

# **Florida Trail Association Inc.**

## **Charter – Trails Development and Planning Committee**

### **PURPOSE**

The Trails Development and Planning Committee (“Committee”) of the Florida Trail Association Inc. (“FTA”) conducts and coordinates the FTA Board of Directors’ trails oversight responsibilities.

The Committee shall monitor for the planning, development, collaboration, and evaluation of FTA’s policies and programs for the Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) and Florida Trails System (FTS).

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Chair of the FTA Board of Directors shall appoint a Trails Development and Planning Committee consisting of no fewer than three (3) members, inclusive of the Committee Chair plus at least two other Directors. The Board Chair, Executive Director and the FTA Trail Program Director shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Committee. The Committee may include other non-Director FTA members, approved by the full Board, whose experience in trail leadership, trail maintenance and other relevant skills may assist the Committee and the Board in the performance of their oversight responsibilities. A majority of the Committee members, present and voting, shall constitute a quorum. However, at all times a majority of the Committee, and a majority of a quorum, shall consist of Board members.

The Committee reports to the Board.

The Committee shall meet no fewer than six times per year, at the call of the Committee Chair, Board Chair, or the Executive Director. The Committee shall maintain minutes/notes of all meetings, which shall be regularly approved by the Committee and made available for distribution to the Board.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Committee will:

1. Monitor planning, development, maintenance, protection and make recommendations for the Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) and Florida Trail System (FTS).
2. Monitor recruitment, training, safety and management of volunteers for maintenance, and stewardship of the FNST and the FTS.
3. Coordinate and collaborate with the Florida Trail Association (FTA) trail staff and United States Forest Service (USFS) FNST Administrator on matters relating to the FNST.
4. Make recommendations to the FTA Board of Directors (BOD) on new FTS trail proposals and removal of trails from the FTS as required.
5. Direct involvement in planning and development of proposed FTS segments in coordination with the FTA staff.
6. Monitor and provide guidance for FNST and FTS infrastructure and/or trail relocation request in coordination with the FTA trail staff and trail partners as appropriate.

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7. Assign trail construction and maintenance responsibilities to FTA Chapters for the FNST and FTS.
8. Review and recommend approval or disapproval of Chapter Trail Coordinator and Section Leader nominations to the FTA BOD Chair.
9. Share responsibility for the planning and conduct of Trails Committee Meetings with FTA trail staff.
10. Collaborate with FTA trail staff and the USFS FNST Administrator on revisions to the FTA Trail Manual.
11. Makes final FTA decisions for changes in the FTA Trail Manual. Recommend approval of changes to the BOD.
12. Collaborate with the FTA Executive Director (ED) on matters related to FTA / USFS Memorandum of Understanding and other trails related governing agreements and documents.
13. Coordinate with the FTA ED monitor State of Florida governmental committees and agencies for potential FNST and/or FTS impact and opportunities.
14. Assist the FTA ED and trail staff with resolution of other trail-related issues as appropriate.
15. Discuss and vote on the recommendations/action items from the FTA Trails Committee and move FTA BOD for approval.
16. Monitor grant proposals and make recommendations for the FNST and FTS.

The Committee shall strive to coordinate and collaborate with the Board, Executive Director, the FNST Administrator, FTA Trail Staff and FTA volunteer leaders on all trail development and sustainability issues.

Approved by the Trails Development and Planning Committee: November 16, 2022  
Approved by the FTA, Board of Directors: January 21, 2023