

Florida Power & Light Company Grant Provides Wheelchair Accessible Electric Tram at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park

A great boost to visitors who use wheelchairs and they are eco-friendly

TALLAHASSEE, FL, UNITED STATES, August 16, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A six-person wheelchair-accessible electric tram is in service at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park thanks to a substantial grant from Florida Power & Light Company (FPL).

The \$22,000 grant to the Florida State Parks Foundation was made available through FPL's charitable arm, the NextEra Energy Foundation. Last year they also helped fund a similar tram at John. D. MacArthur Beach State Park in North Palm Beach.



Donated electric tram

“These trams are an amazing asset for our state parks,” said Julia Gill Woodward, Florida State Parks Foundation CEO. “They are a great boost to visitors who use wheelchairs and they are eco-friendly.”

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“Our Foundation and the Florida Park Service are committed to making our award-winning state parks more accessible and this new tram will not only lower emissions

and be less noisy but will enable our mobility-impaired visitors the opportunity to see much more of the state park's incredible natural areas.”

The MotoEV Electro Neighborhood Buddy six-passenger tram has a four-kw AC motor for less maintenance and more torque to climb tough terrain. It can travel 50 miles on a single charge and costs about one penny a mile. The onboard chargers also allow the vehicle's batteries to be topped up at any charging station.

“Hugh Taylor Birch State Park is known as an oasis where Florida residents and visitors can

explore the beaches, trails, coastal mangroves and enjoy activities in natural surroundings,” said Kate MacGregor, FPL vice president of environmental services. “FPL is thrilled to donate this tram to help Floridians more easily access this beautiful park in a sustainable way.”

The Florida State Parks Foundation supports the work of Florida’s award-winning 175 state parks and the more than 20,000 volunteers who donate 1.2 million hours of their time annually. Florida’s parks attract 29 million visitors every year and have a statewide economic impact of more than \$2.6 billion.

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