

Partnerships



5 Partnerships

Since the Florida Scenic Highways Program is a grassroots effort with great emphasis on local support and consensus building, partnerships and agreements are important in implementing the Corridor Vision, Goals and Strategies, and Action Plan. The Member Partnership Agreement formalizes the partnership between the individual and the Corridor Management Entity, through which the plan will be implemented.

Membership in the Corridor Management Entity is open to all individuals and groups in the communities along the corridor. The Corridor Management Entity requires that each member formally join it through a signature on the Member Partnership Agreement. The Agreement formally defines the cooperative work effort between the Corridor Management Entity and the member.

The Corridor Management Entity will seek to form member partnerships with citizens, government agencies, private businesses, business associations, landowners, land developers, interest groups, and civic organizations. The intent of membership is to collectively produce a better product or outcome than could be accomplished by working separately. Those groups, organizations, or individuals that sign the Member Partnership Agreement with the Corridor Management Entity will make up its membership.

In addition, the partnerships between the Corridor Management Entity and the seven cities and Polk County are more formalized. The Corridor Advocacy Group has begun discussions with local governments to include a policy in their Comprehensive Plans that formalizes the partnership between the local government and the Corridor Management Entity (see *Section 12: Comprehensive Plan Relationship*). The Corridor Management Entity will continue to develop partnerships with each of the seven municipalities, Polk County, the Polk County Transportation Planning Organization, and the Florida Department of Transportation.

At a minimum, the Corridor Management Entity will request the following government agencies, community groups, and businesses become members:

Government Agencies

- Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Department of Natural Resources
- Polk County Historical Society
- Polk County Natural Resources
- Polk County Transportation Planning Organization
- Polk County Transportation Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee

Community Groups and Institutions

- Cypresswood/Winter Haven Coalition
- Defenders of Crooked Lake
- Dundee Historic Preservation
- Frostproof Arts League
- Frostproof Historic Museum and Library
- Green Horizon Land Trust
- Haines City Main Street
- Historic Lake Wales Society
- Lake of the Hills Community Club
- Lake of the Hills Garden Club
- Lake Wales Arts Center
- Lake Wales Audubon
- Lake Wales Depot Museum and Cultural Center
- Lake Wales Downtown Historic District
- Lake Wales Historical Society
- Lake Wales Lions Club
- Lake Wales Little Theatre
- Lake Wales Main Street
- Lake Wales Rotary Club
- Lake Wales Women's Club
- Mountain Lake Corporation
- Mountain Lake Estates
- Olmsted Historic Neighborhood, Lake Wales
- Ridge Audubon Society
- South Starr Hills
- Nature Conservancy, Lake Wales Ridge Program
- Trust for Public Lands
- Webber International University

Local Businesses

- Chalet Suzanne
- Dundee Chamber of Commerce
- Dundee Citrus Growers Association
- Florida's Natural Growers, Lake Wales
- Frostproof Chamber of Commerce
- Frostproof Foodway
- Historic Bok Sanctuary
- Hunt Brothers, Lake Wales
- Jahna Industries, Lake Wales
- Lekarika Restaurant, Lake Wales
- O Hara Restoration, Frostproof

On the following page is a copy of the Member Partnership Agreement each member will be required to sign.

Local Businesses and Members of the Corridor Advocacy Group



Chalet Suzanne



Historic Bok Sanctuary

CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT ENTITY AGREEMENT

This agreement is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2005, by and between the Ridge Scenic Highway Corridor Management Entity, hereinafter called the "CME," and Imperial Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, the Cities of Frostproof, Lake Wales, Haines City, Towns of Hillcrest Heights, Dundee, Lake Hamilton, and the Village of Highland Park, all municipal corporations of Florida, as well as the unincorporated areas of Babson Park and Lake of the Hills and including the Polk County Transportation Planning Organization, a governmental agency, corporate and politic; and other governmental, politic or private organizations partnering with the corridor, herein after collectively called the "Member Entities."

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the mutual benefits and obligations hereunto pertaining, the CME and the Member Entities agree as follows:

1. The CME hereby created shall initiate, coordinate, and monitor plans, strategies, programs and events set forth in the Ridge Scenic Highway Corridor Management Plan.
2. Each member entity shall appoint one representative and one alternate in accordance with the By-Laws of the CME. The representative of each member entity shall serve at the pleasure of the representative's appointing authority. Membership can be expanded or reduced by majority action of the existing CME members.
3. Each member entity shall provide advice in areas such as (but not limited to) planning, engineering, architecture, economic, and environmental management as may be appropriate to the member entity.
4. This agreement is a continuing contract and program; however, member entities may seek to dissolve their participation in the CME in accordance with the CME By-Laws.
5. Partnering Agreements: The CME may enter into partnering agreements to include various participating partners in the CME in addition to those identified as parties to this agreement. Partnering may be long term or activity-specific in nature.
6. Bylaws: The CME will adopt bylaws that establish procedures for the organization.

Signature: _____ (CME Member)

