

I Can Help Protect the Trees!

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I can contribute:

Time: ___ Financial Aid: _____

 **Sustaining Community
Lands, Inc.**

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The Martin Grade Story, cont'd. . .

The Future - Current development trends are threatening the tree canopy on Martin Highway 714— locally known as “The Martin Grade” - one of Martin County’s most magnificent natural and historical landmarks.

This historic, 12-mile road is shaded by a canopy of hundred-year-old oaks and is surrounded by pastures, groves, swamps, and woods teeming with wildlife, just as it was when it was cut through the wilderness by the earliest settlers.



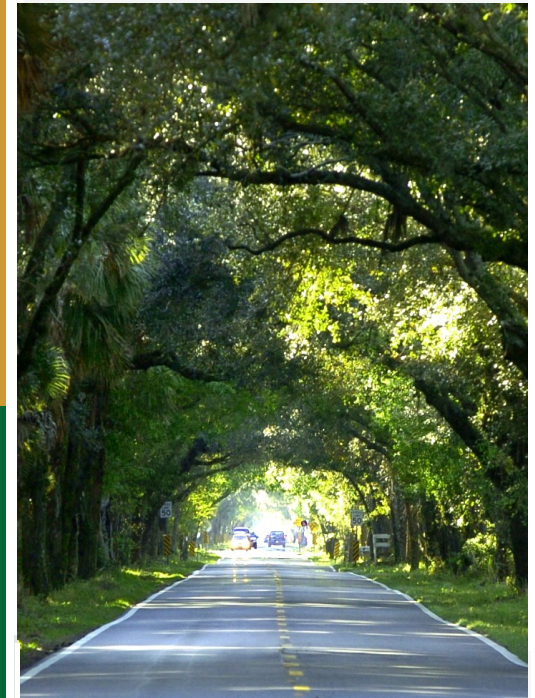
It has been home to generations of farmers, ranchers and others who enjoy the rural lifestyle and wish to pass it on to their children and grandchildren.

* * *

If the Martin Grade is widened to a four-lane highway, the tree canopy will be destroyed.



The Martin Grade Scenic Highway Project



Protect the Trees!



Protect the Trees



The Past—The Martin Grade began as a logging trail. Bordered by citrus groves and cattle ranches, in the early 1900's, it was also used for cattle drives by area cowboys. In the 1920's, it became the link between two county seats—Okeechobee City and Stuart in Martin County.

The Present—The Martin Grade stands proudly as the western hallmark to Martin County, lined with cabbage palms, maples and stately oaks that join together above the roadway to form a lush canopy over approximately half of its twelve mile journey to the west. The light filtering through the tunnel of trees is constantly changing with the time of day and the weather, so that every drive is a dramatic new adventure.

The Martin Grade Scenic Highway



The Martin Grade is County Road 714 in western Martin County, Florida. It's only a two hour drive from Tampa, Orlando, and Miami, but it will take you back to the Florida time forgot.



Becoming a Florida Scenic Highway

The Florida Department of Transportation oversees the Scenic Highway program, which is a means of raising awareness of our cultural, historical, and natural resources.

A group of concerned citizens have joined forces to apply for state designation as a Florida Scenic Highway, so



that the people of Martin County will be able to protect this picturesque country road for generations to come.

Completing the Scenic Highway application is a long and complex process.

We Need Your Help.

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