

September 16, 2016

New Savannas Recreation Trail Crosstown Parkway Extension Mitigation Project Video Release

The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to announce the completion and opening of the Savannas Recreation Trail stretching 2.5 miles from Midway Road to Savannah Road. The new trail allows for hiking and nature access to pine flatwoods, wet prairie marsh, lakes, scrub and wildlife along the 8-foot paved trail. This trail is part of the St. Lucie North/South trail that connects to the Green River Parkway Trail and it is also a segment of the East Coast Greenway, a trail linking east coast cities from Maine to Key West. The Savannas Recreation Trail was one of several mitigation projects funded by the City of Port St. Lucie to restore wetlands, improve water quality and provide recreation and ecotourism opportunities for residents and visitors as compensation for crossing state-owned lands with the Crosstown Parkway Bridge Project.

To spotlight the different mitigation projects, the City continues to release videos showcasing the new enhancements and opportunities provided for residents and visitors alike right here in St. Lucie County. The video spotlighting the new Savannas Recreation Trail will be available starting September 16 on the City's website, www.cityofpsl.com and the Crosstown Project website, www.crosstownextension.com. The first video spotlighted the new Savannas Education Center addition and was released earlier this month and can still be viewed on the City's websites. A video showcasing the new Evans Creek Canoe Launch will be the final video released later this month. Additional information regarding the mitigation projects can also be found on the Crosstown Project website.

The Crosstown Parkway Extension Design/Build Project involves providing a new bridge crossing over the North Fork of the St. Lucie River in the City of Port St. Lucie, connecting the existing Crosstown Parkway from Manth Lane to U.S. 1. The project extends along the existing West Virginia Drive, crossing over the North Fork of the St. Lucie River and connecting into U.S. 1 at Village Green Drive. The project is approximately two miles with the bridge being approximately 4,000 feet. The six lane divided highway and bridge will serve as a multi-modal transportation alternative to include accommodations for automobile, bicycle, pedestrian and public transit. The project will help alleviate traffic congestion, providing relief to the two existing crossings of the North Fork of the St. Lucie River at Port St. Lucie Boulevard and Prima Vista Boulevard. The project will improve public safety, emergency response times, help reduce travel times and enhance mobility. Construction for the project is estimated to begin in late 2016. The estimated construction costs for the project are \$86.9 million.

For more information, please contact Beth Zsoka, Crosstown Parkway Extension Project public information officer by email at beth.zsoka@qcausa.com or phone at 772-871-5176 or Sarah Prohaska, City public information officer at sprohaska@cityofpsl.com or 772-873-6326.