



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2016

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New U.S. 301 Multi-use Trail connects Dade City/Zephyrhills

~~Official Grand Opening to be held Thursday, October 27~~

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL ---- The [Pasco County and Metropolitan Planning Organization \(MPO\)](#), along with the cities of Zephyrhills and Dade City, is holding a Grand Opening Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony **Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 10 a.m.** for the U.S. 301 Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail. The ceremony will be held at Grace Baptist Church, 10011 U.S. Hwy 301, Dade City, Florida.

Everyone is welcome to bike to the event celebrating the new, paved trail that connects the historic cities of Zephyrhills and Dade City.

“We look forward to a celebration of vibrancy in the rolling hills of Dade City and the pure, clear waters of Zephyrhills,” said Dade City Mayor Camille Hernandez. “Our cities seek to promote health and wellness for our citizens and visitors with our U.S. 301 Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail. This grand opening is very exciting and we appreciate the collaborative efforts among FDOT, Pasco County MPO and the cities.”

“I have long been an advocate of creating bike trails in Pasco County,” said Pasco Board of County Commissioners Chairwoman, Kathryn Starkey. “This is a great example of what can be accomplished by working with our local, county and state partners.”

The 4.5 mile, 10-foot wide trail extends from Kossik Road north to Dade City Avenue and was built within the existing road right-of-way on the west side of U.S. 301. The multi-use trail was a collaborative effort among the [Florida Department of Transportation \(FDOT\)](#), Pasco County MPO, the cities of Zephyrhills and Dade City, and the Dade City and Zephyrhills Chambers of Commerce.

“Safety is our number one priority,” said FDOT District Seven Secretary Paul Steinman. “This multi-use trail will provide bicyclists and pedestrians with a safe transportation alternative and help enhance connectivity along the U.S. 301 corridor.”

FDOT constructed the trail as part of the US 301 resurfacing project. Construction lasted 12 months with an estimated cost of \$2 million.

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2-2-2 U.S. 301 Multi-Use Trail

This segment of the trail is part of a larger trail network planned for the U.S. 301 corridor that will eventually extend from the Withlacoochee State Trail to the Hillsborough County line south of Zephyrhills.

For more information about transportation planning in Pasco County, visit the MPO website here: <http://www.pascocountyfl.net/Index.aspx?NID=323>.

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