

The City of Green Cove Springs will submit for a matching grant with the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The 2023-2024 application cycle will begin on February 1st, 2023 and end on March 1st, 2023. The match grant will be up to a maximum of \$1,000,000.00.

Location

In 2011, the City of Green Cove Springs acquired 140 acres through the Florida Communities Trusts (FCT) grant program. The FCT property runs east on Green Cove Avenue and south on Oakridge Avenue (CR 15a).

What is Florida Communities Trust (FCT)?

The Parks and Open Space Florida Forever grant program assists the Department of Environmental Protection in helping communities meet the challenges of growth, supporting viable community development and protecting natural resources and open space. The program receives 21 percent Florida Forever appropriation.

What is the Recreational Trail Program (RTP)?

The federally funded Recreational Trails Program of the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides competitive, matching-grant funds to renovate, develop, or maintain recreational motorized, nonmotorized, and mixed-use trails and trailside facilities. The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 included the National Recreational Trails Fund Act (NRFTA) established the National Recreational Trails Funding Program. The National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (NHS Act) amended and revived the NRTFA. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) established the current Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and codified it in Federal statute (23 U.S.C. 206). In 2005 the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) revised the program, providing the current legislative text. In 2012 the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) reauthorized funding for the RTP as a set-aside of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds (extended through May 2015) but did not change the program. Florida Statute 260.016 and Rule 62S-2 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) provides specific application requirements, processing and evaluation criteria. RTP is administered by the Florida

Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Land and Recreation Grants section within the Office of Operations.

What is a "Recreational Trail"?

A thoroughfare or track across land or water, used for recreational purposes such as bicycling, hiking/jogging/running or similar activities, equestrian activities, overnight and long-distance backpacking, roller skating, in-line skating, non-motorized aquatic or water activities including canoeing and kayaking, and vehicular travel by motorcycle, four-wheel drive or all terrain, off-road vehicles, or dune buggies.

