



## **John Yarbrough Linear Park Phase IV Feasibility Study Project – Fact Sheet**

### **Engineering Consultant: Jacobs Engineering Group**

### **John Yarbrough Linear Park Phase IV Feasibility Study**

The City has entered into a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to determine the viability of extending the John Yarbrough Linear Park (JYLP) Trail approximately 1.8 miles north, from Colonial Boulevard to Hanson Street. Located both within the City of Fort Myers and unincorporated Lee County, the John Yarbrough Linear Park Trail is an existing, non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor just west of Metro Parkway, currently extending approximately six (6) miles, from Six Mile Cypress Parkway to Colonial Boulevard. The JYLP Trail is part of the state-wide SUN Trail network and state funds are anticipated to fund the design and construction phases of constructing the Trail. Eventually the JYLP Trail will be further extended north through downtown Fort Myers and connect with Cape Coral and beyond.

### **History of the Project**

The John Yarbrough Linear Park (originally the Ten Mile Canal Linear Park) parallels the Ten Mile Canal and the Seminole Gulf Railway, and is owned and operated by Lee County Parks and Recreation. It is part of Lee County's Tour de Parks route along with Lakes Regional Park and other locations. When Lee County first built the John Yarbrough Linear Park, there were plans for extensions to the south and north. The south extension is completed and the north extension has been forthcoming for at least five (5) years.

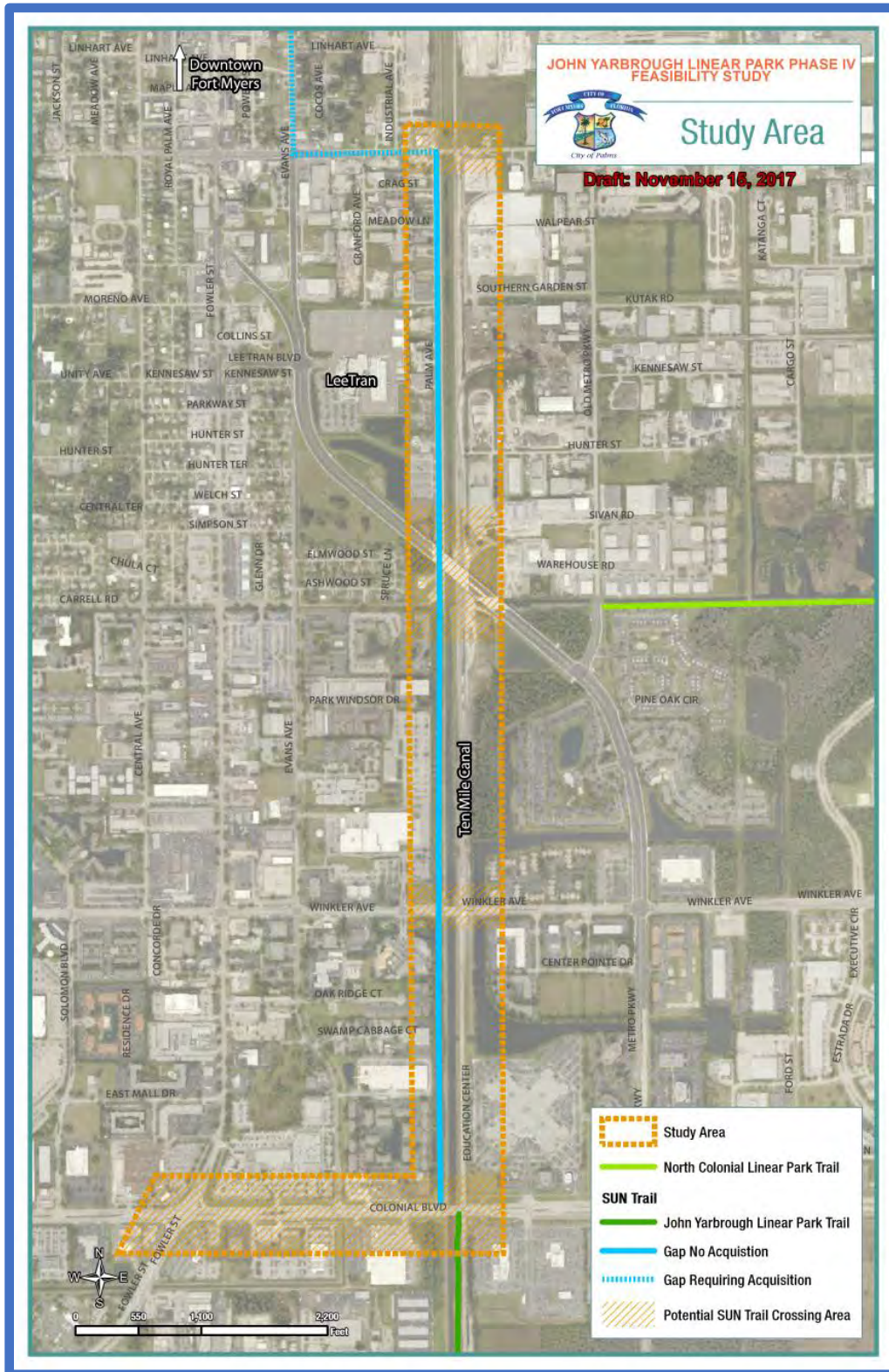
Phase I of the JYLP, spanning from Six Mile Cypress to Daniels Parkway, was completed in November 2005 and included 1.25 miles of paved path and sidewalks, and two shade shelters with picnic tables. Phase II (from Daniels Parkway to Crystal Drive) opened in October 2006 and includes two shade shelters with picnic tables and 1.5 miles of paved trails. Phase III (from Crystal Drive to Colonial Boulevard) opened late April 2008. On Sept. 9, 2008, Lee County Commissioners renamed the park from Ten Mile Canal Linear Park to John Yarbrough Linear Park in honor of longtime retiring Lee County Parks and Recreation Director John Yarbrough.

The JYLP Feasibility Study is funded with federal dollars prioritized by the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and approved by FDOT. An application for \$350,000 state SUN Trail funding for Design is funded for 2018. The City of Fort Myers has long-term plans to connect the JYLP and Colonial Park to the Winkler Canal neighborhood via JYLP and other on-street and off-street connections.

The Seminole Gulf Railroad corridor and the Ten Mile Canal are both substantial crossings, making connectivity a challenge. Improvements and/or bridges in these areas should be considered. Project maintenance will need to be discussed and an agreement reached between the City of Fort Myers and Lee County for the extension.

A project kick-off meeting was held on August 28, 2017. Those in attendance included representatives from Jacobs Engineering Group, Alta Planning and Design, FDOT, the Lee County MPO, and Cella, Molnar and Associates. A Conceptual Design Workshop was held December 6 through 8, 2017. Additional agencies that were invited to participate in the workshop include the Lee County Sheriff's Office, Fort Myers Police, City of Fort Myers and Lee County Parks and Recreation. The project team shared the history of the project, presented design options and important considerations being evaluated, and there was a valuable exchange of information, comments and feedback with all agency representatives in attendance. A public workshop is scheduled for January 29, 2018. The project is expected to be completed by March 31, 2018.

# John Yarbrough Linear Park Phase IV Feasibility Study Area



For more information please contact the City's Public Information Consultant for the project:

Cella Molnar & Associates, Inc. at (239) 337-1071 or by email to [MAvola@cella.cc](mailto:MAvola@cella.cc).