



BIKE Ocala MARION



Ocala-Marion County TPO 2035 Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan





Accomplishments

- Achieved consensus on trail corridors and alignments:
 - Cross Florida Greenway Bicycle Trail - Funded
 - Silver Springs Trail Master Planned - Funding Ready



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Public Involvement

2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Bike Ocala-Marion, the 2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, is an exciting project led by the Ocala-Marion County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). This Master Plan aims to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and promote economic development in Marion County.

The ultimate goal of the Master Plan is to plan for a network of sidewalks and bicycle facilities that provide a safe and efficient alternative transportation system. The Master Plan will capitalize on Marion County's position within Florida's rapidly growing trail network by planning for a series of paved trails that connect to other regional trails in Florida, including the Coast-to-Coast Trail and the Heart of Florida Loop. These trails will not only provide greater connectivity and recreational opportunities, but will bring economic benefit to the region as well.

Key Steps for the Master Plan

Public Input
The project website, www.BikeOcalaMarion.com, contains project documents, an online comment form, and an Interactive Mapping Tool for providing specific place-based feedback.

Sidewalk Plan
The Master Plan will include a study of sidewalks and crosswalks to identify gaps and offer recommendations for improving pedestrian safety and mobility.

Bike Trail Feasibility Studies
The Master Plan will include feasibility studies for three bike trails (multuse trails) in Marion County.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan
The Master Plan will provide recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Marion County and an implementation strategy for these recommendations.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Tell us where you would like to see bike trails, bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks, or other infrastructure to support bicycling and walking in Marion County.

To provide input, follow these steps:
 1. Visit www.BikeOcalaMarion.com or scan the QR code.
 2. Click the "Provide Input" link.
 3. Fill out the survey form.
 4. Use the Interactive Mapping Tool.

Use the Interactive Mapping Tool located at www.BikeOcalaMarion.com

Stay involved!
Please also "Like" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BikeOcalaMarion to receive updates and stay engaged in the project. Share this page with others who you think might be interested!

2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Home About Provide Input Feedback Photo

We need your input!

Updated on January 11, 2014

You are encouraged to provide input into the development of the 2035 Ocala-Marion County TPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. There will be opportunities throughout the project to provide input. Two of the ways you can provide input now are through the [Interactive Mapping Tool](#) and the online comment form. Both of these tools are available at the [Provide Input](#) link of this website.

Words of thanks: (Thank Day, City, State, Local, County)

Bike Ocala-Marion

Created on December 2, 2013

This website will serve as primary tool for accessing information about the 2035 Ocala-Marion County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. As the project progresses, information will be added to this site. Future enhancements to this project website include an interactive public participation tool, important links, copies of presentations, maps, and draft deliverables. Please check back regularly to obtain up-to-date information and to provide your input.

Words of thanks: (Thank Day, City, State, Local, County)

Ocala-Marion County TPO
www.OcalaMarionTPO.org

About the Project
Bike Ocala-Marion, the 2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, is an exciting project led by the Ocala-Marion County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). This Master Plan aims to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and promote economic development in Marion County. Click here to learn more.

Search

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Stakeholder Coordination

- St. Johns River Water Management District
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Division of Recreation and Parks
 - Office of Greenways and Trails
- Marion County Parks and Recreation
- City of Ocala
- Marion County
- City of Ocala Police Department
- All bike shops in Marion County
- Regional connectivity meeting
- Bicycle suitability meeting
- Santos Fat Tire Festival





Multi-use Trails

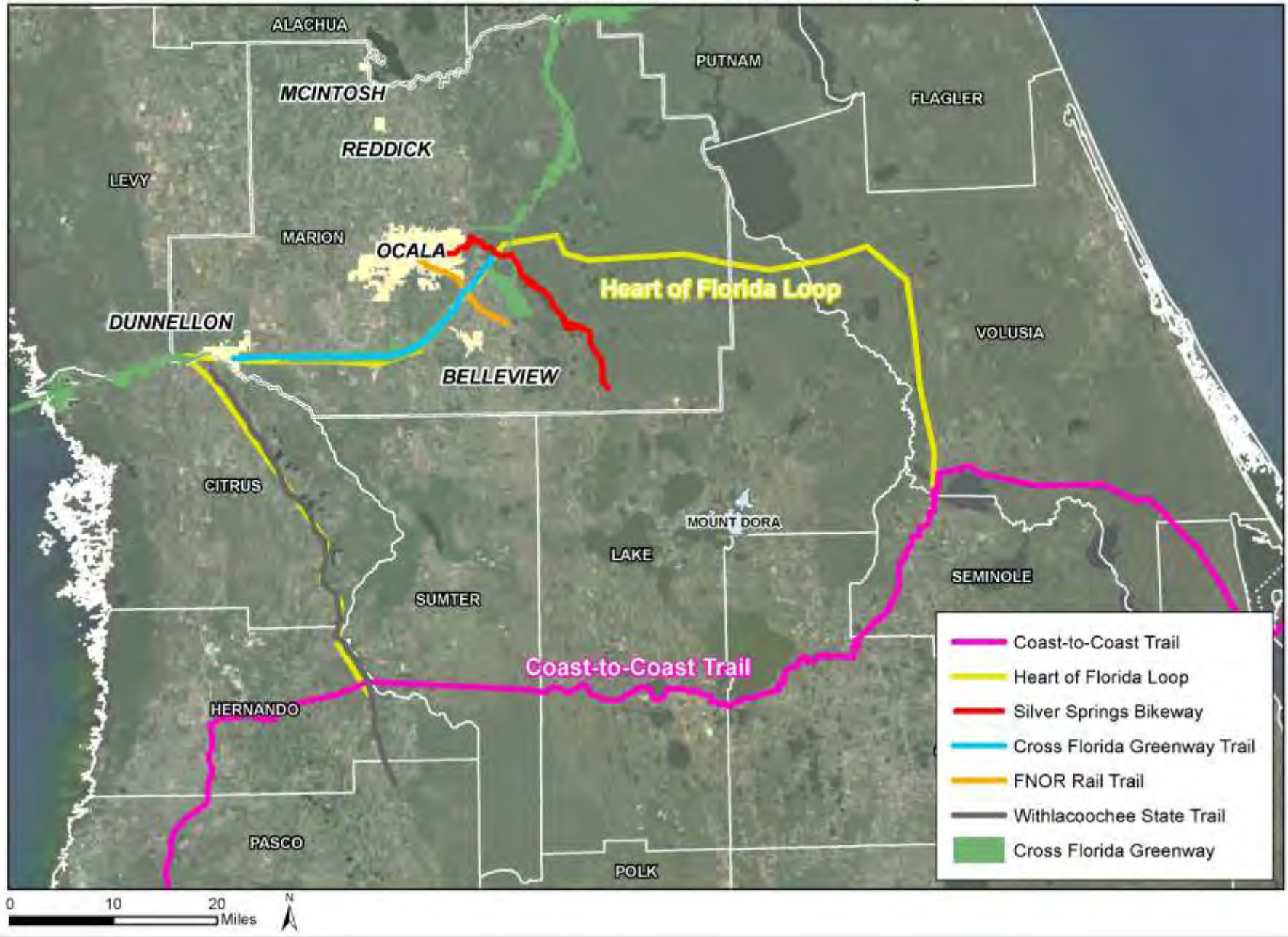
- 12' paved surface for multiple users



Tallahassee-St. Marks Trail



Regional Connections: Coast-to-Coast Trail & Heart of Florida Loop





Economic Benefit

- Recent Florida Study: West Orange Trail system supports 516 jobs and had an estimated economic impact of \$42.6 million in 2010
- National Association of Realtors: Trails & sidewalks are the second most important neighborhood amenity for home buyers
- Marion County has a vibrant bicycling industry that is well known in Florida and the Southeastern U.S.



Economic Opportunities

- Build upon current local bicycling popularity
- Silver Springs Park as an international trail and ecotourism hub
- Expand ecotourism industry



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Potential County Economic Impact

- 66 +/- miles of proposed paved multi-use trails
- Will attract between 400,000 and 500,000 users annually
- Potential \$20 million in annual economic impact to Marion County

Trail Name	Trail Distance (miles)	Number of Users 2011/2012	Users per Mile 2011/2012	Number of Users 2012/2013	Users per Mile 2012/2013	Economic Impact 12/13
Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail	14.5	89,897	6,200	116,776	8,054	\$ 5,147,116
Blackwater Heritage Trail	8.1	117,045	14,450	113,211	13,977	\$ 4,992,556
Nature Coast State Trail	32	147,623	4,613	150,395	4,700	\$ 6,779,470
Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail	20.5	260,232	12,694	154,324	7,528	\$ 6,820,914
Withlacoochee State Trail	46	365,537	7,946	381,940	8,303	\$ 16,698,462

Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Economic Impact Assessment – Florida State Park System, October 22, 2013



Maintenance

- Maintenance of multi-use trails costs approximately \$2,500 per mile per year, or \$165,000 annually
 - Maintenance costs may vary based on trail location, amount of tree coverage, etc.
- Contracting mechanisms and types
- Cost reduction through best management practices:
 - Design considerations to reduce maintenance costs
 - Root barriers, proper grading plans, sustainable trailheads
 - Adopt a trail programs



Multi-use Trail Feasibility Studies

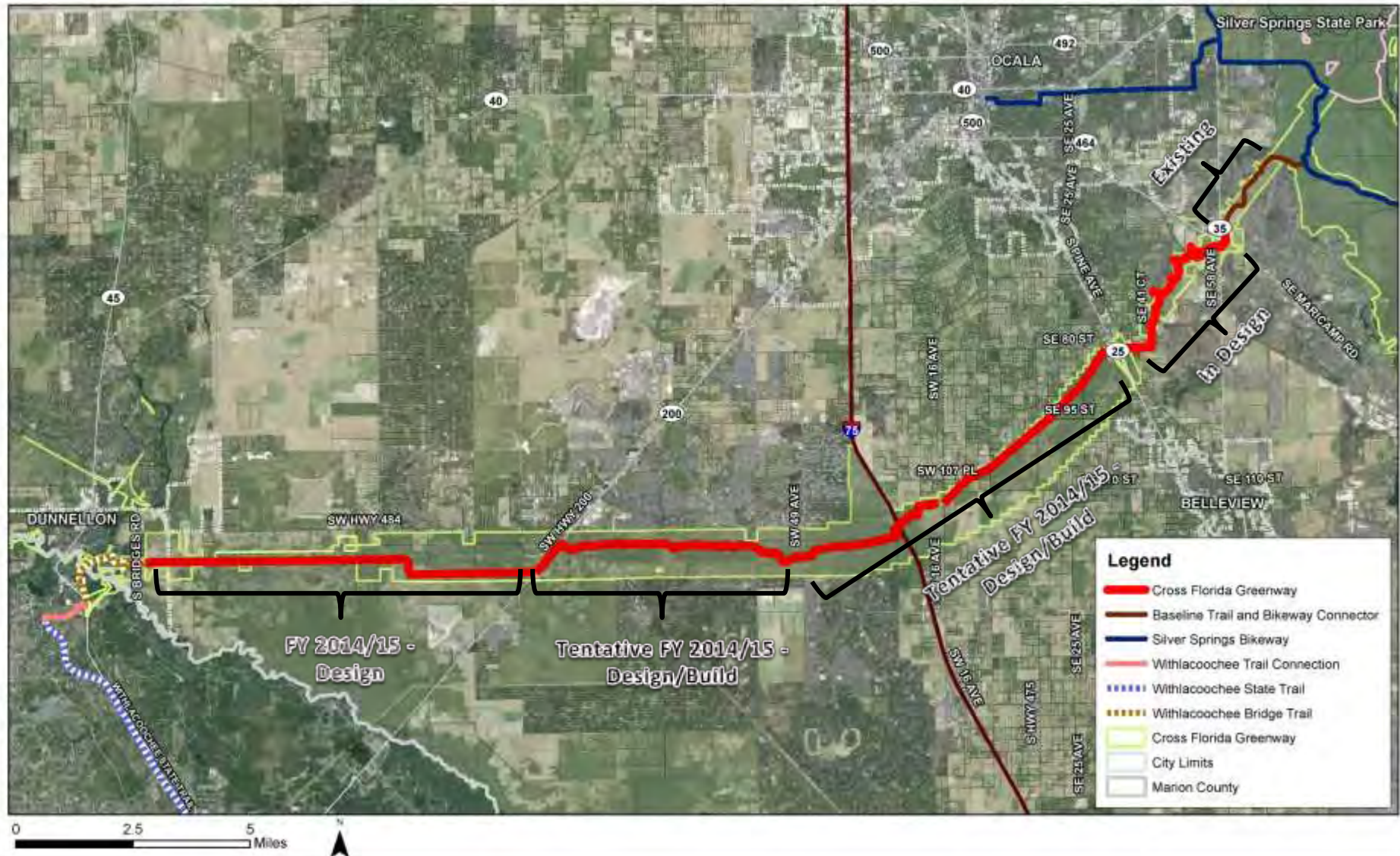
- Three Corridors
 - Cross Florida Greenway
 - Silver Springs Bikeway
 - Downtown to Silver Springs Park
 - Silver Springs Park to Lake County
 - Florida Northern Railroad
- Property ownership/right-of-way
- Wetlands and floodplains
- Crossings and conflicts
- Initial cost estimates





Cross Florida Greenway

Ocala-Marion County TPO 2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan - Cross Florida Greenway





Cross Florida Greenway Phasing

Phase	Name	Programmed	Distance (Miles)
Phase 1	<u>Santos Gap Trail</u> From Santos to SW 49th Avenue	Tentative Fiscal Year (FY) 2014/15 - Design/Build	8
Phase 2	<u>Land Bridge Gap Trail</u> From SR 200 to SW 49th Avenue	Tentative FY 2014/15 - Design/Build	6
Phase 3	<u>Pruitt Gap Trail</u> From SR 200 to the Bridges Trail	FY 2014/15 - Design	8
Total:			22

- Connects Downtown Ocala, Silver Springs Park, Cross Florida Greenway, Baseline Trail, Blue Run Park, Dunnellon, Withlacoochee Trail, and the Heart of Florida Loop



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Silver Springs Bikeway

Ocala-Marion County TPO 2035 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan - Silver Springs Bikeway





Silver Springs Bikeway Phasing

Phase	Name	Approx. Distance (Miles)
Phase 1	Silver Springs Park to Cross Florida Greenway at Baseline Trail	4.5
Phase 2	Cross Florida Greenway to Lake County	26
Total:		30.5

- Connects Silver Springs Park to Sunnyhill Restoration Area and Lake County



Silver Spring Bikeway Located on Existing SJRWMD Levee System





Bicycle Suitability Map

- Web-based
- Provides traffic and facility information
 - Traffic volumes
 - Bike lanes, paved shoulders and bike trails
- Linked to Map My Ride App
- [Available online](#)



LEGEND

- Popular Bike Routes
- Bike Lane
- >3 Foot Shoulder
- Potential Improvements
- Local road used on popular bike routes
- Local Streets (low traffic)
- 475 (no bicycle/pedestrian access)
- Libraries
- Parks
- Schools
- Conservation Areas
- Marion County

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Levels of Bike Suitability

Level 1 Low to Moderate Traffic



Low to moderate traffic generally means less than 3,000 vehicles per day

Level 2 Moderate to High Traffic



Moderate to high traffic generally means between 3,000 and 4,500 vehicles per day

Level 3 High Traffic



High traffic generally means between 4,500 and 6,000 vehicles per day

Level 4 Very High Traffic



Very high traffic generally means more than 6,000 vehicles per day



This map was created by the Ocala-Marion Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) as an aid for bicycling in Marion County. Bicyclists are responsible for their own safety. The Ocala-Marion TPO is not responsible for the safety of the bicyclists in any other location indicated on this map for use by bicyclists. Bicyclists using these roadways and other facilities only if they are the responsible driver for their own safety. A bicyclist should use these roadways and other facilities only if he or she has the required skill level as a bicyclist, and the bicyclist must make their own decision. Bicyclists assume the risk to their own safety when using this map. There are no warranties made in connection with this map, and the Ocala-Marion TPO and its staff are not responsible for any damages, consequences, accident, or other injury arising from its use.



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Questions/Comments