

Bike Laws on the Road

Legal Status of a Cyclist
In Florida, the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. Cyclists have the same rights as the operators of other vehicles. Cyclists are allowed on sidewalks except in designated downtown areas. Cyclists riding on sidewalks are considered pedestrians and must yield to other pedestrians.

Driving on Right Side of Roadway

Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle must be driven on the right half of this roadway. Wrong way riding is a major contributing factor in bicycle-motor vehicle crashes; motorists entering and leaving the roadway at intersections and driveways do not expect traffic to approach from the wrong direction.

Ride in a Single Line
Cyclists must ride in a single line when on narrow roadways to prevent impeding traffic flow. Cyclists riding two abreast may not impede traffic when traveling less than the normal speed of traffic and must do so more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadway set aside for the exclusive use of bicyclists.

Obey Traffic Signals and Signs
A person in control of a vehicle on a street or highway is a driver. As a driver a cyclist must follow the traffic rules common to all drivers (signs, markings, and traffic signals) and those specially adopted for bicyclists.

Operating as a Pedestrian: Sidewalk Riding
A cyclist riding on a sidewalk or crosswalk has the rights and duties of a pedestrian. A cyclist riding on a sidewalk or crosswalk must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and must give an audible warning before passing. At a signalized intersection, a cyclist approaching on a sidewalk must obey the instructions of any applicable pedestrian signal. Infractions of bicycle regulations and moving and non-moving violations are subject to civil penalties.

One Person Per Bike
A bicycle may not be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped; an adult bicyclist may carry a child in a backpack or sling, child seat or trailer designed to carry children.



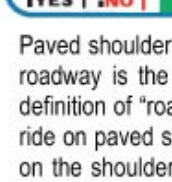
Position on Roadway
A cyclist on a roadway who is not traveling as fast as the speed of other traffic must ride in a designated bike lane or as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when passing other vehicles; when making a left turn, when reasonably necessary to avoid conditions including, but not limited to, a fixed or moving object, parked or moving vehicle, animal, or surface hazard; when a lane is too narrow for a bicycle and another vehicle to travel side by side. A cyclist should maintain at least 3 feet of clearance from the curb or edge of the roadway.



Beware of Car Doors
A cyclist riding past parallel-parked cars should maintain a clearance of at least 3 feet to avoid risk of collision with an opening car door.



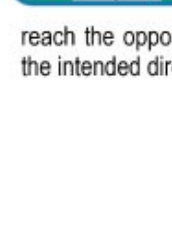
Use Appropriate Lanes
A cyclist going straight through an intersection should not ride in a lane marked exclusively for right turns.



Method of Turning at Intersections
A cyclist intending to make a left turn is entitled to full use of the lane from which a driver may legally make a left turn. A cyclist may also opt to get onto the sidewalk and use the crosswalk as a pedestrian to reach their left turn destination. A cyclist may also opt to travel through the intersection to reach the opposite corner, turn and wait for the light and continue along the intended direction of travel.



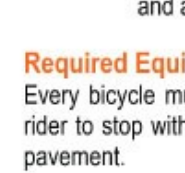
Lighting Equipment
A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from 500 feet to the front and a red reflector and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from 600 feet to the rear. Additional lighting is permitted and recommended. The risk of fatal or incapacitating injury increases sharply at night.



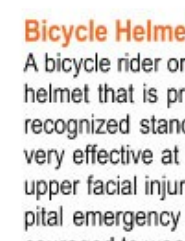
Headsets
A cyclist may not wear a headset, headphone or listening device, other than a hearing aid, while riding. Wearing a headset can shut out the outside world.



Signaling a Turn or Stop
A signal of intention to turn must be given during the last 100 feet traveled by a vehicle before turning. If a cyclist needs both hands for control, the signal need not be given continuously.
A cyclist signals intent to:
Turn left by extending the left arm horizontally.
Turn right by extending the right hand and arm horizontally, or by extending the left hand and arm upward.
Stop or suddenly reduce speed by extending the left hand and arm downward.



Required Equipment
Every bicycle must be equipped with a brake or brakes that allow the rider to stop within 25 feet from a speed of 10 mph on dry, level, clean pavement.



Bicycle Helmet
A bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age MUST wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted, fastened securely, and meets a nationally recognized standard. Bicycle helmets, properly worn, have been found very effective at reducing the incidence and severity of head, brain, and upper facial injury. (Head injuries account for about one third of the hospital emergency room visits of injured cyclists.) Adults are strongly encouraged to wear a bike helmet.



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Cycle Smart Tips

- Be Seen and Avoid Injury
- Always wear a bicycle helmet to reduce the risk of head/brain injury, permanent injury or death from a crash.
- To make sure your helmet fits right, put it on then use the "Eyes/Ears/Mouth" Test.
- Eyes:** When you look up you should see the front rim. If not, your helmet won't protect your forehead.
- Ears:** The side straps should come to a "V" just below each ear.
- Mouth:** When you open your mouth wide, you should feel the helmet push down on your head.
- If your helmet doesn't pass the test, adjust the buckles. The buckles move when you adjust the straps.
- Wear bright clothing, use lights, reflectors, a bell and a mirror to be seen and be heard.
- Consider using the following equipment to make your ride safer and more comfortable:
 - Helmet
 - Bright/light colored clothing
 - "Rear light and reflectors"
 - Rear rack
 - Panniers/ bike bags
 - Reflective ankle strap or pant clip
 - Required after sunset.
 - U Lock
 - Wheel reflectors
 - Headlights*
 - Bell or horn
 - Mirror



Bikes on Buses
Taking your bike on the bus is easy. Permitting is no longer required. To learn how to properly load and secure your bike visit: www.psta.net/bikesonbuses.htm For more information call the PSTA Bus Line at (727) 540-1900 or log on to: www.psta.net

Other Power Driven Mobility Devices
Based on a facility assessment conducted pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, the city of St. Petersburg will allow individuals with mobility disabilities to use other power driven mobility devices (OPDMs), with the exception of golf carts and ATVs, on St. Petersburg City Trails facilities. Such individuals must provide credible assurance that the OPDM is necessary because of a mobility disability and must follow all rules and regulations for use of City Trails, including applicable speed limits. For more information, please see www.stpetecitytrails.org.

A Message from Mayor Kriseman



It's a great day for cyclists in the Sunshine City! Designated as a Bicycle-Friendly Community, the City of St. Petersburg ensures our facilities remain exciting, safe places for citizens and visitors to cycle around the Sunshine City. Thousands of St. Petersburg residents and visitors have discovered the joy of riding their bikes in our community. We have wonderful biking weather, a beautiful park system with miles of shoreline, many fun retail and entertainment destinations, and a strong bicycle infrastructure that allows enthusiasts the opportunity to bike for health, recreation, and transportation. We are always looking for ways to enhance and expand our bicycling opportunities and are identifying ways to make our bikeways safer. St. Petersburg has always had the vision of being a bike-friendly community, which was reiterated during the City's Vision 2020 strategy sessions. During these sessions, many citizens identified their desire to have safer, more engaging bicycling and pedestrian activities.

The CityTrails™ Bicycle Map provides cyclists with designated trails and bicycle routes along our roadways and gives riding locations to cyclists of all skill levels throughout the city. I hope all citizens and visitors will take the opportunity to enjoy our new and improved bicycle facilities.

Safe riding,

City Hall
175 Fifth Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3713
727-893-7171



CityTrails Highlights



Pinellas Trail
The 37 mile Pinellas Trail began as a "rails-to-trails" project in 1983 and connects many of Pinellas County's west coast municipalities creating one of the largest, most used recreation and commuter corridors in the United States. Users can park at one of many trailhead locations and travel to several beautiful coastal destinations. Events are regularly planned along the corridor.

Downtown Waterfront Area
Stroll the sidewalks of St. Petersburg's downtown shopping, dining and entertainment district that includes the city's landmark Pier, trendy boutiques along Beach Drive, Muvico 20 theaters, and a dazzling array of shops, galleries, businesses, hotels, restaurants and bed and breakfast establishments. A continuous string of green parks winds along the seven-mile waterfront that is home to many special events and festivals each year. Treasure seekers might want to walk along Central Avenue where antique and thrift shops are mixed in with unique art galleries and retro boutiques.

North Bay Trail
The North Bay Trail is a multi-use recreational path that runs along the spectacular waterfront of St. Petersburg. It begins at the end of the Downtown Trail at Demens Landing and continues to the north along the City's marina district, adjacent to Straub Park, and past the historic Vinyo Hotel. The North Bay Trail takes users through Vinyo Park, home to some of St. Petersburg's biggest, most popular events such as the Festival of States, Independence Day Celebration and RibFest. In this section of the North Bay Trail, users can easily access all of the wonderful dining, shopping, and museums that downtown St. Petersburg has to offer. Bicycle parking is available immediately adjacent to the trail in several locations.

Island Loop Trail
The Island Loop Trail is located alongside 62nd Avenue NE, and connects to the Island Loop Bike Route. It begins at First Street NE where it connects with North Bay Trail, users can easily access all of the wonderful dining, shopping, and museums that downtown St. Petersburg has to offer. Bicycle parking is available immediately adjacent to the trail in several locations.

Weedon Island Preserve
Further to the north, the North Bay Trail continues alongside scenic Coffee Pot Bayou. The Bayou is known for its manatees that feed in the shallow waters there.

Centennial Sundial
The North Bay Trail traverses through Coffee Pot Park, the park owned and operated by the city, features a boat ramp with canoe/kayak wash facilities, a playground, sheltered picnic tables, and bicycle parking as well as public parking for motor vehicles.

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Sunshine Skyway Bridge

Downtown to Beaches CityTrails™ Bike Route
The Downtown to Beaches CityTrails™ bike route on First Avenues North and South provides a major connector within the city's bicycle network, stretching between the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay. They connect the famous Pinellas Trail with St. Petersburg's lively downtown district that features attractions such as Baywalk, The Pier, Tropicana Field, and many museums, shops, and restaurants. Multiple businesses and parks can be found along the route. You can also make connections with the Maximo to Sawgrass Lake Bike Route on 31st Street, and the South Bay Bike Route at 1st Street SE.

Sawgrass Lake Park
As the anchor of the Maximo to Sawgrass Lake Park bike route, Sawgrass Lake Park, located at 7400 25th St. North, is 400 acres in size and allows people to walk through one of the largest maple swamps on the Gulf Coast of Florida. The park's mile-long boardwalk and half-mile dirt trail provide opportunities to see birds, butterflies, plants and animals in their natural settings within the most densely populated county in Florida. Sawgrass Lake Park is mentioned by the Great Florida Birding Trail and the National Audubon Society as one of the premier birding sites in Florida.

Skyway Trail
The Skyway Trail connects to the Pinellas Trail just north of Childs Park. It runs adjacent to Childs Lake and through Childs Park. South of the recreation center and pool, the trail continues through the residential area and into the Clam Bayou Preserve, part of a national estuary project and one of the few remaining natural areas in the county. The trail winds through the preserve on elevated bridges that provide great opportunities for bird and wildlife viewing.

Boyd Hill Nature Preserve
Boyd Hill Nature Preserve is located along the shores of Lake Maggiore in St. Petersburg. The 245-acre park features more than three miles of trails and boardwalks that lead visitors through many of Florida's unique ecosystems. The park is part of the Great Florida Birding Trail and its avian life is home to many permanently injured birds of prey. The Lake Maggiore Environmental Education Center provides interpretive programming and displays on a variety of environmental and natural history topics.

Sunken Gardens
Historic Sunken Gardens, located on Fourth Street and 20th Ave North is a 100 year old tropical paradise with over 500 species of tropical and subtropical plants. Some of the oldest Cuban Royal Palms and Bougainvillea in the Southeast provide towering back drops for thousands of exotic plants. Now an educational and cultural facility, this gem in the heart of St. Petersburg provides beauty, relaxation and tranquil fun for all ages.

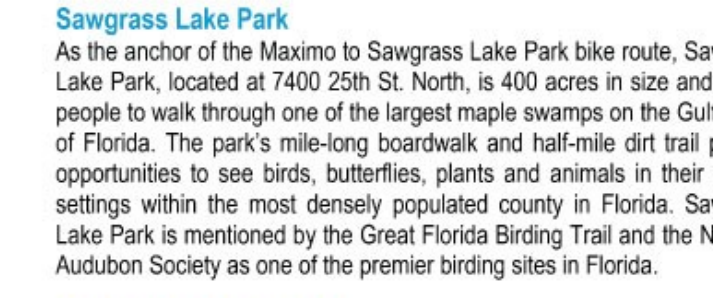
Fort De Soto Park
Fort De Soto Beach is located off of St. Petersburg's southern tip and has been ranked the number one beach in the United States. Named after the historic fort located in the 1,136-acre park, visitors can tour five interconnected islands that comprise the park. More than a beach, Fort De Soto includes a year-round campground, miles of nature trails and paved fitness trails, 2.25 miles of canoe trails, an 800-foot boat launch with floating docks, fishing piers, picnic pavilions with grills, a concession stand, and restroom and shower facilities. From the island's southern shores, visitors enjoy a sweeping panorama of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Annual park attendance averages more than 2.7 million visitors.



Dal Museum

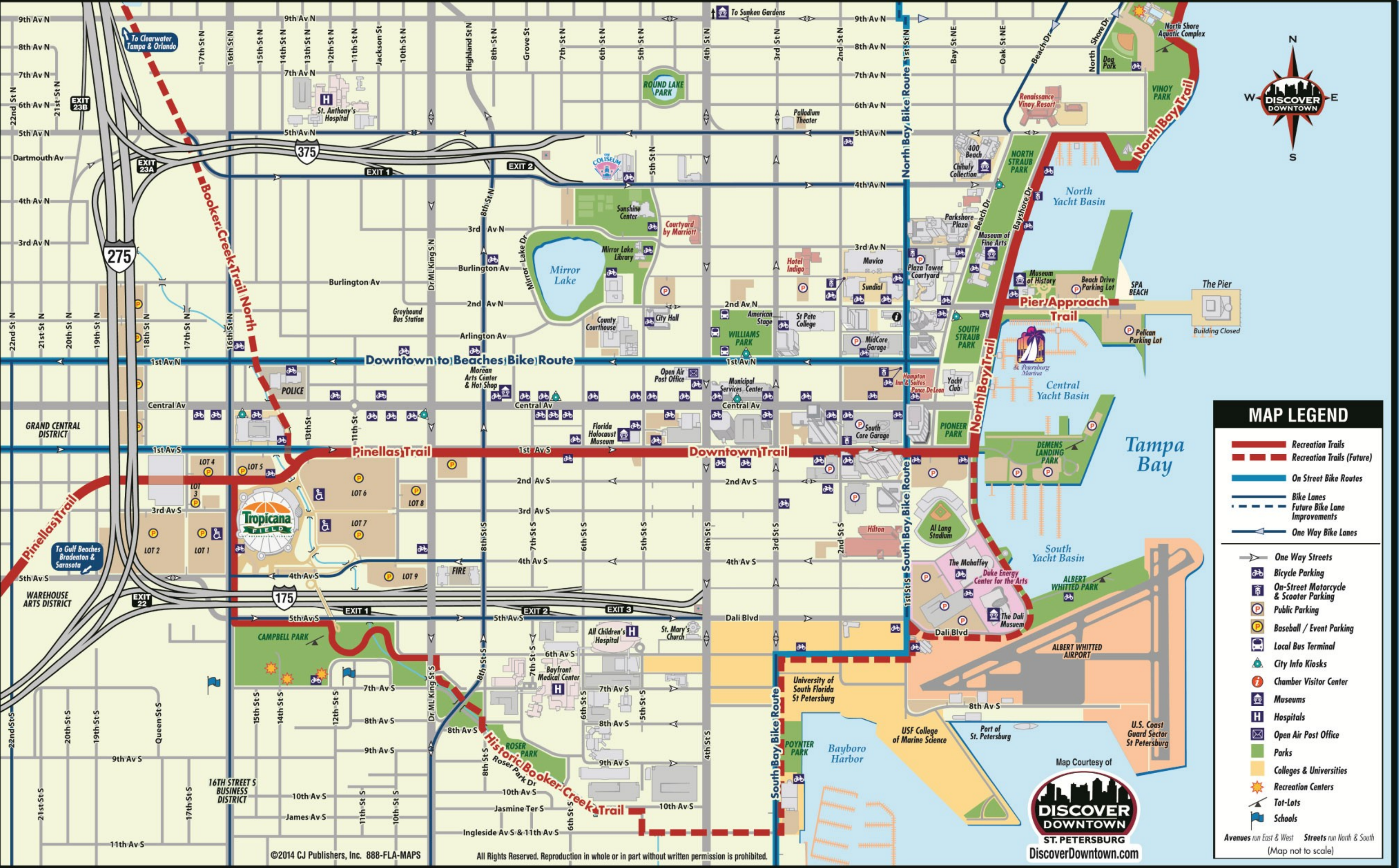


North Bay Trail near Straub Park



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Downtown St. Petersburg Area Map



st.petersburg
www.stpete.org

City of St. Petersburg Transportation
One Fourth Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone 727-892-5341 Fax: 727-551-3326
www.stpetecitytrails.org

Resource Directory

Mayor's Action Center	(727) 893-7111
www.stpete.org/eservices.htm	
Bicycle Registration	(727) 893-7143
www.stpete.org/bicycle/index.htm	
Entertainment Hotline	(727) 892-5700
Festivals/Special Events	(727) 893-7734
www.stpete.org/festivals.htm	
Emergency	911
www.stpete.org/police/crime_prevention/911.htm	
Mahaffey Theater	(727) 892-5798
www.mahaffeytheater.com	
Parks & Recreation	(727) 893-7441
www.stpeteparkrec.org	
Picnic Areas & Shelters	(727) 893-7441
Playgrounds	(727) 893-7780
Police: Non-Emergency	(727) 893-7550
Public Information	(727) 551-3100
Sunken Gardens	(727) 551-3100
www.sunkengardens.org	
Street Sweeping	(727) 892-5645
Tree Removal and Trim	(727) 893-7441
www.stpeteparkrec.org	
Tropicana Field/Tampa Bay Rays	(727) 825-3250
www.tampabayrays.com	

Fresh Produce and Community Gardens

Saturday Morning Market	101 1st Street SE
Williams Park Summer Market	Williams Park
Founders Corner Fresh Market	431 Southwest Blvd N
Deuces Live Market	22nd Ave and 9th Ave S
Sundays 1pm-6pm	

Azalea Community Garden (727) 893-7441
Bartlett Park Community Garden (727) 893-7150
Baypoint Christian Community Garden (727) 656-4080
Old Southeast Community Garden (727) 893-7171
Palmetto Park Garden (727) 742-0504

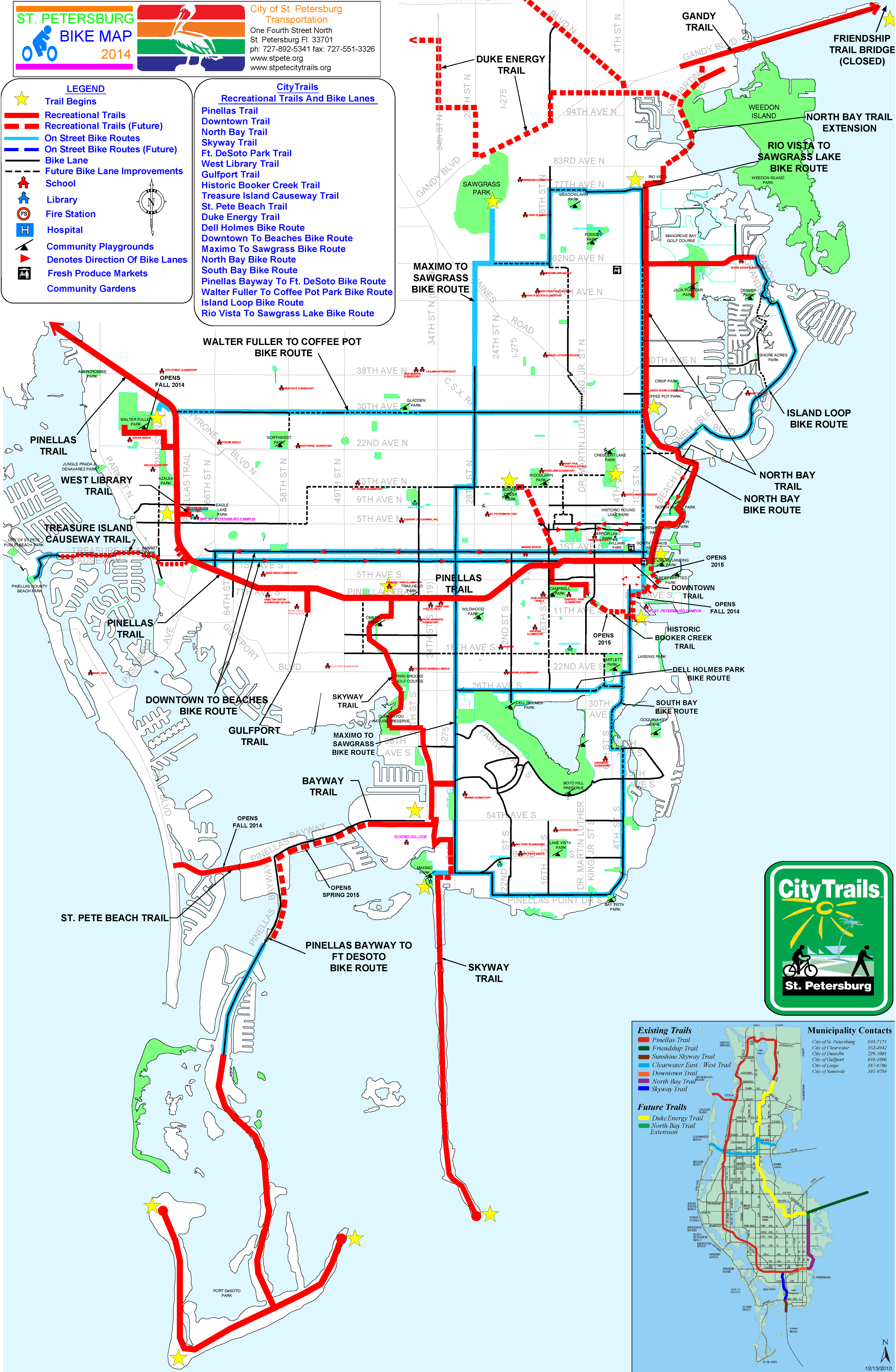
LEGEND

- ★ Trail Begins
- Red line: Recreational Trails
- Red dashed line: Recreational Trails (Future)
- Blue line: On Street Bike Routes
- Blue dashed line: On Street Bike Routes (Future)
- Black line: Bike Lane
- Black dashed line: Future Bike Lane Improvements
- Red house icon: School
- Blue house icon: Library
- Red fire icon: Fire Station
- Blue H icon: Hospital
- Green play icon: Community Playgrounds
- Red arrow: Denotes Direction Of Bike Lanes
- Green produce icon: Fresh Produce Markets
- Green garden icon: Community Gardens

City Trails

Recreational Trails And Bike Lanes

- Pinellas Trail
- Downtown Trail
- North Bay Trail
- Skyway Trail
- Ft. DeSoto Park Trail
- West Library Trail
- Gulfport Trail
- Historic Booker Creek Trail
- Treasure Island Causeway Trail
- St. Pete Beach Trail
- Duke Energy Trail
- Dell Holmes Bike Route
- Downtown To Beaches Bike Route
- Maximo To Sawgrass Bike Route
- North Bay Bike Route
- South Bay Bike Route
- Pinellas Bayway To Ft. DeSoto Bike Route
- Walter Fuller To Coffee Pot Park Bike Route
- Island Loop Bike Route
- Rio Vista To Sawgrass Lake Bike Route



Existing Trails

- Pinellas Trail
- Friendship Trail
- Sunshine Skyway Trail
- Clearwater East / West Trail
- Downtown Trail
- North Bay Trail
- Skyway Trail

Future Trails

- Duke Energy Trail
- North Bay Trail Extension

Municipality Contacts

City of St. Petersburg	893-7171
City of Clearwater	562-4942
City of Dunedin	298-3001
City of Gulfport	893-1000
City of Largo	587-6700
City of Seminole	591-0704