

# WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT OUR CONVERGING TRAILS



#### How will this help connect the entire state, what role does it play?

The Florida East Central Regional Rail Trail (FECRRT) will serve as a portion of the Brevard County alignment of three regional trails: the Coast to Coast Trail which stretches from St. Petersburg to Titusville, the St. Johns River to Sea Loop which will connect 5 counties, and the East Coast Greenway that runs the East Coast of the United States. This trail serves as an essential connection on these three regional trails and will add to the states interconnectivity of safe pedestrian and bicycle features.

### How will it help economic growth?

Regional trails offer the opportunity for economic redevelopment and increased tourism. The Florida East Coast Rail Trail has the potential to draw cyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians into the North Brevard area. They then potentially will invest in the area via local businesses and restaurants. The City of Titusville has already embraced the concept of redeveloping as a "Trail Town" with the completion of the first section of the FECRRT. They have continued to invest in developing trails, a new welcome center with bicycle concierge, and marketing. New restaurants have moved into the area adding to the city's appeal to both tourists and locals alike.

#### What does it do for eco-tourism?

5.4 miles of the trail will be completely off system, traversing through natural Florida habitats. As the trail system continues to grow, it will connect into the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, known for its birding and conservation work, and the Canaveral National Seashore, home to an extensive sea turtle conservation program.



#### What does it mean for Florida families?

Multi-use trails provide families with the opportunity for recreation, increased mobility, and an area to exercise. This section of the Florida East Coast Rail Trail will provide a safe 12.8 mile multi-use trail and 5.4 miles of equestrian trail to Florida families.

## How does it advance our state reputation as a destination?

Since the FECRRT is part of three regional trails, it will increase the reputation of the state as a destination by offering another attraction to families, cyclists, hikers, equestrians, and more. As economic development surrounds these trails systems it will increase our notoriety as a destination.

From: Olson, Steve [mailto:Steve.Olson@dot.state.fl.us]

# Steve Olson

Steve Olson
Communications Manager
Florida Department of Transportation
East Central Florida Region /District Five
386-943-5479 office
386-479-1252 mobile
steve.olson@dot.state.fl.us

