

APPENDIX **C**

Resolutions of Support for Collier to Polk Updates to State Priority Trail Network

MPO RESOLUTION #2023-09

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COLLIER METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE
PRIORITY TRAIL CORRIDOR DESIGNATION FOR THE
COLLIER TO POLK REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (the “MPO”), Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization (the “Heartland TPO”), and Polk Regional Transportation Planning Organization (the “Polk TPO”) envision the Collier to Polk Regional Trail as a *regionally significant trail* that will connect Collier-Seminole State Park in Collier County to the General James A. Van Fleet State Trail in Polk County; and

WHEREAS, separated multi-use trails like the proposed Collier to Polk Regional Trail provide safe opportunities for active transportation and healthy recreation for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities, and have been demonstrated to positively impact local and regional economies and support nature-based tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Collier to Polk Regional Trail is consistent with and advances existing plans including the Collier MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, Heartland Regional TPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Plan, Polk TPO Multi-Use Trails Master Plan, Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan, and Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized (“SUN”) Trail Network; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, passed as Senate Bill 106 during the 2023 Florida Legislative Session, seeks to elevate the Florida Greenways and Trails System by leveraging connections to the Florida Wildlife Corridor, potential Trail Towns, and other important destinations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, it is the responsibility of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to: “Recommend priorities for *regionally significant trails* within the Florida Greenways and Trails System for inclusion by the Department of Transportation in the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network” [§ 260.0142(4)(c), Florida Statutes]; and

WHEREAS, small towns along the Collier to Polk Regional Trail can emerge as Trail Towns and experience the same economic benefits as other Florida communities transformed by multi-use trails, such as Winter Garden along the West Orange Trail, Dunedin along the Pinellas Trail, and Inverness along the Withlacoochee State Trail; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization that:


1. The Collier to Polk Regional Trail is worthy of support by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council as a *regionally significant trail* pursuant to S. 260.0142(4)(c) and that it is beneficial for the Council to upgrade relevant Opportunity Trail Corridor segments to Priority Trail Corridor, as shown in Attachment A, to provide a continuous planned Priority Trail Corridor from Collier County to Polk County

2. The Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization's Chairman is hereby authorized to execute this Resolution certifying the MPO Board's support for designating the Collier to Polk Regional Trail a Priority Trail Corridor.

This Resolution PASSED and duly adopted by the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization Board after majority vote on this 8th day of September 2023.

Attest:

By: _____

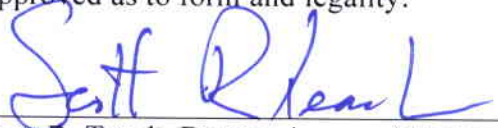

Anne McLaughlin
MPO Executive Director

COLLIER METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By: _____

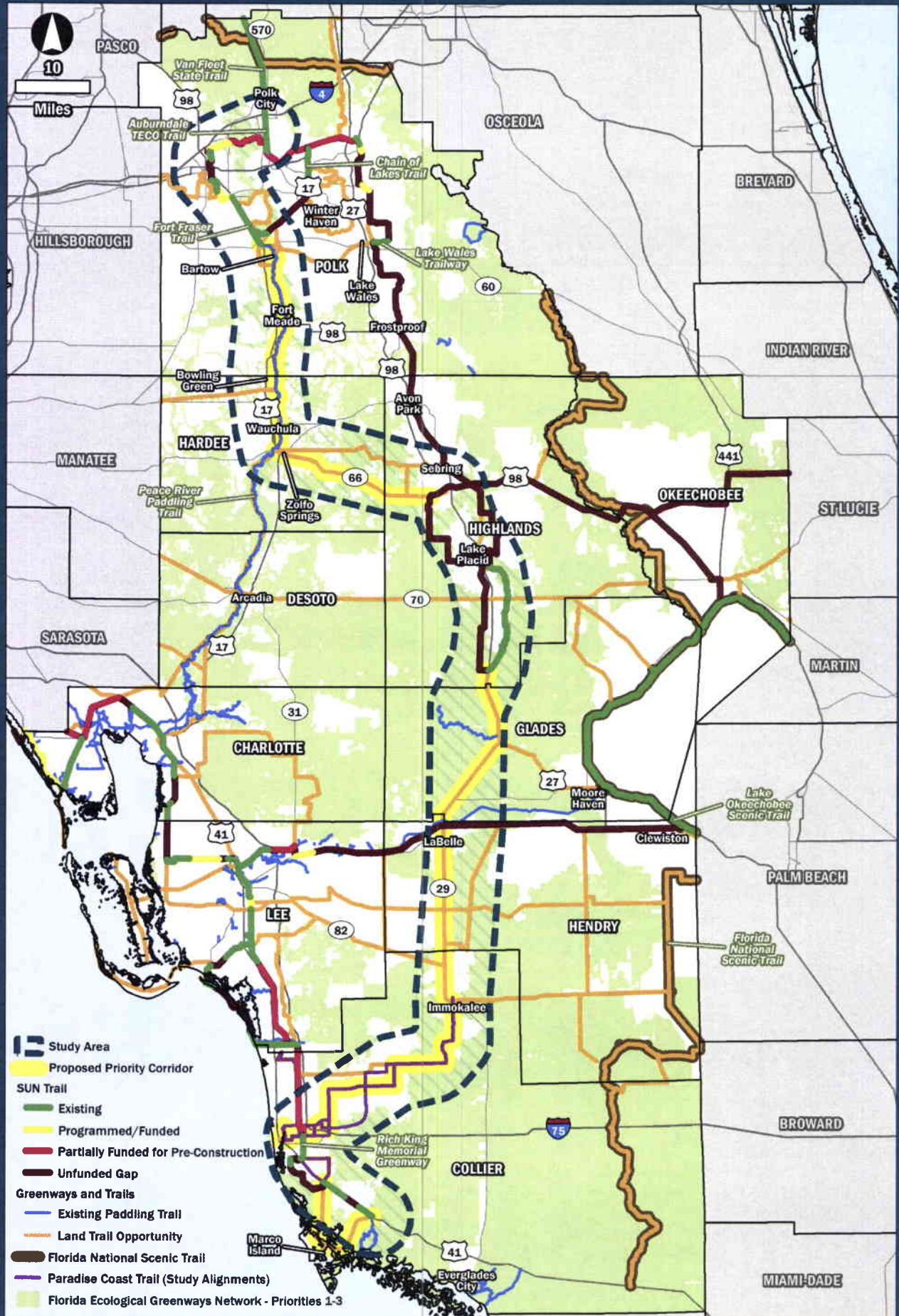

Councilor Greg Folley
MPO Chair

Approved as to form and legality:


Scott R. Teach, Deputy County Attorney

Collier to Polk Regional Trail

Proposed Priority Corridor

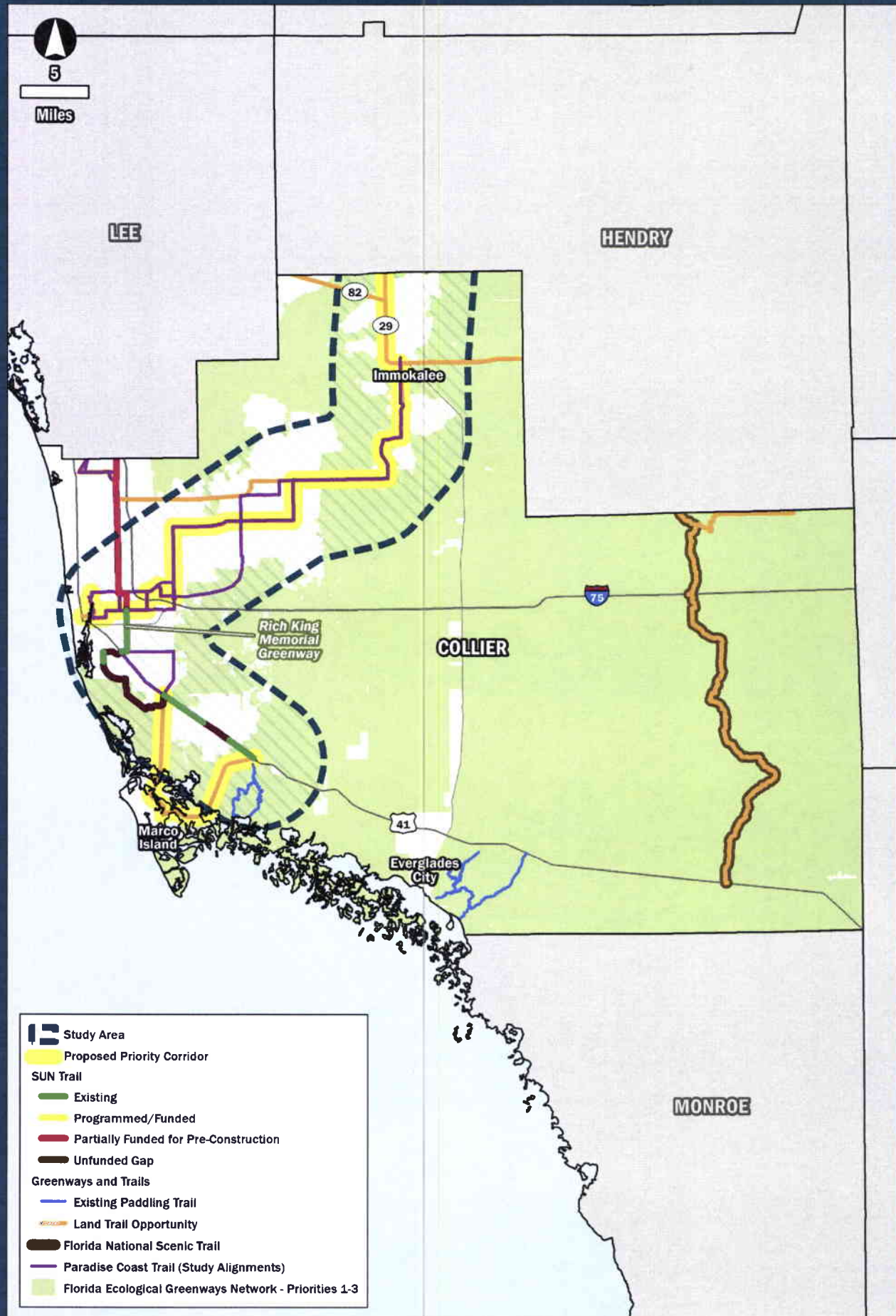


- Study Area
- Proposed Priority Corridor
- SUN Trail**
 - Existing
 - Programmed/Funded
 - Partially Funded for Pre-Construction
 - Unfunded Gap
- Greenways and Trails**
 - Existing Paddling Trail
 - Land Trail Opportunity
 - Florida National Scenic Trail
 - Paradise Coast Trail (Study Alignments)
 - Florida Ecological Greenways Network - Priorities 1-3

This map and its content is based upon available GIS data and is for reference purposes only. Information is subject to change.

Collier to Polk Regional Trail

Proposed Priority Corridor - Collier MPO



- Study Area
- Proposed Priority Corridor
- SUN Trail**
 - Existing
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CAO



RESOLUTION 05-2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE HEARTLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE PRIORITY TRAIL CORRIDOR FOR THE COLLIER TO POLK REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and Polk TPO envision the Collier to Polk Regional Trail as a regionally significant trail that will connect Collier-Seminole State Park in Collier County to the General James A. Van Fleet State Trail in Polk County; and

WHEREAS, separated multi-use trails like the proposed Collier to Polk Regional Trail provide safe opportunities for active transportation and healthy recreation for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities, and have been demonstrated to positively impact local and regional economies and support nature-based tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Collier to Polk Regional Trail is consistent with and advances existing plans including the Collier MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, Heartland Regional TPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Plan, Polk TPO Multi-Use Trails Master Plan, Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan, and Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Network; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, passed as Senate Bill 106 during the 2023 Florida Legislative Session, seeks to elevate the Florida Greenways and Trails System by leveraging connections to the Florida Wildlife Corridor, potential Trail Towns, and other important destinations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, it is the responsibility of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to: "Recommend priorities for regionally significant trails within the Florida Greenways and Trails System for inclusion by the Department of Transportation in the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network" [s. 260.0142(4)(c), Florida Statutes]; and

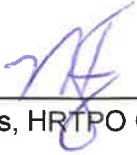
WHEREAS, small towns along the Collier to Polk Regional Trail can emerge as Trail Towns and experience the same economic benefits like other Florida communities transformed by multi-use trails, such as Winter Garden along the West Orange Trail, Dunedin along the Pinellas Trail, and Inverness along the Withlacoochee State Trail; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Collier to Polk Regional Trail is worthy of support by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council as a regionally significant trail pursuant to S. 260.0142(4)(c) and that it is beneficial for the Council to upgrade relevant Opportunity Trail

Corridor segments to Priority Trail Corridor, as shown in Attachment A, to provide a continuous planned Priority Trail Corridor from Collier County to Polk County.

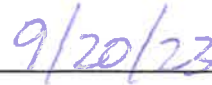
PASSED and DULY ADOPTED by the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization on September 20, 2023.

Signed:



Noey Flores, HRTPO Chair


Date:



Attest:



HRTPO Staff



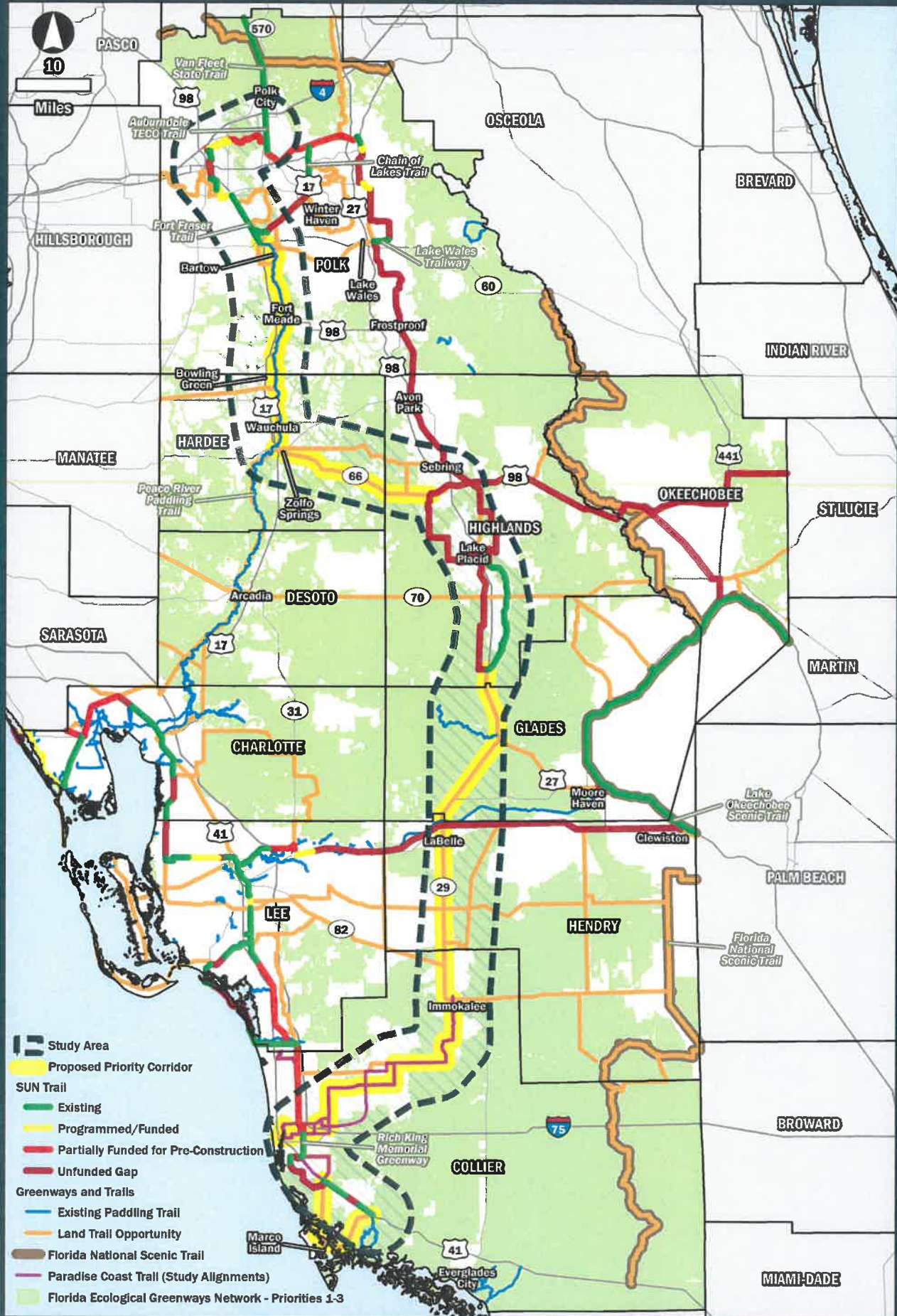
Reviewed by HRTPO Attorney

Collier to Polk Regional Trail (Attachment A)

Proposed Priority Corridor



FDOT
DISTRICT ONE



This map and its content is based upon available GIS data and is for reference purposes only. Information is subject to change.

POLK TPO RESOLUTION 2023-10

RESOLUTION OF THE POLK TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED PRIORITY TRAIL CORRIDOR FOR THE COLLIER TO POLK REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and Polk TPO envision the proposed Collier to Polk Regional Trail as a *regionally significant trail* that will connect Collier-Seminole State Park in Collier County to the General James A. Van Fleet State Trail in Polk County; and

WHEREAS, multi-use trails like the proposed Collier to Polk Regional Trail provide safe opportunities for active transportation and healthy recreation for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities, and have been demonstrated to positively impact local and regional economies and support nature-based tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Collier to Polk Regional Trail is consistent with and advances existing plans including the Collier MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, Heartland Regional TPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Plan, Polk TPO Multi-Use Trails Master Plan, Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan, and Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Network; and

WHEREAS, the Polk TPO's Trail Master Plan includes a portion of the Collier to Polk Regional Trail Corridor in Polk County between the Van Fleet State Trail and the Polk/Hardee County Line as depicted in Attachment A and consists of following existing and planned trail corridors including the Auburndale Trail and Tenoroc Trail between Auburndale and Lakeland, the Three Parks Trail, New Jersey Road Trail, Lake Hollingsworth Trail and the Lake Shore/West Lake Parker Drive Trail in Lakeland, Fort Fraser Trail between Bartow and Lakeland, and the Peace River Trail and Peace River Greenway between Bartow and the Hardee County Line; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, passed as Senate Bill 106 during the 2023 Florida Legislative Session, seeks to elevate the Florida Greenways and Trails System by leveraging connections to the Florida Wildlife Corridor, potential Trail Towns, and other important destinations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 2023-20, Laws of Florida, it is the responsibility of the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to: "Recommend priorities for *regionally significant trails* within the Florida Greenways and Trails System for inclusion by the Department of Transportation in the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network" [s. 260.0142(4)(c), Florida Statutes]; and

WHEREAS, small towns along the Collier to Polk Regional Trail can emerge as Trail Towns and experience the same economic benefits like other Florida communities transformed by multi-use trails, such as Winter Garden along the West Orange Trail, Dunedin along the Pinellas Trail, and Inverness along the Withlacoochee State Trail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Polk Transportation Planning Organization at its regular meeting convened on August 24, 2023:

1. That the Collier to Polk Regional Trail is worthy of support by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council as a *regionally significant trail* pursuant to S. 260.0142(4)(c) and that it is beneficial for the Council to upgrade relevant Opportunity Trail Corridor segments to Priority Trail Corridor, as shown in Attachment A, to provide a continuous planned Priority Trail Corridor from Collier County to Polk County.

Signed:



Commissioner Jack Myers, Chairman
Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

August 24, 2023

Date

ATTEST:



Parag Agrawal, AICP, TPO Executive Director

Approved by the TPO Attorney as to
form and legal sufficiency:



Elizabeth Voss, TPO Attorney

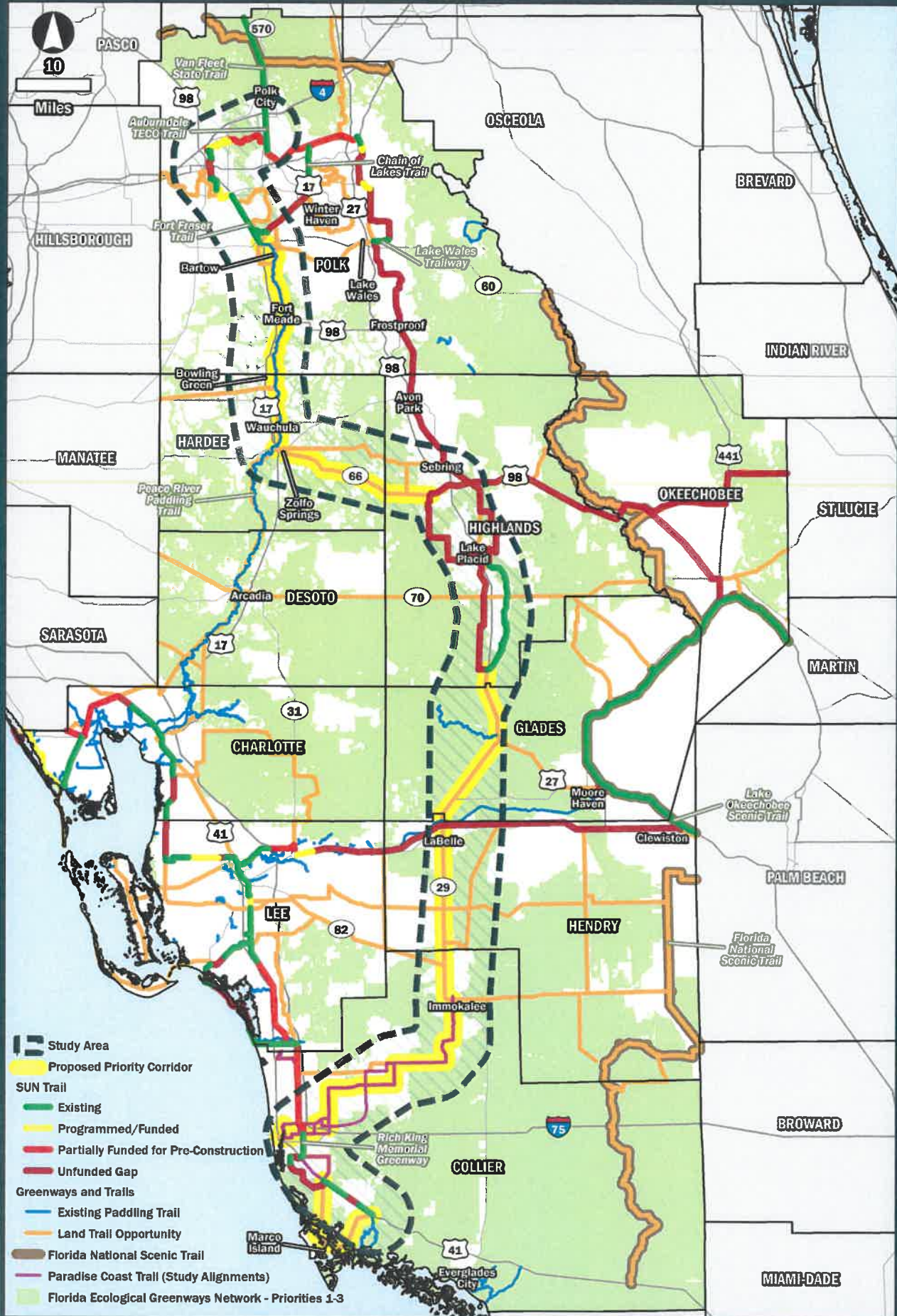
Randy Mink

Collier to Polk Regional Trail (Attachment A)

Proposed Priority Corridor



FDOT
DISTRICT ONE



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