STATEMENT OF INTENT

To recognize the benefits of Florida's outdoor areas and to conserve, develop, and use the natural resources of the state for healthful and recreational purposes, the Florida Greenways and Trails System has been established to provide open space benefiting environmentally sensitive lands and wildlife and providing people with access to healthy outdoor activities. The greenways and trails system serves as an implementation tool for ecosystem management concepts, while providing (where appropriate) recreational opportunities such as horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, canoeing, jogging, and historical and archaeological interpretation, thereby improving the health and welfare of the people.

-- See Subsections 260.012(1)-(2), Florida Statutes (the Florida Greenways and Trails Act) and Section 62S-1.300(1), Florida Administrative Code.

VOLUNTARY NATURE OF ACQUISITIONS

The Department's acquisition of lands for the Florida Greenways and Trails program is accomplished only through voluntary arms-length transactions, based on a landowner's willingness to sell his or her real property to the state for its fair market value. The Florida Greenways and Trails Act does not authorize the Department to acquire lands through the use of condemnation proceedings (eminent domain). Therefore, the owners of real property upon or over which a proposed greenway or trail will pass must be willing to negotiate with representatives of the Department (or its designee) regarding the potential sale of their lands to the State of Florida.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Only those projects that are deemed eligible to apply and have received a Certificate of Eligibility (OGT-001) from the Office of Greenways and Trails can qualify for acquisition under the Florida Greenways and Trails Program. A Certificate of Eligibility will be provided for a proposed project if it meets all of the following criteria:

a. The project meets the definition of a "greenway" or "trail" in Section 260.013, Florida Statutes;
b. The planned project corridor is located within or adjacent to at least one opportunity segment on one or more of the Recreational Prioritization Maps;
c. At least eighty (80) percent of the planned project corridor has a landowner or landowners willing to negotiate the Department's acquisition of their property; and
d. The project has a willing managing entity.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Before an Application for Acquisition of Land (the "Application") can be submitted, the project must receive a "Certificate of Eligibility, OGT-001, effective July 10, 2003, from the Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT). A Certificate of Eligibility form may be obtained by writing to the Office of Greenways and Trails, Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 795, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Alternatively, interested parties may request the form by telephoning (850) 245-2052 or SunCom 205-2052, or by downloading it from www.floridagreenwaysandtrails.com, the Office of Greenways and

Trails' website. A Certificate of Eligibility form may be submitted to OGT at any time during the year, and will be valid for a period of 12 months from the date of issuance by OGT.

2. Once a Certificate of Eligibility is issued for the proposed project, submit a complete Application, along with the required attachments, to the address stated below. Please note the following requirements when completing the Application:

   a. All responses on the Application must be typed or legibly printed.

   b. Please respond to all Application items. If a particular item does not apply to the proposed project, the proper response is "Not Applicable."

   c. Applicants must submit an original Application, one (1) original set of the items listed under "Required Attachments" and any other supporting documentation, together with twenty-four (24) first-generation copies of the Application and required attachments.

   d. Do not fax any portion of the Application or attachments to the Office of Greenways and Trails. All faxed information received that relates to a pending Application will not be accepted.

   e. Applications, together with supporting attachments and documentation, must be mailed or delivered to the following address:

      Office of Greenways and Trails
      Department of Environmental Protection
      3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 795
      Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

To obtain a precise office location for document delivery, applicants should call the Office of Greenways and Trails at (850) 245-2052 (SunCom 205-2052). Only those documents received at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date stated in the published notice will be considered during the project evaluation and selection process.

Return To: Office of Greenways and Trails
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: _____
Name of Project

_____
Address or Location of Project

FROM: _____
Name of Applicant

_____
Address of Applicant

_____
City, State and Zip Code

(_____)_____ (_____)_____
Telephone Number Facsimile Number

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS: Please submit one original and twenty-four (24) copies of the following attachments with this form.

Attachment A: Project Description:
Please attach a description of the proposed project that includes the following information:

- Location and configuration of the project, including section, township and range.
- Total amount of acreage and the market value as totaled from tax cards (include mileage if linear).
- The proposed land manager.
- The recreational opportunities and other public uses that are planned for the project.
- Any connections with other greenways, trails parks or corridors.
- Identification of any matching funds committed to the project.
- Identification of any parcels proposed for less-than-fee acquisition.
- An assessment of the project's ecological values, forest and wildlife resources, and the results of any previous environmental audit(s) conducted on the project site.

- Any archaeological or historical characteristics. (If present, provide documentation from the Division of Historical Resources that the project site contains historical, archaeological, or cultural site features.)
- Local resolutions, if any, concerning the potential public acquisition of the project.

Attachment B: Certificate of Eligibility, OGT-001

Attachment C: Willing Manager Certificate, OGT-003

Attachment D: Willing Owner Certificate(s), OGT-004

- Signed Willing Owner Certificates for at least eighty (80) percent of the lands lying within the planned project corridor must be submitted with the Application.

Attachment E: Property Appraiser's Tax Card that should include:

- Parcel identification number
- Owner(s)' names and addresses
- Tax parcel acreage
- Tax assessed value(s)

Attachment F: Maps/Photographs

- United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle map(s) with both the project boundary and the planned project corridor boundary clearly marked.
- County tax maps, overlain on aerials if available, with project boundaries clearly marked.
- Photographs of various sites and features within the project that show typical landscape characteristics, labeled with location and orientation.