

RESOLUTION 2025-006

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF FLORIDA, AFFIRMING TO THE LAKE-SUMTER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THE TOWN'S TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE MPO'S 2026 LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS AND AFFIRMING THE PRIORITIES THAT QUALIFY FOR THE CENTRAL FLORIDA MPO ALLIANCE'S REGIONAL LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is responsible for prioritizing regional transportation projects for state and federal funding to enhance mobility, safety, and infrastructure development; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills recognizes the need for strategic improvements to key intersections and roadways within the town to enhance safety, traffic flow, and multimodal transportation options; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of State Road 19 & Central Avenue is a critical juncture for local and regional traffic, and is expected to have large increases in volume, necessitating a pedestrian crossing including both audio and visual signaling, to improve overall accessibility and safety, signalization and pedestrian safety enhancements to improve overall accessibility and safety; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Central Lake Trail between State Road 19, Central Avenue, and Revels Road Trailhead is vital for expanding pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, promoting alternative modes of transportation, and improving connectivity throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of these priority projects in the MPO's 2026 List of Priority Projects and the Central Florida MPO Alliance Regional List of Priority Projects will facilitate access to essential funding and accelerate the implementation of these necessary infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills is committed to collaborating with the MPO, the Lake County Board of County Commissioners, and other relevant agencies to advocate for the advancement of these projects in a timely and efficient manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.

The Town of Howey-in-the-Hills affirms to the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Lake County Board of County Commissioners the following list of transportation priorities for inclusion in the MPO's 2026 List of Priority Projects and for inclusion in the Central Florida MPO Alliance Regional List of Priority Projects:

1. State Road 19 & Central Avenue Intersection Improvement

Requests: (1) Design to add pedestrian safety and/or signalization improvements (2) Construction of new traffic signal and pedestrian safety improvements.

2. State Road 19 Traffic Study: Expand the scope of study beyond County Road 455 to include all of State Road 19 all the way through the town to the bridge. (2) Listed on the 2024 List of Priority Projects (LOPP) as item: 17 FDOT/Lake County – SR 19 Planning Study/PD&E SR 50 CR 455 Corridor Study/PD&E Planning Planning/PD&E 2025/26.

3. Central Lake Trail (State Road 19 to Revels Road Trailhead)

Requests: (1) Design for a segment of Central Lake Trail within existing SR 19 right-of-way (2) Construction of a segment of Central Lake Trail within existing SR 19 right-of-way.

Section 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida, this 1st day of April, 2025.

(SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS)

**TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS,
FLORIDA**

By: its Town Council

By: _____
Graham Wells, Mayor

Attest:

John Brock, Town Clerk

Approved as to form and legality:
(for the use and reliance of the Town only)

Tom Wilkes, Town Attorney

Councilor Jon Arnold

_____yea

_____nay

Councilor Reneé Lannamañ

_____yea

_____nay

Councilor David Miles

_____yea

_____nay

Mayor Pro-Tem Tim Everline

_____yea

_____nay

Mayor Graham Wells

_____yea

_____nay