

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
**TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
CHECKLIST**

Financial Management No. 435391-1-22-01

FAP No. D117-054-B

CE Number: (c) (3) or (d) ___ or Other ___

Title: OLD DIXIE TRAIL FROM AUBURNDALE TO HAINES CITY

Work Mix: PD&E/EMO STUDY

District: FDOT District 1

County: Polk County

Project Description:

This project proposes a 10 to 12-foot Shared Use Path within Polk County, City of Auburndale, City of Lake Alfred, and City of Haines City. Please see Typical Section Package and Concept Plans for proposed locations and widths. The path segments are as follows:

Segment 1: Proposed 12-foot Shared Use Path within former CSX Railroad Right of Way from Berkley Road to Old Dixie Highway. 100-foot existing right of way width.

Segment 2: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on Old Dixie Highway from former CSX Railroad to Ramsgate Road and Ramsgate Road from Old Dixie Highway to Pilaklakaha Avenue. 40 to 60-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width from 0 to 10-feet.

Segment 3: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on W Park Street from Pilaklakaha Avenue to Main Street and on Stadium Road from Main Street to Ohio Street. 40 to 85-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 30-feet.

Segment 4: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path from Stadium Road/Old Lake Alfred Road from Ohio St to South of CSX Crossing. 40 to 85-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 20-feet.

Segment 5: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on Pierce Street from South of CSX Crossing to Shinn Boulevard. 45 to 60-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 15-feet.

Segment 6: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on Shinn Boulevard from W Haines Boulevard to Pomelo Street, Pomelo Street from Shinn Boulevard to Lake Shore Way, and Lake Shore Way from Pomelo St to N Rochelle Ave. 60 to 115-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 7.5-feet.

Segment 7 and 8: Proposed 12-foot Shared Use Path on US 92/US 17 from N Rochelle Ave to W of C Street. 80 to 205-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 30-feet.

Segment 9: Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on Hinson Ave from W of C Street to N of 6th Street. 75 to 80-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 6 to 14-feet.

Segment 10: Proposed 8-foot Sidewalk on N 6th Street from E Hinson Ave to Court Avenue and Court Avenue from N 5th Street to N 6th Street. Proposed 10-foot Shared Use Path on N 5th Street from Court Avenue to E Main Street and Park Place from Ingraham Ave to Lily Ave. 30 to 64-foot existing right of way width with proposed right of way width of 0 to 9.5-feet.

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Note: The items below consider the requirements described in 23 CFR § 771.117 (c) and (d) for listed Categorical Exclusions (CEs). The constraints of 23 CFR § 771.117(e) are addressed in this form for CEs identified as 23 CFR § 771.117 (c) (26), (27) and (28) list projects.

- This action **will not** induce significant impacts to planned growth or land use for the area; travel patterns; involve significant air or water quality impacts; or cause substantial controversy on environmental grounds.

Verified

1. Right of Way (ROW)

Minor acquisition without relocation and/or displacement

Comments:

The project total of proposed right-of-way is approximately 7.95 acres. "Project Description and Proposed Improvements" (Section 1) summarized the proposed right of way widths anticipated for each segment. This will be re-evaluated as needed during the future Design phase. Although additional right-of-way will be required, there will be no residential or business relocations or displacements.

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

2. Are there Sociocultural Effects?

No

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

3. Wetland impacts that would require a permit under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act:

State 404 Permit

Comments:

The potential impacts associated with the Preferred Alternative total approximately 3.35 acres. The wetland type is herbaceous for all potentially impacted wetlands and the anticipated UMAM functional loss is 1.698. Formal wetland and surface water delineations will be completed and agency-verified during the design phase of the project. Mitigation requirements will be coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 process and the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)/Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) process during the permitting phase of the project.

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

4. Bridge permits required from the United States Coast Guard (USCG):

No Waterway Crossing

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

5. The project involves a floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths):

No Floodplain Present / No Floodplain Impact

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Comments:

FEMA Map Numbers 12105C0330G, 12105C0335G, 12105C0355G, 12105C0356G, 12105C0357G; although the project is adjacent to zone AE in areas, there will be no involvement with the floodplain.

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

6a. Does the project involve a Wild and Scenic River or Study River ?

No, the project does not involve a river designated as a Wild and Scenic, or Study River

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

6b. Will the action involve a river on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI)?

No, the project will not involve a river on the NRI

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

7. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, or Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA):

ESA listed species and/or Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) present

Determination of No Effect

Names of Species:

no effect - Florida scrub-jay, the Florida grasshopper sparrow, and Lake Wales Ridge plants due to a lack of suitable habitat in the project study area

Used key, no consultation required

Names of Species:

Following the USFWS August 2017 revised Eastern Indigo Snake Key, it is anticipated that the project "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the Eastern indigo snake as protection measures will be in place to ensure this species is not harmed during construction.

The project is not within 0.47 miles of an active wood stork colony site, and project impacts to suitable foraging habitat are less than one-half acre. The wood stork effect determination key was followed and results in a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" for the wood stork and no further action is required for this species.

Comments:

The project is located within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Consultation Area for the Audubon's crested caracara, Everglade snail kite, Florida bonneted bat (FBB), Florida grasshopper sparrow, Florida scrub-jay, blue-tailed mole skink, sand skink and Lake Wales Ridge plants. The project is also within potential habitat for the eastern indigo snake, the core foraging areas of five (5) wood stork colonies and the Occasional range of the Florida black bear. The Natural Resources Evaluation (NRE) report is attached and provides additional detail as to the 36 protected species that were evaluated with this study. No designated Critical Habitat occurs in the project area, therefore, no involvement with Critical Habitat for any listed species is anticipated. It is anticipated that the project will have "no effect" on the Florida scrub-jay, the Florida grasshopper sparrow, and Lake Wales Ridge plants due to a lack of suitable habitat in the project study area.

It is anticipated that the project "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the eastern black rail, Everglade snail kite,

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eastern indigo snake, and the wood stork. Although the project is within the "range" of the eastern black rail, there are no documented occurrences of this species within one mile of the project, and the habitat that could be suitable for the black rail (freshwater marsh with dense herbaceous vegetation) was found to be marginal within the project area. Similarly, there are no documented occurrences for the snail kite within the project area and no observations or evidence of the species in during the field reviews. Pedestrian surveys to locate gopher tortoises were conducted during field reviews which revealed no identification of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. However, potential gopher tortoise habitat consisting of upland hardwood/ coniferous mixed occur within the Preferred Alternative. Therefore, a 100% survey will be conducted no more than 90 days prior to construction as defined in the FWC guidelines, and the most recent version of the USFWS Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake will be implemented during construction. Depending on the results of the survey, an FWC relocation permit may be required. Based on these factors, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have "no adverse impact anticipated" on the gopher tortoise. Following the USFWS August 2017 revised Eastern Indigo Snake Key, it is anticipated that the project "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the Eastern indigo snake as protection measures will be in place to ensure this species is not harmed during construction. The project is not within 0.47 miles of an active wood stork colony site, and project impacts to suitable foraging habitat are less than one-half acre. The wood stork effect determination key was followed and results in a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" for the wood stork and no further action is required for this species.

A "may affect, likely to adversely affect" determination is anticipated for the caracara, FBB and skinks until methodology-based surveys are conducted in design. Potential FBB roosting habitat exists within the project area. Following the 2019 USFWS Consultation Key for the Florida bonneted bat and based on the project size/footprint, a Full Acoustic/Roost Survey will need to occur during the design phase of the project to determine if FBB roosting is likely. Portions of the project area are located at an elevation of 80 feet or above and are mapped within USFWS-designated suitable skink soil types and the Preferred Alternative has the potential to impact approximately 24.85 acres of suitable soils. A coverboard survey will be conducted within these suitable soils during the design phase of the project. Coordination with USFWS will take place as necessary. FDOT commits to re-initiating consultation during design and permitting with the USFWS for these species.

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[7 - Eastern Indigo Snake Species Key\]](#) [\[8 - wood stork species key\]](#) [\[9 - Florida Bonneted Bat Programmatic Key\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

8. Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) pursuant to 23 CFR § 774?

de minimis (attach determination and OWJ concurrence)

OEM Coordination Date:

Resource(s):

Shared Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trail Network

Lake Ariana Park

Downtown City Park

Lake Stella Gazebo and Park

Spivey Little League Sports Complex

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Frank C. Gardner Park / Veteran s Memorial

Ember Dog Park

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

[Section 4\(f\) Form](#)

9. Historic and/or Archaeological Properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NRHP) and 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.

Finding of "No Adverse Effect"

Comments:

A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was prepared in April 2023 for the project. As a result of the CRAS, it was found that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect to the eight historic resources within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) (8PO04723, 8PO04728, 8PO04997, 8PO07219, 8PO09868, 8PO09909, 8PO09910, and 8PO09911) that have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), that appear potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP, or have insufficient information for determining the NRHP eligibility. The CRAS was reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and concurrence was received on July 24, 2023. A CRAS Addendum (July 2024) was prepared to include two previously recorded resources (8PO02880 and 8PO02881) that were not included in the previous CRAS and to correct a duplicate recordation of the Growers' Commercial Bank of Haines City (8PO08349), which was assigned a new FMSF number, 8PO09909. These corrections occur within Segment 10 of the project, within Haines City. The historic APE remains in keeping with the 2023 CRAS as described above. An archaeological survey was not required as part of this addendum. The historic/architectural field survey was conducted in June 2024. It was found that the project will have no adverse effect to the two historic resources (8PO02880 and 8PO02881) within the APE that are contributing to the Downtown Haines City Commercial District (8PO04032) and the Growers' Commercial Bank of Haines City (8PO08349/8PO09909) that was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. FDOT District One notified the SHPO of this finding on September 17, 2024, and SHPO concurrence was received on October 14, 2024.

[\[2 - April 2024 CRAS PD&E Study Old Dixie Trail\]](#) [\[3 - 435391-1-22-01 CRAS Addendum Old Dixie Trail\]](#) [\[4 - Completed106PaForm_OLD_DIXIE_\]](#) [\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

10. Noise considerations

The project does not require a Noise Analysis

Comments:

N/A

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

11. Contamination Considerations

The project was evaluated.

Comments:

A Contamination Screening Evaluation Report (CSER) was prepared in September 2024 to present the findings of

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a Level I screening in accordance with the FDOT PD&E Manual. The purpose of this report (attached) is to identify, review, and evaluate known or potential contamination issues; provide risk ratings for properties, facilities, or sites that have the potential for contamination involvement with the proposed improvements; and to present recommendations for further evaluation when needed. A total of fifty-six contamination sites were evaluated. Fourteen Medium rated sites will be considered for a Level II assessment (none were rated High) in coordination with the District Contamination Impact Coordinator. For the locations rated No or Low, no further action is required as these locations have been determined not to have any contamination risk to the study area at this time. Once final design plans are available, additional review is recommended in consideration of dewatering operations that may be necessary under the NPDES Generic Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Large and Small Construction Activities. Verification testing may be warranted for contamination issues within 500 feet of the dewatering area.

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[10 - Old Dixie Trail_CSER\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

12. Planning Consistency

This Project was reviewed for fiscal constraint and determined to have committed, available or reasonably available funds for the implementation of all the phase(s) of the Project within the time period anticipated for completion of the Project. [23 CFR Part 450]

[\[1 - 435391-1_STIP\]](#) [\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

13. Project Commitment Record

[\[5 - AOI\]](#) [\[6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE\]](#) [\[11 - Type 1 CE Memo\]](#) [\[12 - EDW\]](#)

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Signature: _____
Environmental Manager or designee

Date:

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist:

- 1 - 435391-1_STIP [43539112201-CE1-D1-435391-1_STIP-2024-0926.pdf](#)
- 2 - April 2024 CRAS PD&E Study Old Dixie Trail [43539112201-CE1-D1-April_2024_CRAS_PD_E_Study_Old_Dixie_Trail-2024-0417.pdf](#)
- 3 - 435391-1-22-01 CRAS Addendum Old Dixie Trail [43539112201-CE1-D1-435391-1-22-01_CRAS_Addendum_Old_Dixie_Trail-2024-0722.pdf](#)
- 4 - Completed106PaForm_OLD_DIXIE_ [43539112201-CE1-D1-Completed106PaForm_OLD_DIXIE_-2024-1014.pdf](#)
- 5 - AOI [43539112201-CE1-D1-AOI-2024-0826.pdf](#)
- 6 - Old Dixie Trail NRE [43539112201-CE1-D1-Old_Dixie_Trail_NRE-2024-0617.pdf](#)
- 7 - Eastern Indigo Snake Species Key [43539112201-CE1-D1-Eastern_Indigo_Snake_Species_Key-2024-0617.pdf](#)
- 8 - wood stork species key [43539112201-CE1-D1-wood_stork_species_key-2024-0617.pdf](#)
- 9 - Florida Bonneted Bat Programmatic Key [43539112201-CE1-D1-Florida_Bonneted_Bat_Programmatic_Key-2024-0617.pdf](#)
- 10 - Old Dixie Trail_CSER [43539112201-CE1-D1-Old_Dixie_Trail_CSER-2024-0904.pdf](#)
- 11 - Type 1 CE Memo [43539112201-CE1-D1-Type_1_CE_Memo-2024-1014.pdf](#)
- 12 - EDW [43539112201-CE1-D1-EDW-2024-1014.pdf](#)