

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 23-073

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE INGRAHAM AVENUE TRAIL PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT FUNDING REQUESTS TO THE POLK TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING REQUESTS FOR SHARED USE NONMOTORIZED TRAIL FUNDING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION ANNUAL PROJECT SOLICITATION CYCLE PRIORITIZATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail is a designated Land Trail Priority Corridor in the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail is also an “Unfunded Gap” in Florida’s Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail (“SUNTrail”) Network; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail corridor is depicted as a Multi-Use Trail Need on the Florida SUNTrail Network in Figure 4-23 of the Polk Transportation Planning Organization’s *Momentum 2045* long-range transportation plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail and larger Fort Fraser Trail corridor directly connect to the newly-designated Collier to Polk Regional Trail Corridor route and are among the most urbanized portions of this route; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail corridor is the spine of Lakeland’s eastside trail network, supporting past federal, state and local investments that are part of or connect to the Fort Fraser Trail Extension, including the Three Parks Trail, New Jersey Trail, Crystal Lake Drive Complete Street Improvement, Lake Hollingsworth Trail,

North Ingraham Avenue Road-Diet (north of US 98/Bartow Road), Parker Street Road Diet and West Lake Parker Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, programmed and on-going trail projects connecting to the Ingraham Avenue Trail corridor include the Fort Fraser Trail Extension (FPN# 440603-1) that will be constructed by Polk County between the existing northern trail terminus and Lakeland Highlands Road/Glendale Street intersection in FY 2024, and the Glendale Trail portion of the Fort Fraser Extension (FPN# 453404-1) that is expected to be programmed in FY 2026 of the updated Florida Department of Transportation Five-Year Work Program and implemented by the City of Lakeland; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lakeland Comprehensive Plan: Our Community 2030 contains goals, objectives and policies aimed at improving the safety and efficiency of the area transportation network and enhancing multi-modal transportation opportunities, thereby reducing automobile dependence; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Comprehensive Plan incorporates a Citywide Pathways Plan that identifies priority corridors for investments in active transportation facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians, including the Ingraham Avenue Trail corridor as a component of the Fort Fraser Trail Extension alternative route through Lakeland's Central City Transit Supportive Area to the Tenoroc Trail, and ultimately the General Van Fleet State Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is a designated bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community and a bronze-level Walk Friendly Community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 5004, adopting the Polk County Local Government Complete Streets Policy, which was formalized through Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Resolution No. 2012-15; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail is part of Polk County’s larger multi-modal transportation network, crossing the Eastside Circulator and Green Line fixed-transit routes operated by the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District (“Citrus Connection”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Ingraham Avenue Trail will connect Florida Southern College with its off-campus residential communities and will provide enhanced commuting options to Downtown Lakeland, Lakeland Regional Health and Watson Clinic’s main campuses within the Medical District, as well as to a new emerging medical hub in south Lakeland housing the new regional VA Clinic and Orlando Health’s hospital/medical office campus, which are currently under construction;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** The City of Lakeland supports the Ingraham Avenue Trail as a critical component of the Fort Fraser Trail Extension and larger regional trail network connecting to the Tenoroc Trail and ultimately the General Van Fleet State Trail.

**SECTION 2.** The City Manager is authorized to execute and submit, on behalf of the City of Lakeland, all related application documents to the Polk Transportation Planning Organization and the Florida Department of Transportation for the prioritization and funding of the Ingraham Avenue Trail.

**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

**PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE** this 4th day of December, A.D.  
2023.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
KELLY S. KOOS, CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
H. WILLIAM MUTZ, MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PALMER C. DAVIS  
CITY ATTORNEY