



# MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

Please be advised that the Volusia Transportation Planning Organization (VTPO) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) will be meeting on:

DATE: Wednesday, November 9, 2011

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Volusia TPO  
2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.,  
Suite 100 (Conference Room)  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114-8145

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Ms. A.J. Devies, Chairperson

## AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT/PARTICIPATION *(Length of time at the discretion of the Chairperson)*
- III. ACTION ITEMS
  - A) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 12, 2011 BPAC MEETING MINUTES  
*(Contact: Stephan C. Harris) (Enclosures, pages 3-12)*
  - B) REVIEW AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PROJECT CRITERIA *(Contact: Stephan C. Harris)*  
*(Enclosures, pages 13-17)*
  - C) APPOINTMENT OF TIP AND UPWP SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS *(Contact: Karl D. Welzenbach) (Enclosure, page 18)*
  - D) CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2011 BPAC MEETING *(Contact: A.J. Devies) (Enclosure, page 19)*

**IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A) PRESENTATION ON THE ORMOND SCENIC LOOP AND TRAIL WAYFINDING PLAN**  
*(Contact: Doug Lynch, TranSystems & Larry Rivera, City of Ormond Beach)*  
*(Enclosure, page 20)*
- B) UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE DRAFT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY STUDY FOR COUNTY ROAD A1A** *(Contact: Robert Keeth) (Enclosure, page 21)*
- C) UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF RESOLUTION 2011-29 REQUESTING FDOT REVISE DEVELOPMENT SEGMENTS AND SHIFT FUNDING FOR THE EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL RAIL TRAIL (ECFRRT)** *(Contact: Stephan C. Harris)*  
*(Enclosures, pages 22-24)*

**V. STAFF COMMENTS** *(Enclosure, page 25)*

**VI. INFORMATION ITEMS** *(Enclosures, pages 25-37)*

- Ø BPAC Attendance Record
- Ø Florida Safe Routes to School Updates – October 31, 2011
- Ø U.S. DOI News Release

**VII. BPAC MEMBER COMMENTS** *(Enclosure, page 25)*

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** *(Enclosure, page 25)*

***\*\*\*The next meeting of the BPAC will be Wednesday, January 11, 2012\*\*\****

**NOTE:** Individuals covered by the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 in need of accommodations for this public meeting should contact the Volusia TPO office, 2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 100, Daytona Beach, FL (386) 226-0422, extension 21 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting date.

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

III. Action Items

A) Review and Approval of October 12, 2011 BPAC Meeting Minutes

Background Information:

Minutes are prepared for each meeting and must be approved by the BPAC. The October 12, 2011 BPAC meeting minutes are provided with this agenda packet for your review.

*Action Requested:*

*Motion to approve the September 14, 2011 BPAC meeting minutes*

**Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 12, 2011**

Members Present:

Mike Chuven  
Rani Merens  
Tim Bustos  
Michelle Grenham  
Craig Wells  
Bob Storke  
Colleen Nicoulin  
Peter Cerullo  
Roy Walters  
A.J. Devies, Chair  
William "Bill" Pouzar

Representing:

Daytona Beach  
DeBary  
DeLand  
Edgewater  
Flagler Beach  
Orange City  
Port Orange  
Volusia County, At-Large  
Volusia County, At-Large  
Volusia County, District 2  
Volusia County, District 5

Non-Voting Technical Appointees Present:

Joan Carter  
Gwen Perney  
Tina Skipper  
Melissa Booker  
Heather Blanck

Representing:

FDOT, District 5  
Port Orange  
Volusia County School Board  
Volusia County Traffic Engineering  
Votran

Members/Technical Appointees Absent:

Alexis Collock Rohr  
Rene "Rocky" Rivera  
Wendy Hickey  
Phyllis Campbell, Vice Chair (excused)

Representing:

Deltona  
Holly Hill  
Orange City  
Ponce Inlet

Others Present:

Pamela Blankenship, Recording Secretary  
Stephan Harris  
Steve Friedel  
David Graeber  
John Harper  
Jake Sachs  
Ron Saylor

Representing:

TPO Staff  
TPO Staff  
FDOT, District 5  
Inwood Consulting Engineers, Inc.  
VC Engineering & Construction  
New Smyrna Beach - CAC  
Orange City

## I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Determination of Quorum / Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting of the Volusia Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson A.J. Devies. The roll was called and it was determined that there was a quorum.

## II. Public Comment/Participation

Mr. Jake Sachs, citizen of New Smyrna Beach and member of the TPOs Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), stated that CR A1A was scheduled for resurfacing soon. He added crosswalks and bicycle lanes are needed. A study to examine improvements was completed in 2010, and another one is in progress. He requested the BPACs support for these improvements.

## III. Action Items

### A. Review and Approval of September 14, 2011 BPAC Meeting Minutes

Ms. Nicoulin stated 11 members were listed as present, but one member (Mr. Chad Lingenfelter) was absent.

Ms. Devies asked if Mr. Cerullo was still a member of the BPAC. Mr. Cerullo responded yes.

Ms. Devies stated Mr. Lingenfelter's name would be stricken from the minutes and Mr. Cerullo's name would remain in the minutes as an active BPAC member.

***MOTION:***     *A motion to approve the September 14, 2011 BPAC meeting minutes with revisions was made by Mr. Chuven. The motion was seconded by Mr. Storke and carried unanimously.*

### B. Review and Recommend Approval of the Extra Urban (XU) Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Proposal Requirements and Criteria

Mr. Harris stated the Project Review Subcommittee reviewed the Project Proposal Requirements and Criteria and suggested the changes marked in red. Wording from the Resolution 2011-15 (amended) is also included.

Mr. Chuven stated the subcommittee did not originally want to include the 10% of XU funds that could go towards non bicycle/pedestrian projects, but it was approved by the TPO Board. To prevent an excessive amount of XU funds from being allocated to those projects, the projects will be ranked separately and the top two projects will be selected to be eligible for it.

Mr. Harris stated the other changes are an increase in shared use path widths from 10 to 12 feet and a not to contact Volusia County School District Student Transportation Services for information regarding hazardous walk zone areas.

Ms. Carter stated FDOT standards state that trail width may be reduced to 10' if 12' is not feasible. It may be prudent to allow 10' wide paths if they are feasible.

Ms. Booker stated right-of-way acquisition is difficult, so retaining the 10' width may be desirable.

Mr. Harper stated the Green book allows trail widths to be reduced to 10' or even 8' for limited distances.

Mr. Bustos stated the applicant should provide some justification if they cannot build a 12' wide path.

Ms. Booker stated this may be problematic for local governments with projects in urban areas.

Mr. Wells stated easements that may be required should not be considered special justification.

Mr. Storke stated 12' should be the minimum width for shared use paths.

Mr. Walters stated the wording should be changed to require the project applicant to provide justification for a path less than 12' wide.

**MOTION:** *A motion to recommend approval of the Extra Urban (XU) Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Proposal Requirements and Criteria with the following wording: "Is this Shared Use Path project at least 12 feet wide? If No – justification is required." was made by Mr. Walters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chuven and carried with Mr. Wells voting no.*

**C. Review and Recommend Approval of Resolution 2011-27 to revise development segments and shift funding for the East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail**

Mr. Harper stated the Volusia County Council has directed county staff to develop the ECFRRT from the population areas to the middle of the county. An application for TIGER III grant is also being pursued to fund the ECFRRT. Brevard County is pursuing a trail that will connect to the ECFRRT on the east side. The widening of SR 415 will include a trail into Seminole County. Segments 1 and 2 west of SR 415 are under construction. Pedestrian overpasses are funded at SR 415 and SR 442. Volusia County is funding Segment 4 (SR 415 to Guise Road) and Segment 6 (Maglev Site to Dale Street). Funding for the ECFRRT is being shifted

from Segment 3 (Guise Road to Maytown Spur) to Segment 5 (Brevard County to the Maglev Site).

Mr. Walters asked about funding of the Brevard County segment if the TIGER grant is not awarded. Mr. Harper responded portions of the Brevard County segment are funded and it is in an economically distressed area, which is useful in obtaining additional funds.

Mr. Walter asked about funding of Segment 3. Mr. Harper responded it is currently unfunded.

Mr. Harris stated Resolution 2011-27 has an error in the first paragraph after "Now Therefore, Be It Resolved..."

Mr. Storke stated the resolution should be revised and brought back for review and approval.

**MOTION:** *A motion to table review and approval of Resolution 2011-27 was made by Mr. Walters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Storke and carried unanimously.*

## **VI. Presentations and Discussion Items**

### **A. Presentation on the draft CR A1A Pedestrian Safety and Access Feasibility Study**

Mr. Keeth stated the draft feasibility study has not been received. A previous study commissioned by Volusia County in 2010 identified crosswalk technologies for the CR A1A corridor from 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Canaveral National Seashore Entrance. The current study will also study lane widths and pedestrian refuge areas in medians. More information is forthcoming.

Ms. Booker stated Volusia County has asked the consultant to review bicycle facilities along the corridor.

### **B. Presentation on the proposed SR 40 Shared Use Path from US 17 to Cone Road**

[The SR 40 Shared Use Path presentation is included with the minutes for reference purposes.]

Mr. Storke asked about the trail being built within the existing right-of-way. Mr. Graeber responded that some right-of-way would need to be acquired for the trail.

Mr. Bustos asked about the separation between the trail and roadway. Mr. Graeber stated a Jersey barrier and shoulder will separate the trail from the roadway.

Mr. Harris asked if the cost estimates were for design and construction of the trail within the SR 40 widening project. Mr. Graeber responded yes.

## **VII. Staff Comments**

Mr. Harris stated volunteers are needed for the UPWP subcommittee for 2012. Mss. Devies and Nicoulin and Mr. Chuvén volunteered for the UPWP Subcommittee.

[Editor's note: a short video featuring an antelope crashing into a bicyclist was shown by Mr. Harris and information flyers were distributed for the Florida Planning & Zoning Association Regional Forum on trails.]

## **VIII. Information Items**

## **IX. BPAC Member Comments**

Ms. Cerullo stated a White Cane & Pedestrian Safety Awareness event will be held at the following locations on October 21, 2011: Orange Avenue/Beach Street intersection and White Street/Dunn Avenue intersection.

Ms. Carter stated the FDOT and the City of Longwood will be hosting a Pedestrian Safety and Accommodations Design Workshop sponsored by FHWA. The workshop will take place on December 5-7, 2011.

## **X. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**Volusia Transportation Planning Organization**

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**Ms. A.J. Devies, Chairperson**  
Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)



CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the Volusia TPO certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the October 12, 2011 regular meeting of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), approved and duly signed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2011.

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**Pamela C. Blankenship, Recording Secretary**  
Volusia Transportation Planning Organization

# SR 40 Reevaluation

From US 17 to SR 11 and SR 11 to Cone Road

## Volusia County Transportation Planning Organization

FPID No. 240386-1-32-01  
240387-1-32-01

October 25, 2011

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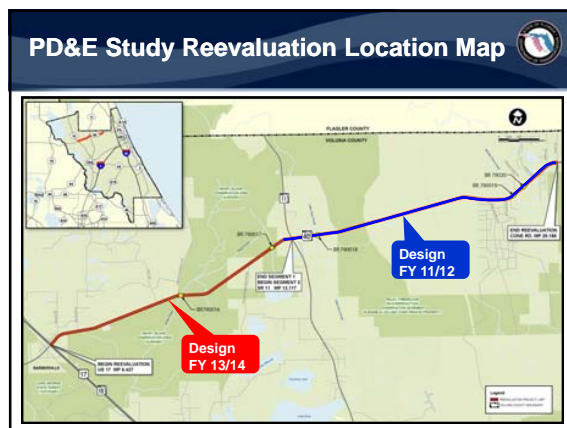
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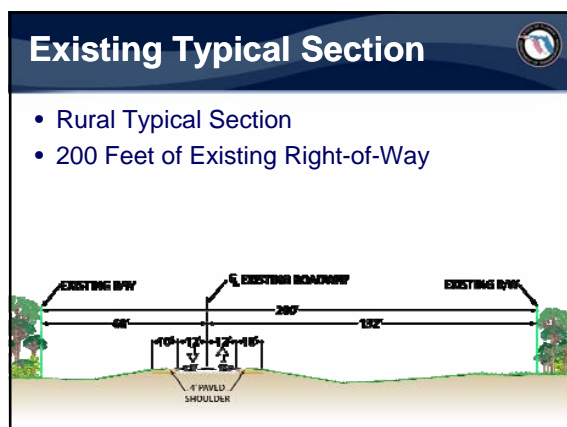
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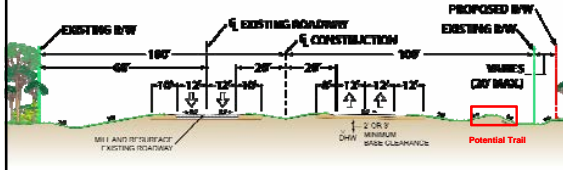
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## Proposed Typical Section

- 4-Lane Rural Divided Arterial
- Minimum Design Speed = 65 mph
- Right-of-Way Acquisition
  - Interceptor Ditches: 0'-20' additional right-of-way
  - Pond Sites




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## Potential Trail

- Volusia County Trail Master Plan
- VTPO Requested Evaluation
- 12-foot Wide, Paved, Multi-use Trail
  - South Side of SR 40
  - Volusia County Standards
  - Trail Located
    - At Right-of-Way
    - Berm Between Ditches
    - Wildlife Crossings – Adjacent to the Road with Barrier Separation
- Trailhead Locations
- Gaps to Existing/Funded Trails

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## Trail Location

- South Side of SR 40
  - Advantages
    - Reduced Right-of-Way Impacts and Costs
    - Reduced Construction Costs
  - Disadvantages
    - Requires Crossing SR 40 to Connect to Existing Trail in Ormond Beach.
      - Potential Crossing Point - Future Airport Boulevard Extension

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## Trail Costs



- Wetland Impacts – 6.42 Acres
- Conservation Easement Impacts – 0.87 Acres
- Trail Costs
  - Construction \$5.75 M
  - Right-of-Way \$2.50 M
  - Mitigation \$0.85 M
  - Design and CEI \$1.65 M
  - **Total** **\$10.8 Million**
- Cost Estimates are for the Trail to be Completed as Part of the Widening Projects

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## Next Steps



- Maintenance Agreement From Volusia County
- Funding Agreement for Added Costs
- Design (Advertised in December)
  - Requires Scope to be Finalized by the end of November

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SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

III. Action Items

B) Review and Recommend Approval of the Safe Routes to School Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Criteria

**Background Information:**

The Project Review Subcommittee created criteria for Safe Routes to School projects at their October 11, 2011 meeting. The Volusia TPO's Safe Routes to School Project Criteria will be used to evaluate and rank projects from the Bicycle & Pedestrian School Safety Review Study for the next Safe Routes to School Call for Projects. The rankings will determine which projects are selected for the TPO staff to prepare applications

***Action Requested:***

***Motion to recommend approval of the Safe Routes to School Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Criteria***

Volusia TPO  
2012 DRAFT Project Proposal Criteria

# Safe Routes to School Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects

**Criteria Summary:**

Priority Criteria	Points
(1) Connectivity	60
(2) Safety	30
(3) Public Support/Special Considerations	10
(4) Value-Added Tie Breaker (if necessary)	variable
<b>Total (excluding Value-Added Tie Breaker)</b>	<b>100</b>

**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant (project sponsor):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Job Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Governmental entity with maintenance responsibility for roadway facility on which proposed project is located:** \_\_\_\_\_

*[If not the same as Applicant, attach letter of support for proposed project from the responsible entity.]*

**Is the Applicant Local Agency Program (LAP) certified to administer the proposed project?**

☐ Yes      ☐ No

**If Applicant is not LAP certified, explain how you intend to comply with the LAP requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Priority of this proposed project relative to other applications submitted by the Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Location** (include project length and termini, if appropriate, and attach location map): \_\_\_\_\_

### Criterion #1 – Connectivity (60 points maximum)

This criterion considers the gaps that exist in the current network of bike lanes, bike paths and sidewalks. The measurement will assess points based on the ability of the proposed project to join disconnected networks or complete fragmented facilities.

For the application list and describe how this project fits into the local and regional bicycle/pedestrian networks and/or a transit facility. Depict this on the map and describe in the document.

Network Connectivity	All that Apply	Max. Points
Project provides access to residential developments, apartments, housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	10
Project extends an existing bicycle/pedestrian facility (at one end of the facility)	<input type="checkbox"/>	10
Project provides a connection between two existing or planned/programmed bicycle/pedestrian facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	20
Project has been identified as “needed” in an adopted document (i.e. A comprehensive plan, master plan, arterial study)	<input type="checkbox"/>	20
<b>Maximum Point Assessment</b>		<b>60</b>

**Criterion #1 Description (if needed):** \_\_\_\_\_

### Criterion #2 – Safety (30 points maximum)

This measure provides additional weight to applications that have included safety as a component of the overall project and includes school locations identified as hazardous walking/biking zones and areas with significant number of safety concerns.

For the application list and describe whether the proposed facility is located within a “hazardous walk/bike zone” and/or provide documentation that illustrates how bicycle or pedestrian safety could be enhanced by the construction of this facility.

Safety	All that Apply	Max. Points
The project is located in an area identified as a hazardous walk/bike zone by Volusia County School District Student Transportation Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	15
The project removes or reduces potential conflicts (bike/auto and ped/auto). There is a pattern of bike/ped crashes along the project route. Please provide documentation such as photos or video of current situation/site or any supportive statistics or studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	15
<b>Maximum Point Assessment</b>		<b>30</b>

**Criterion #2 Description (if needed):** \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, contact Volusia County School District Student Transportation Services.

### Criterion #3 – Public Support/Special Considerations (10 points maximum)

This is an opportunity for applicant to provide other relevant data that may provide **additional** information as related to the project application.

For the application list and describe whether the proposed facility has examples of public support (i.e., documented requests from community groups, homeowners associations, school administrators, as well as letters of support, signed petitions, documented public comments) or any special issues or concerns that are not being addressed by the other criteria.

Special Considerations	All that Apply	Max. Points
Is documented public support provided for the project? Are there any special issues or concerns?	<input type="checkbox"/>	10
<b>Maximum Point Assessment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>10</b>

Criterion #3 Description (if needed): \_\_\_\_\_

### Criterion #4 – Value-Added Tie Breaker (if necessary) (variable points)

Projects with equal scores after evaluations using the five Project Proposal Criteria are subject to the Value-Added Tie Breaker. The BPAC and Project Review Subcommittee are authorized to award tie breaker points based on the additional value added by the project. A written explanation of the circumstances and amount of tie breaker points awarded for each project will be provided.



**Volusia TPO  
2012 Project Process for  
Safe Routes to School Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects**

1. FDOT Safe Routes to School Program opens Call for Projects
2. BPAC evaluates/prioritizes potential project(s) from Volusia TPO's Bicycle & Pedestrian School Safety Review Studies
3. Safe Routes to School project priority list is approved by Volusia TPO Board
4. Volusia TPO staff produces draft project application for approved project
5. Draft project application is reviewed by East/West Volusia Community Traffic Safety Team, Volusia County School District, Volusia TPO and local government representatives
6. Volusia TPO staff obtains resolution/letters of support from Volusia County School Board and local government
7. Volusia TPO submits final project application to East/West Volusia Community Traffic Safety Team
8. East/West Volusia Community Traffic Safety Team approves final project application and submits to FDOT prior to Call for Projects deadline
9. FDOT Special Projects Coordinator conducts a field review of the project
10. FDOT evaluates project and completes a concept/feasibility study
11. FDOT schedules an intake meeting representatives from FDOT, local government and Volusia TPO to review project details and timeline
12. FDOT coordinates with Volusia TPO to program the project in the FDOT Work Program
13. Construction of top ranked project: 2-5 years

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

III. Action Items

C) Appointment of TIP and UPWP Subcommittee Members

**Background Information:**

Annually, the BPAC, CAC and TCC appoint approximately three members to serve on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Subcommittees.

The TIP Subcommittee is responsible for assisting staff in developing the yearly update to the TPO's Annual Priority List of Projects, as well as the development of the TIP. The UPWP Subcommittee is responsible for assisting staff in developing the yearly update to the TPO's UPWP, which contains the staff's annual planning activities. The TIP and UPWP Subcommittees will most likely meet three times prior to the adoption of the next TIP and UPWP in June 2012.

***Action Requested:***

***Motion to appoint TIP and UPWP Subcommittee Members***

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

III. Action Items

D) Cancellation of the December 14, 2011 BPAC meeting

Background Information:

Traditionally, if there is no outstanding business which needs to be conducted before the end of the calendar year, none of the TPO Committees meet during the month of December. This tends to be a busy month for committee members who are preparing for the holidays.

*Action Requested:*

*Motion to cancel the December 14, 2011 BPAC meeting*

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

IV. Presentations and Discussion Items

A) Presentation on the Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail Wayfinding Plan

Background Information:

The Wayfinding and Interpretation Assessment Plan (WIAP) for the Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail is a ten (10) month project that involves a full corridor asset field inventory of all existing signage, both directional and interpretive. The inventory will be conducted in the field with GPS technology and digital photos linked using ESRI ArcGIS software. A high-definition video of the entire corridor (both travel directions) will also be collected for future analysis and field review. A materials and styles guide was created to display the preferred sign material and styles. Interpretive scripting (actual text for narration) will be provided. Public charrettes will also be held to collect comments from the public.

Messrs. Larry Rivera, Ormond Beach Project Manager and Doug Lynch, TranSystems Project Manager, will deliver the presentation.

*Action Requested:*

*No action is required unless otherwise directed by the BPAC*

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

IV. Presentations and Discussion Items

B) Update on the Status of the Draft Pedestrian Safety Study for County Road A1A

Background Information:

The draft Pedestrian Safety Study for County Road A1A is a follow up to the Pedestrian Crosswalk Research Study completed in 2010. Both studies have been prepared by GMB Engineers & Planners, Inc.

The current feasibility study focuses on the existing marked crosswalks located along South Atlantic Avenue (CR A1A) between 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and the south New Smyrna Beach city limit. The study involves performing pedestrian counts at 13 crosswalk locations along the corridor, reviewing historical crash data for the last 3 years, evaluating traffic and pedestrian operating and safety conditions and recommending safety countermeasures.

Mr. Robert Keeth, TPO Senior Planner, will provide an update on the status of the draft Pedestrian Safety Study for County Road A1A.

*Action Requested:*

*No action is required unless otherwise directed by the BPAC*

SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

IV. Presentations and Discussion Items

- C) Update on the status of Resolution 2011-29 Requesting FDOT Revise Development Segments and Shift Funding for the East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail (ECFRRT)

**Background Information:**

Resolution 2011-29 shifts funding for development segments of the East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail. A draft version of the resolution was tabled by the BPAC on October 12, 2011. The resolution was subsequently revised and approved by the TPO Board on October 25, 2011. The executed version of the resolution is included with this agenda packet for reference purposes.

Mr. Stephan C. Harris, TPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator, will provide an update on the status of Resolution 2011-29.

*Action Requested:*

*No action is required unless otherwise directed by the BPAC*

**VOLUSIA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**RESOLUTION 2011-29**

**RESOLUTION OF THE VOLUSIA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (VTPO)  
REQUESTING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REVISE DEVELOPMENT  
SEGMENTS AND SHIFT FUNDING FOR THE EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL RAIL TRAIL**

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**WHEREAS**, the Volusia Transportation Planning Organization (VTPO) is the duly designated and constituted body responsible for carrying out the urban transportation planning and programming process for Volusia County and the cities of Beverly Beach and Flagler Beach in Flagler County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Volusia Transportation Planning Organization (VTPO) has actively supported the East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the VTPO recognizes that this trail will require a significant investment in funding both for construction as well as for maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, to take advantage of programming opportunities, the VTPO recognizes that the project has been segmented into five distinct areas to more effectively design and develop the trail; and

**WHEREAS**, this requested change requires the available funds currently programmed on Segment III (Guise Road to Maytown Spur) to be shifted to Segment V (Brevard County Line to Maglev Site); and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Transportation, Central Office, has final authority on the programming and expenditure of Federal Enhancement (SE) funds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of the Volusia TPO that the:

1. Volusia TPO requests that the Florida Department of Transportation re-allocate the construction funding currently programmed in Fiscal Years 2014/15 and 2015/16 for Segment III (Guise Road to Maytown Spur) to Segment V (Brevard County Line to Maglev Site); and
2. The Chairperson of the Volusia TPO, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to transmit this resolution to the following:
  - (a) Governor, State of Florida;
  - (b) Secretary of Transportation, State of Florida;
  - (c) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP);
  - (d) Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT);
  - (e) Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (through the Department of Community Affairs) (DCA);
  - (f) East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC); and
  - (g) Members of the Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA).

**DONE AND RESOLVED** at the regular meeting of the Volusia Transportation Planning Organization on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011.

VOLUSIA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City of DeLand, Mayor Pro-Tem Leigh Matusick  
Chairperson Presiding, Volusia TPO

**CERTIFICATE:**

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Recording Secretary of the Volusia TPO, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution, adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Volusia TPO held on October 25, 2011.

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela C. Blankenship, Recording Secretary



SUMMARY SHEET  
BPAC  
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

V. STAFF COMMENTS

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Ø BPAC Attendance Record
- Ø Florida Safe Routes to School Updates – October 31, 2011
- Ø U.S. DOI News Release

VII. BPAC MEMBER COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

# ***BPAC Attendance Record 2011***

***Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)***

Name	12-Jan	9-Feb	9-Mar	13-Apr	11-May	8-Jun	13-Jul	10-Aug	14-Sep	12-Oct	9-Nov	14-Dec	Notes								
Mike Chuven	x	exc		x	x	x		x	x	x			Daytona Beach (appt. 1/04)								
Rani Merens	x	x		exc	x	abs		x	x	x			DeBary (appt. 3/06)								
Tim Bustos - Alternate: Ted Wendler						x		x	x	x			DeLand (appt. 05/11) (alternate appt. 10/11)								
Alexis Collock Rohr									exc	abs			Deltona (appt. 08/2011)								
Michelle Grenham	x	x		x	exc	x		exc	x	x			Edgewater (appt. 1/08)								
Craig Wells	x	x		exc	abs	exc		abs	exc	x			Flagler Beach (appt. 4/08)								
Rocky Rivera	x	x		x	x	x		abs	x	abs			Holly Hill (appt. 6/09)								
Bob Storke	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			Orange City (appt. 12/07)								
Phyllis Campbell (Vice Chairperson)	x	x	C	x	x	x		x	x	exc			Ponce Inlet (appt. 11/06)								
Colleen Nicoulin			A				A	x	x	x			Port Orange (appt. 7/11)								
Bill Pouzar	x	exc	N	x	abs	x	N	exc	abs	x			Volusia County (appt. 12/10)								
A.J. Devies (Chairperson)	x	x	E	x	x	x	E	x	x	x			Volusia County (appt. 1/06)								
Roy Walters	exc	exc	L	x	x	abs	L	exc	exc	x			Volusia County At-Large (appt. 03/05)								
Peter Cerullo	exc	exc	L				L	abs	abs	x			Volusia County (appt 4/10)								
Alt: DeAnn Parker			E	x	exc	abs	E	abs	abs				Volusia County (appt 4/11)								
			D				D														
NON-VOTING																					
Melissa Booker	x	x		exc	x	x		x	J. Cheney	x			Volusia County Traffic Engineering								
John Harper								abs	abs	x			Volusia County Parks, Recreation & Culture (appt. 07/11)								
Gwen Perney	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			Large City - Port Orange								
Wendy Hickey	exc	exc		x	x	x		x	x	abs			Small City - Orange City								
Tina Skipper	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			Volusia County School Board								
Heather Blanck	abs	x		x	x	exc		exc	x	x			Votran								
Joan Carter	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			FDOT								
Vacancies																					
Ormond Beach																					
Beverly Beach																					
South Daytona																					
Oak Hill																					
Lake Helen																					
Pierson																					
Daytona Beach Shores																					
New Smyrna Beach																					
Volusia County District 3																					
QUORUM	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y											



Florida SRTS Updates  
By Pat Pieratte  
Florida SRTS Coordinator  
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October 31, 2011



## Florida Updates: State

**October Summary:** Happy Halloween! Hopefully you have all been teaching children pedestrian and bicycle safety in preparation for Trick or Treating tonight, and that you will have safe and fun events!

This has been a busy month, and it has flown by! Here are some of the events from this busy month:

- **International Walk to School Day:** The final tally for events held on Wednesday, October 5 or another time in October was 4,076 events throughout the United States, up from 3,550 in 2010. Florida hit a new high with 261 events, up from 225 events in 2010. Percentagewise, we also went up; our events constituted 6.4% of the national events, up from 6.3% last year.

The only state which had more events was California, with 548 events. Since California's population is twice that of Florida and they had roughly twice as many events as Florida, I'd say we are doing very well with Walk to School Day events, especially considering that California had a state-funded SRTS program for a number of years before the federal program began. So congratulations everyone, and thanks for another year of great Walk to School Day events. Remember, if you scheduled events for other days in October, they will still count if you register them at: <http://www.walktoschool.org/>. But please hurry, since the National Center will be closing out this year's events soon.

Remember to share photos of your Walk to School event at: <http://www.iwalktoschool.org/photos/index.htm>. So far only six Florida photos from this year are posted, representing events in St. Petersburg, Palm Bay, Orlando and Belle Glade. With 261 events in Florida we need to increase this part of our participation so everyone in the US and beyond can see how well Florida has done with International Walk to School Day!

The date for next year's International Walk to School Day is Wednesday, October 3, 2012. Put it on your calendar and start thinking of how you can make next year's events even bigger!

- **Virtual Transplex SRTS presentation:** The SRTS presentation for the Virtual Transplex Conference was also held on Wednesday, October 5, so this was a super-busy day! But the timing worked out well, since we could discuss International Walk to School Day as part of our presentations. Following my overview of the Florida SRTS program, each FDOT District had ten minutes to present on one or more of their projects. Following the presentations, there was a time for questions and answers. With the mix of Infrastructure Projects and Non-Infrastructure Programs represented, I feel this presentation gave a very good overview of Florida's SRTS program. We had 58 attendees, including at least 9 from out of state, and the participants gave us good reviews. If you missed it, you can see the archived version at: <http://transplex.org/recordings/srts.wmv>.

All the archived sessions, including several others on bicycle and pedestrian topics, can be seen at [http://transplex.org/conference\\_11.asp](http://transplex.org/conference_11.asp). If you participated in this Virtual Conference, the FDOT Planning Office would appreciate your feedback at: <http://transplex.org/survey2011.asp>.

- **Quarterly Report to the National Center for SRTS:** In preparing quarterly report information to send to the National Center this month, I extracted data from our Work Program on all SRTS projects since the beginning of the program in 2005. As new projects were recently entered into the Work Program, the numbers have grown a lot since the last quarter. To date, Florida has selected and programmed 241 projects in the Five-Year Work Program, totaling more than \$86 million. Of the 241 projects, 161 have been at least started and 57 of these have been completed.

It is quite a complicated process each quarter to extract the data, format and print the Excel chart so I can

analyze the status. Documenting this process for my successor in my Desk Manual has been a big project this month as well.

- **Crossing Guard Trainer Online Course:** I have been working on this project with Providance Nagy, the Crossing Guard Trainer/Administrator for quite awhile, and it has turned out to be a much bigger project than we first envisioned. As we worked through it, we tried to look with fresh eyes at the course material, questioning everything. As a result, we ended up deleting some material, simplifying other material, and rearranging the order of much of the material to get the most logical flow.

Another big challenge was to make the audio portion as generic as possible, so when data or other things change in the future, only the on-screen portion of the course will need to be updated. Last week we met with our consultant twice to do a final run-through of the audio transcripts for the eight modules in this course. It is a huge milestone to be able to hand this project back to our consultant so he can record the audio and continue working on the on-screen materials.

After being finished and tested, this course will replace most of the classroom portion of the current two-day Crossing Guard Trainer Training course. After potential trainers pass the on-line course, they will come together for a one-day course focused on administration of local programs, review, and especially stressing the practical portion of the training. We realize that there is no substitution for in-person training to be sure the potential trainers and administrators thoroughly understand and can perform the crossing sequences in different circumstances, so their guards will be correctly trained.

## Florida Updates: Local

**Hernando County Walking School Bus:** Thanks to the persistence of Communities Putting Prevention to Work Coordinator Lucy Gonzalez-Barr and many others, the first Walking School Bus in Hernando County kicked off on October 20 at Explorer K-8, with 50 children and 15 adults. The PTA liaison volunteered to make this a monthly event, and hopes eventually to increase it to once a week. The Hernando County Health Department did a press release to let the community know of this success. Congratulations, Hernando!

**Students walk to make a point: Parades to school put focus on health and safety for kids:** An article on Brevard County's Walk to School Day begins:

*As more than 200 students, family members and staffers at Golfview Elementary School paraded down Fiske Boulevard on Wednesday morning, cheerleaders chanted and students waved "Look who's walking" signs. The school was among 37 elementary and middle schools across the Space Coast celebrating Walk to School Day, which aims to promote health and safety.*

Kim Smith clarified that Brevard County actually had 38 schools participate in Walk to School Day. Read more at: <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20111006/NEWS13/310060033/Students-walk-make-point>.

**Jacksonville Walk to School Day Event:** This article on First Coast News includes these quotes:

*"It's a wonderful thing to look out the windows and see children coming to school that way, rather than being dropped off in buses or cars," said Julia Landon Assistant Principal Sara Bravo...*

*"We do a lot of community outreach and education with the students and the community so we are being more respectful of the interactions between the cars and the cyclists and the pedestrians to really promote better behaviors," said Valerie Feinberg, Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida.*

District Two recently approved an infrastructure project for this school. District 2 had 48 schools participating in International Walk to School Day. Read more and be sure to watch the video at: <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/topstories/article/221654/483/First-Coast-Joins-International-Walk-To-School-Day-Efforts>.

In related news, the School Transportation Director in Duval County helped with Walk to School Day at one of the schools, where all the buses let off children at a central location so they could join in the fun of walking to school too. We appreciate the School Transportation Directors who have helped with initiatives like this for International Walk to School Day!

**Vero Beach Elementary students participate in 'Walking School Bus' program:** This article from TCPalm begins this way:

*It wasn't hard to spot how 50 Vero Beach Elementary School kids got to school Wednesday morning.*

*They walked in orange fluorescent vests from the Boys & Girls Club on 17th Avenue to the school on 12th Street in Vero Beach as part of International Walk to School Day.*

*Students formed a long line for the trek, and were joined by parents, teachers, Boys & Girls Club staff, and School Board member Claudia Jimenez.*

*"I think it's a great idea," said new club director Jordan Adams, as he helped students cross 16th Avenue near Vero Beach High School. "It teaches kids some important lessons about being healthy and following safety codes."...*

*Students from Fellsmere, Rosewood and Dodgertown Elementary Schools also participated in their own "Walking School Bus" activity, according to the Health Department's regional coordinator Darlene Burton.*

Read more at: <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2011/oct/05/vero-beach-elementary-students-participate-in/>

**CPPW Website:** For more stories on International Walk to School Day and Walking School Buses (as well as the other two initiatives of the Florida Communities Putting Prevention to Work Program), see: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/family/chronicdisease/CPPW/press.html>.

**More Florida news articles on International Walk to School Day:** I haven't had time to read all these articles in detail, but this gives you an idea of the activity going on in Florida on October 5:

- General Florida Articles:
  - Ecology Florida: <http://www.ecologyflorida.org/2011/10/celebrate-international-walk-to-school-day-wednesday-october-5-2011/>
  - League of Environmental Educators in Florida: <http://leef-florida.org/net/calendar/details.aspx?s=62223.0.0.37432&dateid=5552>
- Articles by topic or area:
  - Brevard:
    - § <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20111004/BREAKINGNEWS/111004007/Students-parents-participate-Walk-School-Day>
    - § <http://news.brevardtimes.com/2011/10/international-walk-to-school-day-will.html>
    - § <http://www.odysseycharterschool.com/>
    - § Titusville: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/october/324145/Kids-step-out-on-International-Walk-to-School-Day>
  - Broward: <http://quietwaters.browardschools.com/>
  - Jacksonville:
    - § <http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2011-10-02/story/jacksonville-journal-meeting-new-regency-poker-room>
    - § <http://jacksonville.com/opinion/blog/479262/beth-cravey/2011-10-03/area-elementary-schools-part-international-walk-school>
    - § <http://downtownjax.firstcoastnews.com/news/community-spirit/61073-international-walk-school-day-oct-5>
    - § <http://mysanmarco.com/2011/09/19/walk-to-school-day-coming-oct-5th/>
    - § <http://jacksonville.com/community/arlington/2011-09-20/story/students-walk-school-oct-5-get-healthy-part-international-walk>
    - § <http://www.parentclick.com/>
    - § <http://emsflightcrew.com/content/area-elementary-schools-part-international-walk-school-day-wednesday-florida-times-union-blo>
    - § <http://m.jacksonville.com/news/metro/2011-10-02/story/jacksonville-journal-meeting-new-regency-poker-room>
    - § <http://news.floridablue.com/2011/09/students-walk-to-school-oct-5-to-get-healthy-as-part-of-international-walk-to-school-day/>

- § <http://greenerjax.com/?p=136>
- § Northeast Florida Traffic Safety Teams: <http://www.safetylane.org/?p=2068>
- Lee County: <http://tinyurl.com/3m1plzh>
- Maitland: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/september/320422/Students-create-walking-school-bus>
- Ocala/Marion County: <http://www.marion.k12.fl.us/>
- Ocoee: <http://www.american towns.com/fl/ocoe/news/ocoe-police-department-news-international-walk-to-school-day-1688113>
- Orlando:
  - § [http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/osceola/os-child-struck-by-vehicle-kissimmee-20111004\\_0\\_2962856.story](http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/osceola/os-child-struck-by-vehicle-kissimmee-20111004_0_2962856.story)
  - § <http://westorlandonews.com/tag/walk-to-school-day/>
  - § [http://www.menafn.com/qn\\_news\\_story.asp?storyid=%7B09e23dcc-910e-4188-94f8-3e0f457a5250%7D](http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story.asp?storyid=%7B09e23dcc-910e-4188-94f8-3e0f457a5250%7D)
- Palm Beach:
  - § <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/schools/local-elementary-students-hit-the-pavement-for-national-1896458.html>
  - § [http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/fl-walk-to-school-day-20111005\\_0\\_6970992.story](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/fl-walk-to-school-day-20111005_0_6970992.story)
  - § <http://tinyurl.com/3shok9q>
  - § <http://tinyurl.com/3b8lwqx>
- Tampa Bay:
  - § <http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/letters/letters-walk-your-child-to-school-today/1195172>
  - § All Children's Hospital, Suncoast:
    - <http://www.allkids.org/body.cfm?id=722>
    - <http://www.allkids.org/body.cfm?id=396&action=detail&ref=747>
  - § Pinellas:
    - <http://www.sanjose-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us/>
    - <http://palmharbor.wtsp.com/news/schools/83175-international-walk-school-day-promotes-student-safety>
    - [http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/5-things-you-need-to-know-happening-in-florida-on-wednesday%2C-october-5](http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/local_news/5-things-you-need-to-know-happening-in-florida-on-wednesday%2C-october-5)
  - § St. Petersburg: <http://hobnobstpetersburg.com/st-petersburg-fl-local-information/item/668-2011-international-walk-to-school-day-promotes-student-safety>
- Volusia/Flagler:
  - § <http://www.news-journalonline.com/breakingnews/2011/10/walk-to-school-day-promotes-exercise-in-volusia-and-flagler.html>
  - § Flagler Schools: <http://flaglerschools.com/>

This is a lot of excellent coverage of Florida events. Send me any I've missed, and I'll try to include them in future Updates.

## News from Other States and Countries

**Hawaii WTS Day (September 28): Walk to School Day Success:** Hawaii held its Walk to School Day early this year. Read the article at: <http://www.icontact-archive.com/mUFmOW52D7CxnPU3R8hpWQ6LAoHiTcj3?w=4#>.

**Walk/Bike to School Savings Calculator Released:** A recent e-mail on the SRTS list serve announced a new online version of a calculator which summarizes the savings and benefits received from walking or biking to school, including how much carbon dioxide and pollution you save. This is an improvement over the Excel version released earlier by the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation. For more information, see <http://mobikedef.org/SavingsCalculator>. This Calculator can be copied into other websites as is, or modified to fit individual SRTS and similar programs. For more information, contact Brent Hugh: [brent@brenthugh.com](mailto:brent@brenthugh.com).

**Celebrate Walktober:** New Jersey's *Safe Routes Scoop* recently gave some suggestions for making every day an excuse to walk or bike to school! Although October is used as an example, this idea could easily be converted to any month school is in session. Here is how the article begins:

*Not all SRTS activities require grants. Many projects can be implemented at little or no cost. This calendar provides information on 31 activities you can include as part of your SRTS program. Short descriptions of each idea are available below. Pick a few ideas and use them to celebrate Walktober, April's Earth Month, the Physical Fitness and Sports month of May or any month of the year and have fun!*

Read more at: <http://saferoutesscoop.wordpress.com/2011/10/18/celebrate-walktober/>.

## National News

**School Siting and Community-Centered Schools:** This live chat is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1 at 2 pm Eastern time. Here is how the National Trust for Historic Presentations describes it:

*Live Chat: School Siting and Community-Centered Schools*

*Seemingly simple on the surface, decisions about where to locate and how to use school facilities are actually complex. If you have questions, you're not alone.*

*Pose your questions to a panel of experts in a "live chat" opportunity covering the new 2011 federal school siting guidelines from EPA, model policy for achieving healthier students and communities through school facilities from Public Health Law & Policy, and recommended actions states can take to encourage preservation of older and historic schools.*

*Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. ET for the live chat, and leave with a new understanding of how community-centered schools are not only desirable but achievable.*

Read more and register at: <http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/historic-schools/live-chat-school-siting-and.html>.

**I'm Safe Updates:** The October newsletter from *I'm Safe* contained two items of interest:

- **How do you keep 55 million students safe on their way to school? ...** Whether children are walking, taking the school bus or riding in a car, The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has compiled fact sheets and resources to help caregivers keep children safe. Resources and information for teen drivers and for preventing injuries on school premises are included. [Read more here.](#)

You can also find free pedestrian safety materials at <http://www.imsafe.com/>, including safety tips for parents, an activity page and an activity/lesson on crossing streets safely. [For more information, click here.](#)

- **Children with ADHD are at greater risk when crossing the street ...** Children who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), however, are at greater risk of injury when crossing the street independently—so parents whose children have ADHD may want to give them extra practice, or even delay when they allow their children to cross streets by themselves, according to findings from research published recently in the *American Academy of Pediatrics journal, Pediatrics*. [Read more here.](#)



**Texting While Driving News:** Distracted driving, and especially texting while driving, are a big focus of the US Department of Transportation. Here are two recent developments on this topic:

- **Texting while driving more dangerous than thought, study says:** This article from Reuters reviewed recent research on distracted driving. Whereas other research on this topic had used driving simulation, this research used people driving on a test course, and compared reaction times while texting and while not texting. Here are some excerpts from the article:

*"Essentially texting while driving doubles a driver's reaction time," Christine Yager, who led the study at Texas A&M University's Texas Transportation Institute, told Reuters on Wednesday...*

*Drivers were asked to stop when they saw a flashing yellow light, and their reaction times were recorded, Yager said.*

*The typical time it took a driver who was not texting to respond to the flashing light was one to two seconds. But when the driver was texting, the reaction time extended to three to four seconds, and the texting motorist was 11 times more likely to miss the flashing light altogether.*

*Yager said the reaction time was the same whether the driver was typing a message or reading one. "The act of reading and writing a text message are equally impairing and equally dangerous," she said...*

*The 3-4 second lag time in the actual driving study is significant because in that period at highway speeds one can travel the length of a football field, she said.*

Read more at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/05/us-texting-driving-study-idUSTRE7945ZH20111005>.

- **Stop the Texts, Stop the Wrecks:** This new campaign by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association and the Ad Council is aimed at educating drivers (especially young drivers) on the dangers of distracted driving, in this case, texting or reading texts while driving. We know that many younger children are driven to school by their newly licensed older brothers and sisters, and this is one of the most dangerous methods of getting to school. Read more about this campaign and see the powerful video public service announcements at: <http://stoptextsstowrecks.org/#home>.

**Federal Safe Routes to School Program Progress Report:** this report examines the progress and implementation of the federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, and shows that more than 10,400 U.S. schools across all income levels have participated in SRTS programs and all three main requirements of the law have been achieved. The August press release says, in part:

*The National Center's Progress Report describes how state SRTS programs are set up, challenges to funding distribution, who is being reached, and what types of activities or projects are being implemented. Research findings include:*

- **State SRTS Programs are funding both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects.** *The legislation requires a funding split between infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, and up to 90 percent can be spent on infrastructure. Sidewalk improvements are the most common activity reported (19 percent), followed by traffic calming (14 percent), pedestrian/bicycle access (14 percent) and education (13 percent).*
- **SRTS funding is reaching low income schools.** *SRTS project distribution matched the proportion of schools with high, medium and low percentages of students who received free and reduced lunch assistance on a national level.*
- **SRTS funding is reaching diverse school populations.** *The racial/ethnic mix of students benefiting from the SRTS program reflected overall U.S. school populations.*

*In addition, the report examines how the three main requirements of the law (SAFETEA-LU) have been achieved: 1) SRTS programs with designated State SRTS Coordinators have been established in each of the 50 states and Washington, D.C.; 2) an information clearinghouse for the federal program, the National Center for Safe Routes to School, has been established and is operating; and 3) the National SRTS Task Force developed a national strategy to advance SRTS programs nationwide.*

You can read the report at: [www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/federal-safe-routes-school-program-progress-report](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/federal-safe-routes-school-program-progress-report).



**Let's End Nature-Deficit Disorder by Aligning our Built Environment to the Natural World:** One of the goals of the SRTS movement is to give children opportunities to exercise outdoors and to reconnect to the natural world. The website Children and Nature Network has similar goals. Read about this movement at: [http://www.childrenandnature.org/news/detail/lets\\_end\\_nature-deficit\\_disorder/](http://www.childrenandnature.org/news/detail/lets_end_nature-deficit_disorder/). I also just learned of a similar Florida-based movement, the Get Outdoors Florida Coalition, and their website: <http://getoutdoorsflorida.com/>. I've just signed up for their list serve, to see if there are opportunities for their program to work with ours.

One of the articles linked to the Children and Nature website is one written by Neal Pierce for the October 16, 2011 edition of the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Here are some excerpts which may be of interest:

*Journalist-visionary Richard Louv argues that in an age of overwhelming technology, as we dive ever deeper "into a sea of circuitry," we need more than ever to relate to the natural world. And that we embrace "The Nature Principle," title of his latest book (subtitled "Human Restoration and the End of Nature-Deficit Disorder," published by Algonquin Books).*

*Louv's earlier book, "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder," sparked the creation of an international movement to reconnect children with the natural world.*

*Now he's taking the case a step further — to suggest that all of us need deeper, daily contact with nature to "feel fully alive" — to shake free of our own "nature-deficit disorder," to expand our senses, to reignite our sense of awe. In the process, he argues, we'll not just be freer of the modern tangle of technology's constant drumbeat. We'll also tap nature's power to calm and focus our minds, improve our physical and spiritual health, boost our mental acuity and do better both in interpersonal relationships and careers...*

*Right in time, another new book provides ample evidence on the "how-to's." Published by the Island Press, it's titled "Making Healthy Places: Designing and Building for Health, Well-being, and Sustainability."*

*The book's editors are physicians — one in family medicine, another in internal medicine, and one in pediatrics. But all three (Andrew Dannenberg, Howard Frumkin and Richard Jackson) focus on preventive medicine and public health. They argue that "the modern America of obesity, depression and loss of community has not 'happened' to us; rather we legislated, subsidized and planned it."*

*And how? With such steps, they argue, as superhighways that separated communities and turned downtowns into "no-man's lands." Their book embraces new directions with chapters ranging from "Community Design for Physical Activity" to "Mental Health and the Built Environment," even "Resiliency to Disasters."*

*My guess is that seriously combining those "how-to's" with the inspiration of Richard Louv's "Nature Principle" will be a winner for any American city — and most especially the health and well-being of its people.*

Read more at: [http://www.childrenandnature.org/news/detail/lets\\_end\\_nature-deficit\\_disorder/](http://www.childrenandnature.org/news/detail/lets_end_nature-deficit_disorder/).

**Road Rules:** This article from the October issue of Today's Parent begins:

*So you and your child have decided it's time for her to make the trek to school on her own. Kudos! It's kinder to the environment than catching a ride, plus daily walking or biking is a big health boost. But does your child know how to stay safe on the way to school?*

The article covers Stranger Danger, Street Safety and Bus Business. This article is a link on the Kidproof USA website, and can be read at: <https://kidproofusa.com/news/safe%20walking%20to%20school.aspx>.

**Presentations from the SRTS National Conference Now Online:** Presentations from the August SRTS National Conference in Minneapolis are now online. A recent announcement from conference organizers said:

*Presentations from the conference are now available online at our Safe Routes to School website. All presentations are in PDF format and may take some time to download due to size.*

You can view these presentations at: <http://www.saferoutesconference.org/>.

## Florida & National Calendar of Events & Training Opportunities

✓ Indicates new items      Calendar items are repeated until events are held      All times are Eastern unless noted

- **November 8–11, [PolicyLink Equity Summit 2011](http://www.equitysummit2011.org/)**, Detroit. This conference focuses on creating a more sustainable and equitable development with access to jobs, transportation, education, health, and housing for all. More info: <http://www.equitysummit2011.org/>.
- **November 19-20: 2011 Summit by the Florida Outdoor Recreation Coalition (FLORC)**, Orlando, Florida. See the agenda and register at: <http://www.florc.org/>.

### 2012:

- **January 31, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm: Children's Capitol for a Day** The State Capitol Rotunda and the Capitol Courtyard is transformed into the "Children's Capitol for a Day". Thousands of children, parents, advocates, community leaders and policy makers from throughout the state gather for a day of educational and interactive events and activities. Read more at: <http://www.childrensweek.org/index.php?page=events&menu=capitalforaday>
- **January 22-26, TRB 91st Annual Meeting**, Washington, D.C. Info: <http://tinyurl.com/4vk6jw8>.
- **February 8-11, JOINT Southern District AAHPERD – FAHPERDS Convention**, at the Caribe Royale- Orlando. This will be the annual Convention for the Southern District of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and the Florida Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Dance and Sport. Read more at <http://www.fahperd.org/> and <http://www.aahperd.org/about/districts/southern/>.
- **March 12-14, Active Living Research Conference, *Disparities in Environments and Policies that Support Active Living***, San Diego, CA. Info on Call for Abstracts and nominations for awards at: <http://bit.ly/fofoFdg>.
- **April 16-19, National Association of Recreation Resource Planners (NARRP) Annual Conference**, Baton Rouge, LA. More info: <http://bit.ly/pVVUOV>.
- **May 7-9, Weight of the Nation Conference: *Moving Forward, Reversing the Trend***, Washington, DC, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity. Call for Papers deadline is October 2, 2011. More info: <http://www.weightofthenation.org/>.
- ✓ **May 9-12, CNU 20: The New World**, West Palm Beach, FL. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> national conference sponsored by the Congress of New Urbanism. More info: <http://bit.ly/r35AAW>.
- **June 24-27, 4th Urban Street Symposium**, Chicago, IL. Info: TRB flyer <http://tinyurl.com/4p2yoc8>. Submit abstracts by Oct. 31, 2011.
- **September 10-13, Pro Walk/Pro Bike® 2012**, Long Beach, California, produced by the National Center for Bicycling & Walking, and Project for Public Spaces: email Mark Plotz, [mark@bikewalk.org](mailto:mark@bikewalk.org).



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**U.S. Department  
of the Interior**

[www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)

## News Release

### **AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS: Salazar Highlights Two Proposed Projects in Florida to Promote Outdoor Recreation, Conservation**

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#### **Projects Will Be Part of 50-State Report**

**10/20/2011**

Contact: Adam Fetcher, (DOI) 202-208-6416

**WASHINGTON** — Just days before the release of a 50-state report outlining the country's most promising ways to reconnect Americans to the natural world, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today highlighted two projects in the state of Florida that will be included in the final report — representing what states believe are among the best investments in the nation to support a healthy, active population, conserve wildlife and working lands, and create travel, tourism and outdoor-recreation jobs across the country.

The 32-mile Shingle Creek Trail in Seminole and Osceola counties and the 50-mile East Central Regional Rail-Trail from Lake Monroe on the St. Johns River to Titusville on the Indian River Lagoon are among 100 projects nationwide that will be highlighted in next week's report — two in every state — as part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative to establish a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnect Americans to the natural world.

The report is a result of 50 meetings with governors and stakeholders held by Salazar and other senior Interior officials to solicit ideas on how to best implement AGO in their states. These critical projects were identified for their potential to conserve important lands and build recreation opportunities and economic growth for the surrounding communities as part of close engagement with Gov. Rick Scott and the state of Florida, as well as private landowners, local- and tribal-elected officials, community organizations and outdoor-recreation and conservation stakeholders. The full 50-state report will be released in the coming weeks.

“Under the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative, we are listening to the people of Florida and communities across America and working with them on locally-based projects that will conserve the beauty and health of our land and water and open up more opportunities for people to enjoy them,” Salazar said. “My staff and I have been asking each governor for the most promising projects to support in their states, and we will do all we can to help move them forward.”

The two projects in Florida highlighted by Salazar in the forthcoming report are:

### **Shingle Creek Trail**

Shingle Creek Trail is a multi-use recreational trail that, when fully acquired, will stretch 32 miles through one of Florida’s most urban regions, from the Wekiva River in Seminole County to Lake Tohopekaliga in Osceola County. This trail will also connect to a larger regional greenway system to the west into Lake County.

A project of regional significance, Shingle Creek Trail is a key section of Central Florida’s ecological and recreational greenway network. It will link the East Coast Greenway — a 3,000-mile network of multi-use trails along the Atlantic Coast from Canada to Key West, Fla. — to Lake County’s greenway and blueway system. (The blueway system itself features more than 140 miles of water trails.)

The base of the trail, the Wekiva River, is a Partnership Wild and Scenic River administered by the National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. Completing the Shingle Creek Trail will increase access to the river and provide recreational opportunities in urban Central Florida.

### **East Central Regional Rail-Trail**

The 50-mile East Central Regional Rail-Trail is the most extensive abandoned rail corridor purchased through Florida’s Greenways and Trails acquisition program. The multi-use trail will link Lake Monroe on the St. Johns River to the city of Titusville on the Indian River Lagoon, mirroring a historic path of commerce and travel. The St. Johns River is an American Heritage River, and the Indian River Lagoon is considered North America’s most biologically diverse estuary.

The East Central Regional Rail-Trail is envisioned as part of a larger 260-mile-long trail loop known as the St. Johns River to the Sea Trail Loop. Trail partners hope to complete the loop by 2013, to tie their celebration with the 500th Anniversary commemoration of the landing of Hernando de Soto in Florida. When complete, the trail will link the metro Orlando area, Kennedy Space Center, Canaveral National Seashore, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, and Daytona’s beaches. It will provide recreational opportunities and better access to public lands in one of Florida’s most populated and most visited regions.

The report will also include potential actions by Interior and its bureaus to support the projects identified. In Florida, for example, potential actions the department could provide include technical and financial assistance in designing and building the East Central Regional Rail-Trail

and engaging the Canaveral National Seashore, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and State of Florida on planning and developing the project. While Interior cannot commit to federal financial support for the projects identified in the report due to budgetary constraints, Secretary Salazar is committed to doing everything possible to advance each project in the coming year through whatever means available.

“The America’s Great Outdoors Initiative turns the conventional wisdom about the federal government’s role in conservation on its head,” Salazar said. “Rather than dictate policies or conservation strategies from Washington, it supports grassroots, locally driven initiatives.”

For more information on the President’s America’s Great Outdoors initiative, [click here](#).

To view a map of the projects already announced, [click here](#).

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