



**Interoffice Memorandum**

October 21, 2021

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
— AND —  
County Commissioners

FROM: Jeff Benavides, LEED AP, Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer   
County Administrator's Office

CONTACT: 407-836-7389

SUBJECT: Consent Item – November 9, 2021  
Resolution to join the West Orange Trail Stakeholder Task Force

Lake Apopka is a natural and historical asset shared between Orange and Lake Counties including the many cities, towns, and neighborhoods surrounding Florida's 5th largest lake. Orange County manages a portion of the Lake Apopka Loop Bike trail which is collocated with the St. Johns River Water Management District's Wildlife Drive, a valued birding paradise. Orange County also manages the 22-mile West Orange Trail that provides recreation, commuting, and connectivity among various attractions, town centers, and neighborhoods.

The West Orange Trail Stakeholder Task Force (Task Force) was created by the Friends of Lake Apopka and the West Orange Chamber of Commerce to enhance collaboration across local governments and local not-for-profit organizations, including Healthy West Orange and Bike/Walk Central Florida. Orange County received an invitation to join the Task Force by Resolution and appoint a staff member to assist with achieving the goals outlined in the Resolution. The City of Apopka and the Town of Oakland executed Resolutions, respectively, to join the Task Force.

Orange County is committed to enhancing these amenities surrounding Lake Apopka and continuing preservation activities for this regional asset.

**ACTION REQUESTED: Approval and execution of Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners regarding the West Orange Trail Stakeholder Task Force and authorization for the Mayor or designee to appoint Orange County staff to serve as a representative on the Task Force. All Districts.**

Attachment

cc: Byron W. Brooks, AICP, County Administrator  
Chris Testerman, AICP, Deputy County Administrator  
Carla Bell Johnson, AICP, Assistant County Administrator  
Joel Prinsell, County Attorney's Office  
Jon Weiss, P.E., Director, PEDS Department  
Lonnie Bell, Director, Community & Family Services  
Matt Suedmeyer, Division Manager, Parks & Recreation  
David Jones, P.E., Manager, Environmental Protection Division