



April 16, 2019

The Honorable Nick Girone, Chair  
Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
225 W. Guava Street, Suite 211,  
Lady Lake, FL 32159

RE: North Lake Trail Funding

Dear Mayor Girone:

I am writing on behalf of the constituents in my district who are seeking funding assistance for the North Lake Trail. This trail begins in Umatilla and will run north connecting to the Black Bear Scenic Trail near Astor. These trails are currently being evaluated by the Florida Department of Transportation for possible routes, with results expected in April 2019.

The Black Bear Trail is funded for a Project Development and Environment Study (PD&E) in fiscal year 2020. The North Lake Trail is also in need of funding for a PD&E study, and I am requesting that the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (LSMPO) consider the North Lake Trail for priority funding. It would be beneficial to have both trails studied within the same time frame as they complement one another in this area of Lake County.

The North Lake Trail will provide a significant economic and tourism boost to this area by providing a link between Umatilla and Astor, as well as the Ocala National Forest, Alexander Springs, camping, fishing, and other outdoor activities. I offer my full support to this effort and request that the LSMPO assist in prioritizing the North Lake Trail for PD&E study funding. I look forward to the continued forward progress on this project.

Sincerely,

Josh Blake  
Commissioner, District 5

cc: Board of County Commissioners  
Jeff Cole, County Manager  
Mike Woods, Executive Director, LSMPO

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE  
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EVELYN WILSON  
Mayor

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April 10, 2019

Chair Nick Girone  
Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Lady Lake, Florida 32159

**RE: Lake~Sumter MPO 2019 Prioritization Process – SR 50 Realignment Project**

Chair Girone,

Let me begin by thanking the Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization for prioritizing last year as the top right of way project Groveland's SR 50 Realignment Project. This transformational project will not only correct a major operational bottleneck while enhancing freight movement, it also will allow Groveland's historic downtown to redevelop and will include Phase 3C of the South Lake Trail, also part of the Coast to Coast Trail.


As the Lake~Sumter MPO begins this month the annual process of adopting the *List of Priority Projects*, Groveland appreciates remaining atop of the Right of Way Projects table. Last year, the MPO approved a special table at the request of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). It was the "Top 15 Priority Projects." On that table, the project was listed at #5 and Groveland is appreciative of that ranking.

This year, a prioritization of #1 of the SR 50 Realignment Project on the MPO's special table of the *List of Priority Projects* will afford the project special opportunities. This move would not be at the expense of any other MPO priority. This is because the project is the only high MPO priority eligible for funding through the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) program.

FDOT leadership has conveyed to Groveland the importance of the MPO prioritization process, including the importance of the *Regional List of Priority Projects* annually adopted by the Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA). The only roadway priorities addressed by that regional group are SIS priorities. Therefore, a prioritization of #1 would communicate resoundingly to that regional group and to FDOT the significance of this SIS project.

The City of Groveland continues to work diligently on multiple strategies to secure funding for the project. First and foremost, Groveland wishes to embrace the MPO process. A special consideration of the SR 50 Realignment Project by the MPO will likely soon result in a successful outcome. The support of you and the Governing Board is most appreciated.

Respectfully,

  
Mayor Evelyn Wilson

Cc: Michael Woods, MPO Executive Director



LAKE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

*Real Florida. Real Close.*

*Wendy R. Breeden, Commissioner  
District 3*

April 23, 2019

The Honorable Nick Girone, Chair  
Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
225 W. Guava Street, Suite 211,  
Lady Lake, FL 32159

RE: North Lake Trail Funding

Dear Mayor Girone:

I am writing on behalf of constituents in North Lake County who are seeking funding assistance for the North Lake Trail. This trail begins in Umatilla and will run north connecting to the Black Bear Scenic Trail near Astor. These trails are currently being evaluated by the Florida Department of Transportation for possible routes, with results expected in April 2019.

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Sincerely,

Wendy R. Breeden

cc: Board of County Commissioners (via email)  
Jeff Cole, County Manager (via email)  
Mike Woods, Executive Director, LSMPO (via email)  
Mike Stephens, (via email)



# CITY OF UMATILLA

"NATURE'S HOMETOWN"

April 24, 2019

Mr. Nick Girone, Chairman  
Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
225 W. Guava Street, Suite 211,  
Lady Lake, FL 32159

Re: Expanding the list of LOPP

Dear Chairman Girone,

The City of Umatilla is requesting MPO Board members consider expanding the top List Of Priority Projects (LOPP) from 15 to 20 to include additional trail projects.

The top trail projects currently on the LOPP, but not on the TOP 15, include the following:

- North Lake Trail - PD&E
- Black Bear Scenic Trail - Design
- Wekiva Trail Segments 1 & 2 - ROW
- Tava-Dora Trail - PD&E

The City of Umatilla is especially supporting the addition of the North Lake Trail PD & E study to the list.

Regards,  
CITY OF UMATILLA

Katherine Adams, Mayor

CC: MPO Board Members  
Michael Woods, LSMPO Executive Director