

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners

July 8, 2024



Construction begins on Historic Bridge-to-Bridge Path Containing Photoluminescent Stone

Okaloosa County, Florida – Okaloosa County officials and local leaders gathered at the entrance of John Beasley Park for a groundbreaking ceremony on Monday, July 8, 2024, to celebrate the beginning of construction for an approximate 4-mile multi-use path between Brooks Bridge and Marler (Destin) Bridge.

“This new path will be transformational for the health and safety of residents and visitors looking for recreational opportunities on Okaloosa Island,” said Okaloosa County Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel. “I am so thankful to our Public Works team, Eglin Air Force Base, and residents for working together to enable this project to take shape.”

Construction of the 12-foot wide path will take place on the south side of U.S. Highway 98 and will be constructed using photoluminescent stone that will allow the pathway to be illuminated at night. The project will also include the stabilization of parking areas commonly used by the public at designated beach access points. The path will accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Motorized vehicles, such as golf carts, low-speed vehicles, or gas-powered scooters will not be allowed.

There are no expected lane closures or traffic disruptions along U.S. Highway 98 during construction. However, this is an active construction zone and motorists are encouraged to use caution in the area.

Multiple funding sources, including tourism revenue and an FDOT grant, are being used for construction. Completion of the project is expected in early 2025.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER NICK TOMECEK AT 850.651.7321

NTOMECEK@MYOKALOOSA.COM