



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

TREASURE COAST SCENIC HIGHWAY (TCSH) COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Friday, June 26, 2026
 10:00 am

Public Participation/Accessibility

Participation in Person: Public comments may be provided in person at the meeting. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the St. Lucie TPO at 772-462-1593 at least five days prior to the meeting. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may use the Florida Relay System by dialing 711.

Written and Telephone Comments: Comment by email to TPOAdmin@stlucieco.org; by regular mail to the St. Lucie TPO, 466 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Suite 111, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953; or call 772-462-1593 until 9:30 am on June 26, 2026.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Comments from the Public**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
5. **Approval of Meeting Summary**
 - *January 16, 2026 Regular Meeting*
6. **TCSHC Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Update:** Further review the Florida Scenic Highway Program's CMP Update requirement.

Action: *Discuss and provide comments.*

- 7. TCSH Newsletter Approval:** Review the current edition of the TCSH Newsletter for distribution.

***Action:** Review and Approve TCSH Newsletter for distribution, approve with conditions, or do not approve.*

- 8. TCSH Updated Brochure / Rack Card:** Review of the concept layout for the updated Treasure Coast Scenic Highway rack card

***Action:** Review and Approve TCSH rack cards for distribution, approve with conditions, or do not approve.*

- 9. Highlights from the Florida Scenic Highways Program Annual Meeting:** Summary of the Florida Scenic Highways Program Annual Meeting in Sebastian, Florida.

***Action:** Discuss and provide comments.*

- 10. Recommendations/Comments by Members**

- 11. Staff Comments**

- 12. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the TCSHC will be a regular meeting on Friday, October 16, 2026 at 10:00 am.

- 13. Adjourn**

NOTICES

The St. Lucie TPO satisfies the requirements of various nondiscrimination laws and regulations including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public participation is welcome without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, income, or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns about nondiscrimination should contact Marceia Lathou, the Title VI/ADA Coordinator of the St. Lucie TPO, at 772-462-1593 or via email at lathoum@stlucieco.org.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Marceia Lathou at 772-462-1593 at least five days prior to the meeting. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may use the Florida Relay System by dialing 711.

Items not included on the agenda may also be heard in consideration of the best interests of the public's health, safety, welfare, and as necessary to protect every person's right of access. If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the TCSH Committee with respect to any matter considered at a meeting, that person shall need a record of the proceedings, and for such a purpose, that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Kreyol Ayisyen: Si ou ta renmen resevwa enfòmasyon sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen, tanpri rele nimewo 772-462-1593.

Español: Si usted desea recibir esta información en español, por favor llame al 772-462-1593.



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

TREASURE COAST SCENIC HIGHWAY (TCSH) COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

DATE: Friday, January 16, 2026

TIME: 10:00 am

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am.

2. Roll Call

The roll call was conducted via sign-in sheet, and each member introduced themselves. Chairwoman Gregory announced since no quorum was present, she would skip ahead to discussion items to give members additional time to arrive before action items were addressed.

Members Present

Eileen Emery, Vice Chair
 Mike Riordan
 Diana Gregory, Chair
 Steven Haines
 Marissa Da Breo-Latchman
 Morgan Phelps

Representing

South Hutchinson Island (incorporated)
 North Hutchinson Island
 Indian River Drive
 Indian River Drive
 Port St. Lucie City Planning Department
 Community Development Department

Others Present

Stephanie Torres
 Teresa Lane
 Michael Palozzi

Representing

St. Lucie TPO
 Recording Specialist
 Florida Department of Transportation

3. Comments from the Public – None.

7. 2025 Annual Work Report: Review and approve 2025 Annual Work Report by the TCSHC for submission to the FSHP.

Ms. Torres explained that the Annual Work Report, which outlines the projects and activities the TCSHC accomplished in 2025, must be transmitted to the Florida Scenic Highway Program (FSHP) by February 1, 2026. She briefly described the group's major activities of the year, which included increasing their social media presence, expanding the partnership network and distributing a quarterly newsletter.

When Ms. Torres asked members if they would like to add comments to the report, Dr. Riordan questioned whether the observation tower listed was located on Jack Island, noting that tower had been torn down because of safety concerns. Ms. Torres stated the tower is a new one recently built at Walton Scrub Preserve, prompting Dr. Riordan to opine that it would be nice to replace the former Jack Island tower. He reported there used to be a popular 5K run near the tower, adding that there are separate runs for people and pet owners with dogs at nearby Wildcat Cove. Dr. Riordan stated it would be helpful if someone graded the trail because maintenance trucks leave ruts on the side of it. Ms. Torres mentioned she might sponsor a water tent during the next run, which is along the scenic byway.

8. TCSHC Corridor Management Plan Update Guidance: An overview of the Florida Scenic Highway Program's CMP Update requirement, presented by Mike Palozzi, consultant to FDOT District 4.

Ms. Torres stated the Byway Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is the foundational planning document for a Florida Scenic Highway. It defines the corridor's intrinsic qualities and establishes a long-term strategy for its preservation, enhancement and promotion, she noted. The CMP serves as the guiding framework for decision-making, project prioritization and partnership development along the corridor, and should be reviewed and updated every five years to remain current, Ms. Torres explained. She reported the last update was 2011 and recommended the committee initiate an update with support from FDOT District 4.

Ms. Torres introduced Mr. Palozzi, an FDOT consultant, to further explain the update, which could extend into 2027. Mr. Palozzi reported the

Scenic Highway Program has existed for 30 years, and the CMP is the organization's toolbox. There are three components of the update, he explained: Documenting the history of the organization, its current-day status, and future goals.

Mr. Palozzi observed that the CMP should be a three- to five-year plan with both a mission and vision statement. He noted the group's original CMP in 2005 had a mission statement but no vision statement. It was added later in 2016, he reported. Mr. Palozzi related the original goals outlined by the FSHP were resource protection, safety, tourism, education, economic development and sustainability.

Ms. Torres noted the 2011 update is contained in the agenda packet, and she promised to distribute the original 2005 plan and the FSHP guidance manual to all members. When Chairwoman Gregory asked if members could review other CMPs from across Florida, Mr. Palozzi stated he would forward some to members. He stated FDOT will help with the update and opined that it should not be a huge undertaking. Mr. Palozzi encouraged members to use ample photos in the update, which he explained is typically 25 to 30 pages long.

Mr. Haines noted it is interesting that several projects mentioned in the 2011 update have been accomplished, including construction of new bridges spanning the lagoon and decommissioning the wastewater treatment plant in Fort Pierce.

9. TCSH Newsletter Approval: Review the current edition of the TCSH Newsletter for distribution.

Ms. Torres presented the latest volume of the quarterly newsletter, Highway Highlights, and asked members if they had any comments. When Dr. Riordan stated that North Beach residents were notified recently about the widening of State Road A1A, Ms. Torres related she can add that to the newsletter. Mr. Palozzi reported FDOT has a web page showing road updates in all counties, with clickable links that lead directly to the project manager. He noted that while the SHP takes a back seat to transportation needs, the group has a stronger voice during negotiations on road projects. Chairwoman Gregory stated she observed that process on Indian River Drive, where the philosophy of byways was more promotional than protective.

Mr. Haines suggested that Ms. Torres include the replacement of the Sebastian Inlet Bridge in the newsletter. Ms. Torres remarked she will make the suggested changes to Highway Highlights, Volume 3.

10. Florida Channel – Florida Crossroads Segment: View the Indian River Lagoon Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Florida Crossroads segment.

Ms. Torres explained that Florida Crossroads is a documentary series produced by WFSU-TV, a PBS member television station owned by Florida State University in Tallahassee. WFSU is known for its educational and public affairs programming and partnered with the Florida Scenic Highways Program in 2022 to produce documentaries on the history of byways, Ms. Torres added. She noted producers of the series came to St. Lucie County in December 2025 and interviewed her and Chairwoman Gregory to capture the byway's rich history, culture and beauty.

Ms. Torres played the 14-minute video, which highlighted the region's deep military and historical roots, from growing pineapples to training Navy SEALs off North Hutchinson Island. The promotional video also depicted downtown Fort Pierce, Indian River Drive and Old Fort Park. Mr. Palozzi reminded members that the videos are an effective marketing tool and can be used freely by local groups and government agencies. Ms. Torres stated the video is available online and will run on the Florida Channel after the Legislative Session ends in March.

Ms. Torres informed the committee that two members who had planned to attend the meeting were unable to participate, meaning all action items would be delayed until the next meeting.

11. Highlights from the IRL Science Festival: Summary of TCSHC attendance at the IRL Science Festival on October 25, 2025.

Ms. Torres reported she and Vice Chairwoman Emery attended the 10th Annual Indian River Lagoon Science Festival at Veteran's Memorial Park in Fort Pierce to promote the scenic highway. She stated more than 200 families visited the TCSHC's information table, which also included a fun seashell painting craft. Ms. Torres stated the event was also beneficial because that is where she met the committee's newest member, Dr. Riordan.

- 12. Recommendations/Comments by Members** – Chairwoman Gregory reported she spoke with the executive director of the National Scenic Byway Foundation (NSBF) about securing money for the TCSHC and learned it might be possible to organize as a nonprofit agency under the umbrella of another organization. Chairwoman Gregory noted the NSBF awards a \$10,000 Google grant each month for advertising scenic highways, and she offered to forward grant information to fellow members.

The national agency also hosts informative webinars and Chairwoman Gregory encouraged others to attend some of them. She opined that TCSHC could partner with NSBF as a Friends Group and attain nonprofit status that way. To register as a nonprofit group in Florida, Chairwoman Gregory reported, it costs \$87.50 initially and \$61.25 yearly. The group would also have to file an annual income tax report, but it would be easy if the nonprofit received less than \$50,000 a year, she stated.

Chairwoman Gregory opined there is an easier way to grow the TCSHC rather than waiting around to gather a quorum at occasional meetings.

Mr. Palozzi remarked the State Road A1A Byway is highlighting haunted bridges and murals to drive traffic to the region. Mr. Haines noted Fort Pierce will pay artists to paint murals in the CRA district.

- 13. Staff Comments** – Ms. Torres reported the committee continues to need members to represent the City of Fort Pierce and unincorporated South Hutchinson Island. Mr. Palozzi remarked that the next statewide workshop of the FSHP will be on March 25, 2026, in Sebastian, with a virtual component offered.
- 14. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the TCSHC will be a regular meeting scheduled for 10:00 am on Friday, April 10, 2026.
- 15. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Teresa Lane
Recording Specialist

Diana Gregory
Chairwoman

DRAFT



Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)
Meeting Date:	June 26, 2026
Item Number:	6
Item Title:	TCSHC Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Update
Item Origination:	Florida Scenic Highway Program (FSHP) Requirements
UPWP Reference:	Task 4.2: Intergovernmental Planning and Coordination
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments
Staff Recommendation:	It is recommended that the committee begin preparation of the TCSHC CMP update and solicit committee input on revisions to the corridor vision, mission, and executive summary.

Attachments

- Staff Report
- TCSHC Current Corridor Management Plan
- Meeting Minutes 5/28 CMP Update Virtual Discussion
- Meeting Presentation 5/28 CMP Update Virtual Discussion
- Chairwoman Gregory email of activities for inclusion in Executive Summary



Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Stephanie M. Torres
Bicycle Pedestrian Program Manager

DATE: May 28, 2026

SUBJECT: **TCSHC Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Update Mid-Quarter Discussion**

BACKGROUND

The Byway Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is the foundational planning document for a Florida Scenic Highway. It defines the corridors intrinsic qualities, and establishes long-term strategy for their preservation, enhancement and promotion. The CMP serves as the guiding framework for decision-making, project prioritization, and partnership development along the corridor.

ANALYSIS

Regular updates to the CMP are essential to ensure the byway remains responsive to changing conditions, community priorities, and transportation and land-use trends. Updating the CMP allows the byway committee to reaffirm and, where appropriate, refine its mission, vision, values, and objectives so they continue to reflect current realities and aspirations for the corridor.

As recommended by the Florida Scenic Highway Program, CMPs should be reviewed and updated every five years to remain current and compliant with program standards. This requirement helps ensure that designated byways are actively managed and that planning documents reflect current conditions and best practices.

The most recent update to this corridor's CMP was completed in 2011, which places the plan well beyond the update cycle. As a result, portions of the document may no longer accurately reflect existing conditions, emerging opportunities, or current community and stakeholder priorities. Initiating an update will strengthen the committee's ability to guide future initiatives, pursue potential funding opportunities, and maintain good standing within the Florida Scenic Highway Program. On May 28th, TCSHC members met virtually for initial discussion on the CMP Update where members were requested to provide significant events, corridor improvements, planning milestones, or notable projects that have occurred along the Scenic Highway Corridor over the past approximately 16 years since the last update; including infrastructure projects, safety improvements, environmental restoration efforts, heritage or cultural designation activities or major community events.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee begin preparation of the TCSHC CMP update and solicit committee input on revisions to the corridor vision, mission, and executive summary.



Treasure Coast Scenic Highway 5-Year Corridor Management Plan Update



October 1, 2011



2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34982-5652
Telephone: 772/462-1593
Facsimile: 772/462-2549

Clint C. Eliason
TranSystems
101 Southhall Lane, Ste. 355
Maitland, FL 32751

Dear Mr. Eliason,

This report contains the five-year Corridor Management Plan Update for the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway (TCSH). The Florida Scenic Highway Program Manual Procedure #650-050-0055 Section 4.3.2 states that this five-year update is to be submitted in place of the annual report. If you have any questions please contact me at 772-462-1533 or St. Lucie TPO Executive Director Mr. Peter Buchwald at 772-462-1593.

Sincerely,

Edward DeFini
Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Manager
St. Lucie Transportation Organization
2300 Virginia Ave.
Fort Pierce FL. 34982

II Table of Contents

1.0	Corridor Conditions	5-6
2.0	Corridor Resources	7-10
3.0	Corridor Usage	10-11
4.0	Corridor Vision After 5 Years	11-14
5.0	Corridor Story	14-15
6.0	Corridor Community Participation Program	15-17
7.0	Corridor Local Support	17
8.0	Corridor Evaluation and Protection Techniques	17-19
9.0	Corridor Funding	19
10.0	Corridor Promotion Measuring Success	
11.0	Local Government Comprehensive Plan	19
12.0	Corridor Partnerships	19
13.0	Corridor Problem Areas	21-22
13.0	Corridor Action Plan	23
	A. Corridor Improvements/Enhancements	
	B. Promotional/Community Participation	
	C. Administration/Coordination	
	D. Funding Entities and Entities Responsible for Action Items	



1.0 CORRIDOR CONDITIONS

On September 26, 2004, Hurricane Jeanne made landfall on Hutchinson Island, just east of Sewall's Point, exactly three weeks after Hurricane Frances did so at the same location. In the five years since the designation of the TCSH in 2006, St. Lucie County has been recovering from the effects of those major hurricanes and has increased the number of inhabitants by approximately 10 percent bringing the estimated total population from 252,724 in July 2006 to 277,789 as of the 2010 Census. Despite the pressures of new development and re-development due to the hurricanes, the intrinsic and natural resources that are visible from the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway (TCSH) have been maintained and enhanced.

St. Lucie County from Indian River County Line to Martin County Line

The reconstruction of A1A from US Highway 1 to Blue Heron Boulevard was a \$29.8 million dollar joint effort between FDOT and the City of Fort Pierce. The project started in 2008 and three of the four phases are finished. Five major parks along A1A have been reconstructed and a new park has been completed, titled "Inlet Linear Park". This new byway facility utilizes the Army Corps of Engineers easement along the Fort Pierce Jetty and includes a 1/2 mile walking, biking and fishing trail which connects with Jetty Park and A1A in a circular fashion. The local Community Redevelopment Agency has purchased and demolished an old hotel next to the existing Jetty Park for expanded parking for both Jetty Park and the new Inlet Linear Park.

- The A1A project encompassed 4.2 miles of State Road A1A extending from US Highway 1 to Blue Heron Boulevard.
- Allocated funding sources for the project included:
 1. FDOT ~ \$22 million
 2. FPRA ~ \$4.4 million
 3. FPUA ~ \$2.2 million
 4. Harbor Isle Developer ~ \$1.2 million
- The project construction was divided into four phases.
 1. Phase IIA (US 1 to South Causeway Bridge) – Construction completed December 2006.
 2. Phase III (Blue Heron Boulevard to Gulfstream Avenue) – Construction completed December 2009.
 3. Phase IIB (South Causeway Bridge to Bayshore Drive) including the Harbor Isle

Roundabout – Completed August 2010.

4. Phase I (Bayshore Drive to Gulfstream Avenue) – Construction Completed 2011

The A1A improvements include the total reconstruction of the roadway complete with bike lanes, on-street parking, curb and gutter, sidewalks, drainage facilities, landscaping, irrigation, decorative street lighting, underground electric/cable/phone, and water and sewer utility upgrades.

Corridor Conditions – Photographs



Photos Courtesy of St. Lucie TPO



2.0 Corridor Resources

Resource Name	Description	Special Circumstances
Avalon State Park	Beach access w/facilities. Lagoon access w/limited facilities	Avalon has more than a mile of increasingly rare undeveloped beachfront. The park provides habitat for many species of wildlife. Threatened and endangered sea turtles such as the loggerhead, Atlantic green and leatherback nest on the beach during the spring and summer. Dune crossovers protect the fragile dune ecosystem.
Jack Island	Nature Preserve with 5 mile trail and observation tower. Used often for school trips to demonstrate native vegetation and wildlife, specifically mangrove and tropical beach hammock ecosystems	Actually divided into several separate areas, the 340-acre recreation area is loaded with beach, dunes, and coastal hammock. Its most interesting hiking, however, is Jack Island State Reserve located in the Intracoastal Waterway. Jack Island is a 641-acre impoundment of coastal hammock and dense mangrove. It is one of the state's best birding areas, home to thousands of egrets, herons, and ibis. As many as 200 different species winter here.
Pepper Park	Beach access w/ various facilities. Lagoon access w/various facilities, including fishing pier and canoe launching	None
Urca De Lima Underwater Archeological Preserve	Shipwreck of Spanish merchant ship. National Register of Historic Places	None
Navy Seal Museum	Mementos, books and videos of Seal involvement in World War II and conflicts	Recently nationally designated as the only Navy Seal Museum
Fort Pierce State Recreation Area	340 Acre State Park with extensive facilities, beach access and Lagoon access	None
Manatee Center	Manatee Viewing year round, built on Indian River	None
AE Backus Gallery	5,000 sf public visual arts facility	None
Seven Gables House	Historic home staffed by St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce as a visitor welcome center	None
Indian River Memorial Amphitheater	Open-air venue hosts music events, religious services, and civic events. Part of Veteran's Memorial Park	None

Fort Pierce Inlet State Park	Atlantic beaches, dunes, coastal hammocks, and mangroves are found in this park on the north shore of the Fort Pierce Inlet. mangroves.	Gulls, terns, and shorebirds are common on the beach. Migrating warblers may be spotted along the nature trail. Dynamite Point, a sheltered, mangrove-fringed cove, provides year-round opportunities to observe laughing gulls, royal terns, black skimmers, brown pelicans, and double-crested cormorants. Semi-palemated and black-bellied plovers, willets, sanderlings, and ruddy turnstones appear in winter.
St. Lucie County Historical Museum	Artifacts, exhibits and dioramas on the Spanish treasure fleets, the Seminole War, and the turn of the century industries in St. Lucie County	The Smithsonian Institute once described the St. Lucie County Historical Museum as "an unusually fine historical museum." Located along the Indian River Lagoon, the Historical Museum features silver and gold from a fleet of 11 Spanish ships that sank during a 1715 hurricane. That and other sunken treasure helped the area earn the reputation as Florida's "Treasure Coast." The museum also features equipment from turn-of-the-century industries that help shape St. Lucie County, such as fishing, pineapple, cattle and citrus, as well as artifacts from the 1838 Seminole War.
St. Lucie County Marine Center	Educational facility with a classroom and recreational display	
Smithsonian Marine Station	Provides marine research facilities to scientists actively studying the ocean and Indian River Lagoon	The Smithsonian Marine Station (SMS) at Fort Pierce, Florida is a research center specializing in marine biodiversity and ecosystems of Florida. Research focuses on the Indian River Lagoon and the offshore waters of Florida's east central coast, with comparative studies throughout coastal Florida. Free public tours are available.
Coast Guard Barracks/ IRSC Marine Center	Used by Indian River State College for marine classes and also as a "hospital" facility for marine life which later are transferred to the St. Lucie County Marine Center (above)	None
Bear Point Sanctuary	Lagoon access and trails, fishing pier	None
Blind Creek Park	Lagoon access, beach access, trails, canoe launching	None
Turtle Beach Nature Trail	One mile boardwalk loop with observation points, beach access	None
FPL Energy Encounter	Florida Power and Light education center, designed to teach children and adults about electricity.	None
Frederick Douglass Memorial Park	Beach access, visitor's facilities, Guided horseback riding	None
PP Cobb Building	Historic Downtown Building, one of the first trading posts on the Treasure Coast	None
John Brooks Park	Beach access, lagoon access, trails	None
Ocean Ray Beach Access	Beach access, trails	None

Waveland Beach Access	Beach access, boardwalk, public facilities	None
Herman's Bay Beach Access	Beach access	None
Normandy Beach Access	Beach access	None
Savannas State Preserve	Educational Center, biking, hiking, horseback riding, canoeing, fishing	The Savannas Education Center has live exhibits, a gift shop, self guided tour booklets, and information on many of Florida's State Parks. Interpretive guided tours and canoe/kayak trips are offered by the Friends of Savannas Preserve State Park (a nonprofit citizen's support organization). A calendar of events and newsletter may be picked up at the Education Center.
Savannas Recreation Area (County Park)	County Park which encourages camping.	http://www.stlucieco.gov/parks/savannas.htm
Edgartown Historic District	Locally designated historic district - primarily residential in nature	1,050 historic structures exist inside and outside the city's six historic districts: Avenue D, Downtown, Edgartown, Oakland Park, River's Edge and Sample Oaks. Structures outside the downtown area are eligible for historic designation, which she said would bring both benefits and responsibilities to the property owners
Downtown Historic District	Locally designated historic district - primarily commercial in nature	
River's Edge Historic District	Locally designated historic district - primarily residential in nature	Structures outside the downtown area are eligible for historic designation,
Eden Cemetery	Oldest Cemetery in St. Lucie County	None
The Boston House	Also known as Cresthaven, National Register of Historic Places	None
The Governor's House	The childhood home of one of Florida's elected governors.	Demolished by owner
Old Fort Park	Site of the original Fort Pierce, for which the municipality was named.	This facility is proposed to be renovated.
Riverwalk	Pathway and Observation Stations along lagoon	None
Jetty Park	Beach access, fishing pier on Atlantic and Inlet	Jetty Park is expanding to almost three times its size with help from a Scenic Byway Grant. Parking will be more than doubled. Connecting with new Inlet Linear Park (below) 2011
Veterans Memorial Park	Major open area along Indian River Drive. Site of several festivals, including annual July 4th fireworks.	Veteran's Memorial Park is slated for upcoming renovations
Fort Pierce Community	Public facility open for events	None

Center	and rentals	
City Marina	Located on Indian River, holds an average of 10 fishing tournaments annually	Fort Pierce City Marina is the only downtown marina serving the Treasure Coast. Conveniently located along the beautiful Indian River Lagoon, the marina is one of Florida's best all-weather inlets and offers 284 slips.
Marina Square	Public open space on Indian River, used for events such as Farmer's Market (weekly) and Friday Fest (monthly)	None
Kimberly Bergalis Memorial Park	Ocean access w/facilities	Kimberly Bergalis Memorial Park is currently undergoing renovations
Causeway Park	River Access w/facilities	Causeway Park was renovated by the local municipality
South Beach Park	Ocean Access w/facilities	South Beach Park was renovated by Fort Pierce
Jaycee Park	River Access with playground, boat ramps, and park facilities	Jaycee Park was renovated by the City of Fort Pierce
Inlet Linear Park	Complete	2010

Plants and Animals in the Indian River

The Indian River Lagoon is the most biologically diverse estuary in North America with more than 4,000 species of plants and animals. It is home to one-third of the endangered manatees which you can frequently see swimming. You'll also see the native mangrove trees thriving in the wetlands. The mangrove trees provide an important ecosystem for the Indian River Lagoon for fish, crustaceans, mollusk, and wading birds. This is where many of their lives begin, thrive, and reproduce providing 75% to 90% of the habitat for the source of all commercial fishing.

Fishing Spot - Local Favorite

At the intersection of Indian River Drive and Walton Road there is a small parking area that is popular with locals. If you want to wade in the river and fish one of the biggest challenges is finding a place to park so the Walton Road parking area is a local favorite.



3.0 Corridor Usage

Since its designation in 2006, it is estimated that Average Daily Vehicle Trips on both State Road A1A and the Indian River Drive portion of the TCSH have increased by approximately 15% (approximately 1,400 trips) 2006-2011. Both roads are operating at a Level of Service "C" and both have a capacity to carry approximately 6,000 additional trips.

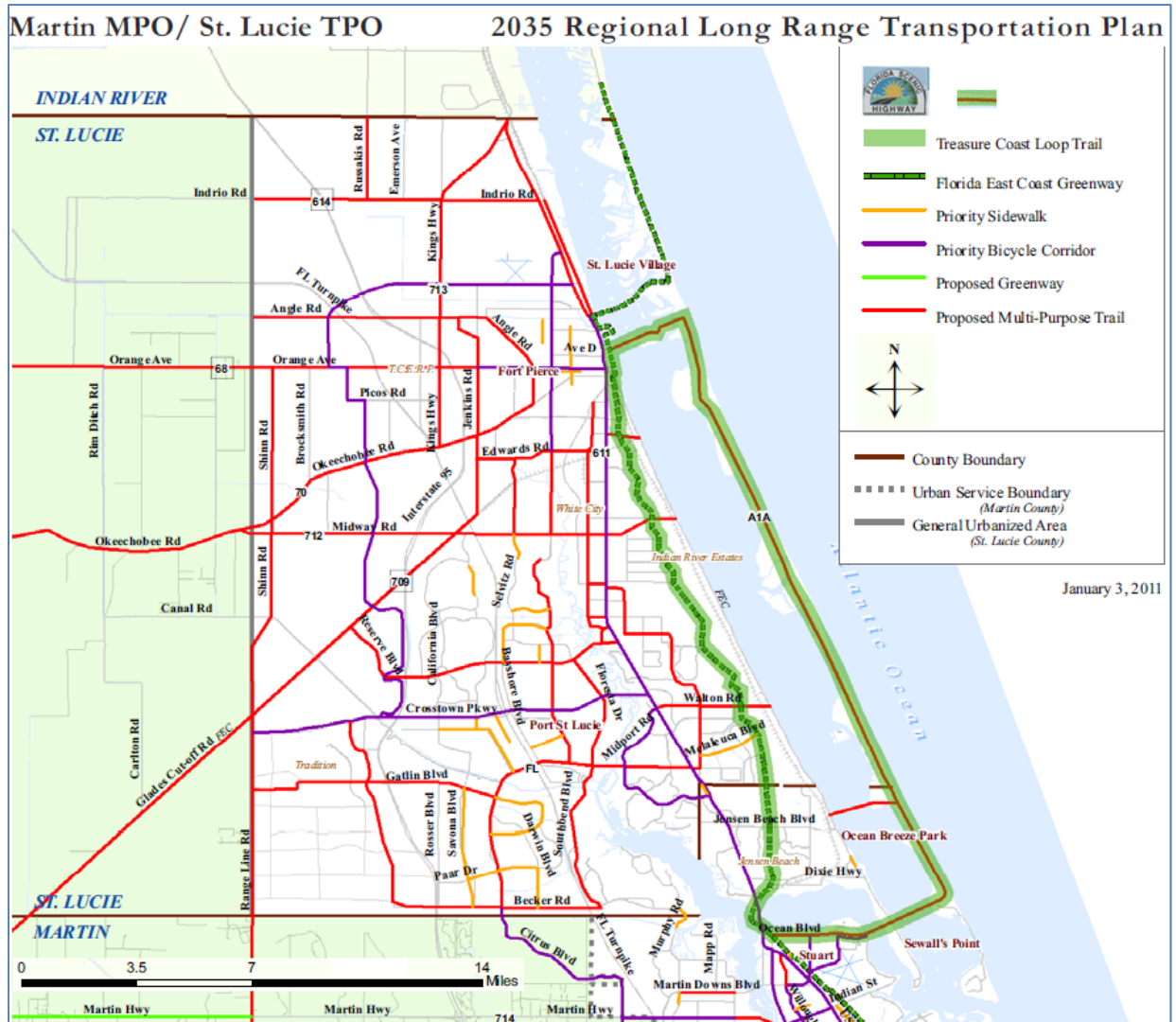
YEAR	Count site	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway (STATE ROUTE A1A)	AADT
2009	890157	SR A1A/MARTIN - ST LUCIE CO LINE	13300
2009	940719	SR A1A / S - S OF FPL POWER PLANT (COUNTY 719)	4200

2009	940711	SR A1A/S - E OF SR 5/US 1 (COUNTY 711)	11600
2009	940709	SR A1A / N - E OF SR 5/US 1 (COUNTY 709)	3500
2009	940705	SR A1A/N - N OF N BRIDGE CAUSWAY (COUNTY 705)	6600
2009	940703	SR A1A/N - S OF REGAL RD (COUNTY 703)	5500
2009	940123	SR 5/US 1 - S END OF TAYLOR CREEK BRIDGE (COUNTY 123)	25000
2009	940116	SR A1A / S - S OF BLUE HERON BLVD, FT PIERCE (COUNTY 116)	3600
2009	940115	SR A1A / S - E END OF S BRIDGE	12400
2009	940114	SR A1A / N - E END OF ICWW BR, ST LUCIE CO	7100
2009	945016	SR A1A/S - S OF SEAWAY DR (COUNTY 5016)	7500
YEAR	Count Site	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway (INDIAN RIVER DRIVE)	AADT
2009	940004	INDIAN RIVER DR - 707 S OF A1A / BRIDGE (COUNTY 4)	7100
2009	940003	CR 707/INDIAN RIVER DR - N OF ORANGE AVE (COUNTY 3)	5800
2009	947092	ON INDIAN RIVER DR - N. OF SAVANNAH RD (COUNTY 501)	4200
2009	947022	ON INDIAN RIVER DR - N. OF MARTIN COUNTY LINE (COUNTY 127)	5700
2009	947020	ON INDIAN RIVER DR - N. OF MIDWAY RD EAST (COUNTY 123)	4100
2009	945151	CR 707/INDIAN RIVER DR. - N. OF WALTON RD. (COUNTY 125)	4000
2009	945029	SR 707/INDIAN RIVER DR - N OF CITRUS AVE (COUNTY 5029)	6200



4.0 Corridor Vision After 5 Years

The vision of the corridor has been maintained over the five year period through the diligence and through the cooperation of businesses, citizens, homeowner associations and governments, among others. The Old Florida rural beach atmosphere, historical preservation, Coastal Greenways, and beach recreational access are being maintained within the vision. These ideas still represent the community's desire for the scenic corridor. The Treasure Coast Scenic Highway is a unique river to sea experience that encompasses exceptional natural, scenic, cultural, archeological, historical, educational and recreational resources. It runs through St. Lucie County and joins Florida's East Coast Greenway to Indian River County in the north with the Scenic & Historic A1A Scenic Highway. Traveling south along A1A in St. Lucie County, the A1A portion of the TCSH is proposed to become a 21 mile portion of what is known as the "Treasure Coast Loop Trail (TCLP)." The TCLP is a cost feasible 44 mile long loop trail proposed in the 2035 Joint Martin/St. Lucie Regional Long Range Transportation Plan.



Amtrak Passenger Rail on the FEC Flagler Line (TCSH)

http://www.tcrpc.org/special_projects/fec_amtrak/fec_amtrak_home.htm

The state wants to upgrade the coastal FEC freight lines into a network capable of carrying Amtrak's 90-mph trains. This train would result in a treasure coast scenic railway directly adjacent to the TCSH.

Once passenger rail service begins as planned, a twenty-two mile long St. Lucie County portion of the TCSH will be visible within one-half mile (walking distance) of treasure coast scenic railway which will have a boarding station in Fort Pierce.

Currently, Amtrak runs on CSX tracks that veer west to Orlando, then back east. The trip takes about nine hours from West Palm Beach to Jacksonville. Amtrak trains could make the entire 326-mile run from Miami to Jacksonville in only six hours using the existing FEC tracks.

In addition to rail upgrades, new Amtrak stations would be built in Stuart, Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Melbourne, Cocoa, Titusville, Daytona Beach and St. Augustine. The project would also include construction of a key rail interconnection between the CSX and FEC tracks in West Palm Beach that could allow Tri-Rail service to be extended north to Jupiter. Once passenger rail service begins, the St. Lucie County portion of the TCSH will be within walking distance of the treasure coast scenic railway station in Fort Pierce.

Last year, the Florida Department of Transportation applied for \$268 million in federal stimulus dollars, but the project wasn't far enough along to qualify for funding. The Amtrak/FEC corridor project will create an estimated 2,100 new jobs.



Photos Courtesy of St. Lucie TPO

The South Causeway Bridge Re-configuration Study (TCSH)

http://stlucietpo.org/pdf/SLTPO_South_Causeway_Bridge_061311_rev_from_12_to_11.pdf

The TPO and the City of Fort Pierce are engaging the public in an effort to enhance the TCSH. In accordance with USDOT policy, integrating bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on new, rehabilitated, and/or limited-access bridges with connections to streets or paths is encouraged. The South Causeway Bridge on South State Route A1A (the TCSH in Fort Pierce) is being considered for such accommodations as the current configuration is inadequate for both bicycles and pedestrians. An improvement may encourage a connected walking/bicycling environment from Downtown Fort Pierce to the beach. A study is being completed which evaluates the current configuration and includes the feasibility of a change, permitting and regulatory requirements, a public workshop with community members and other stakeholders, and an implementation plan. A consultant is being utilized for the study.

South Causeway Bridge
(A1A Treasure Coast Scenic Highway)



Existing 4 Lanes bike/ped 5' sidewalk



2 Lanes with Bike/Ped Enhancements



Photos Courtesy of St. Lucie TPO



5.0 Corridor Story

On September 29, 2006, Members of The Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Corridor Advocacy Group officially celebrated the designation of St. Lucie County Florida Scenic Highway during Friday Fest in Downtown Fort Pierce.

The Florida Department of Transportation approved portions of Indian River Drive and State Road A1A as part of Florida's Scenic Highway program in January. The Indian River Lagoon-Treasure Coast Scenic Highway corridor is approximately 42 miles in length and travels along SR A1A from the Indian River/St. Lucie County line, south along North Hutchinson Island, crossing over the Indian River Lagoon to U.S. 1. The scenic highway continues south on U.S. 1 to South A1A (Seaway Drive) to the St. Lucie County Martin County line. Indian River Drive (SR 707) is also part of the scenic highway, beginning at the Martin/St. Lucie County line continuing north to downtown Fort Pierce, ending at Seaway Drive.

Members of the Corridor Advocacy Group, which consisted of county staff members, elected officials, as well as residents and business representatives from the scenic highway, were stationed at an information booth, handing out balloons, pencils and information about St. Lucie County's Scenic Highway.

A1A is an historical coastal highway traveling through a nationally recognized ecosystem that captures —Old Florida from the time of Native American dominance to colonists and settlers, to movie producers, to tourists and to the residents who gravitate to Florida's East Coast. This river to sea corridor combines the changeable beauty of the ocean and beaches with the peacefully relaxing vistas of the river, separated by magnificent moss-laden oaks. It combines educational enrichment opportunities with a changing environment; it is simply a soothing, rejuvenating experience down a road to "Old Florida."

Facilities such as one-of-a-kind military and historical museums to environmental education centers will be easily identified as part of the 42-mile corridor that makes up the Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast Scenic Highway. But the corridor's best feature isn't its bricks and mortar. What makes the Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast Scenic Highway extraordinary is the view from the sandy, coastal dunes that drift out into the Atlantic Ocean to the mangrove-covered banks of the Indian River Lagoon – home to more than 4,000 species of plants and animals, including 50 species that are endangered or threatened.

This corridor is more than a paved path that takes you from Point A to Point B. It's an educational experience designed to enhance St. Lucie County's remarkable historical, cultural, and environmental resources.

Even though you are surrounded by Florida's natural beauty, it's the things you can't see that make this Scenic Highway truly unique, from the ghosts of World War II veterans, who stormed the beaches of Hutchinson Island before arriving in Normandy, to artists such as landscape painter A.E. Backus, Highwaymen Alfred Hair, and Harlem Renaissance author Zora Neale Hurston. It's the trace remnants of pineapple farms, fishing villages, Indian mounds, and military forts that rest along the banks of the Indian River that make this corridor worth designation. This watershed has been, and always will be, the lifeline of the community that surrounds it in the present and for the future generations to come.



6.0 Community Participation Program

Unfortunately CME meetings have dropped off. However, the TPO is a County wide agency responsible for transportation planning, programming, and financing of State and Federal Transportation Funds. The TPO's community participation program, through its many boards and committees, provides businesses, citizens, homeowner associations and local governments, among others, opportunities to provide input concerning the TCSH. For example, the South Causeway (A1A) Bridge Reconfiguration Study Public Input Meeting.

http://stlucietpo.org/pdf/SLTPO_South_Causeway_Bridge_061311_rev_from_12_to_11.pdf

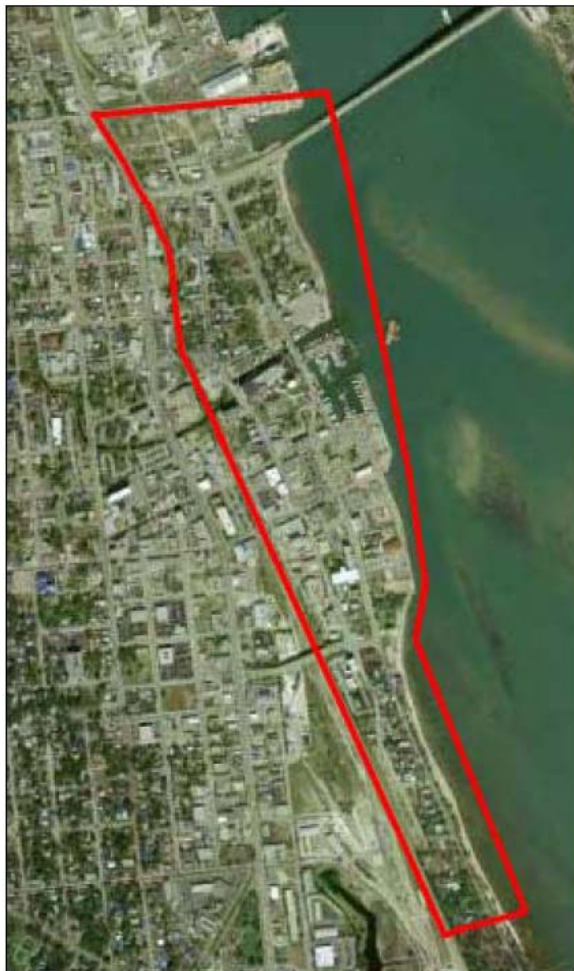


Photos Courtesy of St. Lucie TPO

Fort Pierce Downtown Charrette (TCSH)

http://www.tcrpc.org/departments/studio/fort_pierce_power_plant/flyer.pdf

http://www.tcrpc.org/departments/studio/fort_pierce_power_plant/fp_power_plant_home.htm



CHARRETTE PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Saturday March 15th, 2008 – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Historic City Hall

Southwest corner of Avenue A and US 1, Fort Pierce

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

Participants will be working with neighbors and with a team of professionals on their vision for the area. At the end of the day, citizens will present their ideas for the future of the area.



PRESENTATION OF WORK IN PROGRESS

Friday March 21st, 2008 – 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Fort Pierce Commission Chambers

100 North US - Fort Pierce, FL 34954

This two-hour session consists of a presentation of work in progress to unveil the conceptual master plan and to take into account additional citizen and professional input.

The City power plant along Indian River Drive in downtown Fort Pierce was demolished in 2009. The Redevelopment Master Plan of this 8 acre site includes an "entertainment district", with hotels, restaurants, retail and residential spaces. Also included in this Master Plan is the continuation of the Moore's Creek Linear Park, which will connect pedestrian access through the entire development along Moore's Creek, which intersects at this site with the Indian River Lagoon, across the street from the Manatee Center. Additional future development plans include Veteran's Park, a \$2,000,000 project which will reconfigure the park facility along Indian River Drive in downtown Fort Pierce. The park includes the Manatee Center, the RiverWalk, the Amphitheater, the Community Center, and the Backus Art Gallery.

Through public outreach efforts, the TPO is providing coordination for the planning, prioritizing, funding, and implementation of bicycle, pedestrian, and/or greenway facilities along the TCSH corridor in accordance with the goals, objectives and strategies of the corridor.

The St. Lucie County home of the TCSC Our vision of the future is to preserve as much of the past and natural surroundings as we can. The extraordinary efforts of volunteers, combined with the implementation of the Municipal Ordinances, Comprehensive Plans, Land Development Regulations, and the Site Review Protocol, will help us continue to achieve this goal.



7.0 Corridor Local Support

The TPO's Community Participation Program has been fully functioning but the CME's has not. St. Lucie County's sponsorship of the CME was suspended in 2007 due to budget cuts and the group has not proven to be viable on its own. However, TPO has assumed the role of the CME until meetings resume. The St. Lucie TPO, the FDOT, and the City of Fort Pierce have continued to move forward with identified improvements to the corridor. The TPO continues the public involvement process (PIP) with regular public meetings of the CAC, TAC, BPAC, LCB and TPO Board. Once the TCSHC is continued public and involvement will be encouraged in accord with the TPO's UPWP PIP objectives which include Website Redesign and Maintenance, Major PIP Update and Annual PIP Evaluation of Effectiveness



8.0 Corridor Evaluation of Protection Techniques

The City of Fort Pierce municipality has completed a two-year shoreline restoration project (CMP Objective 1.1 and 1.2) which removed exotic vegetation and replanted a 50 foot buffer and natural dune vegetation. Almost every City-owned beach park has been renovated (Objective 1.4). The Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (local CRA) purchased a blighted hotel building and demolished it for use as extra parking for scenic travelers (CMP Objective 1.6). Plans are underway for improvements for enhanced recreational access at Veteran's Memorial Park and Old Fort Park (CMP Objective 1.3).

St. Lucie County is now a certified "Green County," joining the ranks of only five other Florida counties to receive this prestigious recognition from the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC).

"Receiving the Green County designation is a proud moment for St. Lucie County," said Board of County Commissioners Chairman Charles Grande. "I'm especially proud of all the County employees who came together and worked cooperatively to find ways we could operate more efficiently and save taxpayer dollars."

The FGBC uses a standard of criteria to evaluate performance in implementing policies and programs in the areas of energy, water, air, land, waste and education/awareness. St. Lucie County submitted a several-hundred-page application to the FGBC in September 2009. It was evaluated using a point system, with St. Lucie County achieving gold level certification for its exceptional stewardship and sustainability initiatives. St. Lucie County is currently tied with Indian River County for the third highest score in the FGBC application process.

Many of the policies and programs that led to St. Lucie County's gold level score had already been in place for some time prior to initiating the certification process, including the environmentally significant lands program, innovative land planning codes and policies and numerous educational and community outreach programs. Additional credits were earned from recently adopted policies and programs, including the County's implementation of environmentally preferred purchasing standards, green cleaning and landscaping policies, databases to track green certified buildings, and an energy and water manager position to coordinate green programs and track resultant cost savings.

The recommendation to pursue green local government certification came from the St. Lucie County Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC), an advisory board commissioned by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners.

"Becoming a Green County is much more than developing a stewardship mindset within county government," said SAC Chairman Alan Gilbert, executive director of Facilities and Maintenance for the St. Lucie County School District. "It has to be embraced by business people and individual citizens to be truly successful. This initiative being driven by the business people, industry representatives, and citizen ambassadors that make up the Committee speaks volumes to the commitment of our community."

May 20, 2010: FORT PIERCE Sand Dollar Shores resident Peter Degen, who watched hurricanes erode his beach, said he's ready for a restoration project to begin as early as the summer of next year. "If you look at the beaches there," he said, "there is no beach. High tide brings water up to the dune level." As a member of the condominium's board of directors since 2003, Degen joined more than 50 people Wednesday night at a public meeting in St. Lucie County Commission Chambers about the Environmental Impact Statement for the South Beach and Dune Restoration Project. Five buildings of Degan's condominium are in the project's 3.8-mile stretch from the Walton Road area to the St. Lucie/Martin county

line. "The preservation of the beaches is a must," Degen said. The meeting is the first step in the Environmental Impact Statement process meant to identify issues related to the project. St. Lucie County submitted applications for the project to the state and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which determined the need for the statement. Corps project manager Garrett Lips explained the project would consist of dredging sand less than three miles offshore from the project site and moving it to the shore to restore the beach and dune. The project was predicted to cost about \$10 million split nearly even between the county and the state. The estimated environmental impact is to 1.08 acres of hard bottom habitat, which may affect endangered species like nesting and swimming turtles, manatees and smalltooth sawfish. At the meeting, people voiced concerns about the animals and the environmental impact of the project. Comments and questions from the public were recorded to be taken into consideration.

South Ocean Drive resident Robert Wolfe was concerned how the dredging would affect ocean swells. He asked them to include a wave study analysis in the statement process. As president of a committee representing 38 homeowner associations on Hutchinson Island called the President's Council, Pat Pacitti said the beach needs its sand back. No vegetation or beach remained after the 2004 hurricane season, she said. Residents would get up at 4:30 a.m. to help disoriented baby turtles. "The people that live on the island really do care about the environment," Pacitti said. "They actually live it."

Source: <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2010/may/20/corps-of-engineers-takes-public-comment-on-st/>



9.0 Corridor Funding

Funding sources for maintenance and enhancements of the TCSH are obtained from a variety of sources and by a variety of agencies. Mostly from the FDOT, FHWA and from various local government offices of those communities which have passed resolutions supporting the program.

April 21, 2010 FORT PIERCE — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency with \$600,000 in grants as part of an effort to help communities revitalize contaminated properties.

http://cityoffortpierce.com/pdf/Arial_of_HD_King_Power_Plant_Property.pdf

FPRA Director Jon Ward said the money would be used to clean up the former H.D. King Power Plant site on Indian River Drive. The grants will cover the entire cost of the cleanup, Ward said. The Redevelopment Agency already has spent \$100,000 on the cleanup with a grant it received from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. City officials want to see a hotel built on the property. In all, the EPA awarded eight communities in Florida with \$3 million in Brownfield grants. Fort Pierce was the only government agency on the Treasure Coast to receive grant money. Brownfields are parcels of land where their reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance.



10.0 Corridor Promotion and Measuring Success

<http://www.floridascenichighways.com/sights-sounds/ir-treasure-gallery/>



11.0 Local Government Comprehensive Plan Relationship

Existing policies in the Coastal Element and Conservation Element of the St. Lucie Comprehensive Plan provide measurable targets (through the site plan review process) to encourage preservation of scenic views and intrinsic qualities unique to the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway (Indian River Drive and A1A).

[http://www.stlucieco.gov/pdfs/EAR_Adopted_10-28-08_\(2\).pdf](http://www.stlucieco.gov/pdfs/EAR_Adopted_10-28-08_(2).pdf)



12.0 Corridor Partnershipships

<http://harbourisleflorida.com/>





13.0 Problem Areas





[illegible]

24



Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
772-462-1593
[www. treasurecoastscenichighway.com](http://www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com)

TREASURE COAST SCENIC HIGHWAY (TCSH) COMMITTEE

Corridor Management Plan Update Virtual Discussion

Thursday, May 28, 2026
10:00am

1. **Welcome / Introductions**

Stephanie Torres, St. Lucie TPO
Mike Palozzi, Atkins Realis for FDOT D4 Scenic Hwy Program
Diana Gregory, IR Drive Resident, TCSHC Chairwoman
Eileen Emery, S. Hutch Resident, TCSHC Vice-Chair
Caleta Scott, SLC Resident
Marissa DaBreo-Latchman, City of PSL Planning
Morgan Phelps, SLC Planning

Ms. Torres reviews the intent of this meeting; considering the April meeting was not held due to quorum not being met, to continue progress on the CMP update this virtual meeting is being held in advance of the June 26th meeting for discussion purposes.

2. **Review Section III: Corridor Vision of Current CMP**

To honor our predecessors and expand on their initial vision, the iteration of the Corridor Vision section from our original CMP will morph into the Executive Summary of the 2026 update. In doing so we will need to highlight the significance and evolution of the corridor from 2006 – 2026. The Executive Summary should not only reflect where the corridor has been but also inspire collective action for where we are going.

3. **Review Vision & Mission Statement Adopted 9/8/2016**

The 2026 Vision and Mission Statement Updates by making them more tangible. As our next refinement of these statements should indicate our HOW– “To preserve and enhance the cultural, historic, recreational, and natural resources of the area... now let’s expand on ... How will we accomplish this?

Ms. Torres notes that there are restoration projects happening to the North and South but not aware of any within the county. Irene, Caleta and Diana

provided an update that there are several environmental projects occurring along the IR Lagoon within SLC.

3. Next Steps / Action Items

Committee Members to provide significant events, corridor improvements, planning milestones, and notable projects that have occurred along the byway since the last update. (2006 – Present).

8. Recommendations/Comments by Members

9. Staff Comments

Stephanie encouraged all members to follow the IRLTCSH Instagram page. Also asked for photo submissions for social media pages and article content for the TCSHC Newsletter.

10. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the TCSHC will be a regular meeting on Friday, June 26 at 10am.

11. Adjourn

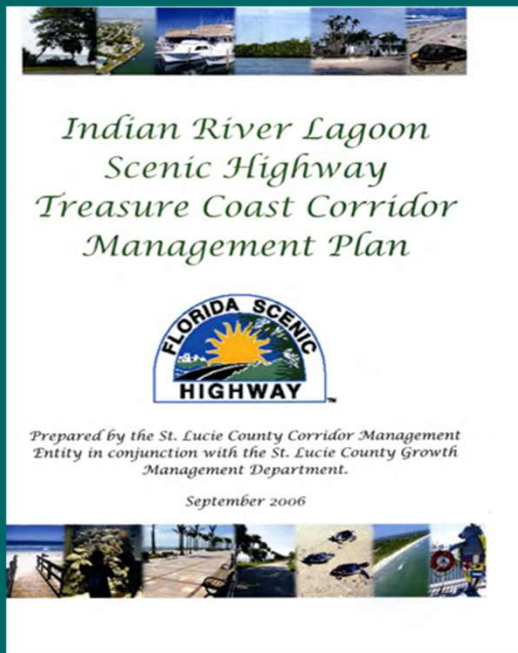


Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee Corridor Management Plan Update Discussion

May 28, 2026

Protect, Preserve and Maintain / Enhance Access / Increase Support / Educate and Promote

Thank you all for attending. Today's meeting will begin to dive into our CMP update. We are going to work through this process section by section and can use these virtual meetings as organizational meetings that will present our findings and bring them to the committee at large for approval and acceptance.



Protect, Preserve and Maintain / Enhance Access / Increase Support / Educate and Promote

As a result of our 2026 Annual Work Plan and at the suggestion of FDOT FSHP Coordinator, one of our Major Work Plan activities is to update the Corridor Management Plan for the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway.

One of the Agenda items for the April meeting was a review and update to the TCSHC Vision & Mission Statement to better align the committee's policies, procedures, goals, and objectives with the evolving vision and priorities of the TCSHC.

III. CORRIDOR VISION:

As St. Lucie County celebrated its centennial in 2005, there was no greater time to realize that preserving the past and protecting the future is so important to the citizens of St. Lucie County. To honor the 42-mile corridor as part of the Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Designation, local leaders and current residents can share with tourists and future residents the natural beauty and unique heritage that St. Lucie County has cultivated over the past 100 years.

Since St. Lucie County is ranked as one of the most rapidly growing regions in the country, it is no surprise that developers are clearing the valuable land for their high-rise condos and multi-millions dollar homes along A1A and Indian River Drive at an unprecedented rate. This development has unfortunately contributed to the pervasive problems of invasive exotic plants such as Australian pines and Old World Climbing Fern. These disturbed areas of development have given invasive exotic plants the ability to out-compete much of the native vegetation along the Indian River Lagoon. Fortunately, city and county officials can take advantage of the Scenic Highway Designation to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway. In turn, state and federal grant funds will be used to plant additional vegetation. Removing problematic vegetation and replacing them with well-adapted native species, like Sabal Palms, Mangroves, Sea Grape, and Oak trees, will greatly reduce the propensity of storm damage. It would also provide native habitat for many species of animals (especially listed species).

The Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway's extraordinary view from the rolling, coastal dunes that fade into the Atlantic Ocean horizon to the mangrove-covered banks overpowers the already inspiring facilities such as one-of-a-kind military and historical museums and environmental education centers. The Scenic Highway Designation gives community leaders even more protection for the native habitats and pristine landscapes that are home to more than 4,000 plant and animal species, many of which are already endangered or threatened.

The corridor is much more than a simple pathway. It is an educational journey through St. Lucie County's remarkable history, culture, and natural environment.

Although Florida's natural beauty is clear to the eyes of those who experience this Scenic Highway, its uniqueness comes from what can't be seen. It is the ghosts of World War II veterans, who stormed the beaches of Hutchinson Island before arriving in Normandy, it is the artists such as landscape painter A.E. Backus, Highwayman Alfred Hair and Harlem Renaissance author Zora Neale Hurston, it is the trace remnants of pineapples farms, fishing villages, Indian mounds and military forts that rest along the banks of the Indian River that make this corridor worthy of designation. From the past to the present, this watershed is the lifeblood of the community that surrounds it. It is up to the community to protect this fragile eco-system for future generations to enjoy.



INDIAN RIVER LAGOON SCENIC HIGHWAY TREASURE COAST CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT ENTITY VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

(Adopted September 8, 2016)

- To preserve and enhance the cultural, historic, recreational, and natural resources of the area
- To promote appreciation and enjoyment of the area through improved access, information, and education for all visitors and residents

Protect, Preserve and Maintain / Enhance Access / Increase Support / Educate and Promote

The 2006 Corridor Vision was the first iteration of the TCSHC Vision Statement, the most current 2016 Vision and Mission Statement was updated and was effective in streamlining our statements to make the vision and mission of the committee more concise.

The goal of the 2026 CMP Update will assess whether the current vision, mission, goals and objectives continue to reflect the intended purpose of the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee and then move a step further to refine these statements to more clearly articulate how they will be achieved through planning, coordination, education, stewardship, and implementation efforts.

To honor our predecessors and expand on their initial vision, the iteration of the Corridor Vision section from our original CMP will morph into the Executive Summary of the 2026 update. In doing so we will need to highlight the significance and evolution of the corridor from 2006 – 2026. The Executive Summary should not only reflect where the corridor has been but also inspire collective action for where we are going.

The 2026 Vision and Mission Statement Updates by making them more tangible.

As our next refinement of these statements should indicate our HOW–

“To preserve and enhance the cultural, historic, recreational, and natural resources of the area... now let’s expand on ... How will we accomplish this?

In advance of our June 26th meeting, I am requesting input on significant events corridor improvements, planning milestones, or notable projects that have occurred along the Scenic Highway Corridor over the past approximately 16 years since our last update. This may include infrastructure projects, safety improvements, environmental restoration efforts, heritage or cultural designation activities or major community events.

The intent is to incorporate these milestones into the 2026 CMP Update to illustrate the evolution of the corridor from 2006 to present day.

I would like for committee members to provide input on these items by June 15th for inclusion in the Agenda Packet for the June 26th meeting.

NEXT TCSHC MEETING



Friday, June 26, 2026

10:00 am

The next TCSHC meeting will be on Friday, June 26, 2026 at 10:00am.

Treasure Coast Scenic Byway: Listing of Accomplishments

From Diana Gregory <dianagregory@comcast.net>

Date Mon 6/15/2026 12:04 PM

To Stephanie Torres <Stephanie.Torres@stlucieco.gov>

Cc Diana Gregory <dianagregory@comcast.net>

SECURITY WARNING: This email originated from outside the County systems. Please show caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Miss Stephanie - hi:

Here's my list of things that have been accomplished via our Byways Committee.

I sincerely believe the most important accomplishment is the last one.

- Created logo representing the essence of Indian River Drive and the lagoon:



-
- Created and developed brochure outlining points of interest on and close to our scenic byway:
 - Hard copy of map and interactive map on website
 - [Interactive Map | Treasure Coast Scenic Highway](#)
- Byway website created:
 - [Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast Scenic Highway | Florida Scenic Highways](#)
- Byway Facebook page created:
 - 3.2K followers
 - Well maintained in offering of upcoming community events
- Byway quarterly newsletter - "Highway Highlights" created:
 - [TCSHCNewsletter_Volume3_February2026.pdf](#)
- Defined and organized working sub-committees for targeted identification and development of our byway's needs and resources:
 - Public Outreach, Partner Outreach, Funding, etc.
- Video of highlights of IRLTCSH completed and aired on Florida Channel's "Florida Crossroads"
 - [April 23, 2026: Florida Crossroads: Florida Scenic Highways and Byways: Southern Region - The Florida Channel](#)
- Increased visibility to promote and participate in local community events:
 - National Kids Day to Parks, IRL Annual Science Festival, etc.
 - Offering of activities and appropriate take-home items for children visiting the byway's booth
- Consistency in attention, creative contributions, encouragement, and engagement of the dedicated Byway Committee coordinator from TPO staff.

Let me know if you have any questions or if I may be of any assistance.

Diana

Cell/text: 772 486.6135

Please Note: Florida has very broad public records laws. Most written communications to or from County officials regarding County business are public records available to the public and media upon request. It is the policy of St. Lucie County that all County records shall be open for personal inspection, examination and / or copying. Your e-mail communications will be subject to public disclosure unless an exemption applies to the communication. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete all materials from all computers.



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)
Meeting Date:	June 26, 2026
Item Number:	7
Item Title:	TCSH Newsletter Approval
Item Origination:	Florida Scenic Highway Program (FSHP) Requirements
UPWP Reference:	Task 4.2: Intergovernmental Planning and Coordination
Requested Action:	Approve the current edition of the TCSH Newsletter for distribution, approve with conditions, or do not approve.
Staff Recommendation:	Because the distribution of the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Newsletter aligns with the TCSHC 2026 Work Plan Goals, it is recommended that the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Newsletter be approved for distribution.

Attachments

- Vol. 4 – June 2026 TCSH Newsletter



WELCOME TO THE
TREASURE COAST SCENIC
HIGHWAY QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER.

We're thrilled to have you along for the ride as we explore the natural beauty, vibrant communities, and hidden gems that make the Treasure Coast a place like no other. Each Season, we'll bring you the latest updates, upcoming events, local spotlights, and ways you can get involved in preserving and celebrating this stunning stretch of Florida's coastline. Long-time residents, new neighbors, or visitors just passing through, there's always something new to discover along the Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast Scenic Highway.



HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS

46

Volume 4

June 2026

Florida Scenic Highway Program hosts 2026 Annual Meeting at Captian Hiram's Resort



L to R: Mike Palozzi, Dean Stoddart (FDOT Central Office), Stephanie Torres (TCSHC), Morgan Phelps (TCSHC), Kaylee Kildare (FDOT D4)

Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee representatives Morgan Phelps, SLC Planning and Stephanie Torres, St. Lucie TPO proudly attended the Florida Scenic Highways Program 2026 Annual Meeting on March 25th at Captian Hiram's Resort. This year's theme, "A Celebration of Heritage and Highways: America 250 and 30 Years of the FSHP", set the tone for a full day of reflection, inspiration, and forward-thinking conversations. The day kicked off with a warm welcome from Dean Stoddart, FDOT Central Office, FSHP Program Coordinator, followed by a program update highlighting the evolution of Florida's Scenic Highways over the past 30 years and their role in the upcoming America 250 commemoration.

(continued page 2)

WWW.TREASURECOASTSCENICHIGHWAY.COM

ST. LUCIE TPO, 466 SW PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL. SUITE 111, PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL. 34953

HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS



47

Pg. 2



Dean Stoddart, FDOT Central Office, FSHP Coordinator

FSHP hosts Annual Meeting at Captian Hiram's (cont'd)

Scenic Highway Coordinators, byway organizations, and volunteers from across the state then heard from Visit Florida on partnership opportunities to further promote scenic byways, setting the stage for collaboration and increased visibility for corridors like the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway. A particularly engaging segment focused on our partner byway to the North, Nick Sanzone from the Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway was joined by City of Sebastian Mayor, Fred Jones who offered local success stories that resonated strongly with the Treasure Coast and the Indian River Lagoon and the National Estuary. Throughout the afternoon, sessions explored practical and relatable topics for byway organizations. A panel on preventing byway burnout provided candid insights and strategies for sustaining volunteer engagement, while another session focused on long-term organizational success.

The meeting concluded with a byway leaders roundtable, celebrating past accomplishments while looking ahead to future opportunities. Overall, the event was both informative and energizing, reinforcing the importance of collaboration, storytelling, and community involvement.



Florida Scenic Highways Program 2026 Annual Meeting at Captian Hiram's Resort in Sebastian Florida

Experience the Scenic Highway: What's Happening with Our Partners

The Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee is proud to support and spotlight events hosted by our dedicated partner organizations. These upcoming activities offer unique opportunities to engage with the treasures found along the scenic highway corridor. Be sure to mark your calendar and take part in the events that help make the Treasure Coast a vibrant and scenic destination!

Manatee Center

480 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34950
www.manateecenter.org



The Manatee Center is OPEN during the roadway construction on Indian River Drive.

Manatee
Center

LEARN AT THE LAGOON



Free Community Day - Last Wednesday Each Month 10:00am - 4:00pm

As a way of making coastal discovery accessible for everyone the Manatee Center is opening its doors and waiving admission for the day! Free Community Day takes place the last Wednesday of each month.

ManaTales Storytime Program - Ongoing Weekly - 9:30 and 11:00am

Join us in the outdoor classroom for a morning full of fun, learning, and connection! Each session includes a themed story, a hands-on activity, music and movement time. Guests also receive free passes to the Manatee Center and a Gift Store Discount! Call [772-429-6266](tel:772-429-6266) x3337 to RSVP.

Space fills quickly so reserve your spot today!

St. Lucie County Regional History Museum

414 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34950
<https://stluciehistoricalsociety.net>



Overlooking the magnificent Indian River in Museum Point Park, the Regional History Center offers a glimpse at the foundation of St. Lucie County and the Treasure Coast. From our earliest known residents, the Ais Indians, to the Creek and later the Seminoles, you can see their lifestyle in the artifacts and displays. Trace the rise of the fishing industry and the failed efforts at making us the "Pineapple Capital of the World." Go shopping in Cobb's General Store or walk down Main Street, past the doctor's office and the printing press. Step back into the 1900s with a tour of the fully furnished Gardner House. The Regional History Museum is open thanks to the St. Lucie Historical Society and staffed by volunteers. The museum is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10am - 4pm and closed on Sunday and Monday.

<https://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-and-services/parks-recreation-department/st-lucie-county-regional-history-center>

Experience the Scenic Highway: More from Our Partners

Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit

420 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce, FL

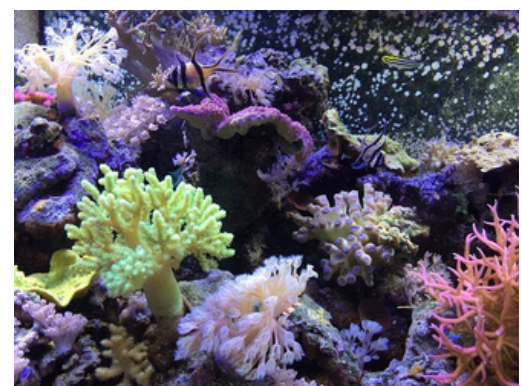
The Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit at the St. Lucie County Aquarium is dedicated to educating the general public and school groups about the critical need to preserve the diversity and complexity of Florida's marine environments.

At the Aquarium, visitors can explore living models of six different Florida marine and estuarine ecosystems while learning about the importance and intricacy of these ecosystems. The largest display is a spectacular living model of a Caribbean coral reef ecosystem. Other displays include seagrass, mangrove, lagoon hardbottom, and nearshore reef habitats, as well as a deepwater Oculina coral reef. There are several smaller aquarium displays and



microscope displays where visitors can get a glimpse of the microscopic world. A touch tank also allows visitors an up-close encounter with local marine life. Created and managed through a partnership between the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners and the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce, this 5,000-square-foot facility features more than 5,000 gallons of marine life. The Aquarium's six aquarium displays and touch tank accurately reflect the habitats typically found in the Indian River Lagoon and surrounding coastal waters.

The St. Lucie County Aquarium, featuring the Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit, opened in November of 2001, after the center's main 3,000-gallon coral reef exhibit was being retired from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. Smithsonian scientists were the first to put a living model of an Atlantic coral reef ecosystem on display for the public.





New S.R. A1A North Causeway Bridge opened May 15, 2026. This new high-level fixed bridge replaces the existing drawbridge, providing a more reliable connection between S.R. A1A and U.S. 1/S.R. 5.



The project represents a major investment in improving safety, enhancing infrastructure resiliency, and strengthening connectivity for residents, visitors, and marine traffic throughout St. Lucie County.

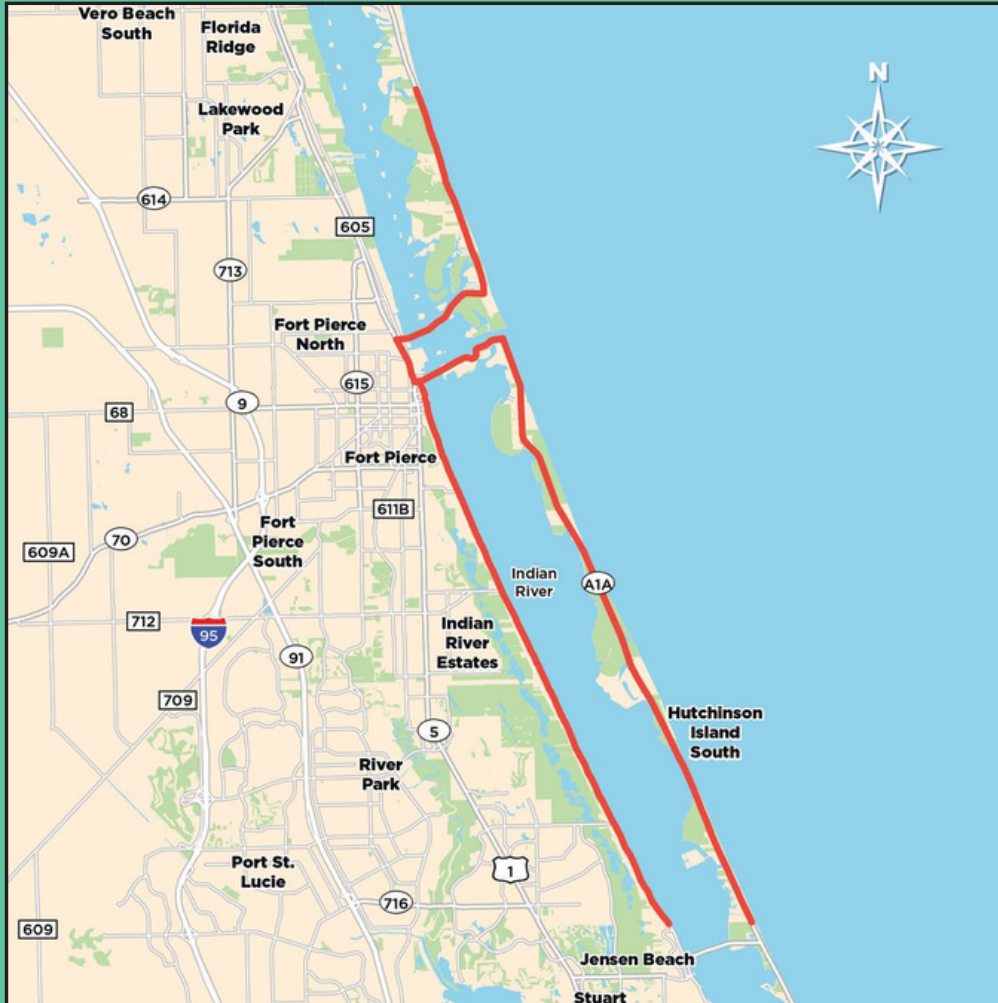
Key features include:

- One 12-foot travel lane in each direction
- Improved navigational clearance for marine traffic (85 ft vertical / 125 ft horizontal)
- Barrier-protected sidewalk and shared-use path for pedestrians and cyclists
- Buffered bicycle lanes on both sides of the bridge
- New observation deck (opening at a later phase)

⚠ Please note: At opening, some pedestrian and bicycle features, as well as the observation deck, will remain temporarily closed as construction continues. The existing drawbridge will be permanently closed and removed as part of the final phase of the project, with construction continuing through late 2027.

For more information, please visit www.d4fdot.com.





Great views of the Indian River Lagoon, the Atlantic Ocean can be enjoyed along this byway, which is filled with historical, cultural and environmental resources. World War II soldiers trained on Florida's beaches here in preparation for the Normandy invasion, and numerous artists and writers have been inspired by the beauty of the region.



Real Places. Real Stories.

We Want to Feature YOU! Share Your Scenic Story

Do you have a favorite memory, hidden gem, or community project along the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway? We're looking for inspiring stories, personal experiences, local spotlights, and photos to include in upcoming newsletters! Whether you're a resident, volunteer, business owner, or simply someone who loves the byway, we'd love to hear from you. Help us showcase the people and places that make the Treasure Coast so special. Submit your story or suggestion today to: stephanie.torres@stlucieco.gov

Join Us in Preserving the Beauty of the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway!

Committee Members Needed



Are you passionate about protecting Florida's natural beauty and cultural heritage? Do you want to make a meaningful impact in your community? The Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee is looking for enthusiastic new members to join our team! As a committee member, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with local leaders, residents, and organizations to promote tourism, sustainability and community pride. If you're a long-time resident, a business owner, or simply someone who loves the charm of the Treasure Coast, we welcome your voice and vision. Contact Stephanie Torres, St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization at stephanie.torres@stlucieco.gov.



HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS

52

Pg. 7



@IRLTCSH

The Indian River Lagoon Treasure Coast Scenic Highway is a proud member of the Florida Scenic Highways Program (FSHP). FSHP was established to showcase the outstanding intrinsic resources (cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, natural and scenic) that can be found along Florida's highway system.

The Florida Scenic Highway Program byway collection includes 27 state designated scenic highways. Of these, six are further designated at a federal level as National Scenic Byways, and the Florida Keys Scenic Highway and A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway are designated as All-American Roads.

The program is a grass-roots effort to heighten awareness of these resources which enhance the overall traveling experience in Florida. Program participation provides benefits to each byway's region, including resource preservation, enhancement and economic development. More information on the state program can be found at: <https://floridascenichighways.com/>



Jimmy Buffet Memorial Highway, Fort Pierce

WWW.TREASURECOASTSCENICHIGHWAY.COM

ST. LUCIE TPO, 466 SW PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL. SUITE 111, PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL. 34953



Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)
Meeting Date:	June 26, 2026
Item Number:	8
Item Title:	TSCH Updated Brochure / Rack Cards
Item Origination:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee
UPWP Reference:	Task 4.2: Intergovernmental Planning and Coordination
Requested Action:	Review of the concept layout for the updated Treasure Coast Scenic Highway rack card
Staff Recommendation:	Review and Approve TCSH rack cards for distribution, approve with conditions or do not approve.

Attachments

- Staff Report
- Concept Postcard Designs



Coco Vista Centre
466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)

THROUGH: Peter Buchwald
Executive Director

FROM: Stephanie M. Torres
Bicycle Pedestrian Program Manager

DATE: May 28, 2026

SUBJECT: **TCSH Updated Brochure / Rack Cards**

BACKGROUND

The Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee utilizes promotional materials to increase public awareness of the Scenic Highway, encourage visitation, and highlight the corridor's unique intrinsic resources. The current brochure has served as a valuable outreach tool. However, an updated format presents an opportunity to better engage residents and visitors while showcasing the corridor's diverse attractions and experiences.

As part of the committee's ongoing marketing and outreach efforts, alternative brochure concepts that provide greater visual appeal, flexibility, and distribution opportunities have been explored.

ANALYSIS

A transition from the existing brochure format to a series of rack card-style postcards designed to highlight the distinctive characteristics of the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway is being proposed. The new concept would consist of individual postcards that can be displayed together or distributed separately, allowing visitors to collect and share them as keepsakes while promoting the Scenic Highway experience. The post card will feature a QR code that links viewers to the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway websites and social media pages to encourage continued engagement after visitors depart the Scenic Highway.

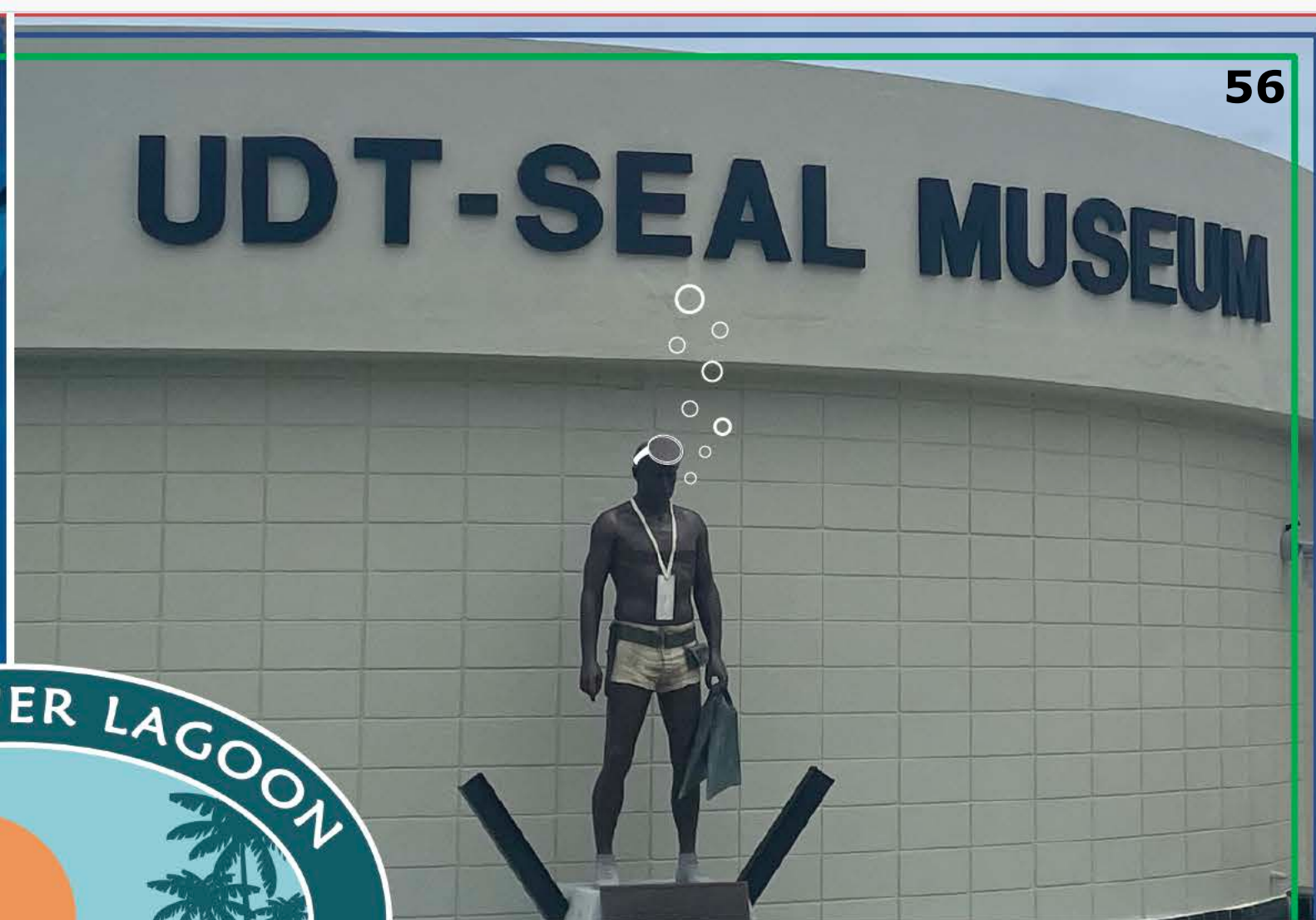
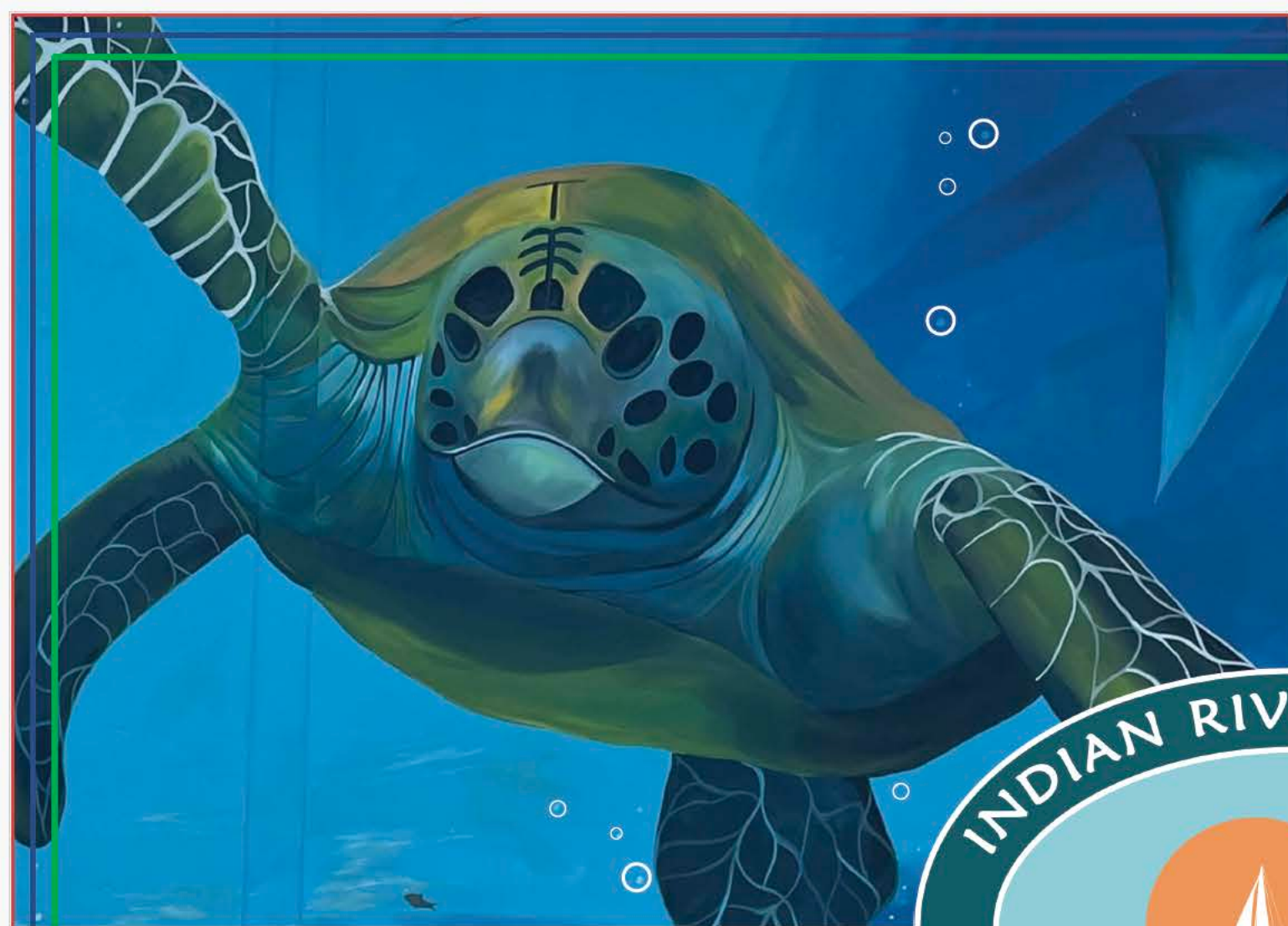
The proposal design focuses on three primary themes that represent the corridor's intrinsic resources and identity:

- Art – Showcasing the artistic heritage of the corridor's local arts districts, murals, galleries and cultural destinations.
- Nature - Highlighting the corridor's environmental treasures of the lagoon, beaches and other natural areas.
- History – Featuring the region's rich history through cultural, military, and other significant historical resources.

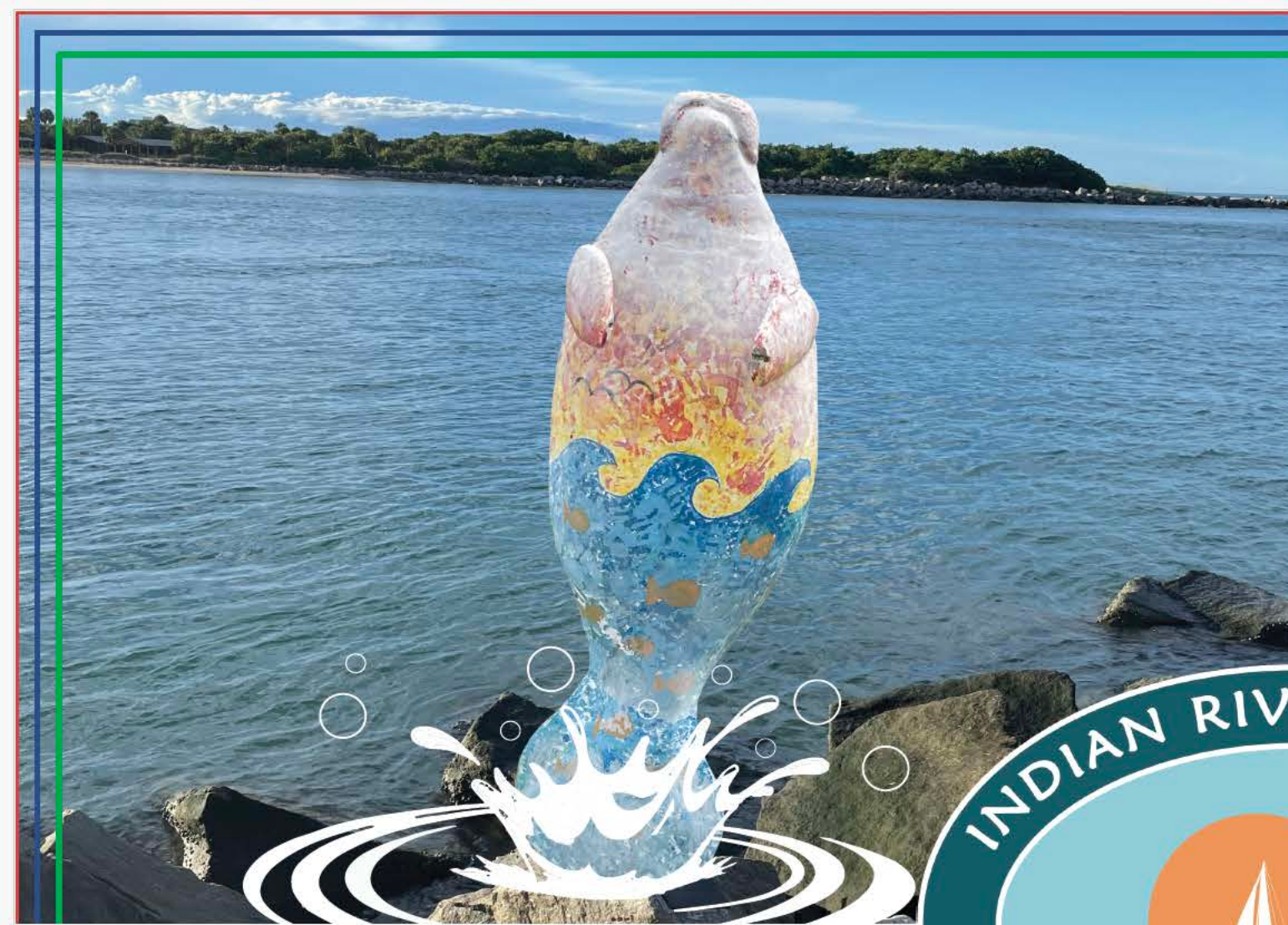
This approach provides a fresh and engaging marketing tool that aligns with the current tourism trends, encourages exploration of the Scenic Highway's many destinations, and supports the committee's goals of promoting awareness, stewardship, and appreciation of the Treasure Coast .

RECOMMENDATION

Because a refresh of the Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Brochure aligns with the TCHSC 2026 Work Plan Goals, it is recommended that the committee review and approve the TCSH rack cards for distribution.



UDT-SEAL MUSEUM

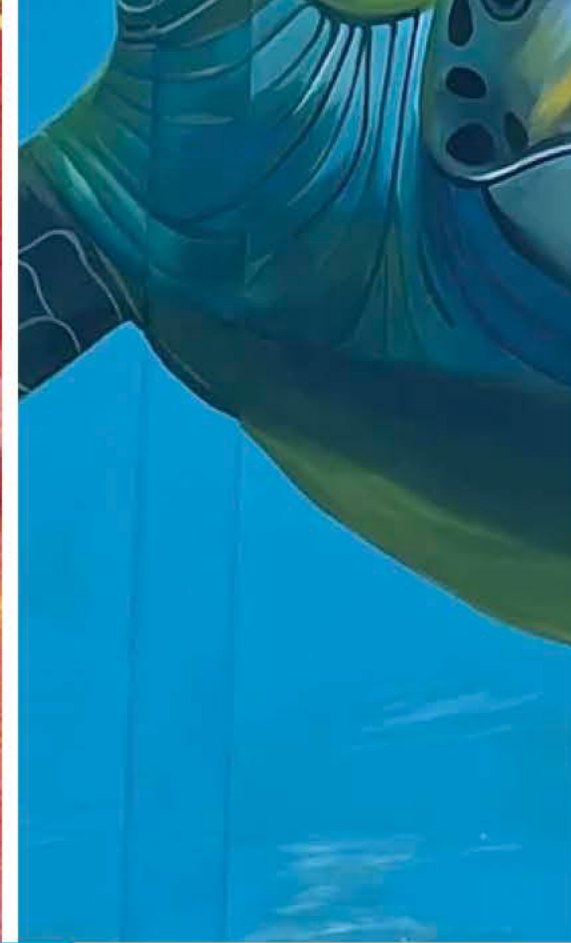




Art

Nature

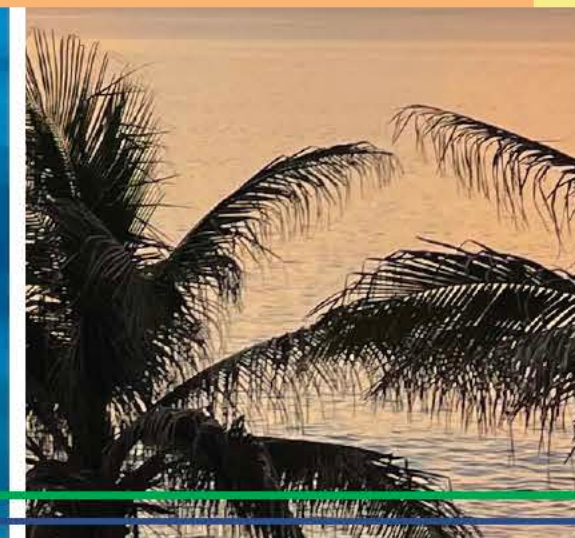
History



Art

Nature

History





Coco Vista Centre
 466 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Suite 111
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34953
 772-462-1593
www.treasurecoastscenichighway.com

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Board/Committee:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee (TCSHC)
Meeting Date:	June 26, 2026
Item Number:	9
Item Title:	Highlights from the Florida Scenic Highway Program Annual Meeting
Item Origination:	Treasure Coast Scenic Highway Committee
UPWP Reference:	Task 4.2: Intergovernmental Planning and Coordination
Requested Action:	Discuss and provide comments. Ms. Torres will provide an overview of the Florida Scenic Highway Program Annual Meeting in Sebastian, Florida.
Staff Recommendation:	Not applicable.

Attachments

- Florida Scenic Highways Program Annual Meeting Agenda
- Florida Scenic Highways Program Annual Meeting Presentation



Florida Scenic Highways Program Annual Meeting 2026

March 25, 2026

Capt. Hiram's Resort – Sebastian, Florida

A Celebration of Heritage and Highways: America 250 and 30 Years of the FSHP

Wednesday, March 25th – Speakers/Sessions

9 AM – 5 PM – District Scenic Highways Coordinators, Byway Organizations and Volunteers

9:00 – 9:15 AM: Sign in

9:15 – 9:30 AM: Welcome

- Dean Stoddart, Program Coordinator, Florida Scenic Highways Program, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and John Tyler, FDOT District 5 Secretary

9:30 – 10:00 AM: Program Update and Reflecting on the Journey: America 250 and 30 Years of FSHP

- Dean Stoddart

10:00 – 10:15 AM: Break

10:15 – 11:00 AM: Visit Florida: Partnering to Promote Florida's Scenic Highways

- Melissa Brooks, Visit Florida

11:00 – 11:30 AM: Local Story: The Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway

- Nick Sanzone, Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway President, and Fred Jones, City of Sebastian Mayor

11:30 – 12:45 PM: Lunch

12:45 – 1:45 PM: Preventing Byway Burnout (Panel)

- Mike Palozzi, AtkinsRealis, and Various Byway Leaders

1:45 – 2:30 PM: Long-Term Organizational Success

- Alice Giuliani, FDOT District 5 Scenic Highway Coordinator, and Amy Roberson, FDOT District 2 Scenic Highway Coordinator

2:30 – 2:45 PM: Break

2:45 – 3:45 PM: Busting Tourism and Event Myths

- Vicky Soderberg, Cygnet Strategies/Destination Roadmapping

3:45 – 4:45 PM: Byway Leaders Roundtable – Celebrating the Past, Driving the Future

4:45 – 5:00 PM: Closing Remarks

- Dean Stoddart



Florida Scenic Highways Program (FSHP) 2026 Annual Meeting

March 25, 2026

A Celebration of Heritage and Highways:

America 250 and 30 Years of the FSHP



2026 Annual Meeting



Welcome!

2026 Theme

- A Celebration of Heritage and Highways: America 250 and 30 Years of the FSHP

Speakers

- **Dean Stoddart**, Program Coordinator, Florida Scenic Highways Program, Florida Department of Transportation
- **Melissa Brooks**, Visit Florida
- **Nick Sanzone**, Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway President
- **Fred Jones**, City of Sebastian Mayor
- **Mike Palozzi**, AtkinsRealis
- **Alice Giuliani**, District 5 Scenic Highway Coordinator
- **Amy Roberson**, District 2 Scenic Highway Coordinator



Sebastian Inlet along Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway



2026 Annual Meeting



Agenda

9:00 – 9:15 AM:	<i>Sign in</i>
9:15 – 9:30 AM:	Welcome – Dean Stoddart and John Tyler
9:30 – 10:00 AM:	Program Update and Reflecting on the Journey: America 250 and 30 Years of FSHP – Dean Stoddart
10:00 – 10:15 AM:	<i>Break</i>
10:15 – 11:00 AM:	Visit Florida: Partnering to Promote Florida’s Scenic Highways – Melissa Brooks
11:00 – 11:30 AM:	Local Story: The Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway – Nick Sanzone and Fred Jones
11:30 – 12:45 PM:	<i>Lunch</i>
12:45 – 1:45 PM:	Preventing Byway Burnout (Panel) – Mike Palozzi and Various Byway Leaders
1:45 – 2:30 PM:	Organizational Sustainability – Alice Giuliani and Amy Roberson
2:30 – 2:45 PM:	<i>Break</i>
2:45 – 3:45 PM:	Busting Tourism and Event Myths – Vicky Soderberg
3:45 – 4:45 PM:	Byway Leaders Roundtable
4:45 – 5:00 PM:	Closing Remarks – Dean Stoddart



TM



65

Program Update



2026 Annual Meeting



Getting Together

2025 Annual Meeting – Apalachicola, FL

- Theme
 - The Florida Scenic Highways Program and the National Perspective
- Sessions
 - The National Scenic Byway Association (NSBA)
 - Local Gems: Everything the Big Bend Scenic Byway Has to Offer
 - Scenic Highway Program Directors from Around the Country (Panel)
 - Byway Leaders Roundtable

2025 Mid-Year Meet Up

- Sessions
 - Florida Sunshine Law
 - Updating Your Byway Management Plan





2026 Annual Meeting



2024 Annual Report

2024 Annual Report

- 79 Projects Completed
- 2,152 Volunteers Worked with the Byways
- \$1.2 Million in Grant Funding Awarded to Byways

2025 Annual Report – Coming Soon

2024 OVERVIEW

Statewide Program Contribution

As a largely grassroots effort, the Florida Scenic Highways Program relies on dedicated volunteers to plan and execute byway programs, projects, and initiatives. In 2024, byway volunteers completed a total of 79 projects, including community engagement events, litter clean-ups, historic preservation projects, educational events, and more. These projects are fundamental to achieving the byways' individual missions and represent a culmination of planning and volunteer efforts.

In 2024, our FSHP Byways were awarded more than

\$1.2 million

in grant funding.

Grants awarded to byways in 2024 include a Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program grant, a Tampa Bay Estuary Program mini-grant, a Florida Wildflower Foundation grant, and a Felburn Foundation grant.

79 projects completed

7,543 hours spent on projects

19,592 total volunteer hours

2,152 volunteers engaged

8 | 2024 Annual Report

2024 Annual Report | 9



Real Places. Real Stories.



FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAYS PROGRAM

Annual Report

2024



PROJECT TREND: BYWAY BEAUTIFICATION

Last year, the byway organizations heavily prioritized programs, projects, and initiatives that enhanced the beauty of the scenic highways. Projects included landscaping, wildflower planting, tree canopy maintenance, invasive plant removal, and erosion control.

 TREE CITY USA ARBOR DAY OBSERVANCE, PROCLAMATION, AND RECERTIFICATION BRADENTON BEACH SCENIC HIGHWAY	 VIVA FLORIDA - PRESERVE MICANOPY OLD FLORIDA HERITAGE HIGHWAY	 US 41 OSPREY LANDSCAPE PROJECT TAMIAMI TRAIL - WINDOWS TO THE GULF COAST WATERS
 GULF STREAM ROUNDABOUT LANDSCAPING TAMIAMI TRAIL - WINDOWS TO THE GULF COAST WATERS	 INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL AT PERICO PRESERVE PALMA SOLA SCENIC HIGHWAY	 INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL AT COUNTY PRESERVES PALMA SOLA SCENIC HIGHWAY
 EROSION-RELATED ACTIONS COURTNEY CAMPBELL SCENIC HIGHWAY	 REGROW THE LOOP 2024 ORMOND SCENIC LOOP AND TRAIL	 REGROW THE LOOP 2025 PLANNING ORMOND SCENIC LOOP AND TRAIL

16 | 2024 Annual Report



2026 Annual Meeting



2025 Garry Balogh Inspiring Excellence Award

Jim and Nikki Thorsen

- Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (FBB)
- Jim serves as Byway Chair, and Nikki serves as Byway Secretary
- They began developing the Byway with Garry Balogh in 2005. FBB was designated in 2008 and nationally recognized in 2009
- Launched the byway kiosk program in 2012, ultimately installing 19 educational kiosks to support visitor awareness and ecosystem protection

Congratulations, Jim and Nikki Thorsen!





2026 Annual Meeting



FSHP Outreach

Quarterly Newsletter

- Interviews, upcoming events, relevant articles, and byway projects
- Previous newsletters can be viewed on the FSHP website

Byway Buzz | The FSHP Blog

- Byway news, events, project highlights, awards

Social Media

- FSHP Facebook and Instagram
- FSHP social media accounts have over 8,000 followers combined

Florida Crossroads | The Florida Channel

- 13 Byways have been featured by Florida Crossroads





2026 Annual Meeting



FSHP Guidance Manual Update

Purpose

- Establishes criteria and procedures for the designation and management of Scenic Highways

Key Improvements

- Streamlined and easier to navigate
- Provides a detailed explanation of the byway designation process
- Expands guidance on byway extensions
- Includes a clear byway de-designation process
- Redefines the 5-year Byway Management Plan (BMP) update requirement and outlines minimum requirements for completing the 5-year BMP update
- Adds helpful appendices, including a Byway Extension Process Checklist and a Byway Management Plan Outline
- Features easy-to-follow flowcharts illustrating program processes



Florida Scenic Highways Program

Guidance

February 2026





2026 Annual Meeting



FSHP Guidance Manual Update

Mission

Old

Help Florida communities deliver high-quality experiences to visitors.

New

The mission of the Florida Scenic Highways Program is to support our community leaders and quality visitor experiences by promoting an appreciation of Florida's cultural, historical, archaeological, recreational, natural, and scenic values.

Vision

Old

The Florida Scenic Highways Program promotes economic development, enhances quality of life, and conserves important resources.

New

The Florida Scenic Highways Program is a nationally recognized leader celebrating Florida's rich culture, natural beauty, and vibrant communities through support of grassroots leadership and economic opportunity, in fellowship with quality of life and conservation of our intrinsic resources.



Reflecting on the Journey:

America 250 and 30 Years of FSHP



2026 Annual Meeting



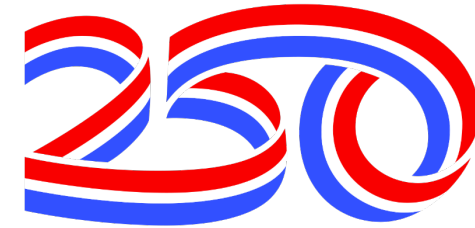
America 250

- On **July 4, 2026**, America will celebrate the **250th anniversary** of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
- A milestone moment to reflect on the past and shape the future—much like FSHP's 30th anniversary.
- **America250** is the national commemoration of the 250th anniversary, with nationwide initiatives and events.

American250FL – Florida's observance of America's 250th anniversary

- Historic and Heritage Sites
- American250FL Road Trip – 103 destinations across the state
- Official and Local Events

AMERICA



Scan here to visit
America250FL.com!





2026 Annual Meeting



Scenic Highways in America

- **1991:** The National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP) was established under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA).
- Through the NSBP, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation designates certain roads as National Scenic Byways or All-American Roads.
- **Today:** There are **184** nationally designated byways across **48** states, collectively promoted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as America's Byways®.
- To be eligible for national designation, a road must first be designated at the state level.
- This requirement led to the enhancement of existing state scenic byway programs and the creation of new ones nationwide, including in Florida.



Florida Keys Scenic Highway, All-America Road

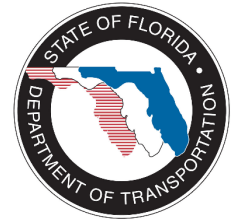


2026 Annual Meeting



Scenic Highways in Florida

- **1993:** State legislation was passed to enable Florida, through the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), to establish an official program for scenic byways
- **1996:** The Florida Scenic Highways Program was launched by the FDOT
- **1998:** The first Florida Scenic Highways Program byway was designated – Pensacola Bluffs Scenic Highway.
- The program was established to showcase the outstanding intrinsic resources that can be found along Florida's highway system.
- These intrinsic qualities include:
 - Cultural
 - Historic
 - Archaeological
 - Recreational
 - Natural
 - Scenic
- The program is a grass-roots effort to increase awareness of these resources which enhance the overall traveling experience in Florida



Pensacola Bluffs Scenic Highway, the First Byway of the FSHP



2026 Annual Meeting



The FSHP Today

- There are **27** byways in the FSHP
- **6** National Scenic Byways
- **2** All-American Roads

Program Initiatives

- FSHP Annual Report
- FSHP Quarterly Newsletter
- Annual Meeting & Mid-Year Meet Up
- Byway Buzz, Florida Scenic Highways Blog
- The Garry Balogh Inspiring Excellence Award
- Photo and Video Galleries for Each Byway
- Florida Scenic Highways Program Website, with Interactive Byway Map



Real Places. Real Stories.™



Halifax Heritage Byway, the Newest Byway of the FSHP



Up Next:
Visit Florida: Partnering to Promote
Florida's Scenic Highways