

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 11, 2025

TO: Kim Byer, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works Administration

FROM: Sally Thompson, Chair, Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Committee

SUBJECT: 2025 Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Committee Priority Projects

One of the responsibilities of the Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Committee, which was established following the adoption of the 1995 *Hillsborough Greenways Master Plan*, is to annually identify its priority projects for consideration in the development of the County's Capital Improvement Program.

In June of 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved an updated *Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Master Plan*. That plan proposed over 102 distinct paved trail projects, 21 of which are already in some stage of development, as well as 16 significant unpaved trail projects and eight blueway projects. The *Master Plan* update included a prioritization component that evaluated all projects for how well they meet the County's needs according to multiple criteria including:

- Access to opportunity
- Community access
- Connections to nature
- Demand indicators
- Economic and employment opportunity
- Network connectivity
- Proximity to other key public facilities
- Safety

The resulting scores were sorted and stratified into five tiers for each project type, with overall results presented in Appendix H of the Master Plan document. The top tier of each project type—paved proposed, paved under development, unpaved, and blueways, are featured in the Executive Summary of the Master Plan document (Tables 1-4 on pages 8 and 9).

At its March 19, 2025, meeting, the Hillsborough Greenways and Trails Committee voted to adopt the top tier of each of these project types as it's priority projects as well for consideration in the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan.

These projects represent opportunities to advance the vision of Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Master Plan, and we ask the County to strongly consider these projects as the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan is developed. We ask that necessary County resources be committed to furthering these projects, and that outside funding assistance be pursued to continue their development, so that County residents and visitors are able to enjoy them in the near future.

The staff of the Community and Infrastructure Planning Department is available to answer any questions you may have about this process.

You may review the full document at this link:

[2024 Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Master Plan](#)

Attachment: Tables 1-4, *Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Master Plan*

cc:

Gregory Horwedel, Deputy County Administrator

Dexter Barge, Assistant County Administrator, Compliance, Communities & Conservation

Kevin Brickey, Director, Management & Budget

John Patrick, AICP, Division Director, Community & Infrastructure Planning

Rick Valdez, Director, Recreation, Athletics and Neighborhood Parks

Forest Turbiville, Regional Parks and Environmental Lands