

# CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT ON BLUEPRINT 2000



## Capital Circle Northwest

### Widening Improves Access to Airport

The completed widening of Capital Circle NW from Interstate 10 to south of US 90 was celebrated by a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 26, 2007. The two-mile, \$75 million project was the first project completed with sales tax funds, and will improve access to the Tallahassee Regional Airport. The project included sidewalks, bike lanes, and bus pullouts; additional landscaping is scheduled to be installed by the fall. Landscaping, a trail, and benches are also to be installed at the Regional Stormwater Pond on West Tennessee Street.



## Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest

### Environmental Issues Key in Capital Circle Projects

This Regional Stormwater Pond was constructed for the Capital Circle project immediately north, however, it shows Blueprint 2000's commitment to improve existing conditions with its corridor projects. Over 70 percent of the pond's treatment capacity is for stormwater retrofit – roadways and parking lots which previously sent untreated stormwater runoff into Gum Swamp. This pond, and others to be built with the Capital Circle widening from US 90 to Orange Avenue, will improve water quality within the basin that drains into Lake Munson. Construction on the US 90 to Orange Avenue segment of Capital Circle NW/SW is expected to begin by mid-2009. Over 180 acres have been acquired in this area for stormwater treatment, flood plain mitigation, and for greenway preservation.

## Financial Update

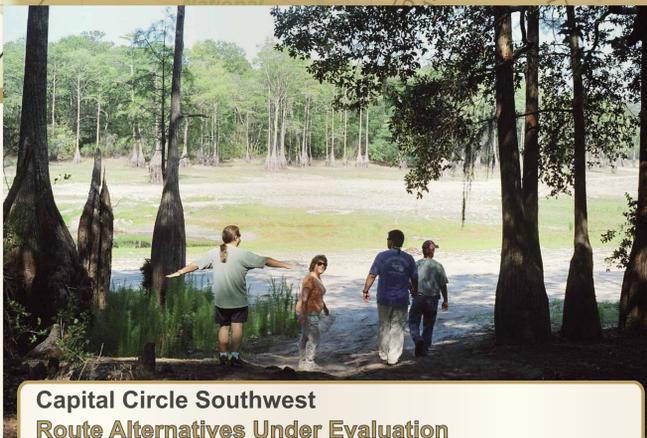
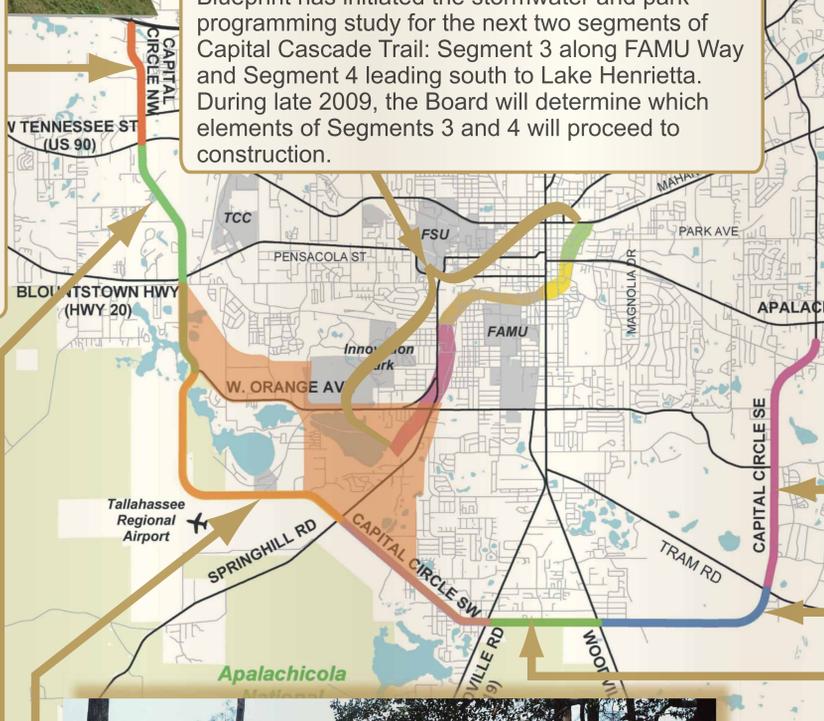
The downturn in the economy over the last several years has also affected Blueprint 2000. Based on this trend, Blueprint has revised its projected growth rates for the Program. This has resulted in a reduction of over \$109 million from the 15-year Master Plan. When the economy rebounds, the Program income will be reviewed and additional projects may be able to be funded. Blueprint staff continues to seek additional revenues thru grants, legislative appropriations and earmarks, and low-interest infrastructure loans.



## Capital Cascade Trail

Construction Begins in 2009 on Cascade Park Design and permitting for Cascade Park in downtown Tallahassee are nearing completion and the Park will be under construction by mid-2009. In addition to its stormwater management benefits, Cascade Park will include an amphitheater and stage, a water-play fountain, commemorative historic elements, signature bridges, sidewalks and trails. Private funds are being solicited for construction of several amenities proposed for the Park.

Blueprint has initiated the stormwater and park programming study for the next two segments of Capital Cascade Trail: Segment 3 along FAMU Way and Segment 4 leading south to Lake Henrietta. During late 2009, the Board will determine which elements of Segments 3 and 4 will proceed to construction.



## Capital Circle Southwest

### Route Alternatives Under Evaluation

Blueprint and Consultant staff investigate a dry Cascade Lake in July 2007 during a tour of the Capital Circle SW project area. The Project Development & Environment Study is evaluating potential routes for Capital Circle between SR 20 and Crawfordville Road. A key issue in the Study is the protection of water quality within the Chain of Lakes. Route alternatives will be reviewed with the public at a meeting in November, and the Agency Board is expected to select the preferred route by mid 2009. Currently no funding is available to design or construct the project.

More information on the Blueprint 2000 Program and the status of each project can be found at:

[www.blueprint2000.org](http://www.blueprint2000.org) or by contacting us at

850-701-2740.



## Sensitive Lands

### Water Quality and Sensitive Lands Preserved

In partnership with the Florida Communities Trust and the Northwest Florida Water Management District, Blueprint 2000 has preserved 886-acres in the headwaters of the St. Marks River. Over 750-acres of this property will eventually be developed by Leon County into a passive park for viewing wildlife and for hiking. The protection of a 1,057-acre tract immediately south of the County-owned parcels was encouraged by Blueprint and purchased by The Nature Conservancy for eventual sale to the State.



## Capital Circle Southeast

### Capital Circle SE Projects are an Example of Blueprint Design

Completion of the Capital Circle SE project from Connie Drive to Tram Road was celebrated on May 21, 2008, and is an example of the corridor design envisioned by the Blueprint authors. The project was constructed within a 230-foot right-of-way which will allow the addition of transit features in the future when warranted. The roadway includes bike lanes, a sidewalk, a 10-foot wide meandering sidewalk, and considerable median and border landscaping. Incorporating the same features, the Tram Road to Woodville Highway segment is currently under construction and is expected to be complete by early 2010.

## Public Involvement/Community Outreach

Blueprint distributes project information and solicits public comment through several forums including project specific workshops and hearings, press releases, the website, mailing lists, and the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The thirteen (13) CAC members represent various interests in the community. The Committee is charged with advising the Agency Board and to ensure that the original Blueprint vision presented to the voters is implemented.