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Florida Bicycle Association Recognizes Commissioner Starkey

~~ Starkey named 'Elected Official Champion of the Year' for contributions to bicycling ~~

PASCO COUNTY, FL ---- A longtime advocate for increased trail access, [Pasco County Commissioner Kathryn Starkey](#) has been selected the Florida Bicycle Association's **2018 Elected Official Champion of the Year**. The annual award is presented to worthy recipients for their contributions to bicycling and brings attention to the efforts and achievements of those who help shape the association's vision for all Florida bicyclists to be safe, accepted and encouraged.



"It's an honor to be recognized by the [Florida Bicycle Association](#), and I'll continue to champion their vision for the future," Commissioner Starkey said.

"We're actively pursuing increased offerings in Pasco County and look forward to getting all of Tampa Bay out on the trails."

Commissioner Starkey is an avid cyclist and has served for many years on the State Greenways and Trails Council as appointed by Governors Bush, Crist and Scott. She is committed to helping the state with a connected trail system and has championed trail projects in Pasco County that will provide additional regional and state connectivity to the Pinellas Trail and beyond:

- Scheduled for completion this summer, [Starkey Gap Trail](#) is a 2.4-mile bicycle and pedestrian path that will link the Pinellas Trail to Starkey Trail. Starkey Gap will create 100 miles of continuous bike and pedestrian paths, including the Starkey Wilderness Trail and the Suncoast Trail. The link is part of the planned Coast-to-Coast Connector network, which will extend from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean, totaling 250 miles in length.
- Planned for mid-2020, the [Coastal Anclote Trail](#) will connect Anclote River Park, Anclote Gulf Park, and Key Vista Nature Park to the Pinellas Trail in Tarpon Springs.

The [Pasco Board of County Commissioners](#), in its continued efforts to foster bicyclist and pedestrian safety, is seeking state appropriations during this state Legislative session for a bicycle/pedestrian overpass to provide users of the Starkey Trail with a safe, grade-separated crossing of S.R. 54.