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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Walk to School, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Marks Completion of Dillman Trail

GREENACRES, FL (October 18, 2023) – A 3/4 mile shared use path in the City of Greenacres now offers a safe connection for students and residents to walk and bicycle to Cholee Lake Elementary School, Okeeheelee Park, Freedom Park and Community Park.

More than 100 Cholee Lake Elementary School students joined representatives from the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and City of Greenacres to walk the newly completed Dillman Trail Wednesday morning.

"Up until now, the students were walking along Jog Road, which is not really the best solution to get our kids safely to school. Having Dillman Trail here now is a beautiful alternative among nature," said Susy Diaz, Councilmember for the City of Greenacres.

Cholee Lake Elementary hosts monthly Walk to School Days and will now be able to utilize Dillman Trail for these events. Principal of Cholee Lake Elementary, Dr. Marline Campbell, noted that many students have already begun using this trail to get to and from school each day.

This project came to life after the City of Greenacres applied for the Palm Beach TPA's Transportation Alternatives Funding Program in 2018. Prior to the project, the area was an underutilized greenway. The city was awarded more than \$700,000 to help fund this project. The project cost approximately \$950,000 in total.

"We were excited to collaborate with the City of Greenacres and FDOT on this important project that provides safe connectivity to schools and parks in the area for residents and visitors," said Valerie Neilson, Palm Beach TPA Executive Director. "We look forward to seeing this trail being used for walking, bicycling and other forms of non-motorized transportation."

To learn more about the TPA's Transportation Alternatives Funding Program, visit <u>PalmBeachTPA.org/TA</u>.