

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



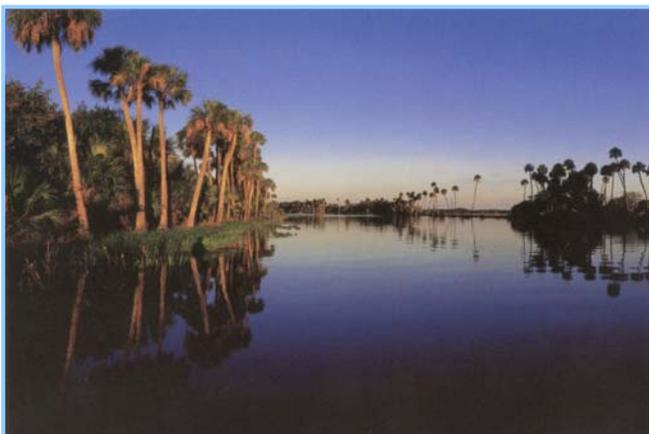
Study Area

In 1996, Scenic and Historic A1A Highway, located in St. Johns County (a 52.14 - mile segment), began the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Scenic Highway designation process. The corridor depicts a side of Florida that has long been forgotten. Stories of the colonization of southeast United States, the development of the State of Florida and the men and women of our past remain and can be easily discovered throughout the corridor. As other parts of Florida experience unparalleled growth and loss of character, this community fought to preserve its diverse history and retain a unique Old Florida Coastal Town charm.

The Scenic Highway designation will allow the corridor to be improved in ways that will emphasize the natural beauty of the route, protect the unique characteristics of its surrounding communities and preserve the rich historic and archeological resources. Both travelers and residents can enjoy an array of recreational opportunities. These recreational opportunities include: relaxing on pristine sandy white beaches, discovering unique environmentally significant resources and how to protect them, exploring historical and archeological sites, beach fishing, scuba diving, golf, tennis, nature walks and historical reenactments.

This Scenic Highway runs between the eastern shore of the Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway. Beginning at the south boundary of the St. Johns County/Flagler County Line the scenic highway meanders north through the Town of Marineland; Crescent Beach; South Anastasia Island; Mid-Anastasia Island; St. Augustine Beach; the City of St. Augustine; Vilano Beach; South Ponte Vedra Beach; and Ponte Vedra; ending at the St. Johns County / Duval County Line.

The scenic highway designation will allow local communities to enhance, preserve and maintain existing resources. From 1996-2002, the Scenic and Historic A1A Corridor Advocacy Group (CAG) sought to become a Florida Scenic Highway candidate. This community based group submitted a Letter of Intent to FDOT on April 1998. Since then, the CAG, the FDOT, St. Johns County government and the local citizens have worked in collaboration to implement an intensive community participation programs; refine the initial vision for the scenic highway; and develop both a conceptual and final Master Plan.



Included in this Corridor Management Plan is a complete inventory of the corridor's natural, historic, scenic, archeological and cultural resources; goals, objectives and strategies for the enhancement and preservation of these resources; a list of potential funding partnerships and promotion programs; a detailed action plan, conceptual and final Master Plan.

Improvements and enhancements discussed in the Corridor Management Plan were developed and prioritized by the public and the CAG through various means including a community participation survey, many public workshops, a design charettes, interviews and public CAG meetings. Due to the CAG efforts, January of 2002 Scenic & Historic A1A officially became designated as a Florida Scenic Highway. The newly created Corridor Management Entity (CME), later known as the Corridor Management Council (CMC), sought and became a National Scenic Byway, along with A1A through Flagler County, in June of 2002. This entity will serve as the caretaker of the corridor and will ensure that the action plan contained in this Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is implemented.

Through a National Scenic Byway (NSB) grant awarded in 2003, the Scenic & Historic A1A members and the County; hired Glatting Jackson to prepare a Master Plan. The creation of the Master Plan included several sections such as, Visual Survey, Transportation and Parks, Wayfinding, an Analysis of South Anastasia Transportation issues and an Executive Summary. The St. Johns County Master Plan was completed in late 2006.

Participants (including various local governments) in the Scenic Highway organization sought several NSB grants in 2007 to implement St Johns and Flagler Countys' Master Plans.

The following pages highlight the unique characteristics of each community.