



3109 W. Dr. M.L. King Jr. Blvd. ♦ Suite 140
Tampa, Florida 33607
Phone: 813-289-5488 ♦ Fax: 813-289-6727
www.westshorealliance.org

March 23, 2016

Florida Greenways and Trails Council
Office of Greenways and Trails
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3800 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Dear Council Members,

The Westshore Alliance Board of Directors strongly supports the establishment of the Southwest Coastal Regional Trail and urges you to select our greater region as the next priority portion for multi-use trail funding. As an advocate for Tampa's Westshore district, one of Tampa Bay's most dynamic activity centers with more than 4,000 businesses, 15,000 residents and more than 35 hotels, we understand the value of recreational amenities in our region.

As home to one of the region's premier recreational trails, the Courtney Campbell Trail, the Westshore district serves as an integral link in the Southwest Coastal Regional Trail. It will provide the area's tourists, residents and employees a safe, alternative transportation network that serves as a resource for leisure and exercise, while also providing for an alternative mode of travel for commuter and consumer destinations.

The Southwest Coastal Regional Trail would stretch from Naples to the Pinellas Trail in St. Petersburg where it will join with the Coast-to-Coast Connector (C2C). The C2C currently extends from the Pinellas Trail north through Pasco and Hernando Counties, eventually reaching the east coast of Florida. Once all segments are completed, it will be part of a network that will be the nation's largest system of locally connected trails.

Our organization welcomes the opportunity to work alongside all the governmental and advocacy partners in this regional effort to invest in Florida's eco-tourism, economic development, bicycle and pedestrian safety, and sustainability.

Sincerely,

Enrique A. Woodroffe, FAIA
President