Southwest Florida
Florida Department of Transportation

Palmetto Trails Network | PD&E Study Manatee County, Florida 444857-1

Project Details	
Work Type	PD&E Study
Phase	PD&E
City	Palmetto
County	Manatee

Contact Information

PD&E Project Manager
Michelle Rutishauser
813-380-7121
michelle.rutishauser@dot.state.fl.us



About

The Palmetto Trails Network Plan (PTNP) is a regional system of transportation improvements to reestablish connections lost through the construction of US 41 through the heart of Palmetto.

This project originally intended to evaluate Programs 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the 2018 BUILD grant which outlined segments for study. After some preliminary exploration identified necessary revisions to the original alignment of the network, these segments were replaced with the new Middle and Northern Sections. The Middle Section includes the evaluation of critical trail segments between the Manatee County Area Transit Center, Palmetto Youth Center, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Trail, Lincoln Memorial Middle School, and Lincoln Park (Coach Eddie Shannon Park) as well as the rehabilitation of the historic Lincoln Tunnel under US 41. The Northern Section includes the development and evaluation of trail segments connecting Lincoln Park (Coach Eddie Shannon Park) and Washington Park through the neighborhoods just east of US 41.

The Southern Section, Program 6 of the 2018 BUILD grant, was added to this study in Summer 2024 after the FDOT's acquisition of additional funds through Sarasota/Manatee MPO. It includes the evaluation and development of trail segments and "complete street" facilities (traffic calming, shared bicycle markings on the road, and sidewalks) between the intersection of US 41 Business and Riverside Drive, through Connor Park, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

Specific right-of-way needs will be determined during this PD&E Study, with any potential acquisition occurring during the project's future design phase.