



**Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC)  
Public Hearing and Council Meeting**



**PUBLIC MEETING:** January 23 & January 24, 2019  
**TIME:** 9:00 am & 8:30 am  
**LOCATION:** Silver Springs State Park - Ballroom  
1425 NE 58th Avenue, Ocala FL 34470

**FGTC Members in Attendance for Friday Council Meeting:**

Chuck Barrowclough, Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway User; Brian Smith, (Vice-Chair) Appointed by the Governor-Trail User; Troy McDonald, proxy for Kasey C. (KC) Mullen, Appointed by the President of the Senate-Trail User; Becky Afonso, (Chair) Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway User; Parks Small, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP); Jerrie Lindsey, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission(FWC); Hugh Harling, proxy for Chris Rietow on 1/23 with Chris Rietow being present on 1/24, Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA); Jena Brooks, proxy for Ralph Lair, Appointed by the Speaker of the House-Greenway User; Ken Weyrauch, proxy for Sarrah Glassner, Appointed by the Governor – Greenway User; Jim Couillard, Marion County Parks & Recreation; Marti Miller, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Faron Boggs, Appointed by the Speaker of the House – Trail User; Robin Birdsong, Florida Department of Transportation; Vincent Birdsong, Florida Department of Historical Resources, Department of State

**OGT Staff in Attendance for Friday Council Meeting:**

Samantha Browne, Bureau Chief; Doug Alderson, Assistant Bureau Chief; Katie Bernier, Regional Coordinator-Central & South; Donald Morgan, Regional Coordinator – East Central

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**Welcome**

Welcome from Becky Afonso, Chair

**Approve Agenda:**

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION:** Jerrie Lindsey

**SECOND: Brian Smith**

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE MEETING AGENDA**

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

**Approve the September 14, 2018 Meeting Summary:**

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**Motion: Brian Smith**

**Second: Jim Couillard**

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE MEETING SUMMARY**

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

**Council Member Alternates:**

Jena Brooks for Ralph Lair; Troy McDonald for KC Mullen; Ken Weyrauch for Sarrah Glassner; Hugh Harling for Chris Rietow

## OFFICE OF GREENWAYS AND TRAILS REPORT:

**DEP Staff Update:** Updates regarding the Titusville Trail Town celebration, site visits to potential Trail Towns, Regional Coordinator stakeholder meetings and site visits within regions, as well as new Trail Town story map tours. Hurricane Michael damage to State Parks and rebuilding and relief efforts were discussed as well.

## FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS COUNCIL BUSINESS:

**Designations:** Two proposed designations for the Florida Greenways and Trails System

### Lakeshore Trailhead

#### FGTC REMARKS:

**MOTION:** Brian Smith

**SECOND:** Troy McDonald

#### FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE DESIGNATION

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

### North Fork St. Lucie River

#### FGTC REMARKS:

**MOTION:** Brian Smith

**SECOND:** Troy McDonald

#### FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE DESIGNATION

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

- ( ) WITHDRAW
- ( ) NOT APPROVE
- ( ) OTHER:

**Designations:** Four proposed Trail Town Designations

**City of Palatka – Kraig McLane**

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION:** Brian Smith

**SECOND:** Jerrie Lindsey

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

- (X) APPROVE TRAIL TOWN DESIGNATION**
- ( ) APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:
- ( ) DEFER
- ( ) WITHDRAW
- ( ) NOT APPROVE
- ( ) OTHER:

**City of Inverness – Frank DiGiovanni**

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION:** Jim Couillard

**SECOND:** Robin Birdsong

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

- (X) APPROVE TRAIL TOWN DESIGNATION**
- ( ) APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:
- ( ) DEFER
- ( ) WITHDRAW
- ( ) NOT APPROVE
- ( ) OTHER:

City of Deltona – Jerry Mayes

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION:** Chuck Barrowclough

**SECOND:** Troy McDonald

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE TRAIL TOWN DESIGNATION**

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

Everglades City – Patty Huff, Dayna Fendrick & Kathy Brock

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION:** Brian Smith

**SECOND:** Faron Boggs

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE TRAIL TOWN DESIGNATION**

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

Trail Realignment Proposal: Ft Fraser Trail – Ryan Kordek, Polk TPO

**FGTC REMARKS:**

**MOTION: Brian Smith**

**SECOND: Jim Couillard**

**FGTC RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE TRAIL REALIGNMENT**

**APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**

**DEFER**

**WITHDRAW**

**NOT APPROVE**

**OTHER:**

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDORS:**

Dr. Tom Hctor – University of Florida

Update regarding the Florida Ecological Greenways Network. Funding has significantly slowed in recent years, however, currently working on education, outreach and implementation of the Network. Discussion on the review process and 2016 update to the priorities for the Ecological Greenways Network.

**CROSS FLORIDA GREENWAY:**

Mickey Thomason – Park Manager, Florida Park Service

Update on the Cross Florida Greenway regarding new connections on the greenway including the 16-mile Santos section, bridge linkage over the Withlacoochee River to Dunnellon trail section and beginning of construction on a section that will connect to the Withlacoochee State trail. Also working with DOT on a section of trail along highway 40 in the Ocala and Silver Springs area.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION: Brian Smith**

**SECOND: Parks Small**

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## 1/24/19 - Welcome

Welcome from Becky Afonso, Chair

### MARION COUNT & HEART OF FLORIDA LOOP UPDATE:

Jim Couillard – Marion County

Update regarding Marion County growth and overview of the natural resources, trail projects and outdoor recreation opportunities within the county. Overview of the Heart of Florida Loop and discussion of gaps, potential funding and work with regional trail stakeholders.

### TRAIL TOWN DISCUSSION:

Samantha Browne –

Discussion of potential Trail Town criteria for applicants and future program direction. Council provided feedback on types of Trail Towns, must have criteria, incentives, OGT Staff and Council Member roles and voting process. A subcommittee was formed that included Brian Smith, Jerrie Lindsey and Chuck Barrowclough. Results of subcommittee findings will be presented at the next Council meeting

### COUNCIL MEMBER ALTERNATES DISCUSSION:

Council Members should have an alternate who is up to speed on Council Duties, that is able to attend in their place. Additionally, the first meeting of the year should include an overview of FGTC duties as a refresher.

### FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Remove Gil Hidalgo, Governor appointed Private Landowner, from FGTC due to lack of attendance

#### FGTC REMARKS:

MOTION: Brian Smith

SECOND: Jim Couillard

#### FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE COUNCIL MEMBER REMOVAL

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

( ) WITHDRAW

( ) NOT APPROVE

( ) OTHER:

## COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES:

Parks Small – Shared update in DEP Staff update

Jim Couillard – Partnering with Brian Smith on a project with the Florida Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects. Will be presenting on Trails, Trail Towns and economic resiliency at their annual meeting in July

Marti Miller- Florida Forest Service is focusing on Hurricane Michael relief and rebuilding on state lands

Chip Birdsong – Division of Historical Resources is also assessing damage from Hurricane Michael

Robin Birdsong – DOT has a new secretary and is also dealing with damage from Hurricane Michael. SUNTrail also has 7 projects that are open to the public around the state, totaling 18 million

Jena Brooks – No current updates, but happy to have sat in for Ralph Lair and available to sit proxy anytime

Chuck Barrowclough – Happy to be at the meeting

Faron Boggs – Happy to be at the meeting as well

Brian Smith- The Foundation will no longer be the CSO to DEP and the Foundation will continue to support trail projects. Would like to discuss how OGT is implementing the new 5-year plan. Updates regarding Pinellas County trail projects

Becky Afonso- Upcoming annual awards for the Florida Bicycle Association, Spring Messenger newsletter deadline will be February 15<sup>th</sup> and working with Pinellas County for policy regarding Maintenance of Traffic. Bills of interest have been filed and assigned committees, including Distracted Driving

Ken Weyrauch – Happy to be at the meeting

Jerrie Lindsey- Request that FGTC focus on presentations in future meetings that feature innovative trail projects and funding sources, as well as wildlife impacts from trails.



Chris Rietow- The Florida Regional Council's Association will be holding a meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> and OGT Staff will be presenting on Trail Towns as well as other partners presenting on current topics from around the state.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

N/A

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEXT MEETING:**

Next meeting will be either last week in July or first few weeks in August. Location and Doodle Poll will be sent to members.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Jim Couillard

**SECOND:** Chris Rietow