



# THE LACE & AXLE



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.COJ.NET/PEDBIKE](http://WWW.COJ.NET/PEDBIKE)



## WELCOME TO OUR SECOND ISSUE!

The Lace & Axle is a quarterly newsletter, developed by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning office.

This is your source for updates on planned improvements to make Jacksonville a more walkable and bike-friendly community.

In this issue, we will highlight recent improvements and provide information about upcoming meetings and opportunities to get

involved in our shared mission to improve biking and walking throughout Jacksonville.

For the latest information on bicycle and pedestrian-related meetings and events, visit [coj.net/pedbike](http://coj.net/pedbike).

## New Bicycle Lanes on Bowden Road

There's now a dedicated space for bicyclists on Bowden Road! In May, the Public Works Department added five-foot bicycle lanes on Bowden Road between Philips Highway and Spring Park Road as part their annual resurfacing work. These news lanes connect existing bicycle lanes on Philips Highway to bicycle lanes on Spring Park Road, adding 0.6 miles to the bicycle network and filling a gap in the City's bike network.



The new five-foot bicycle lanes along Bowden Road link existing bicycle lanes on Philips Highway to those on Spring Park Road.

### DEVICES DOWN. HEADS UP.

Minimize all distractions when traveling on roadways.



## Share the Road. Share Responsibility.

We have a shared responsibility to keep Jacksonville's streets safe for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

Please visit [coj.net/allinduval](http://coj.net/allinduval) for safety tips, activity downloads, and other resources.



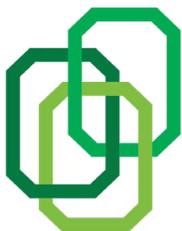
## 30-Mile Emerald Trail Taking Shape

Imagine being able to walk, run and bike along 30-miles of connected trails around downtown - from McCoy's Creek to the stadium, the Phoenix Arts District to San Marco, the S-Line Rail Trail to the Northbank Riverwalk and everywhere in between. Groundwork Jacksonville, the city's primary nonprofit organization specifically created to restore our urban creeks and clean, redevelop and convert contaminated land into parks, playgrounds, trails, and other public greenspace, is working to make this a reality within the next 10 years as it works with the City to build the Emerald Trail.

When complete, the Emerald Trail will encompass 19.7 miles of new trails connecting at least 14 historic neighborhoods and downtown to existing and/or planned trail segments including the S-Line Rail Trail, Hogans Creek, McCoy's Creek, the Northbank and Southbank

riverwalks and the FDOT's Riverside connection to San Marco, for a total of 30 miles of trails and linear parks. The trail will link to 18 schools, two colleges and 28 parks among other destinations like restaurants, retail and businesses, with an additional 20 schools and 21 parks located within three blocks of the trail.

The next step will be to design and build the "Model Project," a portion of the trail that will be highly utilized and will offer the community a tangible example of what the finished Emerald Trail can be. The 1.3-mile Model Project will connect the south end of the existing S-Line Rail Trail to the intersection of Park Street and Stonewall Street near the Convention Center, where it will connect to the future McCoy's Creek greenway. The goal is to have the Model Project completed in 2020. For more information visit [groundworkjax.org](http://groundworkjax.org)



**EMERALD**  
**T R A I L**



(Above) This "Love Graffiti" mosaic mural along the S-Line Rail Trail memorializes a graffiti image that once appeared where the mosaic hangs today.

(Left) Emerald Trail Logo. The planned Emerald Trail network will connect at least 14 historic neighborhoods.

## Sugar Hill Mosaic Honors the Past, Present & Future of the Historic Neighborhood

In March, Groundwork Jacksonville, in collaboration with Kate and Kenny Rouh of RouxArt dedicated the Sugar Hill Mosaic—the largest mosaic art installation in Jacksonville. The five-foot high, 96-foot long mosaic honors the past, present and future of Sugar Hill, once the center of African-American prosperity in Northeast Florida. An estimated 41,000 individual pieces of tile, glass and mirror, along with more than 1,000 man-hours contributed by RouxArt and hundreds of volunteers from all areas of the community went into its creation. The mosaic is located on the S-Line Rail Trail under the I-95 overpass, along 13th St. between N. Davis St. and Moncrief Rd. It features six themed panels:

**History of Sugar Hill** – Honors the grand homes, buildings and prominent residents of Sugar Hill  
**Peace** – Features colorful peace signs

**Neighborhood Fun** – Inspired by children playing and everyday neighborhood activities

**Green Team Youth Corps** - Recognizes Green Team's extensive work along the S-Line

**Love Graffiti** – Memorializes a graffiti image that once appeared where the mosaic hangs today

**Jax Starry Night** – Jacksonville Skyline image inspired by the famous painting by Vincent van Gogh "Central to our mission is to build and activate an urban trail—

complete with recreation and public art—that links and celebrates our historic neighborhoods. We are honored to dedicate the Sugar Hill mosaic as the first of many Emerald Trail projects over the next decade that will encourage our citizens to re-connect with our city and with each other," said Kay Ehas, CEO of Groundwork Jacksonville.

# New Pedestrian Bridge Connects 28 miles of Trails

North Jacksonville recently saw the completion of a 245-foot pedestrian bridge that now connects the natural surface trail network at Cedar Point Preserve to the trails of the National Park Service's (NPS) Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve. This bridge project was envisioned decades ago and was finally constructed with the award of a Federal Land Access Program grant in 2016.

Cedar Point Preserve consists of approximately 631 acres of conservation land owned and managed by the City of Jacksonville. Recreational opportunities include 6.3 miles of trails available to hikers, off-road bicyclists and horseback riders as well as picnic facilities, wildlife viewing and scenic overlooks.

The NPS's Cedar Point Property is directly east of the City's preserve across marshland and tidal Pumpkin Hill Creek. The NPS property is composed of 420 acres of oak hammock, pine flatwoods and pine plantation and surrounded by salt marsh and tidal creeks on three sides. There are numerous cultural resources including several archaeological sites and the remains of historic structures associated with a plantation. Recreational opportunities include 4.4 miles of trails, fishing, birding and a boat ramp facility with access to the Intracoastal Waterway.

The City and the NPS are part of a partnership along with the Florida Park Service (FPS) in this area called the Timucuan Trail State and National Parks. The partners collaborate on park planning and resource management to provide a seamless experience for visitors as they navigate from one connected property to the next. Trail connectivity has also been established between the City's Cedar Point Preserve and the adjacent State Park property, Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park, as well as two other adjoining City-owned preserves, Betz-Tiger Point Preserve and Jim Wingate Preserve.

The completion of the bridge project marks the last major hurdle to connect the trails on five adjacent conservation lands totaling 5,526 acres managed by the City, NPS and FPS and seamlessly connect nearly 28 miles of trails in northeast Jacksonville.



*The pedestrian bridge under construction.*



*View of the completed pedestrian bridge connecting Cedar Point Preserve to the National Park Service's Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve.*

## Want to install a bike rack in the City Right-of-Way?

Refer to our step-by-step walkthrough on how to get a permit at [coj.net/pedbike](http://coj.net/pedbike).



## HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PLANNING PROGRAM?

Email Stephanie Zarkis, City of Jacksonville Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator at [szarkis@coj.net](mailto:szarkis@coj.net).

## WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER?

Stay up-to-date on meetings related to Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning by checking out the following webpages:

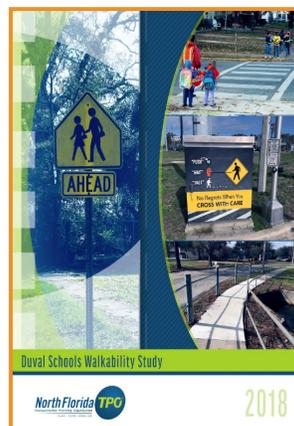
- COJ Pedestrian & Bicycle Planning - [coj.net/pedbike](http://coj.net/pedbike)
- Context Sensitive Streets Standards Committee - [coj.net/contextsensitivestreets](http://coj.net/contextsensitivestreets)
- Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee- [facebook.com/bpacfriends](https://www.facebook.com/bpacfriends)
- North Florida Transportation Planning Organization - [northfloridatpo.com](http://northfloridatpo.com)
- Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Meetings - [tinyurl.com/fdotdistrict2](http://tinyurl.com/fdotdistrict2)

## Duval County Schools Walkability Study

The City of Jacksonville and the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization recently completed a study of pedestrian walkability around 7 Duval County schools.

- Henry F. Kite Elementary School
- Annie R. Morgan Elementary School
- Edward White High School
- Love Grove Elementary School
- Hogan-Spring Glen Elementary School
- San Jose Elementary School
- Mayport Middle School

Schools were selected based on proximity to high-speed roads and areas with lower than average median household income. The study identified sidewalk gaps, as well as locations for improved crosswalks. The City is actively pursuing opportunities to address the identified needs. Visit [www.coj.net/pedbike](http://www.coj.net/pedbike) to read the report.



## Safe Routes to School Program

Florida Safe Routes to School (SRTS), funded by the Florida Department of Transportation, works with Safe Route Local Coordinators to make it safer for children to walk and bicycle to school. Duval County schools have made significant progress bringing pedestrian and bicycle safety lessons in the class room including hands-on bicycle training. Contact [Valerie.feinberg@hpcnef.org](mailto:Valerie.feinberg@hpcnef.org) to get your school involved.



Students at Fort Caroline Elementary learning bicycle skills.

