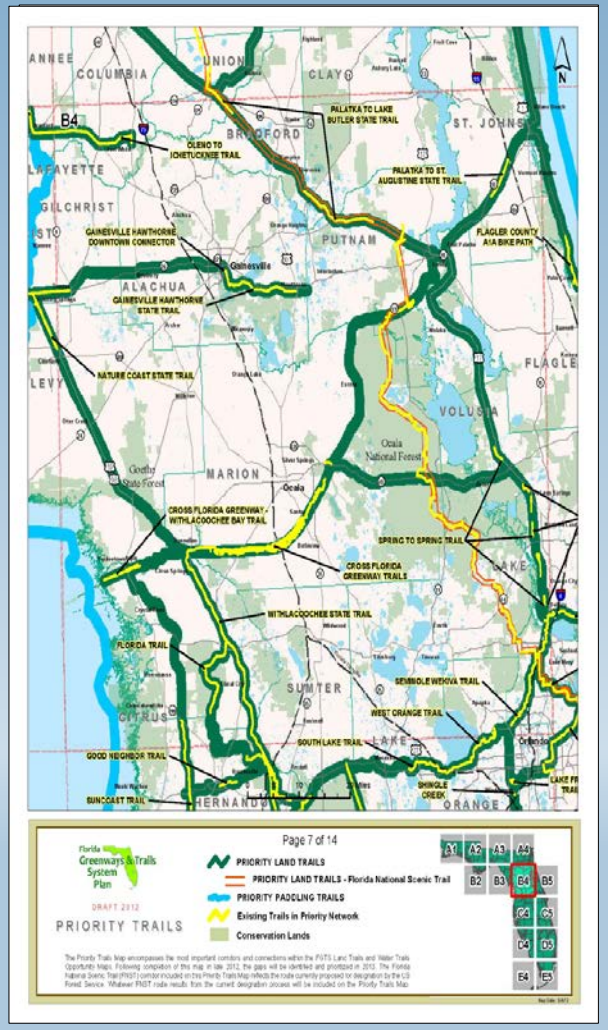
FGTS Process

Land Trail Opportunity

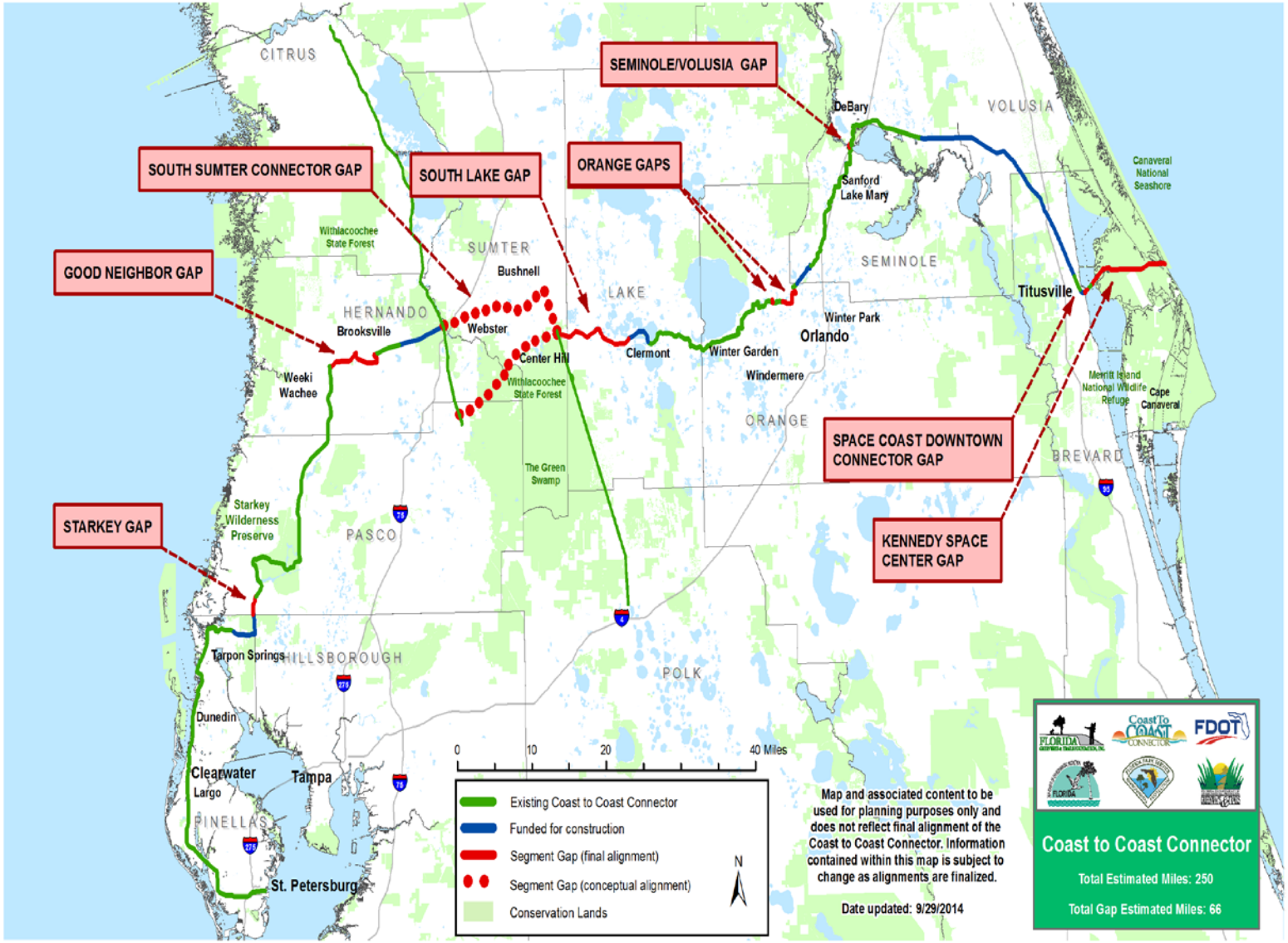
VS

Priority Land Trail

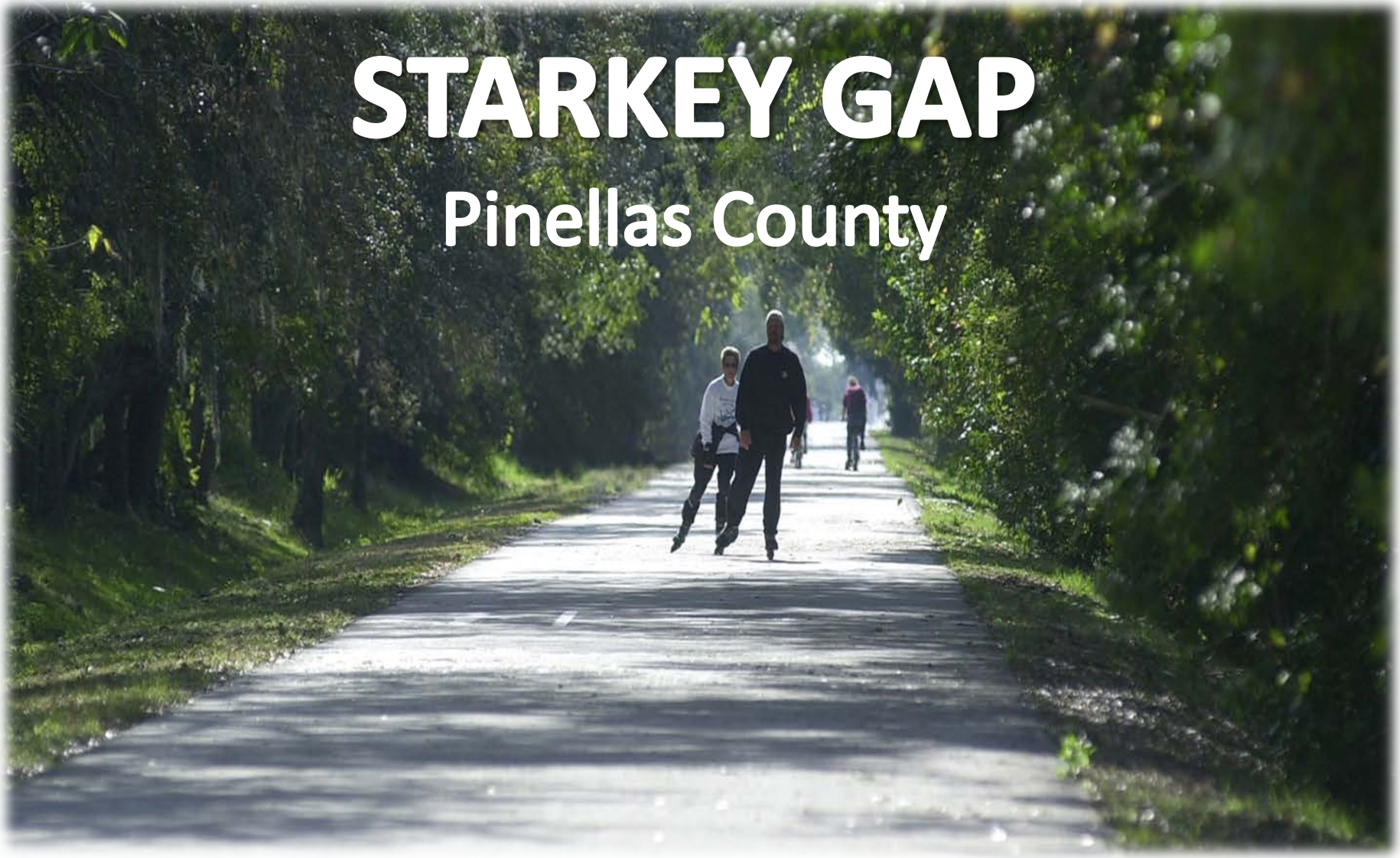
Priority Trails Map



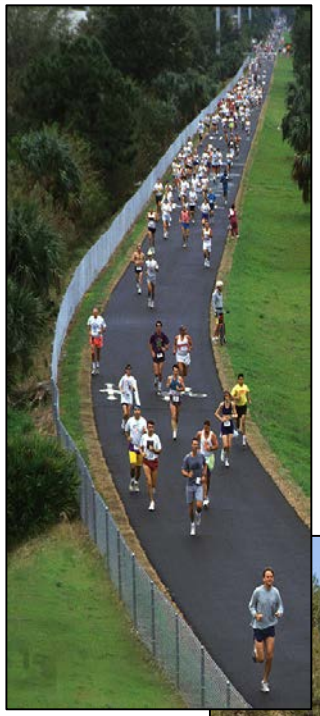
The Coast to Coast Connector



COAST TO COAST TRAIL



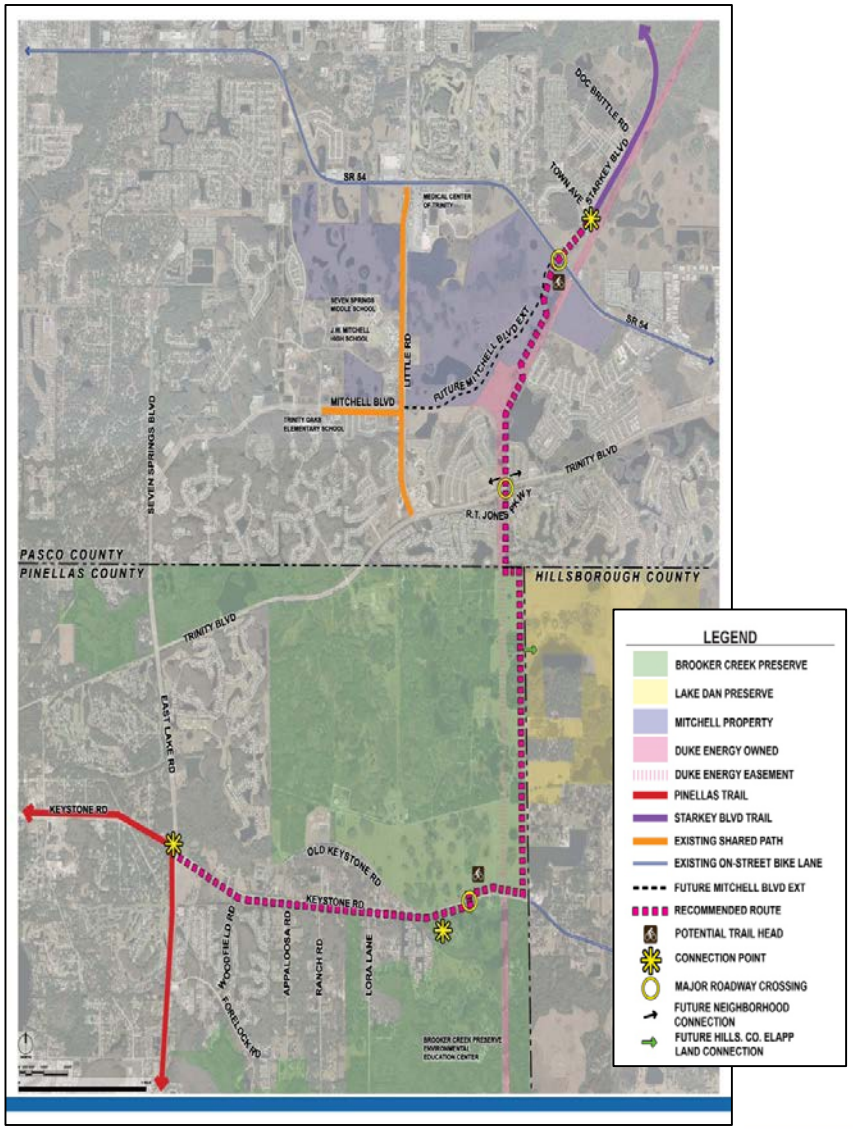
Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail



Coast to Coast Trail – Starkey Gap

- **Connects the Pinellas Trail to the Starkey Wilderness Trail and the Brooker Creek Preserve**
- **Future connection to Hillsborough County**

Photos from public information workshop - April 2013 at the Brooker Creek Environmental Education Center



Coast to Coast Trail – Starkey Gap

Runs parallel to two-lane undivided roadway and through the Preserve.

Coast to Coast Trail – Starkey Gap

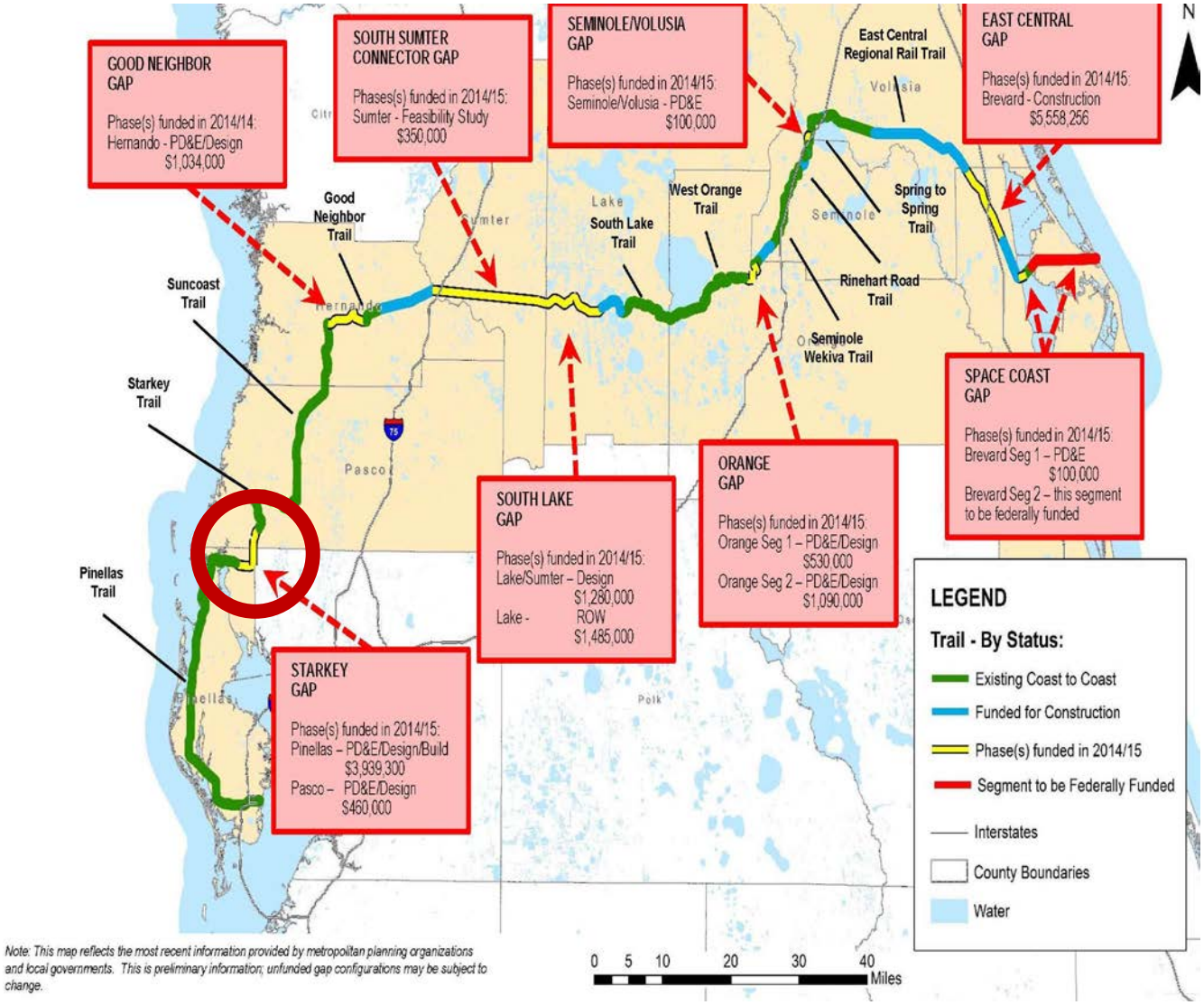
Coast to Coast Trail – Starkey Gap

PINELLAS TRAIL AMENITIES & SERVICES

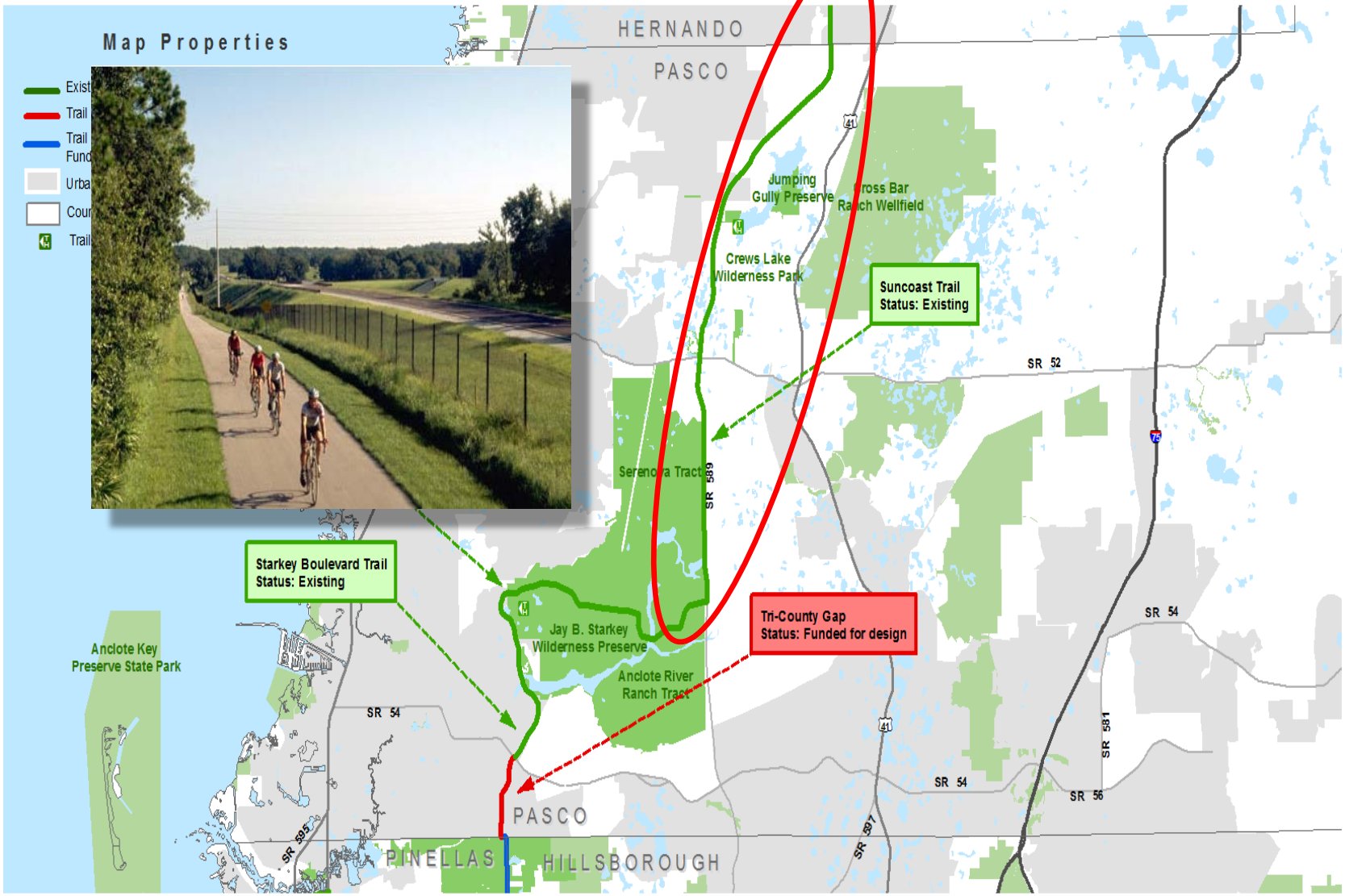
- **Mile Marker Program | Emergency Decals**
- **Pinellas Trail Security Task Force**
- **Pinellas Trails, Inc.**
- **Auxiliary Trail Ranger Volunteer Program**
- **Trail access to parks, schools, and major employment centers**

TRI-COUNTY TRAIL
(STARKEY GAP)
PASCO COUNTY SEGMENT

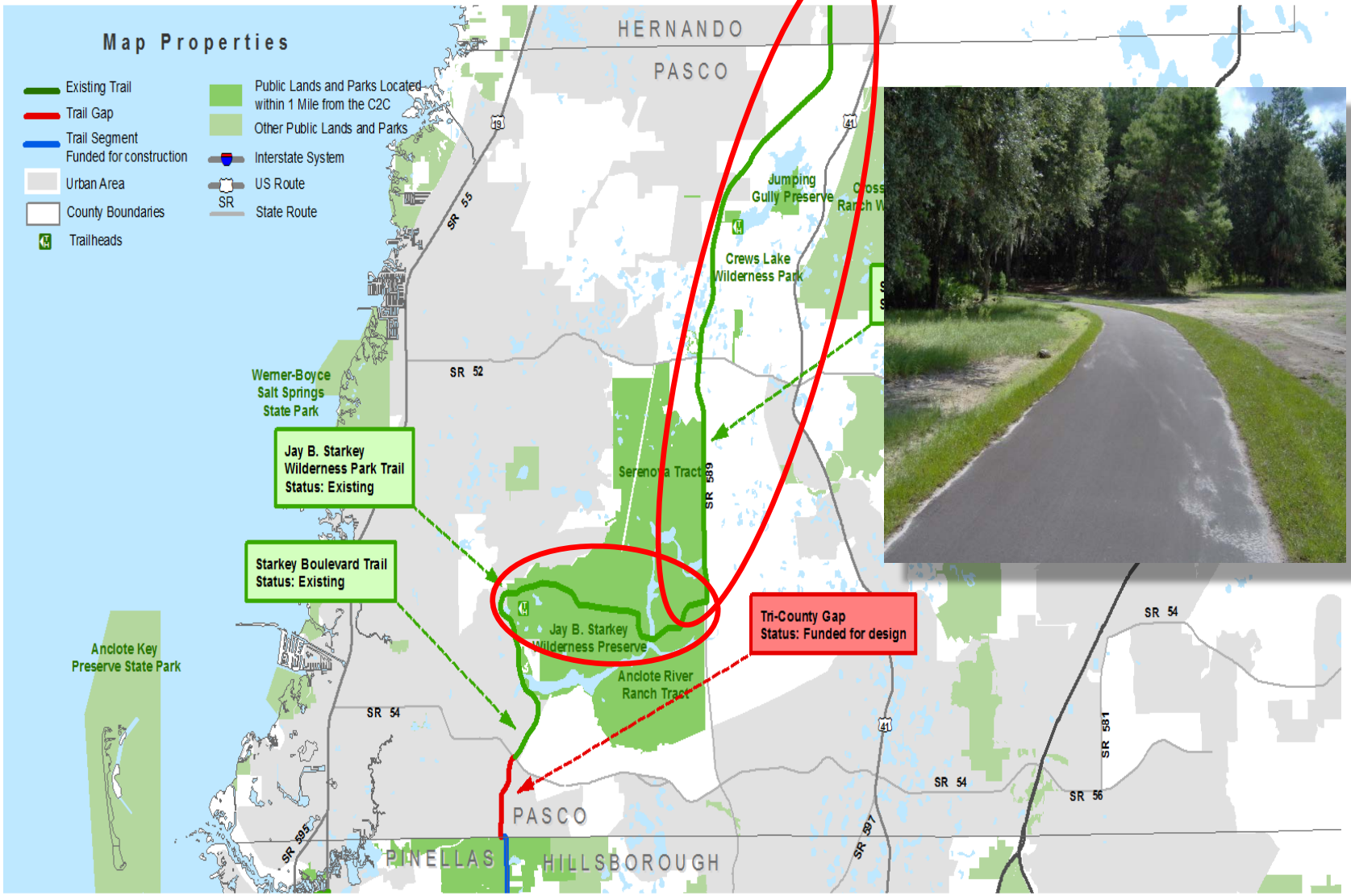
Tri-County Trail



Tri-County Trail



Tri-County Trail



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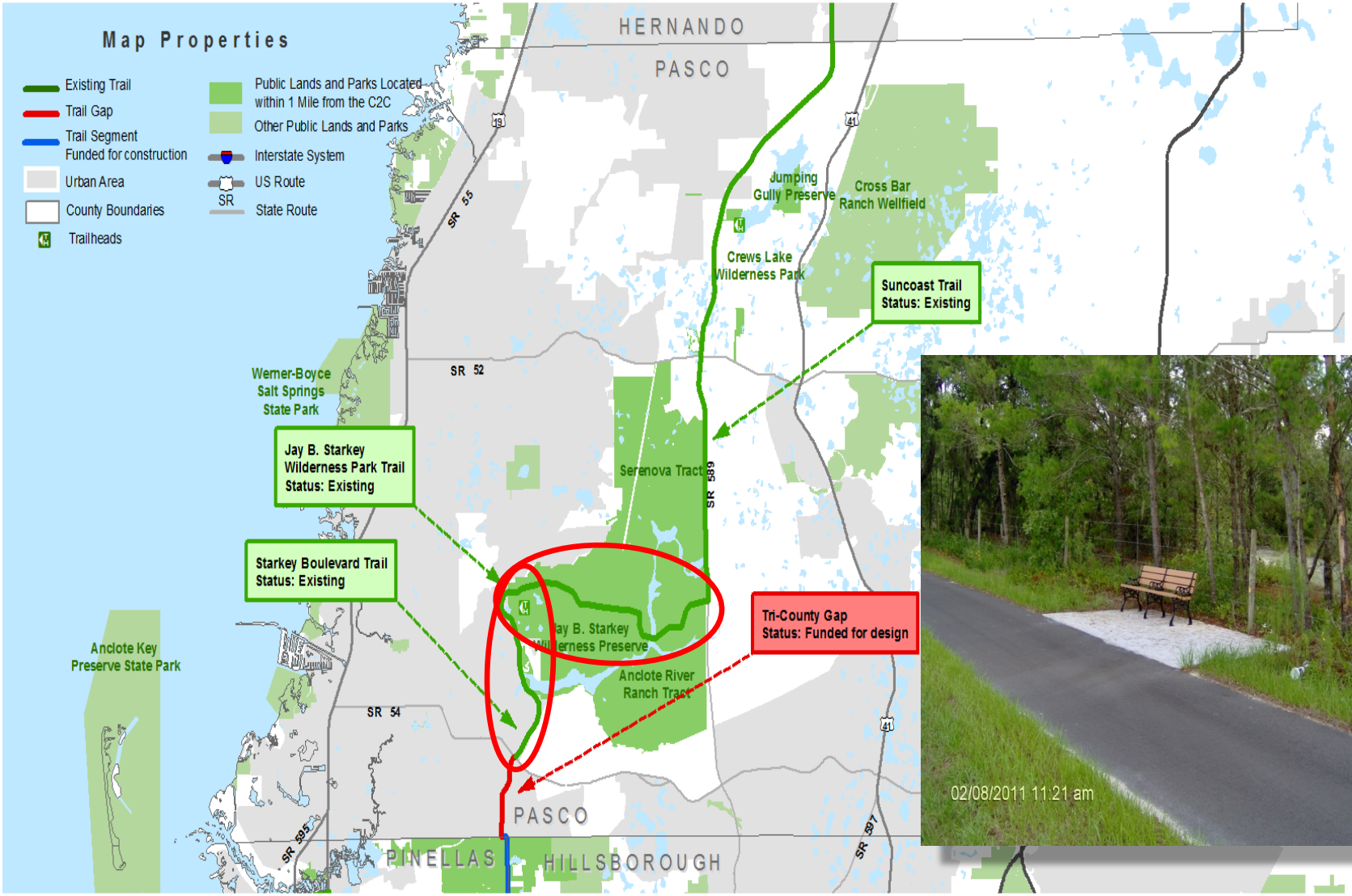
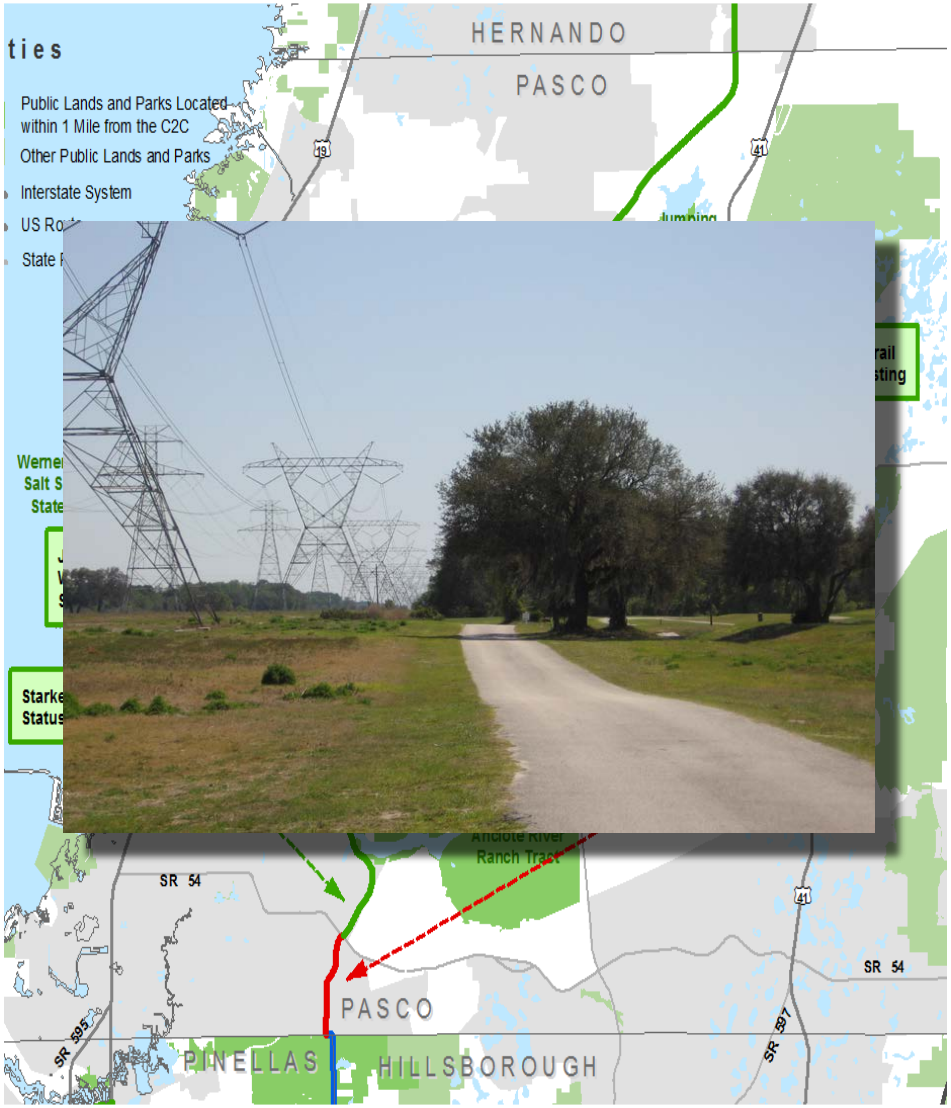


Tri-County Trail



Length:	2.39 Miles
Phase Complete:	Tri-County Trail Connection Study (Route Study)
Estimated Cost:	Design - $460,000 Construction - $1,605,000 (unfunded)
Connections:	South – Tri-County Trail (Pinellas Segment) Pinellas Trail North – Starkey Boulevard Trail Jay b. Starkey Wilderness Trail Suncoast Trail
Character:	Suburban to Rural

Tri-County Trail

TRI-COUNTY TRAIL CONNECTION STUDY

MPO

URS

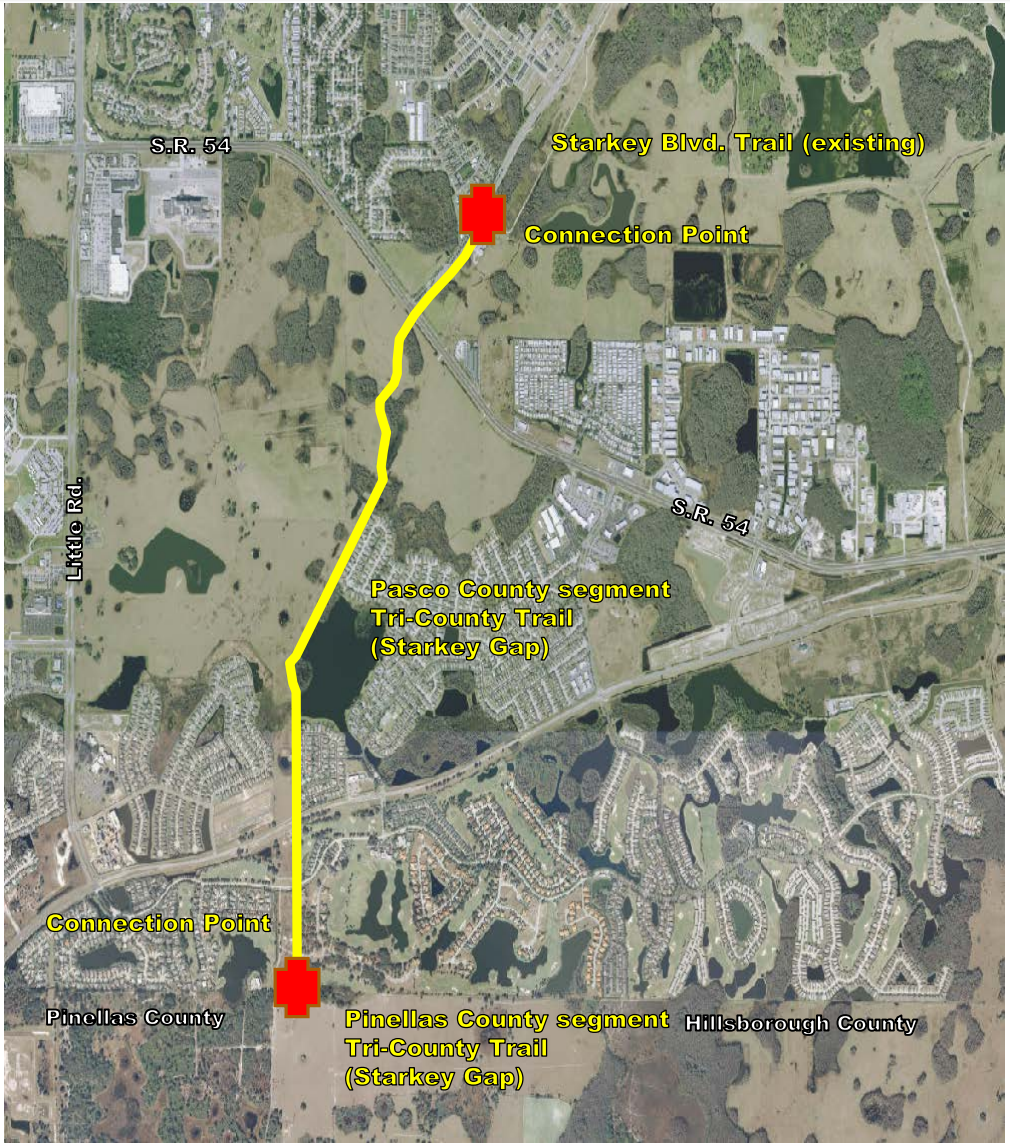
PASCO COUNTY MPO & PINELLAS COUNTY MPO

FEBRUARY 2014

Tri-County Trail

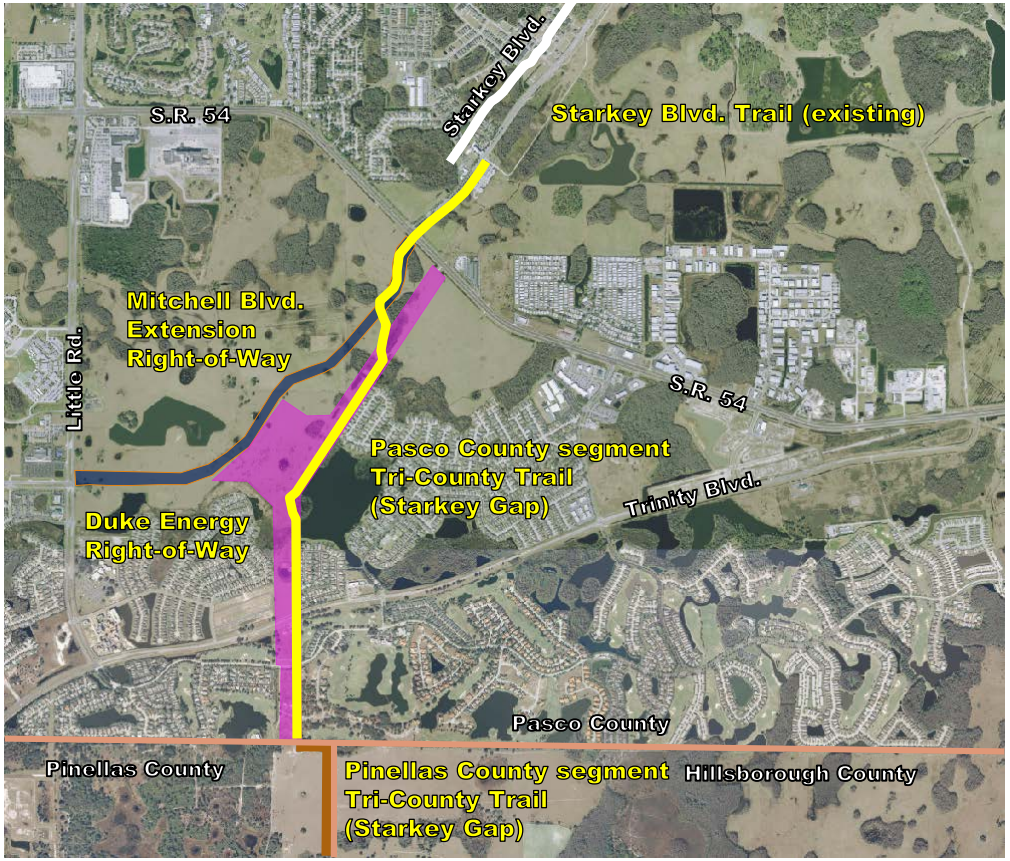
Connections

Pasco County Segment
Tri-County Trail



Tri-County Trail

Issues
Right-of-Way
Pasco County Segment
Tri-County Trail



Tri-County Trail

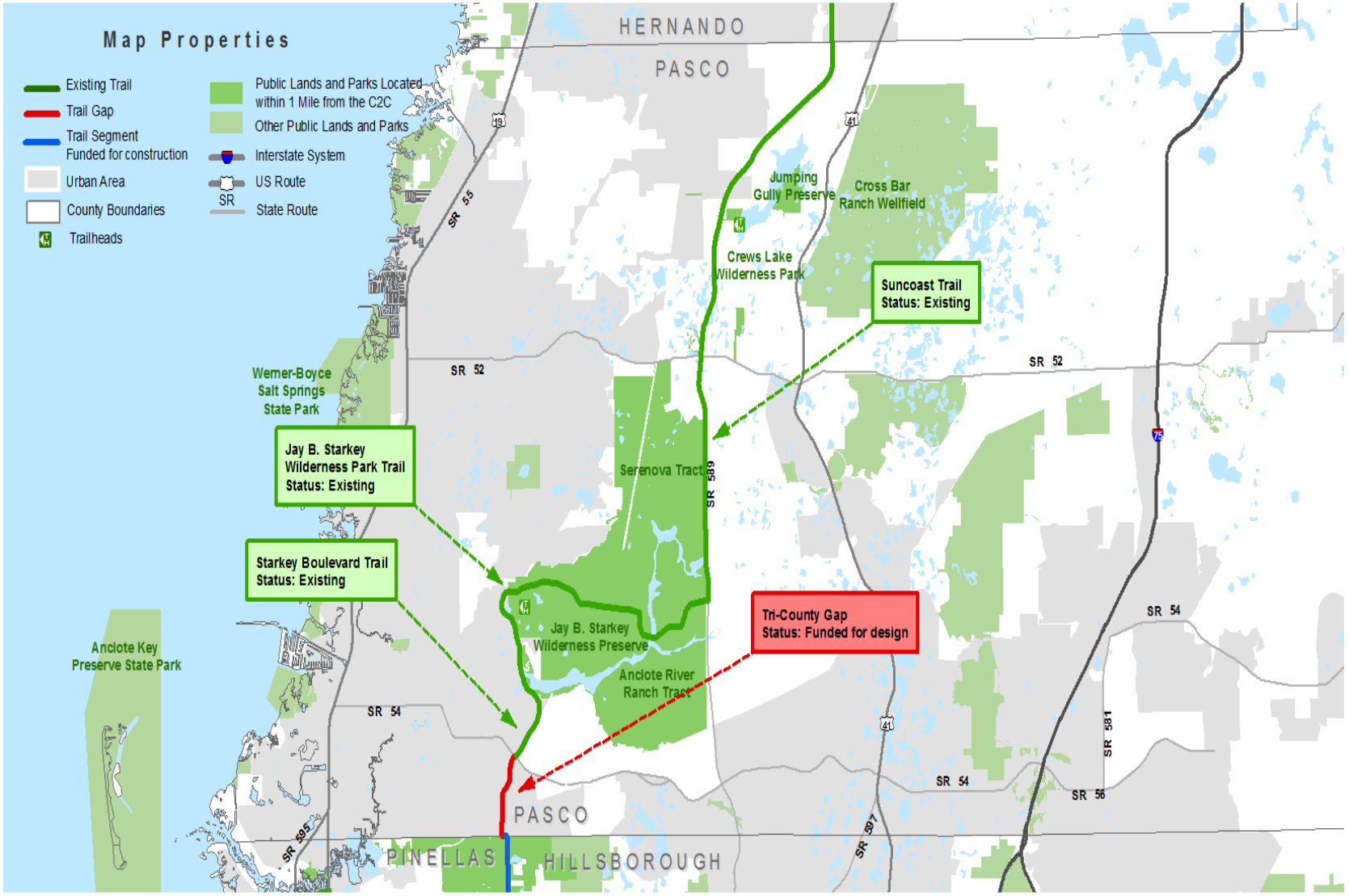
Issues
Road Crossings
Pasco County Segment
Tri-County Trail

Tri-County Trail

Issues
Trail Amenities
Pasco County Segment
Tri-County Trail

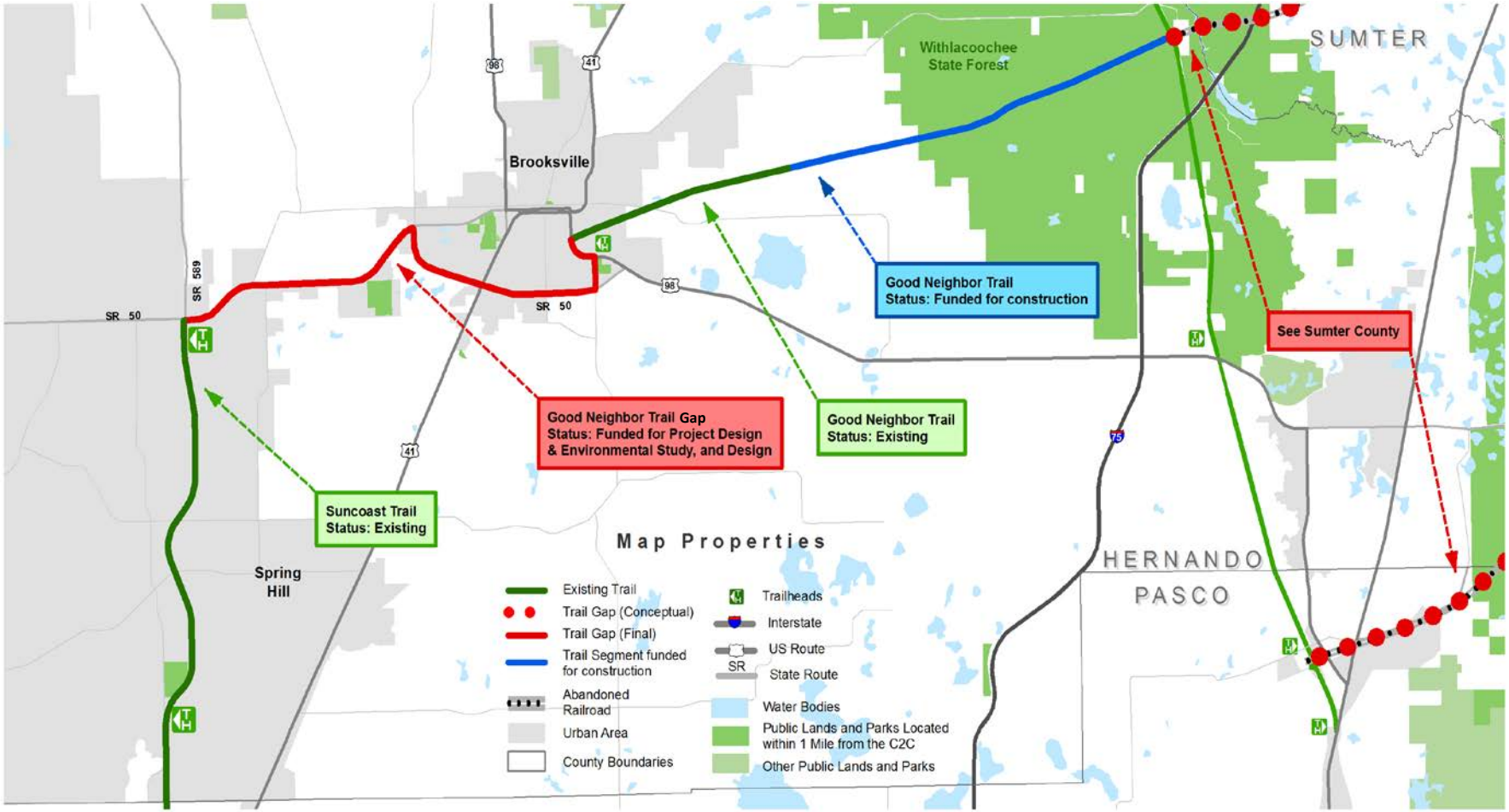
Trail amenities will not be provided by FDOT.
Local agencies must provide any amenities and coordinate with the FDOT, designers and contractors, through a Joint Participation Agreement.

Tri-County Trail



Good NEIGHBOR GAP

Good Neighbor Trail



6 miles

PD&E to begin in 2015

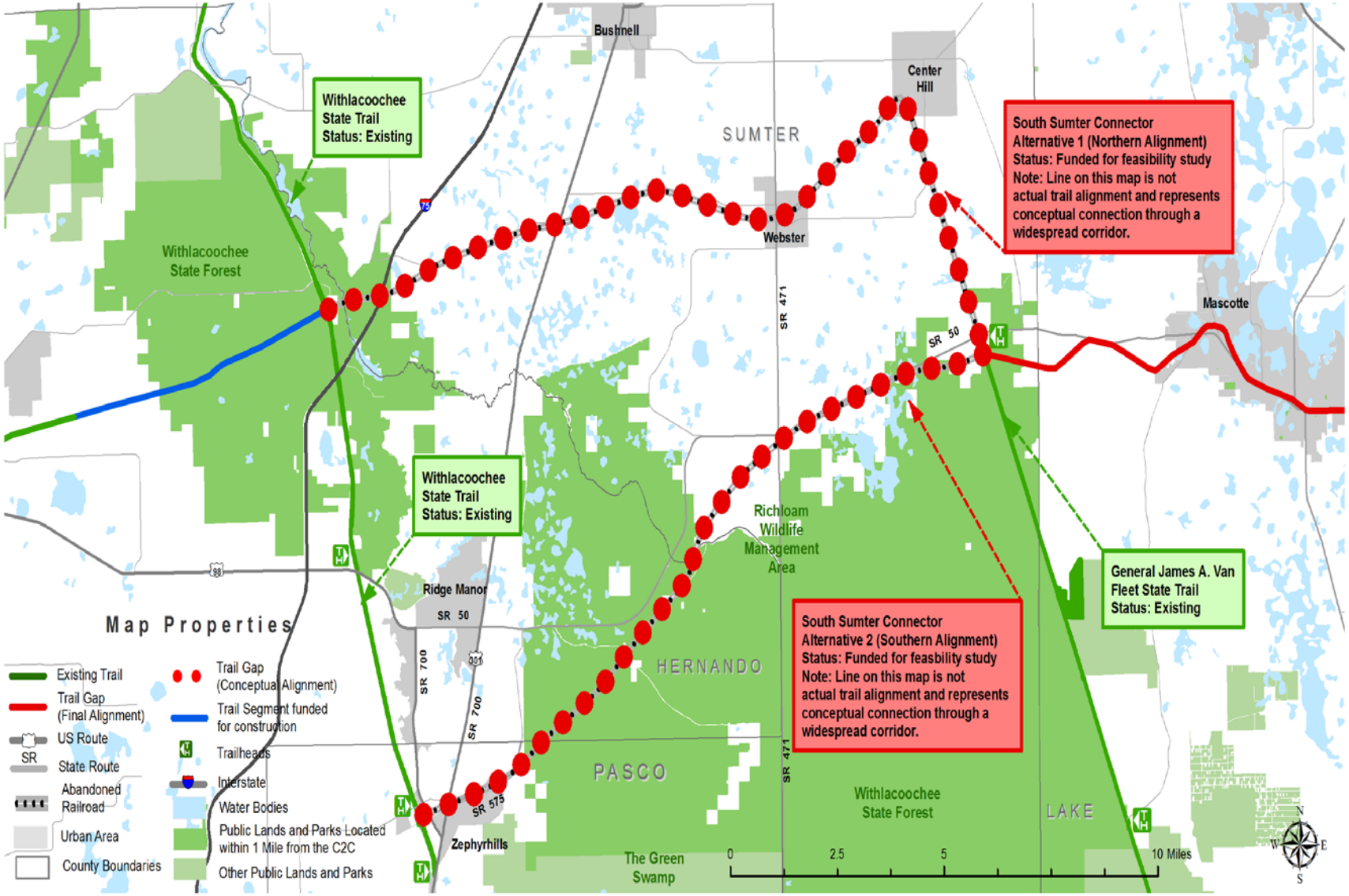
Estimated costs $2,001,810 for the trail plus $1.5- $3 M for bike/ped overpass at US 41

Path to be built along south side of SR 50

South Sumter Connector

Lake-Sumter MPO
Metropolitan Planning Organization

South Sumter Connector Alternatives



South Sumter Connector

Part of the largest gap in the C2C Corridor

Funded this year for corridor analysis and PD&E study

Alternatives include potential alignment in the Withlacoochee State Forest

Proposed trail would connect the Good Neighbor Trail and the Withlacoochee State Trail east to the Van Fleet Trail

Alternatives could create connections to the Withlacoochee State Trail in Hernando County or Pasco County

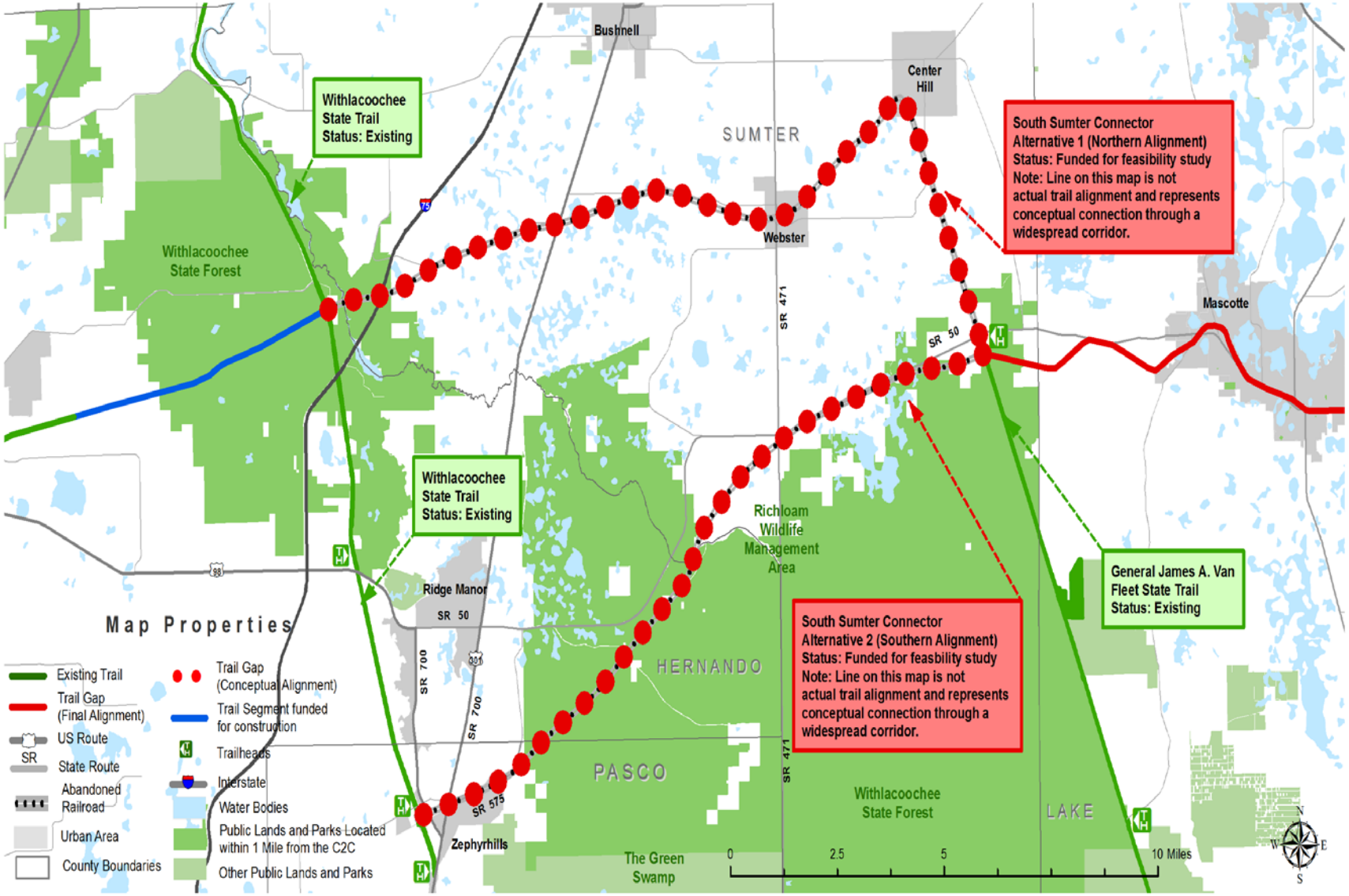
South Sumter Connector

Alternative 1 will examine a northern alignment that could connect the small municipalities of Webster and Center Hill

Alternative 2 will examine paralleling SR 50 or following the historic rail bed that parallels the SR 50 corridor through the Withlacoochee

South Sumter Connector

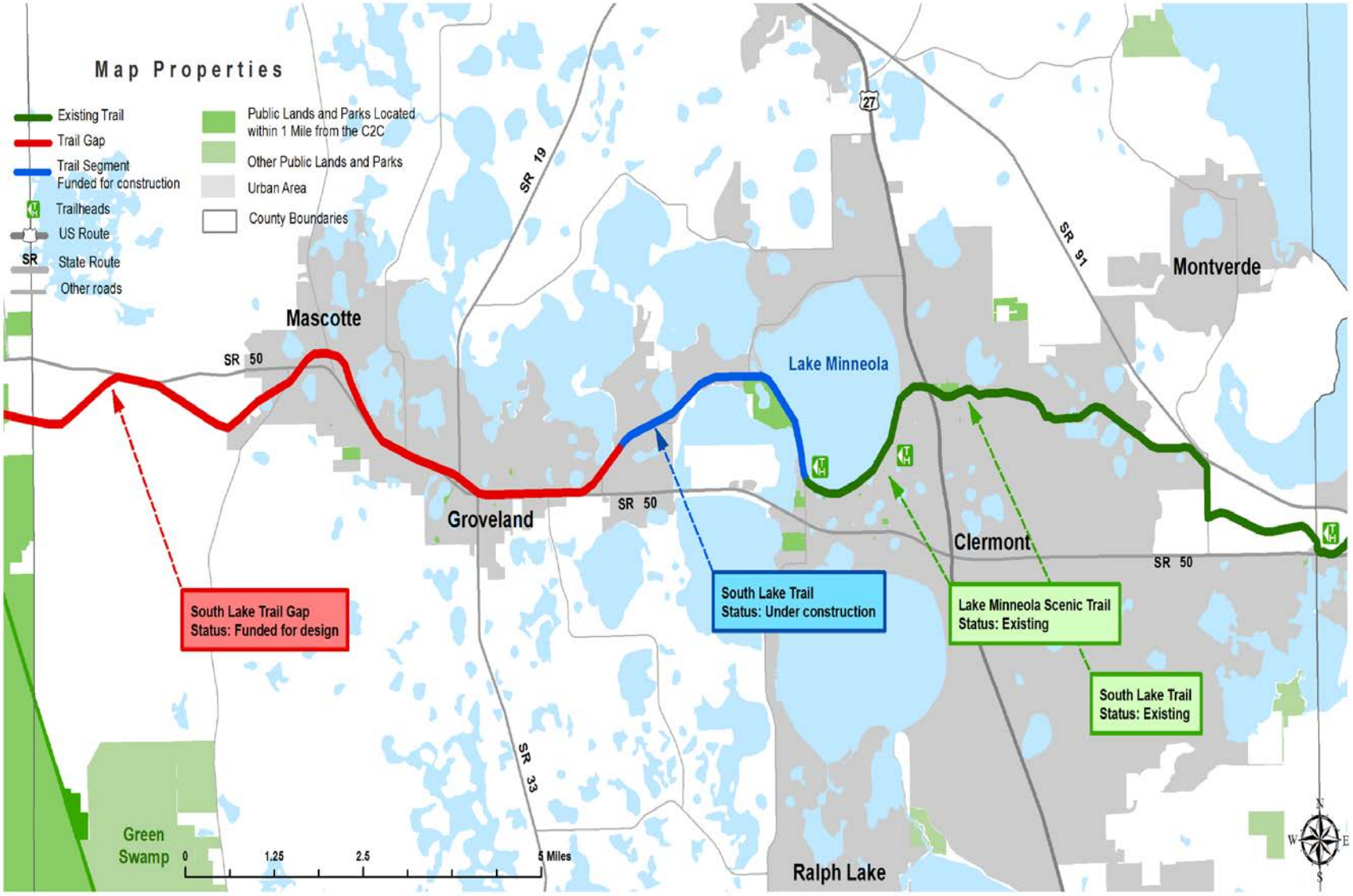
South Sumter Connector Alternatives



South Lake Trail / Minneola Scenic Trail

Lake-Sumter MPO
Metropolitan Planning Organization

South Lake Trail / Lake Minneola Scenic Trail



South Lake Trail / Lake Minneola Scenic Trail

West-to-East:

Design funded this year from Van Fleet Trail east to Villa City Road (Mascotte/Groveland)

Trail to be part of Groveland SR 50 Realignment project from Villa City Road east to Brown Road, just east of SR 33

ROW acquisition from Brown Road to the terminus of current construction

Construction from Groveland to Clermont to be complete 2015

South Lake trail exists from Lakefront Park in Clermont east to the Minneola Scenic Trail

South Lake Trail / Lake Minneola Scenic Trail

From Minneola Scenic Trail then C2C continues east to the South Lake Trail designation

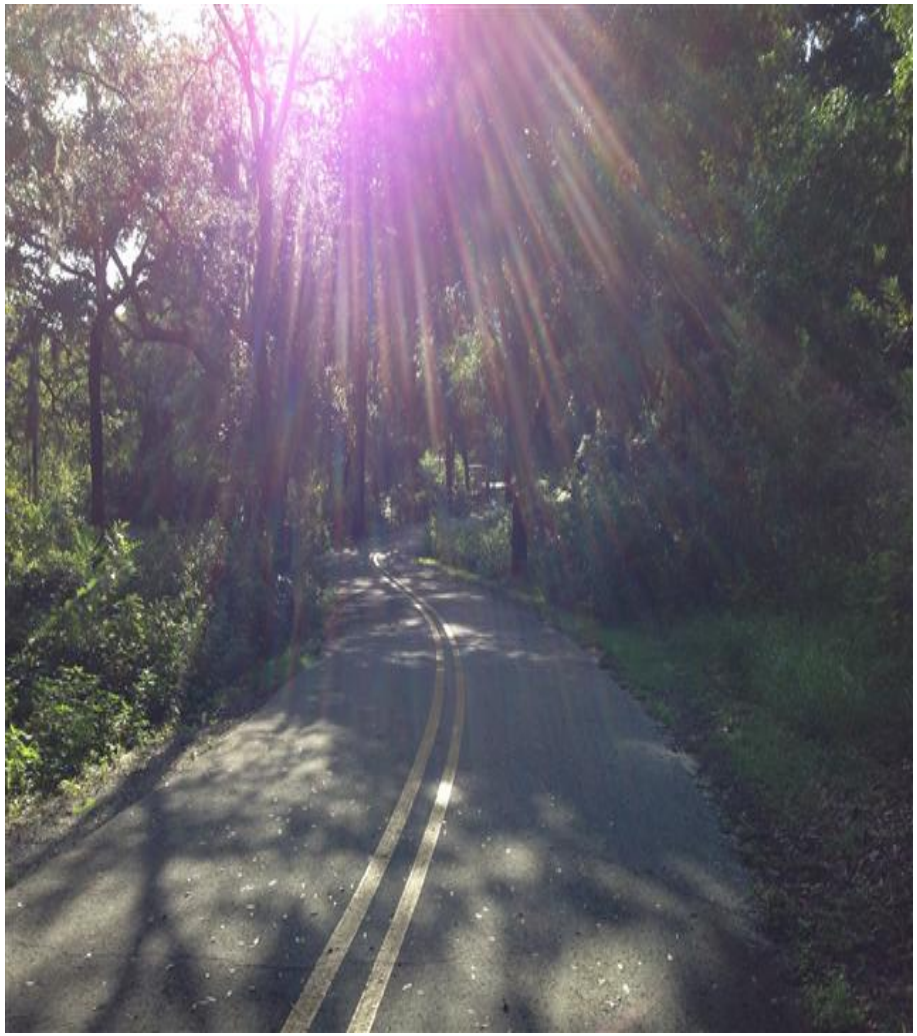
South Lake Trail east of Minneola transitions to the West Orange Trail

Lake County and cities now addressing maintenance of a decade-old trail

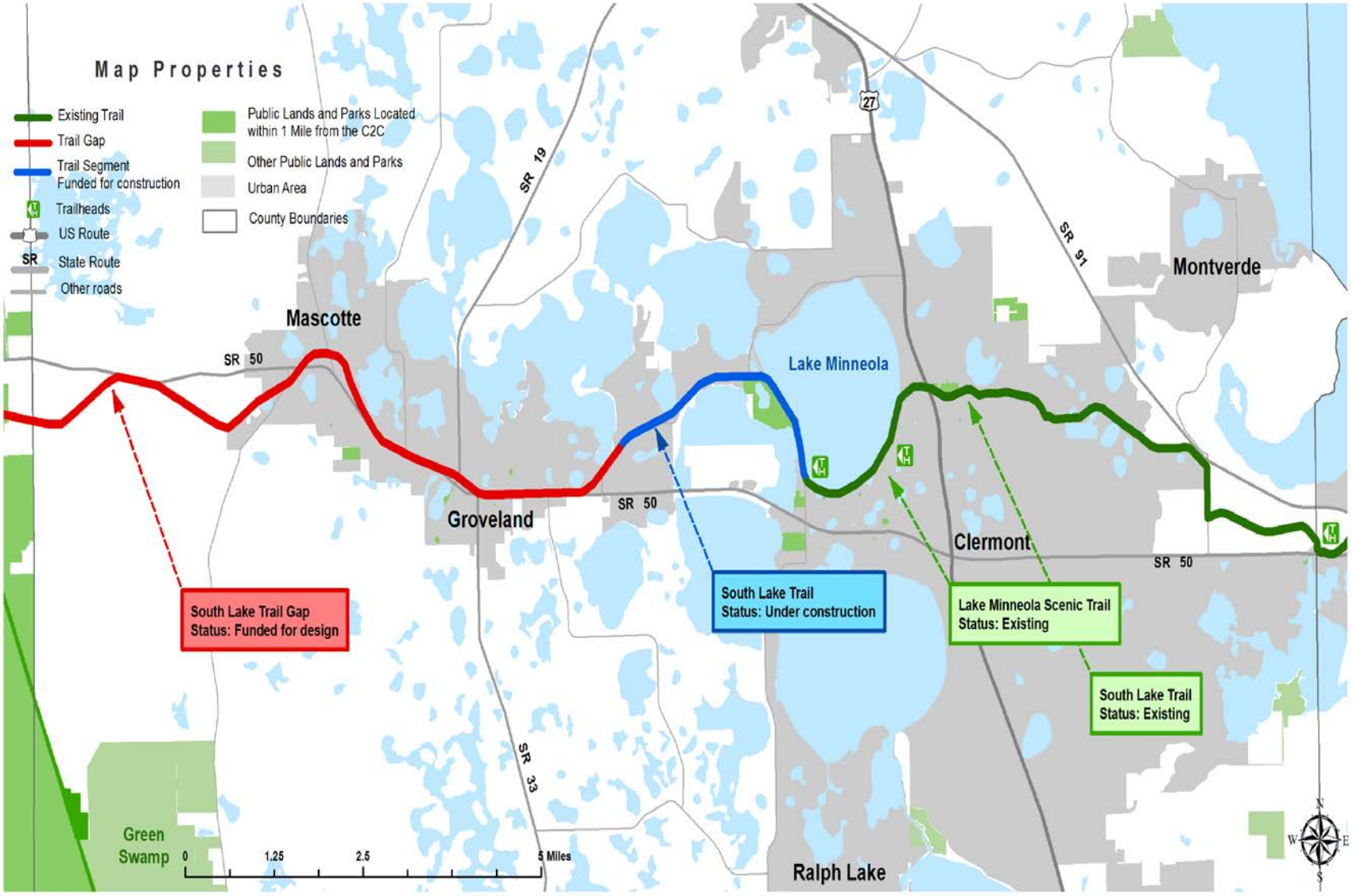
South Lake Trail

South Lake Trail / Minneola Scenic Trail

South Lake Trail / Minneola Scenic Trail



South Lake Trail / Lake Minneola Scenic Trail



C2C = CoC

ORANGE GAP

Clarcona-Ocoee Connector

1.6 miles

No phases yet completed

To be programmed for PD&E and Design (combined with Pine Hills Trail Phase III)

Path along Clarcona-Ocoee Road

Pine Hills Trail Phase III

2.3 miles

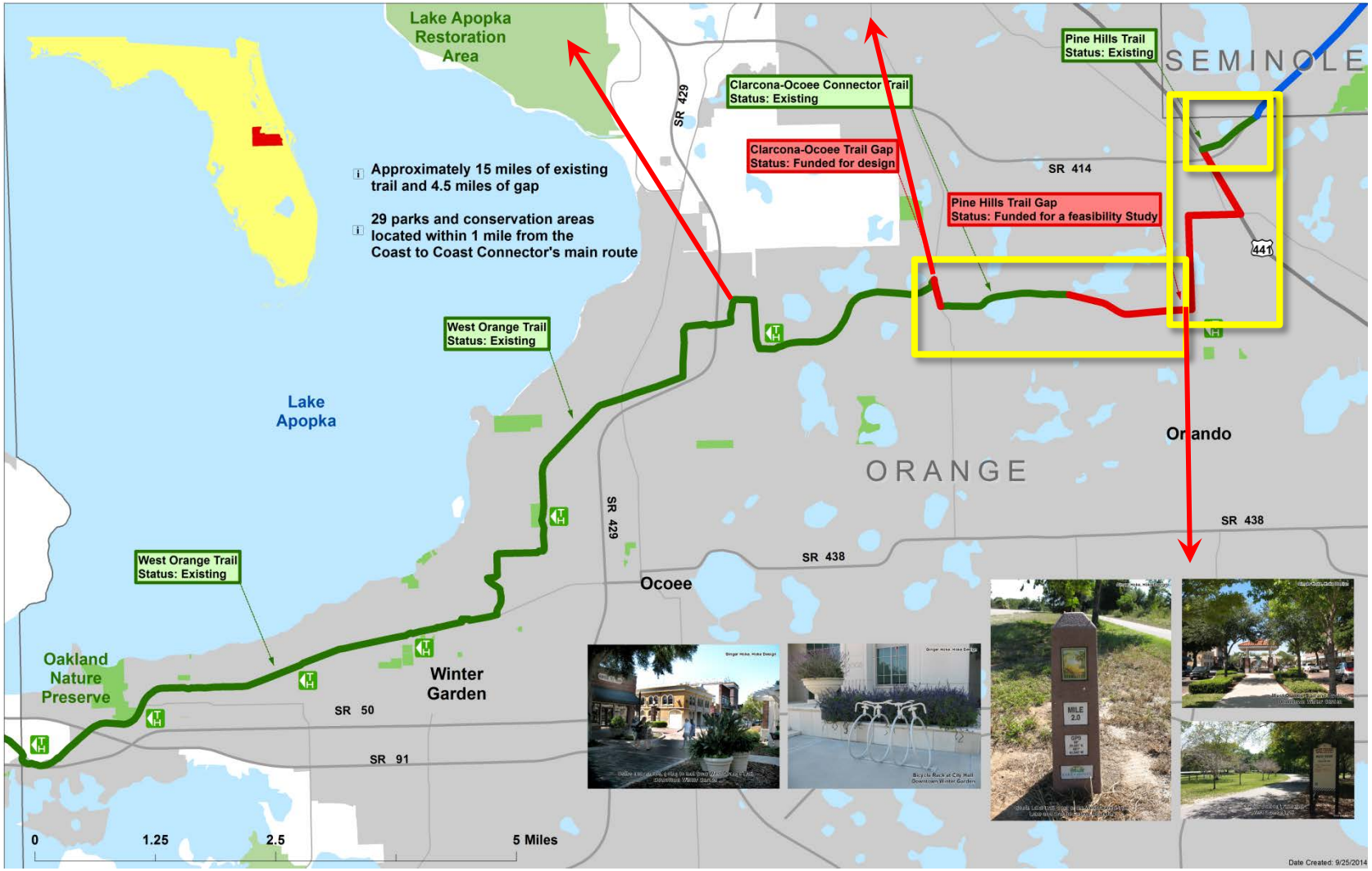
No phases yet completed

To be programmed for PD&E and Design (combined with Clarcona-Ocoee Connector)

$556,000

Path along utility corridor, Beggs Road and US 441

Orange Gap


Lake Apopka Restoration Area
Approximately 15 miles of existing trail and 4.5 miles of gap
29 parks and conservation areas located within 1 mile from the Coast to Coast Connector's main route
Clarcona-Ocoee Connector Trail Status: Existing
Clarcona-Ocoee Trail Gap Status: Funded for design
Pine Hills Trail Status: Existing
Pine Hills Trail Gap Status: Funded for a feasibility Study
West Orange Trail Status: Existing
West Orange Trail Status: Existing
SEMINOLE
ORANGE
Lake Apopka
Orlando
Ocoee
Winter Garden
Oakland Nature Preserve
SR 429
SR 414
SR 438
SR 50
SR 91
441
0
1.25
2.5
5 Miles
Date Created: 9/25/2014

SEMINOLE GAP

Rinehart Road Path

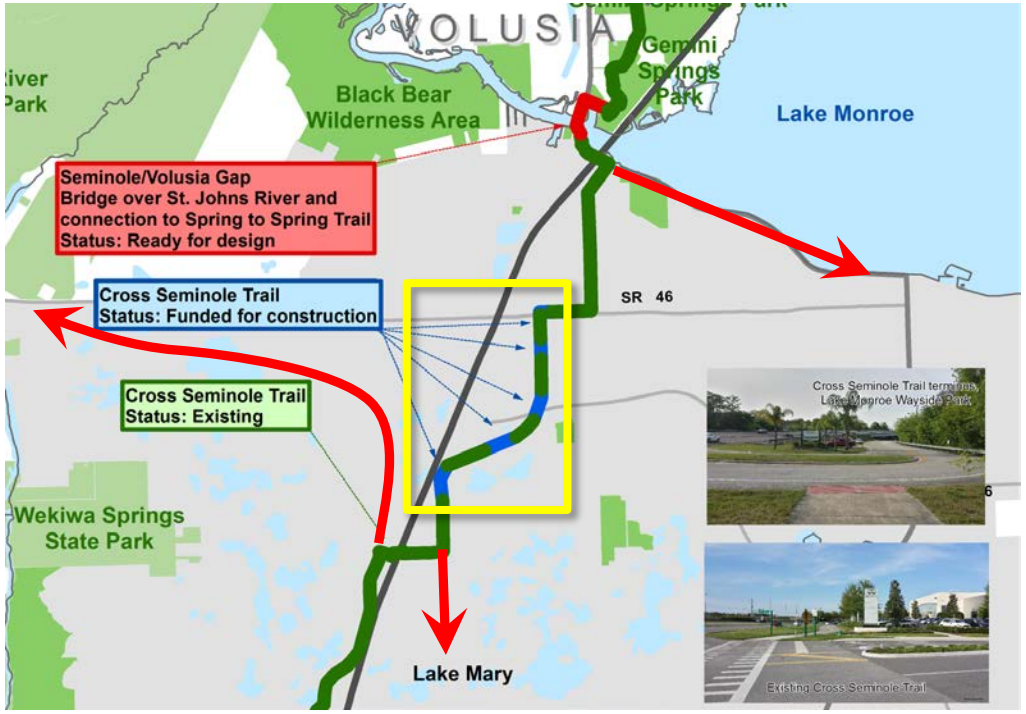
1.1 miles (combining 5 short gaps)

Right-of-way and Design complete

$554,000 for construction

Path along east side of Rinehart Road and north side of SR 46

Rinehart Road Path



Sumter

Lake

COAST TO COAST CONNECTOR TRAILS IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

Coast to Coast Connector Summit

October 1, 2014

RIVER TO SEA TPO
Transportation Planning Organization
VISION • PLAN • IMPLEMENT

Overview

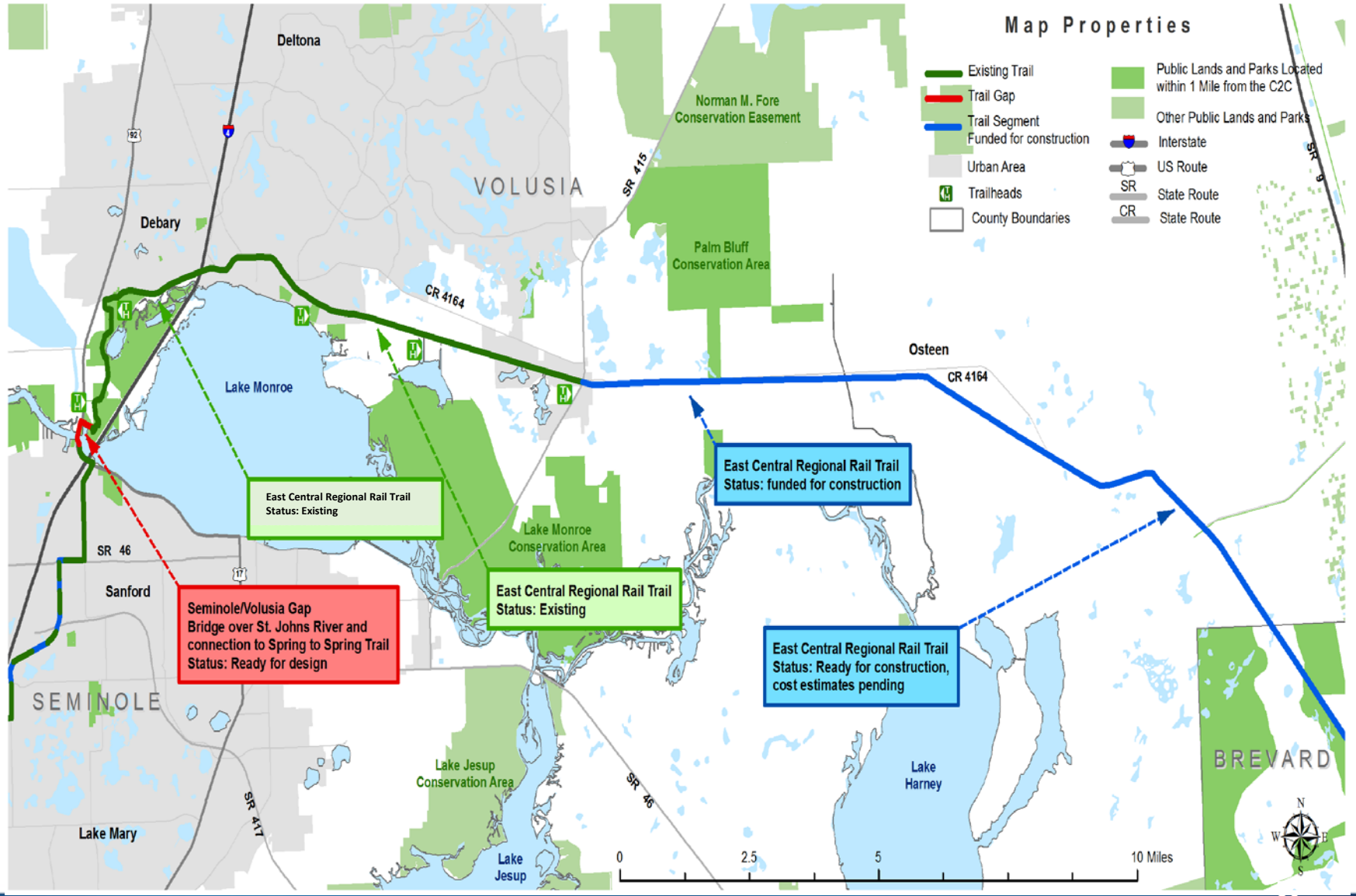
In the River to Sea TPO planning area, the Coast to Coast Connector consists of the East Central Regional Rail Trail connecting Brevard and Volusia Counties (51 miles) and the Spring to Spring Trail connecting Volusia and Seminole Counties (15 miles).

Existing Conditions

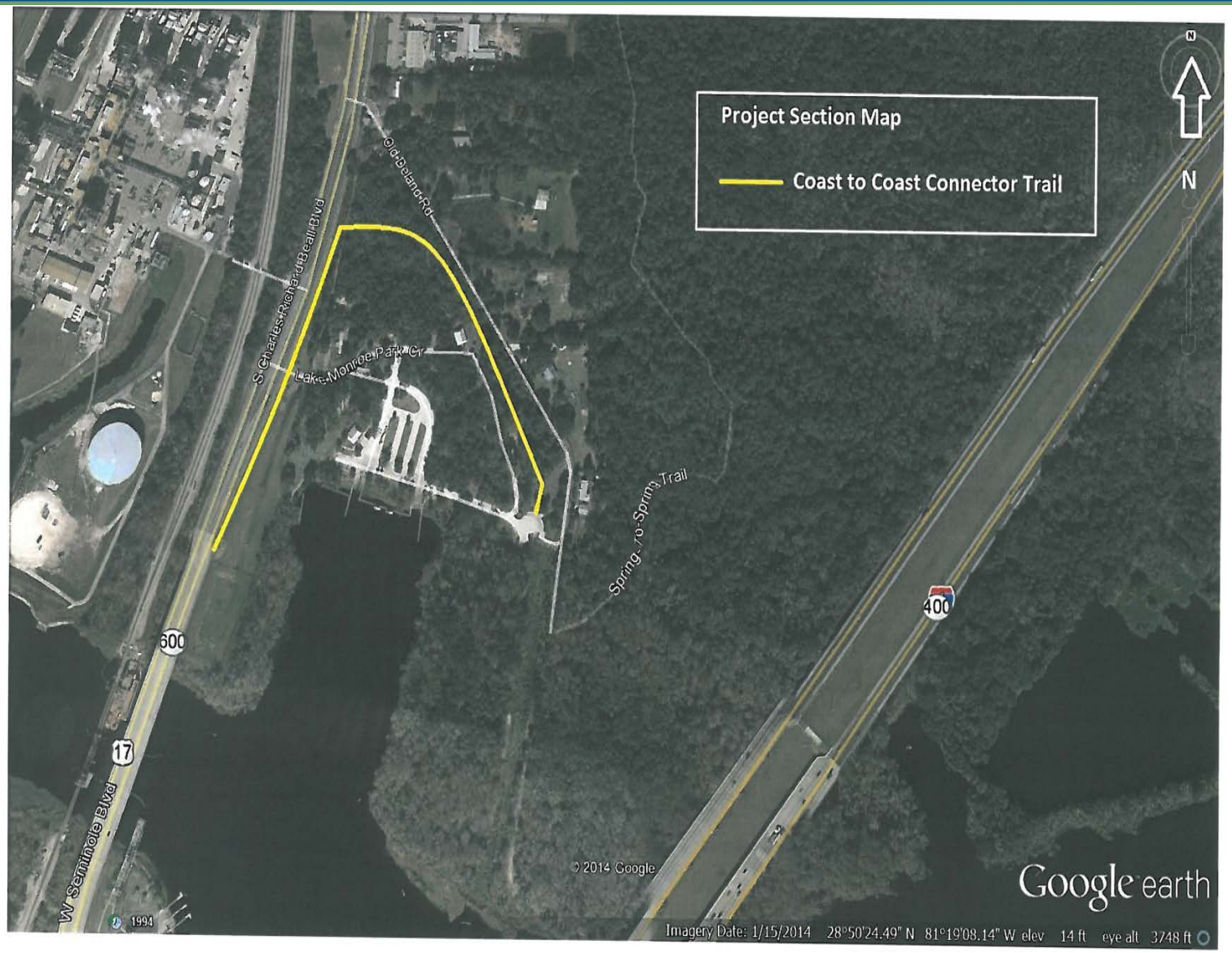
What has been built and can be highlighted as a success?

- Spring to Spring Trail
  - Lake Monroe Park to Green Springs Park (6.7 miles)
- East Central Regional Rail Trail
  - Green Springs Park to SR 415 (7.1 miles)

Status of Coast to Coast Trails in Volusia County



Projected Trail Alignment in Lake Monroe Park



Regional Connectivity

What are the issues and opportunities for regional connectivity?

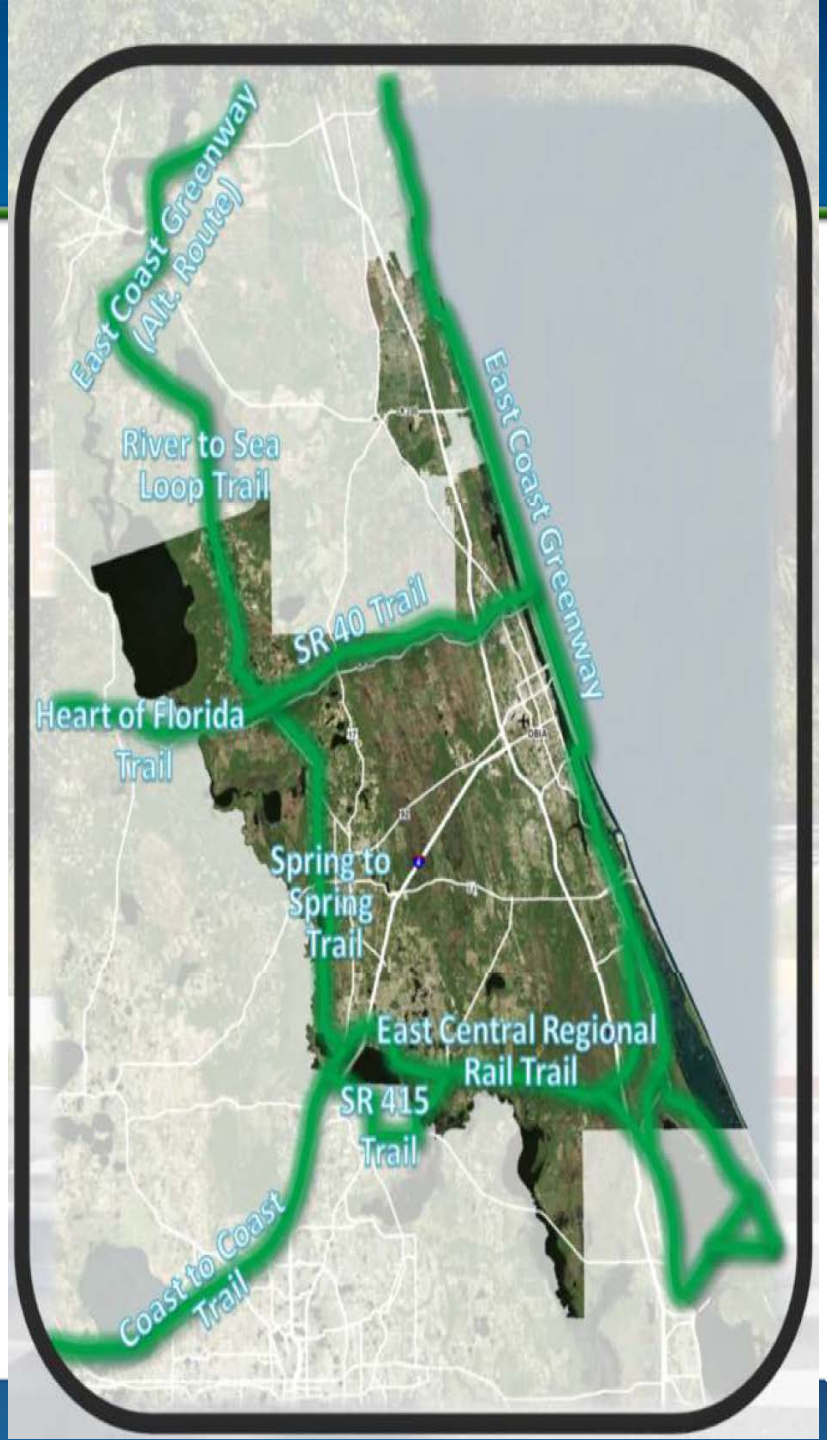
- Regional Trails Corridor Assessment
- Coast to Coast Trail Extension (Edgewater to New Smyrna Beach)
- SunRail Connection
- Public Awareness and Information
- Funding

Regional Trails Corridor Assessment

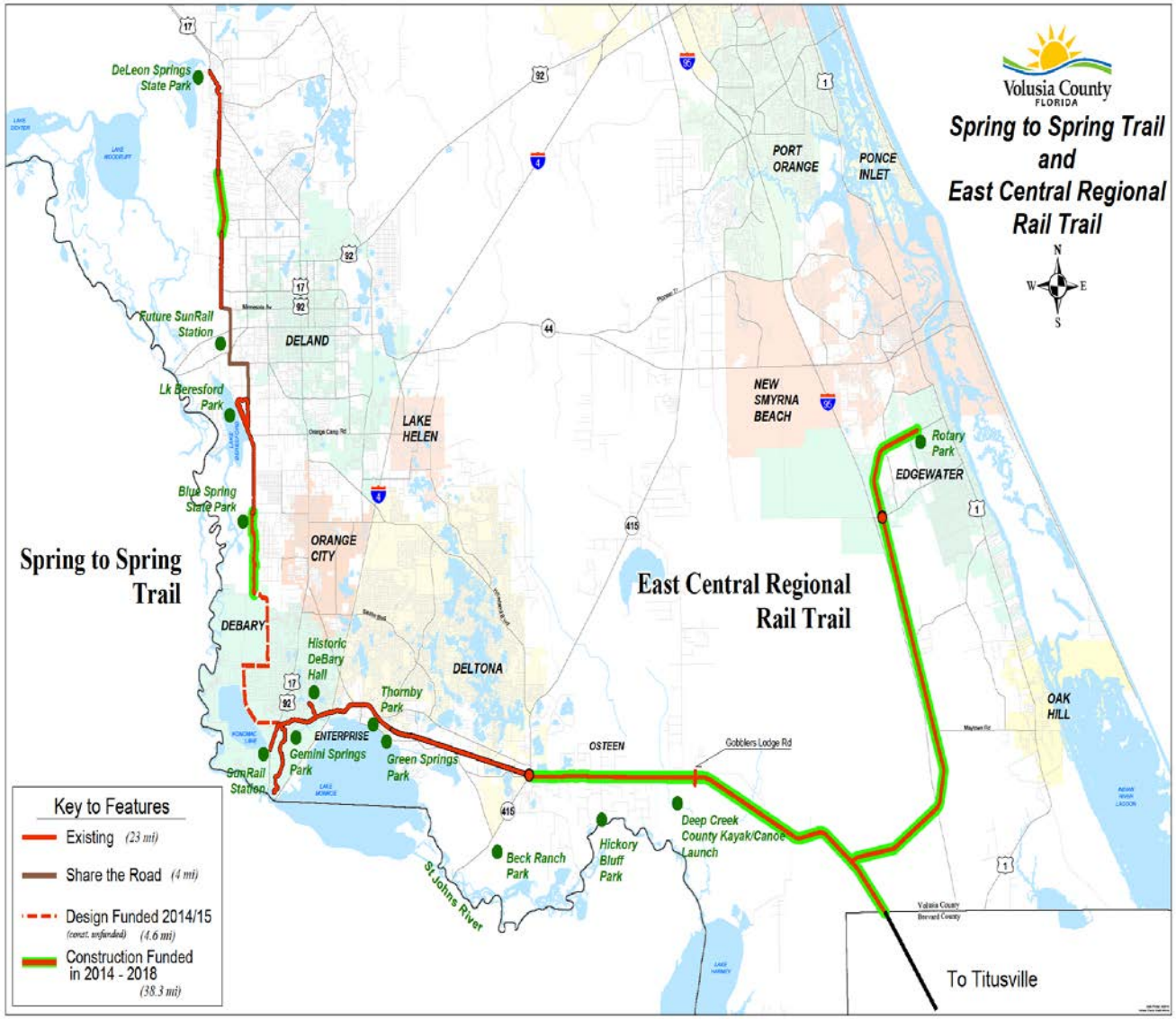
- Coast to Coast Trail
- East Coast Greenway
- Heart of Florida Trail
- St. Johns River to Sea Loop

Project Purpose

- Complete the regional trails network in the R2CTPO planning area
- Advance the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan
- Finalize alignments and connections
- Develop conceptual plans and cost estimates for all gap segments to compete for funding



Coast to Coast Trail Extension

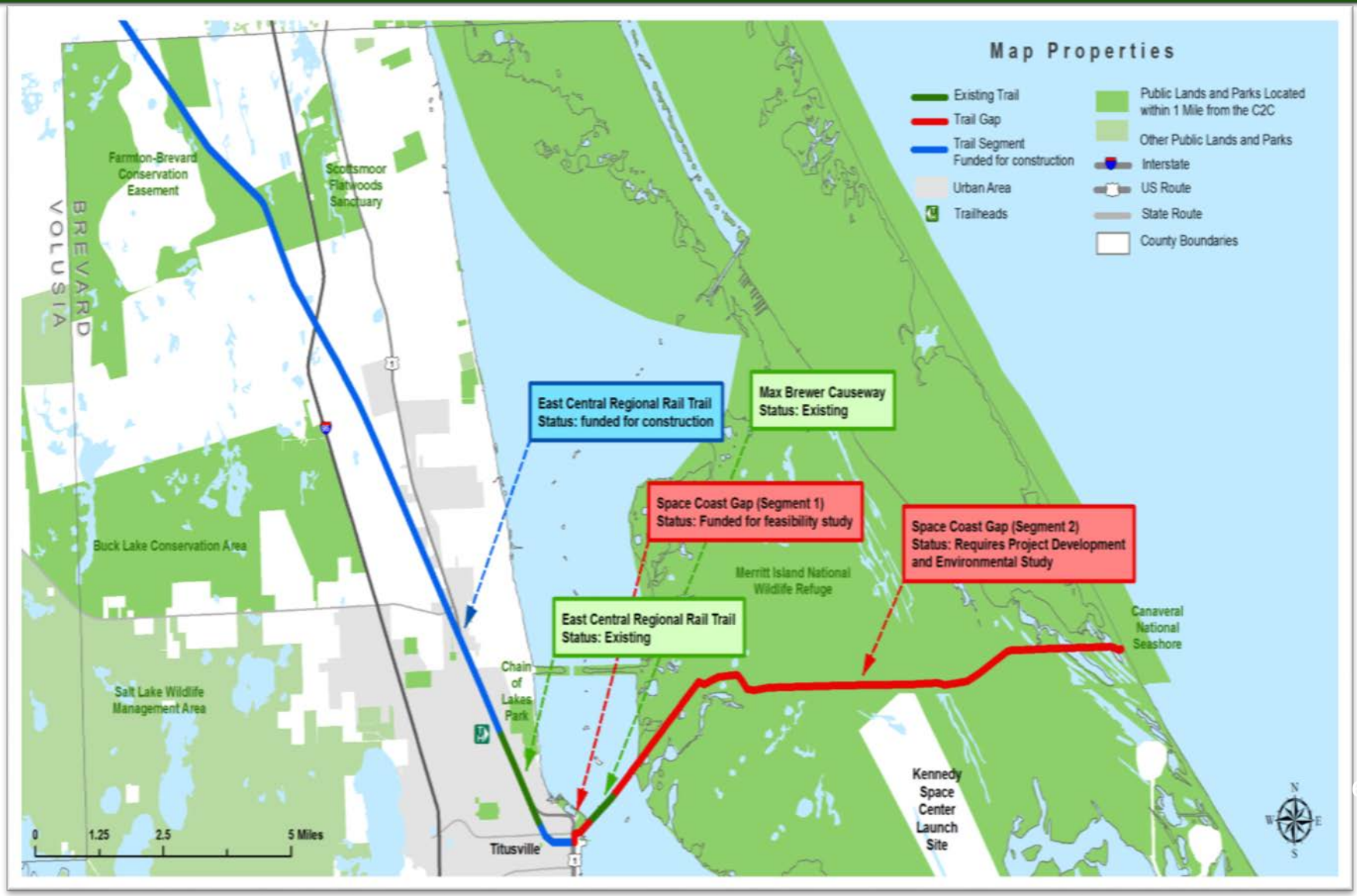


SunRail Connection

Utility Easement
between SunRail Station
and
Spring to Spring Trail

Public Awareness and Information

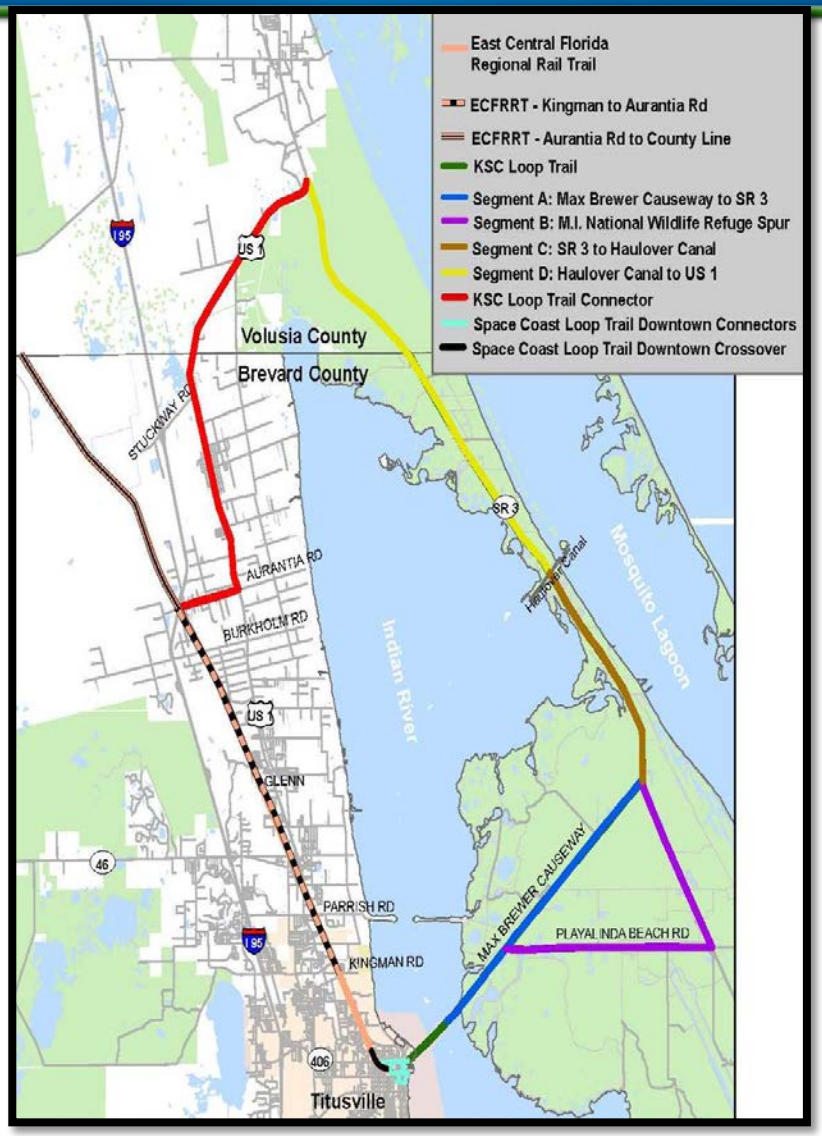
Coast to Coast Connector - Brevard County



Coast to Coast Connector - Brevard County

SPACE COAST LOOP TRAIL – 55 MILES

- Coast to Coast Connector
- St. Johns River to Sea Loop
- East Coast Greenway
- U.S. Department of Interior
  America's Great Outdoors
- Indian River National Scenic Byway
- America's Transportation Awards Top 10
  Transportation Project 2010
- Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
- Canaveral National Seashore
- NASA/Kennedy Space Center



East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail

BREVARD COUNTY RURAL/SUBURBAN SEGMENT

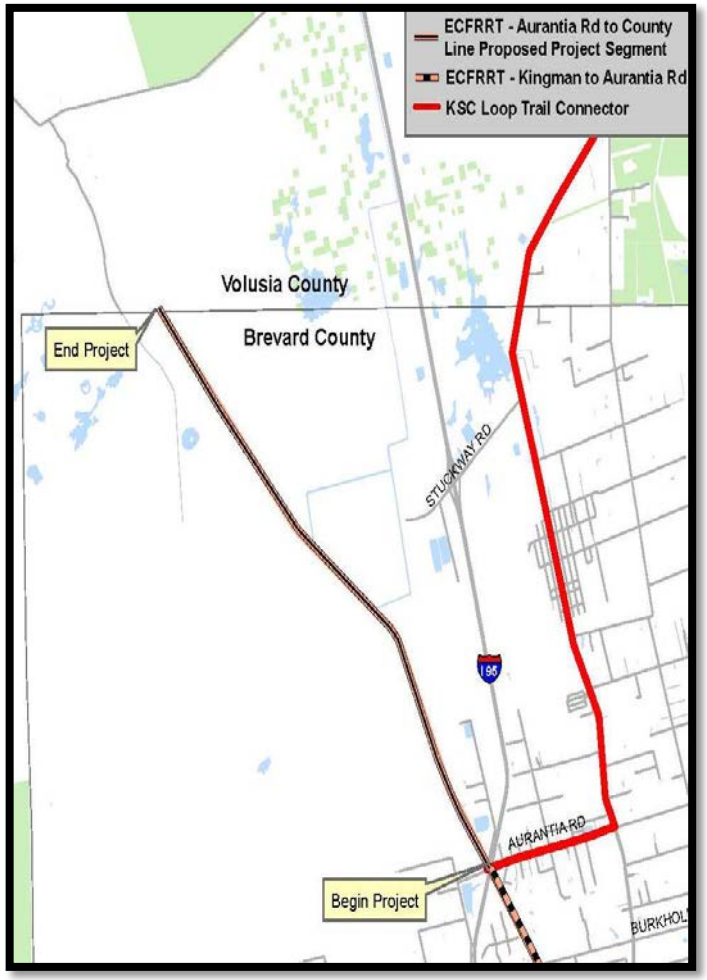
LENGTH: 12.8 miles

PHASE: FDOT Design/Build
Funded FY 2014/15
Design 2015
Construction 2016

COST: $14.3M

State and Federal funding

East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail – Rural Segment



RURAL SEGMENT

LENGTH: 5.5 miles

FEATURES:

Rural/wilderness trail
Wetlands/ecosystems
Equestrian/trailhead

CHALLENGES:

Emergency response
Bridges/mitigation
Maintenance

BUDGET: $7,356,000

C2C State $

East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail – Suburban Segment

SUBURBAN SEGMENT

LENGTH: 7.3 miles

FEATURES:

Neighborhood trail

Parallel but off road

CHALLENGES:

Road/driveway crossings

Signage

BUDGET: $6,946,602

FDOT work program/Federal $

East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail – Titusville Segment

DRAA PARK SEGMENT

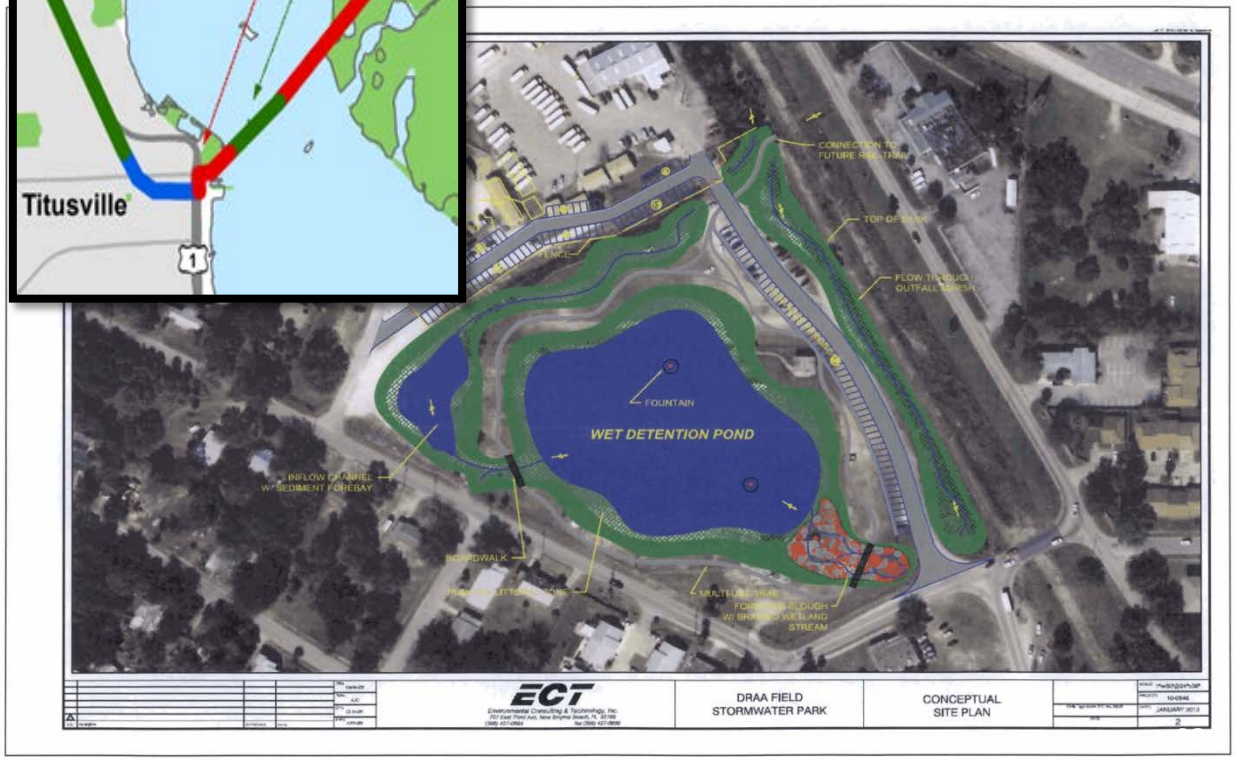
LENGTH: 1.4 miles

PHASE:

COMPLETE

FEATURES:

Neighborhood trail connected to future city park with full service trailhead



East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail – Titusville Segment

Titusville Crossover Segment

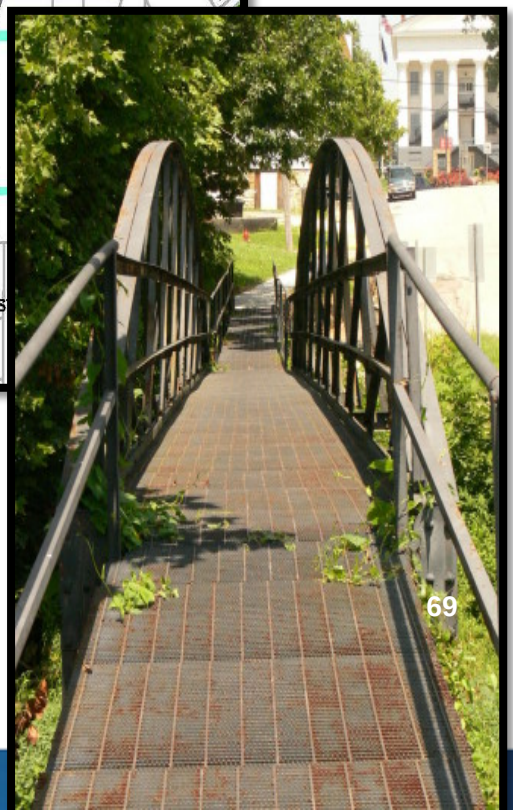
LENGTH: 0.6 miles

PHASE: Titusville Design/Build
Funded FY 2014/15
Design 2015
Construction 2016

FEATURES: Pedestrian bridge across SR 406/Garden Street

BUDGET: $3,631,000

FDOT work program/Federal $



Space Coast Gap – Segment 1

DOWNTOWN CONNECTOR

LENGTH: 1.9 miles

PHASE: FDOT PD&E
Funded FY 2014/15

BUDGET: $100,000
C2C State $

FEATURES: Connections to downtown, two regional parks, and future train station

ISSUES: Right of way constraints

VIEW OF PROPOSED TITUSVILLE STATION

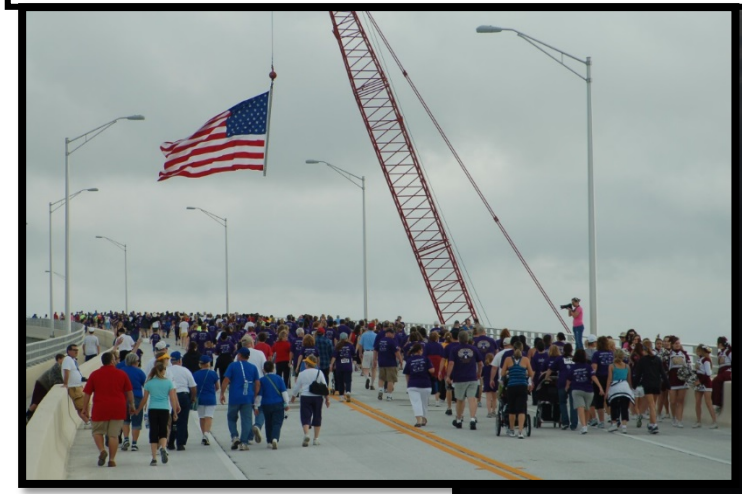
Space Coast Loop Trail – Max Brewer Bridge

MAX BREWER BRIDGE

PHASE: COMPLETE

FEATURES: Connections to two regional parks

Bike/ped facilities on two sides



Space Coast Gap – Segment 2

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER GAP

PHASE: Feasibility Study nearing completion

Next phase – PD&E following federal NEPA guidelines

BUDGET REQUEST: $450,000

Submitting for 2016-2020 work program

FEATURES: Proposed off road route and rail with trail through

- **Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge,**
- **Canaveral National Seashore, and**
- **Kennedy Space Center**

ISSUES: Federal funding

Coast to Coast Connector – Canaveral National Seashore

Discussion Topic 1: Regional System vs. Local Trails – Implementation

What makes a great regional trail?

Vital Questions

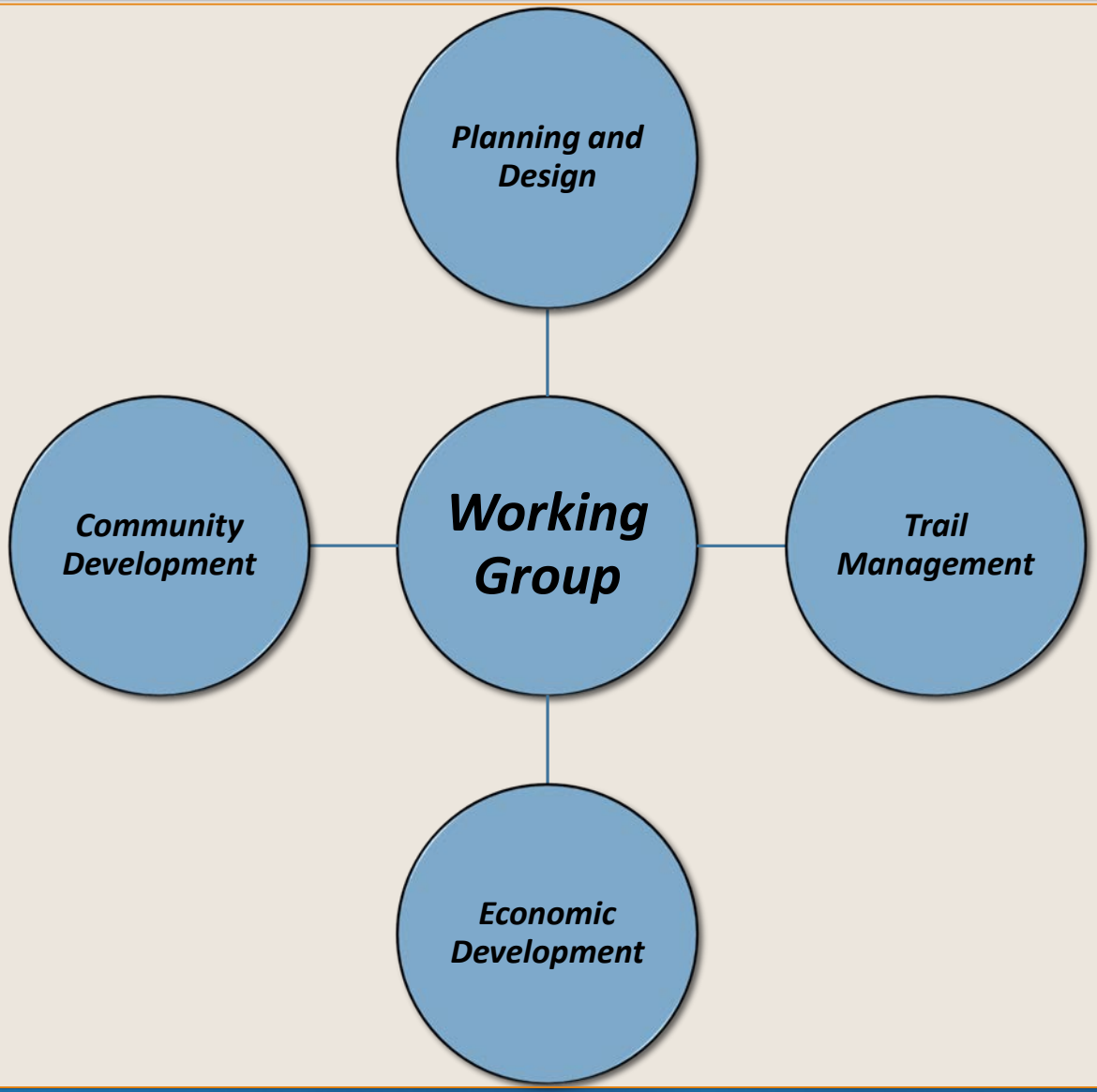
- What does the user need and want to ensure a seamless great experience?
- How does that impact local implementation?
- What are the keys to ensuring a balance that focuses on creating a great guest experience?

What makes a great regional trail?

Planning and Design	• Design and planning of trail corridors, facilities and amenities • Determine signage plan • Determine traffic control plan • Secure acquisition funding for trails and support facilities • Garner support from public and private partners
Trail Management	• Maintain trail corridors, facilities and amenities • Implement signage plan • Ensure trail user safety • Coordinate with public and private partners
Economic Development	• Address Best Practices for potential development bordering trails • Coordinate with other trails programs • Cultivate relationships with local, state and federal partners • Market the Trail to non-Florida residents and non-trail users
Community Development	• What impact will the Connector have on the regions health? • How is the trail used to promote a healthy lifestyle? • How does the trail develop a sense of community, or place?

Discussion Topic 2: Creating a Regional Leadership Structure

Coast to Coast Connector Working Group



How do we organize ourselves?

Working Group Tasks

Planning and Design

- Design and planning of trail corridors, facilities and amenities
- Determine signage plan
- Determine traffic control plan
- Secure acquisition funding for trails and support facilities
- Garner support from public and private partners

Trail Management

- Maintain trail corridors, facilities and amenities
- Implement signage plan
- Ensure trail user safety
- Coordinate with public and private partners

Economic Development

- Address Best Practices for potential development bordering trails
- Coordinate with other trails programs
- Cultivate relationships with local, state and federal partners
- Market the Trail to non-Florida residents and non-trail users

Community Development

- Garner Community Support for Trail
- Ensure trail is used for community benefit
- Engage volunteers to assist in management

Working Groups

Planning and Design

- FL Department of Transportation: Statewide Office
- FL Department of Transportation: District Offices 5 & 7
- FL Department of Environmental Protection: Office of Greenways & Trails (& FGTF)
- City, County, or Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Federal Agencies

Trail Management

- Local, State, and Federal Trail Managers
- Local, State and Federal law enforcement

Economic Development

- Tourism Development Bureaus
- Visit Florida
- Local, Regional and State Government

Community Development

- Local Depts. Of Health
- Community Groups
- Local Businesses

Wrap Up