

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA; REQUESTING THAT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) CONSIDER SUPPORTING ALTERNATIVE 1, OLD DIXIE TRAIL, INTENDED TO PROVIDE TRAIL REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY THROUGH THE CITIES OF AUBURNDALE, LAKE ALFRED, AND HAINES CITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the residents of Auburndale have expressed a strong interest in multi-purpose trail facilities for travel, walking, running, biking and recreation; and

WHEREAS, Polk County has adopted the PolkGreen Overlay District to link area parks, environmental lands, schools, trails, and cultural and historical destination; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) completed Phase 1 of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study to determine the location and conceptual design of the Old Dixie Trail (ODT); and

WHEREAS, the cities of Auburndale, Lake Alfred, Winter Haven and Haines City, as well as Polk County and the Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) met in July 2019 to consider the six trail alternatives with two (2) of the six (6) alternatives selected to move forward into further PD&E Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation has invited the public to comment on proposed improvements and make trail recommendations after the public hearings; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation has identified two (2) alternatives for the Old Dixie Trail, which will serve as a connecting trail to other existing trails in Polk County, including the TECO-Auburndale Trail and the Van Fleet Trail; and

WHEREAS, Alternative 1 is located in the Lakes District Master Planning Area and is identified on the Lakes District Vision Map; and

WHEREAS, the Lakes District Vision is to create a balanced transportation system providing equal access to pedestrian and bicycles to reduce the reliance on automobiles;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Auburndale, Florida, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The City of Auburndale endorses the design, permitting, and construction of a trail, Alternative 1 Old Dixie Trail, linking the Cities of Auburndale, Lake Alfred, and Haines City, and that said trail will result in the connection to other existing trails in Polk County and Central Florida, including the TECO-Auburndale Trail, and the Van Fleet Trail.

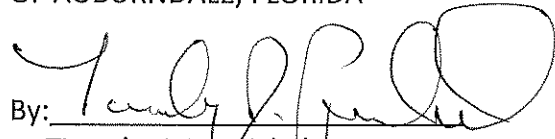
**SECTION 2.** Alternative 1 will result in fulfilling the vision of trail connectivity with-in the Lakes District.

**SECTION 3.** The City of Auburndale requests that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) submit Alternative 1 as the proposed alternate for the Old Dixie Trail in the Location and Design Concept study.

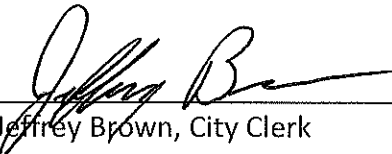
**SECTION 4.** Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

INTRODUCED, PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Auburndale, Florida, meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2021.

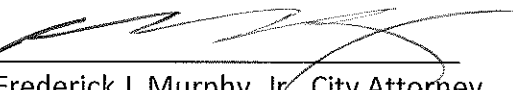
CITY COMMISSION  
OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA

By:   
Timothy J. Pospichal, Mayor

ATTEST:

By:   
Jeffrey Brown, City Clerk

LEGAL IN FORM AND VALID IF ENACTED

By:   
Frederick J. Murphy, Jr., City Attorney