

#### PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK FORCE (PTSTF) MEETING AGENGA

October 11, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Pinellas County Emergency Services Center 12490 Ulmerton Road, Room 130 Largo, FL 33774 (Telephone: 727-582-2000)

#### THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

#### FACE MASKS WILL BE ENCOURAGED BUT NOT REQUIRED

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES July 12, 2022
- 3. DISCOVER PINELLAS MAP UPDATES
- 4. QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER
- 5. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS
  - Sheriff's Office
  - Belleair
  - Clearwater
  - Gulfport
  - Largo
  - St. Petersburg
  - Tarpon Springs
  - Animal Services
  - Public Safety Services
  - Pinellas County Risk Management
  - Friends of the Pinellas Trail
  - Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates
- 6. REPORT ON TRAIL USER COUNT DATA
- 7. REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS
- 9. ADJOURNMENT
  - Notice to Law Enforcement Representatives If you are unable to attend the meeting, please e-mail your Incident/Offense Report to Kyle Simpson at <a href="mailto:ksimpson@forwardpinellas.org">ksimpson@forwardpinellas.org</a>. If you would prefer, you can fax the report to the Pinellas County MPO at (727) 464-8212. Thank You

**NEXT PTSTF MEETING – JANUARY 10. 2023** 

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Office of Human Rights, 400 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33756; [(727) 464-4062 (V/TDD)] at least three days prior to the meeting.

Appeals: Certain public meetings result in actions taken by the public board, commission or agency that may be appealed; in such case persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at a public meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Forward Pinellas is committed to making our documents accessible to all audiences If you have accessibility concerns, please contact <u>info@forwardpinellas.org</u> or call 727-464-8250. Visit <a href="https://forwardpinellas.org/legal/website-accessibility-statement/">https://forwardpinellas.org/legal/website-accessibility-statement/</a> for more information.

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11, 2022





#### **SUMMARY**

The summary minutes of the July 12, 2022 Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting are attached.

ATTACHMENTS: Pinellas Trail Security Task Force Summary Minutes – July 12, 2022

**ACTION:** Approval of the July Meeting Summary

# PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK FORCE MEETING SUMMARY JULY 12, 2022

The following is a summary of the July 12, 2022 Forward Pinellas - Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting, which was held in person in Largo. The Security Task Force meets at least quarterly during the year.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Daniels, Interim Chair Friends of the Pinellas Trail
Officer Osvaldo Sicairos St. Petersburg Police Department

Officer Anthony Alli St. Petersburg Police Department

Officer Allison Daniels Belleair Police Department

Officer Jarred Stiff Clearwater Police Department, Clearwater Bike Team

Deputy Terrance Fallahee Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Pinellas County Animal Control

Chief Ranger Carol Gray Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources

Elizabeth Staten City of St. Petersburg

Scott Rintz Pinellas County Risk Management

Joan Rice Pinellas County Public Works Traffic Division

Jim Wedlake Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger

Chelsea Favero Forward Pinellas Staff Maria Kelly Forward Pinellas Staff

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Interim Chair Scott Daniels, Friends of the Pinellas Trail, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and asked members to introduce themselves. Mr. Daniels requested tent cards with members names for better recognition during discussion. Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas staff, announced that Kyle Simpson will be the new PTSTF support member with Forward Pinellas.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY - April 12, 2022

The summary from the April 12, 2022, meeting was approved with the correction of the spelling of Bob Fortner's last name.

#### 3. PRESENTATION: PINELLAS COUNTY E-BIKE SURVEY

Joan Rice, Multimodal Safety Project Coordinator with Pinellas County Public Works, shared a presentation on the Pinellas County E-Bike Survey recently conducted in April 2022. There were many promotional outlets describing how to take the survey and over 2,000 survey participants shared their opinions about electric bicycles in Pinellas County. A majority of the information was about e-bikes on the Pinellas Trail, but participants shared their own experiences with e-bikes everywhere. Of the over 2,000 participants, approximately 52% rode traditional bikes, 20% rode only e-bikes, 19% used both traditional and e-bikes and 9% were non-bike riders. A majority of the participants were male and 91% of the survey participants lived in Pinellas County. Of the traditional bike users, 91% live in Pinellas County while only 81% of e-bike users live in Pinellas County. A majority of the people who took the survey were in the 61–70-year-old age bracket, followed by 51-60 age bracket. A variety of questions were asked, such as where the participants ride and how many miles they ride. A high percentage of traditional bike riders only ride on the

trails and ride more than 40 miles per week, whereas e-bike riders use a mix of both trails and roads and ride between 10 and 30 miles per week. Separate questions were asked of e-bike users such as if they owned their e-bike and reasons for owning, and 91% shared they own their own ebike and health, or disability, were at the top of the list for reasons to own an e-bike. Non-e-bike users shared that if they had a physical limitation, they would consider purchasing an e-bike, but they have high safety concerns about e-bikes, such as e-bike users' speed, reckless operation of e-bikes, riders not following Trail rules and lacking courtesy, and the desire for e-bikes to be on their own facility or road. When both e-bike users and non-e-bike users were asked if they would participate in taking an online, 15-minute voluntary safety/courtesy class from their home computer, 91% of non-e-bike users said they would take the class, but only 72% of e-bike users said they would take the class. Discussion ensued where questions were taken and appropriately answered. Ms. Rice also shared that on August 11th, Parks, Forward Pinellas and Public Works will be presenting to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) information about e-bikes. The intent of this presentation is to inform the BCC about what e-bikes are and the legal environment for them, since they have received a number of complaints about them recently. One of the recommendations will be to develop an online test or class on e-bikes so that people can get a better understanding of the devices. Also shared by Ms. Rice was that Pinellas County Public Works is currently working on installing new signs adjusting the verbiage regarding which nonauthorized vehicles are prohibited from the Trial.

#### 4. QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER

Chief Ranger Carol Gray, Parks and Conservation Resources (PCR) provided the following report. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the South Trail Ranger encountered Emergency Medical Service (EMS) responding to trail marker PT284/285, North of the Park Street Overpass, but no details of the incident have been submitted yet. There was a report of a vehicle on the Trail at Mehlenbacher by the Ranger; a Toyota with a business logo on the side of the truck had gotten onto the Trail and was stuck in a ditch. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer encountered the Clearwater Police Department investigating a reported theft of a purse near the Trail around Myrtle Avenue. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, Rangers reported a sink hole to Public Works at Keystone Road at trail marker PT14 and will continue to monitor. Also, on June 16<sup>th</sup>, a report of a discharge from the Advent Hospital was reported to Watershed Protection. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Largo PD issued two trespass warnings to two subjects at the West Bay Overpass.

#### 5. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS

#### A. Sheriff's Office

Deputy Terrance Fallahee shared that there were 152 events on the Pinellas Trail in Q2. Only two crashes were reported, an indication that crash numbers are down. 59 directed patrols were conducted, which means they were self-initiated by an officer. The second most frequent activity on or at the Trail are traffic stops. A vast majority of them for Q2 were at Skinner Road and the Trail. The focus was due to the recent changes with the new traffic light system there. Deputy Fallahee shared that he has been reassigned and will no longer be attending the PTSTF meetings, and Deputy Eric Gibson has retired. He introduced Deputy Brian Camadeca as the new representative for the PCSO. Deputy Camadeca shared a little about himself and was welcomed.

#### B. Belleair

Officer Allison Daniels with Belleair PD shared that there were two First Information Reports (FIR) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for people being on the Trail after dark and assisted Largo PD with the truck that got stuck on the trail.

#### C. Clearwater

Officer Jarred Stiff shared this was his first meeting and was unsure of what was needed. He was able to share information about the purse incident in that the purse incident began off the Trail but ended up on the Trail. As Sergeant of the Clearwater PD Bike Squad, he shared that his team is also doing multiple directed patrols and engaging with citizens at the nearby parks.

#### D. Gulfport

Gulfport PD submitted a report that was shared with the members for the past quarter. There were no incidents to report.

#### E. Largo

Officer Keith Bowling was not in attendance.

#### F. St. Petersburg

Officer Osvaldo Sicairos attended the meeting and reported that there were 43 calls for service on the Trail, a majority of them were the result of directed patrols. There were two reports that were not generated from the directed patrols. One was an e-bike left on the Trail and the person took it home and called the police to report it. The bike was returned to its owner. The other was an aggravated assault report on June 12<sup>th</sup>, where a gun was pointed at a Trail user but never discharged. Trail user was unharmed.

#### **G. Tarpon Springs**

Officer Anthony Boone was not in attendance.

#### H. Animal Services

Sergeant Vanessa Boback indicated that she had no incidents to report.

#### I. Public Safety Services

Ms. Lynn Abbott, Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration, was unable to attend but shared an incident report which was handed out to attending members.

#### J. Pinellas County Risk Management

Mr. Scott Rintz was in attendance and shared that on the Trail are bike repair stations that are inspected by Risk Management. At the Walsingham location, the tools have been once again, been stolen or lost. Park Ranger Gray reported the repair station behind Taylor Park had to be removed due to vandalization. He added that the Trail inspection is done a couple of times during the year and shared that the Rangers and Friends of the Pinellas Trail do a great job in helping to keep the Trail neat, clean and in good condition.

#### K. Friends of the Pinellas Trail

Mr. Scott Daniels shared that they received a donation request for a bike repair station in Seminole. Friends of the Pinellas Trail continue to work with the County on the Courtesy Campaign and a Courtesy Campaign poster is being displayed at all bike shop locations along the Trail. There are additional posters if any member would like one to display.

#### L. Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates

Chief Ranger Gray shared that post-COVID, long-term volunteers have returned to. The overall numbers are down, but that it is good to have the volunteers back. If it is possible, she requested to have the new Volunteer Coordinator attend the next meeting on October 11, 2022.

Chief Ranger Gray shared a concern with the issuing of trespass warnings in the city's jurisdiction but where they occur technically on County property. Most departments have a letter of trespass authorization affidavit on file from the Parks Director. The challenge is that most of these affidavits require an address, and the Pinellas Trail does not have a physical address. What Largo PD suggested is to use the parcel ID numbers, to identify the distinct areas they are given authorization. This request is now in the hands of the Director, and if approved, will be shared with the departments.

Deputy Fallahee shared information regarding the Sherriff's Office volunteer program. At a recent meeting, there was conversation about the possibility of expanding or increasing the volunteers' responsibilities to include Trail patrols. It has been decided at this juncture that the volunteer unit is not equipped to do that, so that has been shelved for the time being.

Officer Osvaldo Sicairos, St. Petersburg Police Department shared information regarding St. Petersburg's volunteer program. The Community Service Officers are out there on bikes and golf carts monitoring the Trail.

#### 6. AUTOMATIC TRAIL COUNTERS

Ms. Favero reviewed the counter reports for March, April and May 2022. There were technical issues with the Bay Pines counter that have now been fixed. The East Lake/Tarpon counter has recently been replaced, however there may continue to be technical difficulties with it. Forward Pinellas is investigating the issue and hopes to have it up and running soon. The recently adopted budget includes funding to purchase additional permanent and portable trail counters. Forward Pinellas is looking at counters with Bluetooth capabilities and would like to create an online dashboard showing real time data. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

#### 7. REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Ms. Rice provided an update on the construction activity on the Pinellas Trail. The North Loop from John Chesnut Park to Enterprise Road has a ribbon cutting scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the Clearwater Countryside Community Recreation Center. An invite will be sent out to members. The segment over the Lake Tarpon Canal has been postponed and PCPW is rebidding the construction, which should be finished in 2023. Signage has been placed for safe movement around the bridge. The South Loop is just starting design from the section from Whitney Road to 126<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There is a stall in the design for the section between Haines Bayshore and Whitney due to the residents' concerns.

#### 8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

#### 9. ADJOURNMENT

Interim Chair Daniels adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m. The next PTSTF meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2022.

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11, 2022

#### 3. Discover Pinellas Map Updates



#### **SUMMARY**

As a benefit to the public, Forward Pinellas produces a map depicting bicycle facilities throughout Pinellas County, titled 'Discover Pinellas'. This publication is the most popular document produced by the agency, with thousands being distributed on an annual basis. The current supply of printed Discover Pinellas maps is nearly exhausted, providing an opportunity to update the current map to reflect the most up-to-date bicycle facility network, while also making other changes to the map to improve its readability. Forward Pinellas staff will discuss internal suggestions to improve the Discover Pinellas map and solicit ideas from committee members to improve the map, before the agency prints another batch of maps for public distribution.

#### ATTACHMENT(S):

Discover Pinellas Map

• Discover Pinellas Guide

**ACTION:** None required; informational only

# FLERIDA BIGYCLE LAWS & SAFETY TIES



Wear a bicycle helmet.

**Check your bike** – air pressure, brakes, chain, seat and handlebars.

Ride on the right in the same direction as traffic.

Obey all traffic controls.

Wear light or brightly colored clothes.

Yield to pedestrians.

Never wear headphones while **riding** – it is illegal and impairs your ability to hear traffic.

**Stay alert** – be aware of traffic around you, and always keep a lookout for obstacles in your path.

Look both ways for traffic before you enter any street or intersection. More than 70% of bicycle crashes occur at driveways or intersections.

Wear reflective material and/or reflective devices on ankles, wrists, back and helmet.

**Avoid bicycling at night** – Most of the Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail and all of the Duke Energy Trail is closed at night. If you must ride in the dark:

- Use reflectors. Ride on brightly
- Always assume you are not seen by a driver.
- Young children should never ride at night.
- · Use bright lights on the front and back of the bike. Although unadvisable, if you must ride in the dark, make sure you have bright lights.

One seat = one rider.



**Be alert** – watch for pedestrians and bicycles. Be extra careful at intersections.

Obey all traffic laws – including speed limit and other road signs.

**Scan your surroundings** – anticipate upcoming traffic situations.

**Signal your intentions** before changing lanes or making a turn.

**Give cyclists 3-ft** (minimum) when passing!

Pedestrians have the right of way in **a crosswalk** – take note of pedestrian or school crosswalk signs indicating a crosswalk is ahead.

Take extra precautions before backing up.

**Never drink and drive!** – designate a non-drinking driver before getting into a vehicle.

**Never text while driving** – it's against the law! Also, no texting while walking, biking or skating.

# Pedestrian (ROSSWALK SAFETY

Florida drivers, STOP! Florida law requires vehicles yield to pedestrians. All pedestrians should exercise extreme caution at crosswalks and approaching motorists are required to follow these rules:

• Stop before the crosswalk when a pedestrian is • Slow down and stop for pedestrians within or within or stepping into the crosswalk. Remain entering crosswalks even if there are no traffic stopped until the pedestrian has safely reached the opposite side of the street.

The pedestrian crossing law also applies to crosswalks with Rectangular Rapid Flashing **Beacons** (*RRFBs*). At RRFB crosswalks, pedestrians and drivers should follow these simple rules:

The following is a list of bike shops in close proximity to the Pinellas Trail.

7 D & S Bike Shop

(727) 586-6437

8 David's World Cycle

(727) 319-2453

(727) 395-0509

9 Trail Sports

11198 70th Ave., Seminole

www.davidsworld.com

- Motorists must stop for pedestrians attempting to cross at a mid-block crossing and at intersections utilizing the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFBs) signals.
- Once a pedestrian activates an RRFB, a series of yellow rapid flashing lights are emitted

Bite Street

13 Safford Ave. S., Tarpon Springs

2 Tarpon Tom's Outdoor Adventure

2606 Bayshore Blvd., Dunedin

998 Douglas Ave., Dunedin

5 Pedego Electric Bikes Dunedin

www.ridenrollcyclery.com

324 Scotland St. Suite 4, Dunedin

924 West Bay Dr., Largo (727) 518-2453

6570 Seminole Blvd, Seminole (727) 393-2453

532 S Pinellas Ave., Tarpon Springs

www.tarpontomsoutdoorrentals.com

www.neptunecyclery.com

1 Neptune Cyclery

(727) 943-5805

(727) 942-8200

3 OTE Bikes & More

(727)831-0085

(727) 466-1245

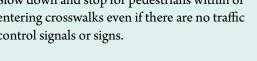
(727)432-5061

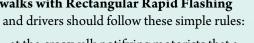
6 Ride N' Roll

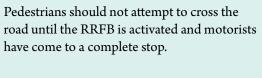
www.kaferacer.com

4 Kafe Racer

- control signals or signs.
- at the crosswalk notifying motorists that a
  - Pedestrians should not attempt to cross the road until the RRFB is activated and motorists









13 Tony's Bike Shop 19 21st St. N., St. Petersburg

GULF OF

MEXICO

14 Northeast Cycles 1115 4th St. N., St. Petersburg (727)898-2453

15 St Pete Bicycle and Fitness 1205 4th St. N., St. Petersburg 727-822-BIKE

Trailsportbicycles.com 10 Beach & Trail Bike Shop 7100 9th Ave. N., St. Petersburg (727) 384-6608

6201 Seminole Blvd., Seminole

11561 Walsingham Rd., Suite E, Largo

Beachandtrail.com 11 ABC Bicycles 6633 Central Ave., St. Petersburg (727) 345-5391

www.abcbicycles.com 12 The Bikery 2222 1st Ave. S., St. Petersburg (727)826-0501 www.thebikery.bike

(727)537-6162 tonysbikeshop.com

northeastcycles.com

www.stpetebicycleandfitness.com 16 The Bike Room

2808 4th St. N., St. Petersburg (727)897-9701 thebikeroom.com

17 Trek St. Petersburg 3169 4th St. N., St. Petersburg (727) 498-8655 abcbicycles.com



The Pinellas Trail Loop is mostly comprised of the existing Pinellas Trail, which extends through the western portion of the county from downtown St. Petersburg to Tarpon Springs, and the Duke Energy Trail, which extends through the eastern portion of the county from northeast St. Petersburg to the East Lake Tarpon area. Most of the Duke Energy Trail remains to be constructed. The existing portion of the Loop is 54 miles. When the remaining portion is completed, the Loop will be a 75-mile trail system, traversing Tarpon Springs, Palm Harbor, Dunedin, Clearwater, Largo, Seminole, Pinellas Park, and St. Petersburg. The Loop will also provide regional connections to the Hillsborough and Pasco County trail networks, and link to the western end of the Florida Coast-to-Coast

PAS(0 (OUNTY

NURSERY RD

CENTRAL AVE

Connector Trail. This is a 250-mile planned trail connecting Pinellas County to Titusville on the east coast. The remaining work necessary to complete the Pinellas Trail Loop is identified as the "North Gap" and "South Gap" projects. The North Gap projects total 7.5 miles and extend from Enterprise Road to John Chesnut Senior Park and from NE Coachman Road to Sunset Point Road. The South Gap projects total 10 miles and extend from 1) Haines Bayshore Road to the East Roosevelt Boulevard/28th Street intersection, via an existing power easement and the 126th Avenue and Scherer Drive rights-of-way; and 2) the East Roosevelt Boulevard / Gandy Boulevard intersection to the North Bay Trail in St. Petersburg via the Gandy Boulevard and San Martin Drive rights-of-way.

# TRAIL (OUNTER PROGRAM

Centers for Disease Control in 2016, Forward Pinellas purchased and installed several automated counters along the Pinellas Trail to monitor the volume of trail users and their associated travel characteristics. Equipped with electromagnetic and infrared sensors, these counters can differentiate between pedestrians and bicyclists and can log the day, time and direction of travel. The value of the

trail counters has been immeasurable as they have provided a more accurate and efficient system of data collection and reporting. The data collected supports bicycle and pedestrian planning programs while assisting local efforts to pursue funding and support for future trail improvements. Data collected by the counters showed that nearly four million walkers, skaters and cyclists used the Pinellas Trail from

# FORWARD PINELLAS

Forward Pinellas serves as the planning council and metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Pinellas County. In its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, the agency administers the Countywide Plan and coordinates land use planning among the county's 25 local governments. In its role as the MPO, the agency addresses the mobility needs of people and freight while prioritizing the allocation of federal and state transportation funds in Pinellas County. Forward Pinellas is governed by a 13-member board that represents the local governments of Pinellas County and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA). Forward Pinellas collaborates with its public and private partners in the county and region to accomplish the following:

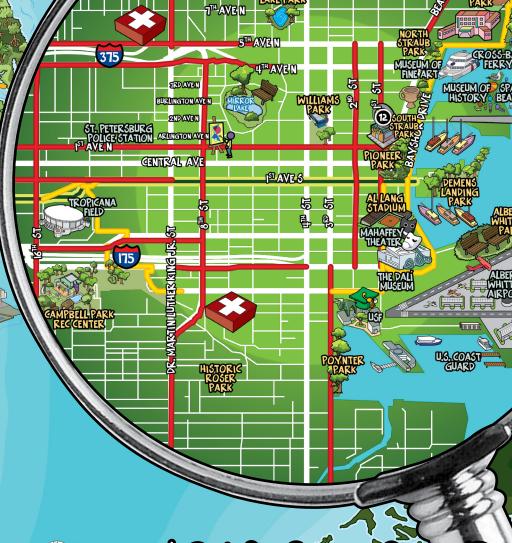
• Create integrated land use and transportation plans that provide

viable mobility options and sustainable development patterns;

- Engage the public in the development of transportation and land use plans;
- Forge effective partnerships among public agencies, citizens and the business community;
- Define cost-effective strategies to meet the transportation and land use goals of Pinellas County; and
- Set priorities for sound public investment in transportation improvements.



310 Court Street Clearwater, FL 33756 (727) 464-8250 forwardpinellas.org



Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail Duke Energy Trail

Community Trail

Bike Lane

Trail Overpass

Trail Underpass

**Bus Terminal** 

Hospital

Library



#### **REGIONAL COALITION OF TAMPA BAY**

Bike/Walk Tampa Bay is a regional coalition of citizens, advocates, professionals and allied organizations created to make walking and bicycling the preferred modes of transportation in the Tampa Bay region. The Coalition was formed by a partnership between the following:

- New North Transportation Alliance
- Tampa Downtown Partnership
- Westshore Alliance
- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority
- St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Community Traffic Safety Teams of Tampa Bay
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties

To accomplish this goal, Forward Pinellas engages and empowers local communities and stakeholders to achieve the region's vision for a better transportation future.



# See(Li(KFiX

is the online tool to easily report potholes, graffiti, illegal dumping, and more within your community. See a trail issue, simply report it to Pinellas County with SeeClickFix!

- 1) Access the Pinellas County SeeClickFix page at: https://seeclickfix.com/pinellas county
- 2) Select the "**New Request**" icon below the Pinellas County Service Provider:
- 3) Submit a request by selecting the Category, providing the address for the report, and then providing a description of the issue. A photo is optional but not required.
- 4) Done!

# pinellas (ounty trails & Bi(y(Le Lanes & Uide

www.pinellascounty.org/trailgd.

Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In compliance with Title VI/ADA, accessible formats of this document are available. Please call (727)464-4062(V/TDD).

# Discover Pinellas

TRAILS & BI(Y(Le

THE LEAGUE



# Wellowe to

where trails beckon to walkers, bicyclists, skaters, wheelchair users and wheelers of all types. The county's main trail facility, the Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail, and the many community trail facilities that connect to it provide trail goers with access to numerous points of interest throughout the county. This trail system includes overpasses across busy intersections and

waterways providing trail users with panoramic views of the county. Residents use trails to get to school, work, and to local parks for picnics and recreational activity. In addition, an expansive network of bike lanes allow bicyclists to travel to

and through areas where the county's trail system don't yet take them.



A Pinellas County program administered by Keep Pinellas Beautiful (KRB). For more information on how you can participate, visit our website at

www.kpbcares.org/adoptions

#### Keep Pinellas Beautiful Inc.

5090 66th Street N

St. Petersburg, FL 33709 **Office Phone:** (727) 533-0402

Office Fax: (727) 533-0502

**Litter Hotline:** (727) 210-GONE (4663)

# FRED MARQUIS Pinellàs

The Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail is a 54-mile linear park and urban trail corridor used by up to 250,000 individuals each month for walking, jogging, bicycling and skating. The Trail was created along an abandoned railroad corridor and named in honor of Fred Marquis, who served as the Pinellas County administrator for 21 years and was an ardent supporter of converting the former railroad corridor to a trail. The Pinellas Trail extends from St. Petersburg to Tarpon Springs and the East Lake Tarpon area, and is part of the Pinellas Trail Loop, which will be a 75-mile facility when the Duke Energy section is completed along the eastern portion of the county. The Pinellas Trail connects to several county parks, schools, coastal areas, major retail centers and downtown areas. The Pinellas Trail includes overpasses and underpasses for trail goers to avoid busy intersections and to ride over water bodies.

#### BASIC RULES to help everyone enjoy the trail:

- The trail is only open during daylight hours.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Pedestrians and persons with a disability have the right of way, wheelchairs should use the pedestrian lanes and electric handicap wheelchairs are always permitted.
- Bicyclists are required to obey all traffic controls and signals.
- Bicyclists are not permitted to wear headphones at any time.
- Bicyclists under age 16 must wear a helmet.
- Bicyclists and skaters should obey the posted speed limits. No racing, race training or pace lines. Skaters should use the bicycle lanes, and both skaters and cyclists should give an audible warning when passing.
- Motorized vehicles (except electric handicap wheelchairs, electricassist bicycles, maintenance, law enforcement and emergency vehicles) are prohibited.
- Horses are prohibited.
- · Pets must be kept on a 6-foot leash and under control.

#### $\mathsf{T}$ ips for Lo(king YOUR BIKE

- Lock your bike with a U-lock or heavy cable
- Lock your wheels to your frame
- Avoid locking to trees and objects that are not secure
- chance of getting it back in the event of theft

## Use the Trail Markers

In case of an emergency, you can easily report your location on the Pinellas Trail thanks to numbered decals placed on its surface. These decals appear every 200 feet. Each decal has a unique number that allows users to report incidents or call for help by giving the decal number nearest their location.

# WALK UP HEALTH

Walking, like bicycling, is not only fun and easy to do but also has a number of health benefits including the following:

- Low-impact exercise that can help lower low-density (bad) cholesterol while raising high-density (good) cholesterol.
- Lowers blood pressure and is good for managing weight. An average person walking for one hour at a moderate pace can burn up to 263 calories.
- Improves blood circulation and breathing.
- Prevents osteoporosis while helping to prevent and control diabetes.
- Helps bolster the immune system.

#### WALKING TIPS

Help

MAKE FLORIDA

A BI(Y(Le-FRIENDLY

STATE with the purchase of

a "Share the Road" license plate.

Go to www.bikeflorida.org or

when riding a bike.

- Wear comfortable shoes that have the proper arch support, a firm heal and thick flexible soles to cushion feet and absorb shock.
- Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing that's appropriate for the weather.
- Spend about five minutes walking slowly to warm up the muscles and be sure to stretch the muscles.

To help reduce stress on the heart and muscles, cool down by walking slowly and stretching.

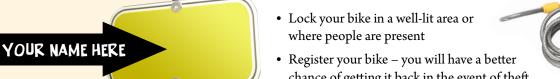




• Florida Bicycle Association

#### www.floridabicycle.org

- People for Bikes www.peopleforbikes.org
- Association of Pedestrian & Bicycle Professionals www.apbp.org
- League of American Bicyclists www.bikeleague.org
- National Center for Bicycling & Walking www.bikewalk.org
- Rails-to-Trails Conservancy www.railtrails.org



Bicyclists in Pinellas County can extend their commute by participating in the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority's (PSTA's) Bikes on Buses Program. The program allows bicyclists to mount their bikes on the front of the bus before boarding. Before you take your bike on the bus, here's what you need to know:

- Loading and securing the bike onto the rack is the sole responsibility of the bicyclist. Bikes may not be locked to the rack.
- Up to two bikes can be loaded on the rack. Only single-seat, two-wheel bicycles are allowed.
- Folding bikes are allowed on the bus, as long as they are folded and stored out of the aisle. Motor-powered vehicles, bikes smaller than 16", and bikes with covered spokes are not allowed. Theft, damage or, injury while loading and/or unloading are the sole responsibility of the passenger/bicyclist, not PSTA.
- Before you exit, remember to tell the driver that you have a bike on the bus.
- If the bike rack on your route is full on the last trip of the day, you may bring your bike inside the bus.

For more information or to view the video showing how to load and unload your bike on the bus, go to www.psta.net/

# Bike to WORK?

**BUT WHAT IF IT RAINS?** Leave your worries behind when you register for the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) Program. If you carpool, vanpool, ride the bus, bike or walk to work at least two days a week, you may be eligible for up to six free\* taxi rides home in cases of:

- Unscheduled overtime
- Sickness
- Carpool/Vanpool partners have an emergency
- Personal or family emergency

\*Anything in excess of a \$100 fare will be billed to the participant.

Interested in the ERH program? Simply create an account at the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) website located at: www.tbarta.com/en/commute-tampabay/emergency-ride-home. Once registered, you'll receive information on how to use the program, along with your first ERH voucher. All you need for your emergency trip home is the completed voucher and a picture ID. And you can use the ERH Program up to six times per year! Emergency Ride Home is a state program administered by TBARTA at (800) 998-RIDE(7433).

# (oast-to-(oast trail (onne(tor

The Florida Coast-to-Coast Trail is a planned 250-mile paved trail extending from St. Petersburg to Titusville. Most of the trail is in place. There are approximately 63 miles of the route awaiting construction. When completed, bicyclists and pedestrians will be able to travel from the Gulf to the Atlantic Coast.

The Coast-to-Coast Trail is part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, which is supported by funding from the Florida SUN (Shared Use Non-motorized) Trails Program. The Florida Legislature provided \$15 million for the Coast to Coast Trail through the SUN (Shared Use Non-motorized) Trails Program in 2014. More information on the Coast to Coast Trail is available at https://floridadep.gov/parks/ ogt/content/florida-coast-coast-trail.



Not only is bicycling fun and easy to do, it provides many health benefits. Regular bicycling improves general muscle functions gradually, with little risk of strain or injury. It strengthens and tones leg muscles and helps with the mobility of hip and knee joints. Bicycling helps build stamina and improves cardiovascular fitness. Bicycling helps reduce weight as studies have shown it burns approximately 300 calories per hour. Bicycling is also good for improving heart health and reducing stress.

Want to help people enjoy the Pinellas Trail? You can do that by volunteering as an Auxiliary Ranger, assist in the maintenance of the county park system or join the Pinellas Trail Adopt-a-Mile Program. For more information on these types of volunteer opportunities, call Pinellas County Volunteer Services at (727)-464-8477 or go to www.pinellascounty.org/volserv/default.htm.

# Bikepool

New to cycling in traffic? Share a ride with a neighbor, coworker or other bicyclist, and learn what it takes to ride safely on the road. The more riders there are in a group, the safer the ride. Bikepool is a free service offered by the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) that matches bicycle commuters with one another to form group trips. The goal of the Bikepool Program is to encourage more residents of the Tampa Bay region to commute by bike.

#### HOW DO I SIGN UP?

- 1 Go to www.tbarta.com/ en/commute-tampabay/bikepool-walk
- 2 Once you've received your list, contact the other cyclists and arrange a meeting time to discuss your route.
- 3 Begin your bike commute!

The Bikepool program is a free service through TBARTA.

RESPECT THE WEATHER BE AWARE OF HEAT AND HUMIDITY.

morming Weather

Although the Tampa Bay area climate is conducive for bicycling year-round, bicyclists should always be prepared for extreme weather conditions with regard to heat and thunderstorms, particularly in the summer months. Bicyclists should always be prepared with suntan lotion and plenty of water.

ON-STREET BIKING



#### **Make Eye Contact**

Confirm that you are seen by making eye contact with motorists when crossing the street. This helps to ensure they know you are on the road. Look over your shoulder regularly or use a mirror to scan the road behind.



#### Be Careful at Intersections

Most crashes happen at intersections. Proceed with care when crossing the street. Avoid being in a turn-only lane if you want to go straight through an intersection. In narrow lanes or slow traffic, it may be safer to take the whole lane.



#### **Use Hand Signals**

Signal all turns and stops ahead of time. Look over your shoulder for any traffic, then make your intended move only when it is safe to do so.



Use Lights at Night and When Visibility is Poor

#### ON-STREET BIKING



#### When turning left

Signal your intentions in advance. Move to the left turning lane and complete the turn when it is safe.



#### **Beware of Car Doors**

Be wary of parked cars. Motorists can unexpectedly open doors. Be particularly careful if you see a motorist in the car. Ride in a straight line at least three feet away from parked cars.



#### **Lock Your Bike**

Lock the frame and rear wheel of your bike to a fixed object. If you have a quick release, lock the front wheel also. Do not lock your bike to trees.



#### **Avoid Road Hazards**

Watch out for parallel-slat sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, potholes and construction plates. Cross railroad tracks carefully.

#### **MULTI-USE PATHS**



#### Signal to Others

Sound the bell on your bicycle or call out a warning when approaching others, then pass safely on the left. Skaters should follow the same travel rules as bicyclists. Do not perform trickskating maneuvers on heavily used paths...



#### **Use Pedestrian Push Buttons**



#### Keep to the Right

All path users must keep to the right, except when passing or turning left. Pedestrians should move to the right when someone is passing. Move off the path when stopping. Never block the path..



#### Right-of-Way

Cyclists and skaters must yield to pedestrians. Pedestrians always have the right of way.

# PINELLAS TRAIL

#### 1888

First train on Orange Belt Railway arrives in St. Petersburg.

#### 1983

Railroad right-of-way land purchased by Florida Department of Transportation.

#### 1984

Pinellas Bicycle **Advisory Committee** proposes using railroad right-of-way as bike route.

#### 1988

Pinellas Trails Inc. formed to promote public support for ar park concept.

#### 1989

Pinellas Trail project approved by Pinellas Board of County Commissioners with \$1.5 million allocated to build a 15-mile segment. Penny for Pinellas funding designated for 35 miles of Pinellas Trail.

#### 1990

First five-mile section of the Pinellas Trail opens from Taylor Park to Seminole City Park.

#### 1991

First trail overpass opens over Ulmerton Road in Largo.



#### 1992

Trail section from Taylor Park to Ozona opens. West Bay Drive overpass in Largo completed.

#### 1993

Nine-mile segment from Seminole City Park to St. Petersburg opens. Trail overpass at Orange Street and Alt. U.S. Highway 19 opens.

St. Petersburg and **Tarpon Springs** sections open.



#### 1996

and 113th Street overpasses open. section opens.

#### 2000

designated a Millennium Trail by the White House. Pinellas Trail's Cross Bayou Bridge opens.

Park Boulevard overpass opens in Seminole.

Seminole Boulevard Downtown Clearwater

Pinellas Trail



#### 2001

Trail connection to Wall Springs Park completed. Park Street overpass completed.

#### 2003

Pinellas Trail designated a National Recreation Trail by U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, National Trails System.

#### 2004

Art on the Trail railroad sculpture additions mark cities along the trail.

Elfer's Spur over Anclote River in Tarpon Springs opens to North Anclote River Nature Park. 38th Ave. North overpass opens.

#### 2006

Jasmine section under U.S. Highway 19 to Keystone Road opens.

#### 2007

St. Petersburg begins construction of Downtown Trail Extension. Groundbreaking for first section of the Progress Energy (later named Duke Energy) Extension of the Pinellas Trail.

#### 2008

Three-mile Downtown Trail Extension opens to St. Petersburg waterfront. Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail inducted into Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.



#### 2009

Enterprise overpass for the Progress Energy Extension of the Pinellas Trail completed.

#### 2010

34th Street overpass opens. Keystone Road groundbreaking for Northeast Trail Extension.

#### 2011

Trail through downtown Clearwater completed.

#### 2012

North Bay Trail from downtown St. Petersburg to 78th Ave North completed.

#### 2013

Pinellas County & Duke Energy sign agreement for development of Duke Energy Florida Trail

Keystone section connection to John Chesnut Park opened to public.

Pinellas Trail from Belleair Road to Haines Bayshore Blvd completed.

#### 2015

Courtney Campbell Trail from Clearwater to Tampa completed.

#### U.S. Highway 19. 2018

2017

A 5-mile segment of

the Coast-to-Coast

Trail Connector

opens along Keystone

Road, from East Lake

Road to Hillsborough

County, then north to

Pasco County.

A 1.4 mile segment

of the Duke Energy

Trail opens from

Sunset Point Road to

the trail overpass near

Enterprise Road and

Dunedin designated First Florida Trail Town.

#### 2020

Pinellas Trail 30-Year Anniversary.





#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11, 2022





#### **Summary**

Pinellas County Park System is responsible for the care and maintenance of the County-owned parks and preserves, trails, campgrounds, boat ramps, rights of way and roads. This department also provides maintenance, operations, and oversight for the Pinellas Trail. Their role is vital to keeping people using the Pinellas Trail safe and informed. At each Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting, the Park Ranger provides an overview of any security topics which arose during the previous quarter. The information helps everyone attending understand any concerning behavior on the Pinellas Trail that can be addressed by the appropriate parties in attendance.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

**ACTION:** None Required; Informational Item Only

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11. 2022





- Sheriff's Office
- Belleair
- Clearwater
- Gulfport
- Largo
- St. Petersburg
- Tarpon Springs
- Animal Services
- Public Safety Services
- Pinellas County Risk Management
- Friends of the Pinellas Trail
- Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates

ATTACHMENT(S): None

**ACTION:** None Required; Informational Item Only

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11. 2022





#### **SUMMARY**

This item will include the monthly data summary reports for the automatic trail counters along the Pinellas Trail. Note that average hourly data has been included with the reports. East Lake/Tarpon & Bay Pines counts for April were excluded due to trail counter technical difficulties. The counter for East Lake/Tarpon was repaired and these counts are included in May's trail counts, however Bay Pines counter is still having technical difficulties and these counts were not included in May.

**ATTACHMENT:** Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary Reports:

June 2022

■ July 2022

August 2022

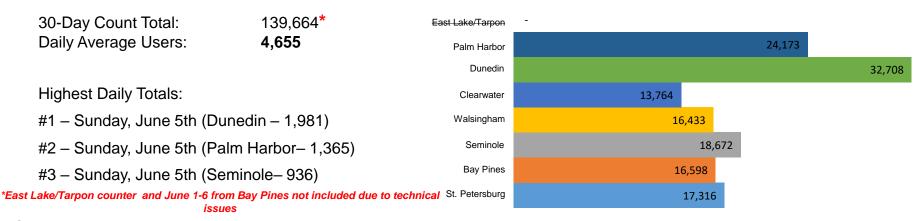
**ACTION:** No Action Required, informational item only



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period: June 1st-30th (30 days)

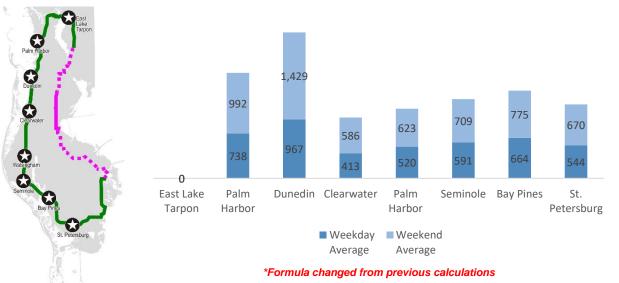
#### **June 2022**

#### **June Trail Users by Counter Location**



#### **Counter Locations**

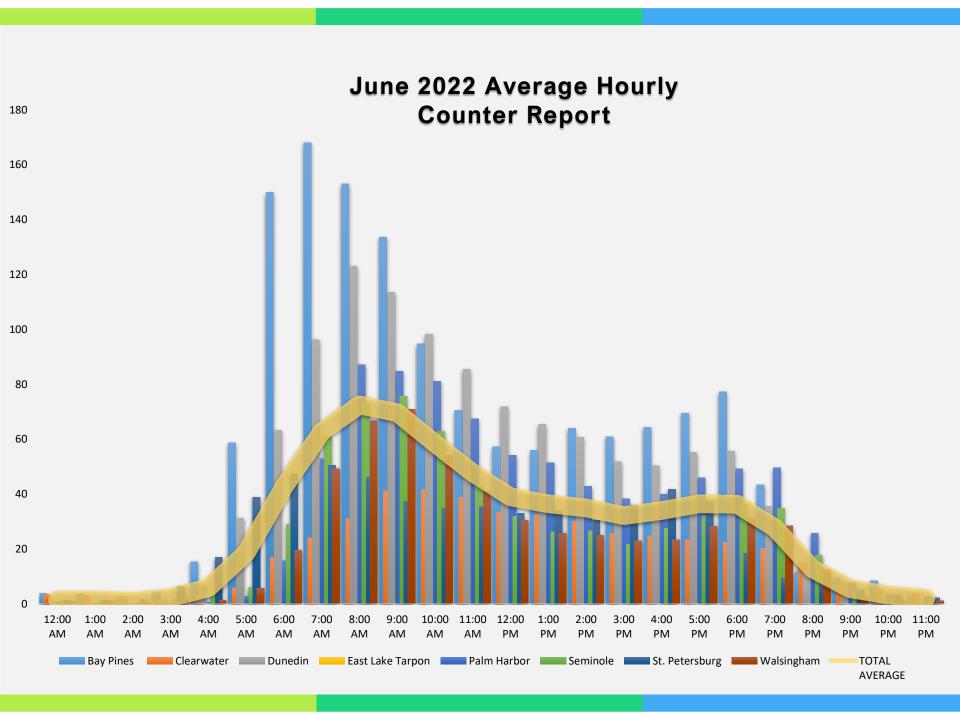
#### Weekday & Weekend Profile\*



#### **Trail User Mode Split**

6
6
6
6
6
6
6
6 6 6

Source: Forward Pinellas June 2022





**Automated Trail Counter Data Collection** Period: January – June, 2022 Data\*

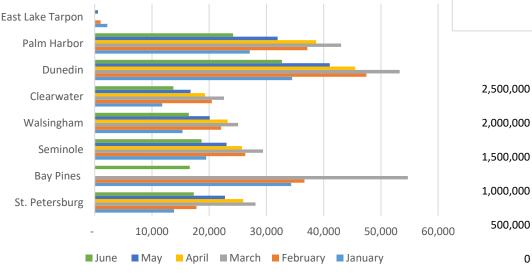
## **Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2022** 动大的大的大的

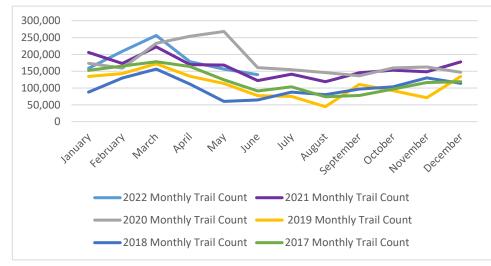
0

Jan-June 2022 Total Count: 1,097,989\*

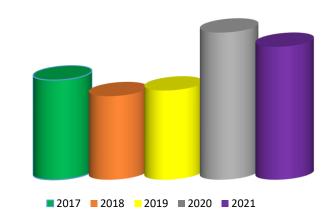
\*Technical issues with East Lake / Tarpon counter beginning in Feb 2022; data not included in March, April, or June 2022 \*Technical issues with Bay Pines counter; not included in April –May, June 1-6 2022

#### Year to Date Data Per Location





#### Pinellas Trail Use 2017 – 2021



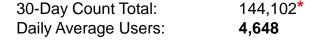
\*Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period: July 1st-31st (31 days)

#### **July 2022**

#### **July Trail Users by Counter Location**



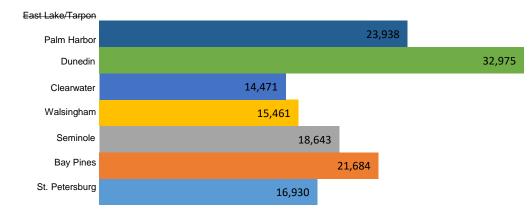
#### **Highest Daily Totals:**

#1 – Saturday, July 2nd (Dunedin – 1,585)

#2 – Saturday, July 9th (Palm Harbor – 1,102)

#3 – Saturday, July 9th (Bay Pines - 964)

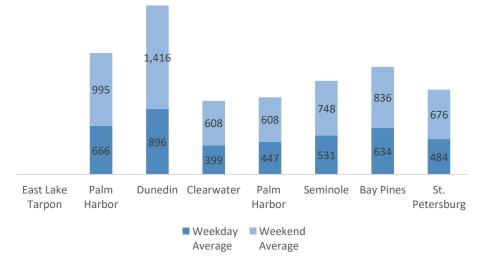
\*East Lake/Tarpon counter not included due to technical issues



#### **Counter Locations**

#### Weekday & Weekend Profile

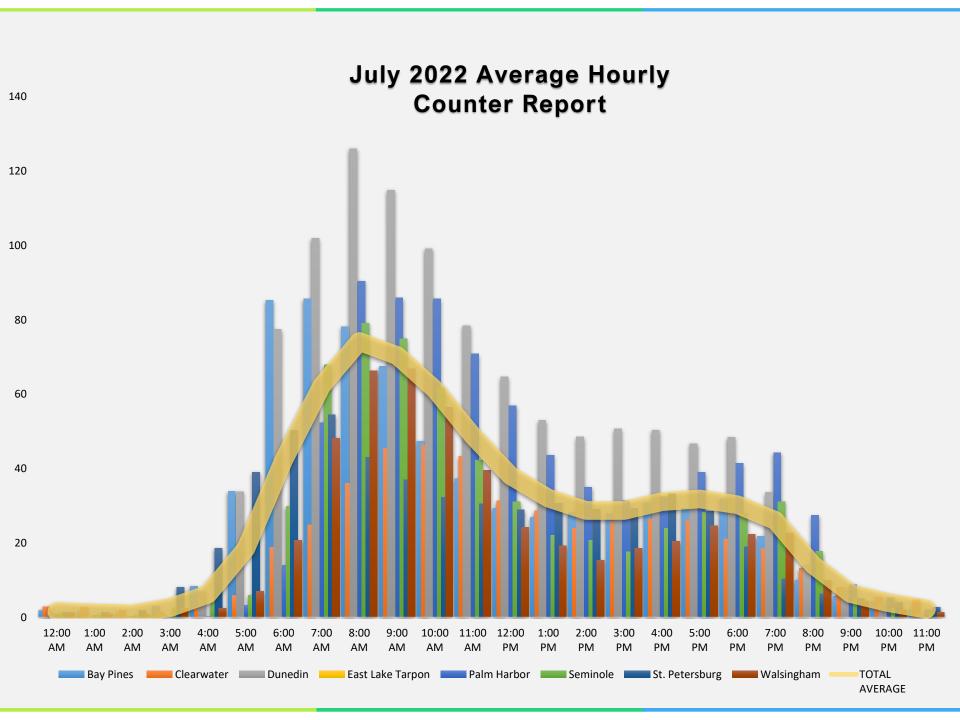




#### **Trail User Mode Split**

	*	Ø₩0	
Palm Harbor	18%	82%	
Dunedin	17%	83%	
Clearwater	28%	72%	
Walsingham	12%	88%	
Seminole	22%	78%	
Bay Pines	17%	83%	
St. Petersburg	14%	86%	
East Lake/Tarpon			

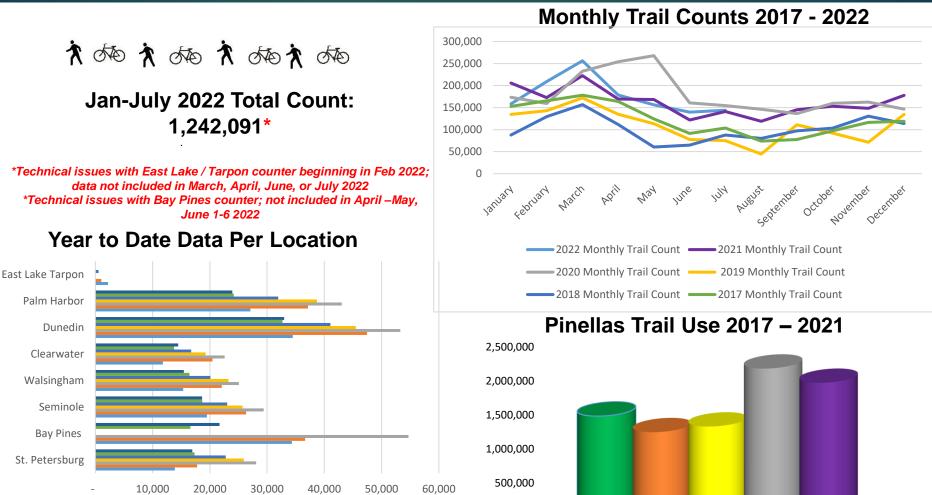
Source: Forward Pinellas July 2022



April March February January



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period: January – July 2022 Data\*



0

■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021
 \*Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period: August 1st-31st (31 days)

#### August 2022

#### **August Trail Users by Counter Location**

31-Day Count Total: 129,888\* Daily Average Users: 4,190

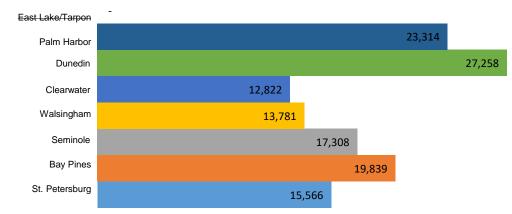
#### **Highest Daily Totals:**

#1 – Saturday, August 13th (Dunedin – 1,623)

#2 – Sunday, August 7th (Palm Harbor – 1,171)

#3 – Saturday, August 13th (Bay Pines - 958)

\*East Lake/Tarpon counter not included due to technical issues

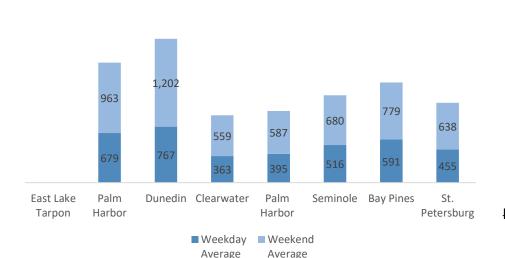


#### **Counter Locations**

#### Weekday & Weekend Profile

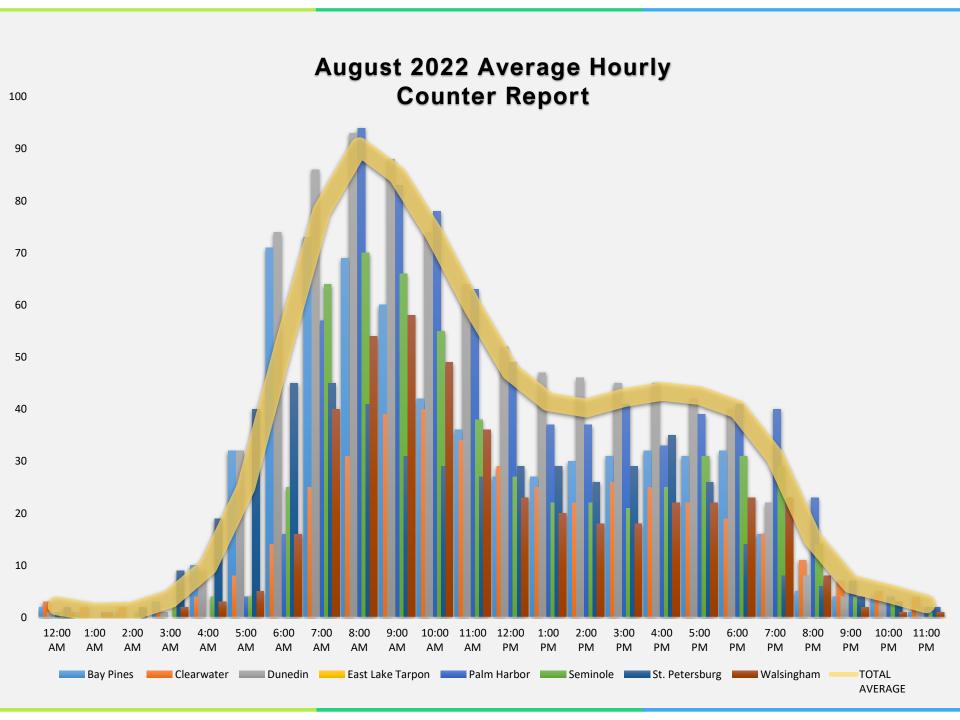
#### **Trail User Mode Split**





	☆	Ø₩0
Palm Harbor	18%	82%
Dunedin	13%	87%
Clearwater	27%	73%
Walsingham	9%	91%
Seminole	21%	79%
Bay Pines	14%	86%
St. Petersburg	12%	88%
East Lake/Tarpon		

Source: Forward Pinellas August 2022





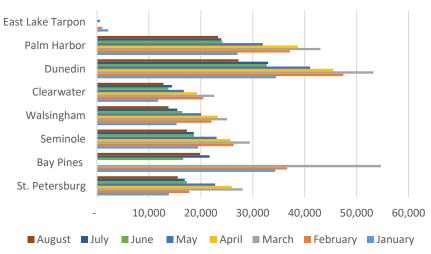
Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period: January – August 2022 Data\*



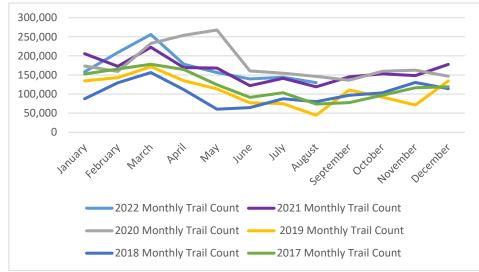
Jan-August 2022 Total Count: 1,371,969\*

\*Technical issues with East Lake / Tarpon counter beginning in Feb 2022; data not included in March-April or June-August 2022 \*Technical issues with Bay Pines counter; not included in April –May, June 1-6 2022

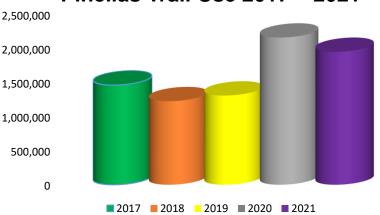
#### **Year to Date Data Per Location**



#### **Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2022**



#### Pinellas Trail Use 2017 - 2021



\*Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11. 2022





TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OCTOBER 2022				
Pinellas Trail North Loop Gap Countryside	Enterprise Rd to Chesnut Sr. Park; SUN Trail; Construction Complete, Bridge construction over Tarpon Canal to start Spring 2023 (link)			
Pinellas Trail South Loop Phase 3 & 4	Haines Bayshore to Ulmerton Rd to 126th Ave; Segment of South Loop has will receive SUN Trail and FDOT Funding; Design in 2022; Construction 2024 ( <a href="https://www.pinellascounty.org/southgap/default.htm">https://www.pinellascounty.org/southgap/default.htm</a> )			
71st Street Trail Connector	Pinellas Trail to 38th Avenue N; Design 2022, Construction 2024			
San Martin Bridge & Trail connection	Bridge Replacement; Design 2022; Construction 2024			
Courtney Campbell Trail Overpass	Trail Overpass at S.R. 60/Bayshore Blvd; SUN Trail; Design Underway; Construction 2024			
Howard Frankland Bridge Trail	FDOT include trail with new bridge construction; Design-Build Project; Construction underway; Est. late completion 2025 (link)			
Gandy Bridge Trail	FDOT to include trail with new bridge construction; PD&E Study Underway			
Harn Boulevard Overpass	Pedestrian Overpass; Construction Underway; Est. Completion 2023 (link)			
Bayway Trail South	SR 679/Pinellas Bayway from north of Bunces Bridge to north of Madeira Circle. New two-way bicycle lane. Design complete; Est. construction start 2022 ( <a href="https://www.fdottampabay.com/project/909/440244-1-52-01">https://www.fdottampabay.com/project/909/440244-1-52-01</a> )			
Oldsmar Trail Phase 6	Douglas Rd (Stevens Avenue to Race Track Rd) Design complete; Est. Construction end of 2020; section from Hayes Rd to Stevens Avenue postponed.			

#### Pinellas Trail Security Task Force - October 11, 2022

#### 8. Other Business



#### A. Suggestions for Future Agenda Topics

- Trail Planning
- Trail Operations
- Trail Enhancements

#### B. Other

If any member has other business to discuss, they may address it under this item.