



Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC) Unpaved Trail Guidelines Committee February Meeting Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING: April 1, 2025
TIME: 2:00 pm
LOCATION: Virtual, Microsoft Teams

FGTC Members in Attendance:

- Brooks White – FL Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- Stephanie Wardein – Governor-Appointed Private Landowner

Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) Staff in Attendance:

- Steven Carter, Regional Coordinator
- John Groves, Regional Coordinator
- Cassidy Haney, Regional Coordinator

Members of the Public and Presenters in Attendance:

- Tim Baylie – Volusia County Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Joyce Papp – Southern Trailriders Association
- Ed O'Connor – Cross Florida Greenway Equestrians
- Douglas "Doug" Crenshaw – Advent Health, Bike/Walk Central Florida
- Abe Christian – Acting Director, Florida Trail Association
- Richard Goldman – Board Member, Florida State Parks Foundation
- Melvin Jordan – Babcock Ranch, FL
- Walter Vliegen

Sunshine Law

Following approval of the agenda and Committee member introductions, *Steven Carter* reminded the Committee that the Florida Greenways and Trails Council is bound by the Sunshine Law (s. 286.011, F.S.), which states that any gathering of two or more Council/Committee members to discuss Council/Committee business must be scheduled and open to the public with proper notice and minutes/recordings taken.

March Meeting Minutes

Approved by Committee members.

Unpaved Trail Guidelines Discussion:

Trail Construction

Hiking Trails – The Committee began their discussions with the ‘hiking trails’ section of Trail Construction and recommended additional considerations for the materials used on hiking trails in addition to all other trail types.

Additionally, the Committee recommended the addition of a trail safety/first responder paragraph within each trail type under the Trail Construction section.

Off-road Cycling Trails – During their discussion of cycling trails, the Committee recommended updates for tread width, turning radius, technical trail features and trail rating in addition to the addition of verbiage regarding the expanding diversity of cycling trails.

Equestrian Trails – Regarding Equestrian Trails, the Committee recommended updates to ‘Clearing Width,’ ‘Vertical Clearance’ and ride lengths. Additionally, the Committee recommended new paragraphs for signage, bridges, water crossings and trailheads.

Unpaved Multi-Use Trails – The Committee provided recommendations for new updates to account for equestrian user groups as appropriate, increase horizontal clearance and provide additional examples for trail location.

Trail Crossings

During their discussion on Trail Crossings, the Committee recommended the inclusion of FDOT’s Design Resources as an additional reference. They also recommended updates to visibility standards, boundary crossings and seasonal use guidelines.

Additionally, the Committee decided to recommend the addition of a paragraph on above-grade crossings (bridges) for each trail type listed under the Trail Construction section.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Confirm Next Meeting Date

The Committee will meet next, virtually, on April 22, 2025. For virtual meeting link and agenda, visit <https://floridadep.gov/parks/ogt/content/florida-greenways-and-trails-council>.

MEETING ADJOURN

Called to adjourn by Steven Carter.