



Trails and Greenways Committee

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE
2. ROLL CALL
3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES
4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes of 02/12/2024

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 4.a.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 4.a.** (Agenda_Report_Number_4.a..pdf)

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
6. ACTION ITEMS
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.a.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.a.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.a..pdf)

b. MSS Restoration Plan Observations and Concerns

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.b.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.b.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.b.pdf)

c. Cameron Preserve Update

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.c.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.c.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.c.pdf)

d. Eagles Nest Trailhead Update

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.d.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.d.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.d..pdf)

e. South Brevard Trail Master Plan Group Meeting Review

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.e.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.e.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.e..pdf)

f. Next Field Event - TBD

Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7.f.

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7.f.** (Agenda_Report_Number_7.f..pdf)

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Member Comments

b. Staff Reports

c. Next Scheduled Meeting Date - 4/8/2024

9. ADJOURNMENT

Contact: Richard W. Kohler (rkohler@townofmalabar.org 321-727-7764) | Agenda published on 03/07/2024 at 2:34

PM

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4.a

Meeting Date: March 12th, 2024

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Approve Minutes of 2/12/2024

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Summary of Actions at the Trails and Greenways Committee Meeting of 2/12/2024

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Draft Minutes of T&GC Meeting of 2/12/2024

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Request Approval

MALABAR TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 12th, 2024, 6:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Trails and Greenways Committee was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE:

Meeting called to order at 6:14 P.M. Prayer and Pledge led by Chair Thompson.

2. ROLL CALL:

CHAIR:	DREW THOMPSON
VICE-CHAIR:	MURRAY HANN
BOARD MEMBERS:	BOB WILBUR - EXCUSED
	BARBARA CAMERON
	MARK GUNTER
GRANT/VALKARIA LIASON:	CRAIG SMITH
BOARD SECRETARY:	RICHARD KOHLER

3. Additions/Deletions/Changes- None.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.a. Regular Trails and Greenways Committee Mtg Minutes of 1/16/2023.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by CM Hann/CM Cameron.

Discussion: None

All Ayes: Carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

6. ACTION ITEMS: None.

7. DISCUSSION

a. Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions

VC Hann states that the trails are currently in good shape. He grounded the graffiti off of the CTS. There was a broken board on the Hann Way trail, and he has provided a temporary repair. He is still working on the Bike Repair Stand and has a few signs and kiosks to install. Chair states that he and CM Gunter installed all the Boundary signs that they had, including the southwest corner of the property. He believes there is a gap on the southern side and would like to install more. Chair shared several photos of the installation process, including interactions with a family on horses. VC Hann states while he supports equestrian use, he cautions against it in the Turkey Creek area due to steep banks. VC Hann states he tested all of the QR codes on the kiosks and maps and they are all in working order. He also suggests updating the Malabar Trails site to have the maps prominently displayed and move the EELs information to an addendum.

MOTION: CM Hann/CM Cameron to recommend the purchase of 20 more Boundary Signs from the Brevard County Sign Shop if they have used their complete inventory.

VOTE: ALL AYES (4-0)

b. MSS Restoration Plan Observations and Concerns

Chair asks if there are any concerns about the project? Chair states he observed orange marking tape in the creek basin south of Briar Creek Blvd. VC Hann provided his belief that the new trail will follow the creek line and remove all of the edges and climbs. VC Hann expresses disappointment in the new trail planned by the EELs program.

c. Cameron Preserve

Clerk Kohler informed the Committee that the EELs program is currently working on Malabar East and will close the entrance from Cameron Preserve during the week, with plans to remove the blockage on the weekends. VC Hann also states he is hoping to meet with the Malabar Harris plant manager this week. Chair hopes that VC Hann will be able to promote the Town's wishes at the Southern Brevard Master Plan Group.

d. Eagles Nest Trailhead

CM Gunter asks how the ENT will connect to the South Brevard Master Plan. VC Hann states we are currently unsure, and the SBMP Group will meet this month to discuss it. He would like to see it go south from the Jordan Blvd and wrap around the west side of the two lakes. From there, it would either go east to Good Thunder, or west to Leghorn. CM Gunter states he would like to see the trail look like the new Grant/Valkaria path. VC Hann states if the trail is not ADA compliant, we will lose grant opportunities. Liaison Smith requests Staff send the Committee the original proposal presented to Council for review before the upcoming South Brevard meeting. VC Hann hopes to discuss using the L3Harris ROW to access Valkaria Road. He also included an option of doing a land swap with Mr. Globitz or the Radencic ranch. Having a trail close by is great for real estate values. Clerk states that the Fire Department has been in contact with Heidi Kruger Well Drillers and have confirmed the connection scope and size. Staff will bring the quote to Council for approval if it is in the range of the first quote, or back to the Committee if it is priced higher.

e. Briar Creek Blvd. Crossing Sign Discussion

Chair provided signs for the Committee's review. The example included is more of a Welcome to Malabar Sign. He states this sign would be installed along Briar Creek on the west side. CM Gunter states he would like to see this sign replace the current sign. Clerk asks who this sign is designed for, as Briar Creek is a dead-end road. Chair states that the goal is to promote the Cameron Preserve as a non-commercial entity. BM Cameron states that the Family of the namesake of the Preserve were unable to find the Cameron Preserve. She would like to see an increase in signage. Chair also feels this may increase the tourism aspect of the Preserve. He hopes to promote the preserve. VC Hann suggests increasing the TOWN OF MALABAR size to cross the whole sign. He also suggests removing the bottom message. Staff states he will request a quote from the County to produce the sign and provide it for a final vote at the next meeting.

f. Next Field Event – TBD

Chair states that the previous workday to install the fence line at ENT was postponed. VC Hann states this Friday is the best day as of now. CM Wilbur will be there with a tractor. VC Hann states he can bring more BMBA assistance as needed. He plans to bring 2 circular saws, and a beam cutter. He will bring all of the electric tools and batteries. Chair states he will bring a cooler with water and be there at 9 AM.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**a. Board Member Comments:**

b. Staff Reports: Secretary Kohler informed the Committee that Ms. Ann Hopkins, the new area representative for DEP will be in the area on Wednesday, February 21st, and has requested to do a walkthrough of the Town's key trails and Trailheads. Staff would like to request one committee member to attend as well. Chair states he would like to attend. We hope to show that we are good stewards of our Town. He hopes to highlight the

Cameron Preserve, Eschenburg Park (including possible extension North), the Disc Golf Sanctuary, and portions of Malabar and Jordan Scrub. VC Hann states in summary, we are actively working with Forestry to improve Scrub Habitat and our firebreaks.

- c. **Next Scheduled Meeting:** Secretary Kohler informed the Committee that the Town of Malabar will be hosting the Space Coast League of Cities (SCLoC) Dinner on March 11th, the next scheduled meeting date. Staff would like to recommend either a cancelation, or reschedule to the 12th or 25th. Chair suggests the 12th.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss;

MOTION: HANN/GUNTER to adjourn. Vote: All Ayes. The meeting adjourned 8:23 PM.

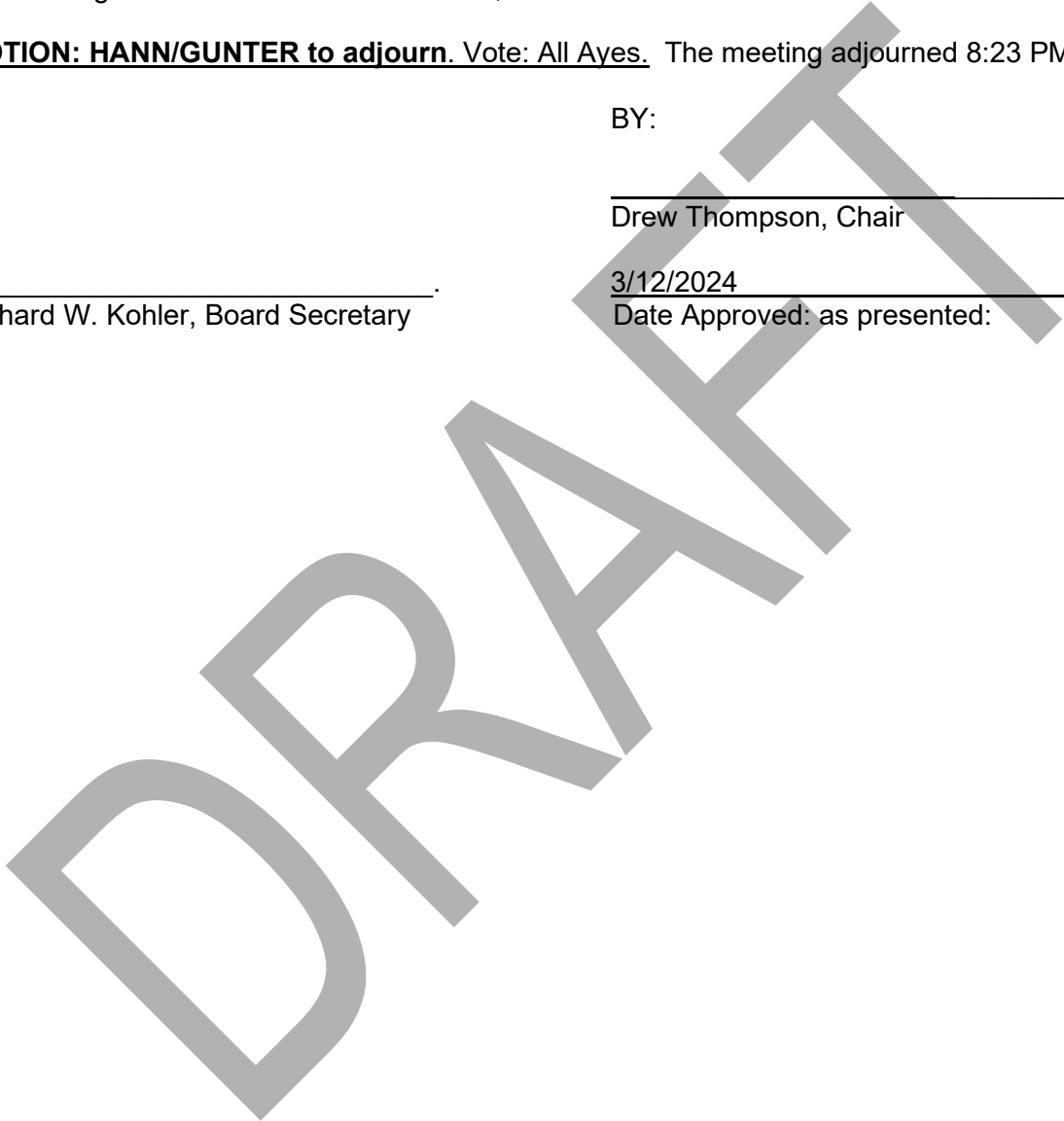
BY:

Drew Thompson, Chair

3/12/2024

Date Approved: as presented:

Richard W. Kohler, Board Secretary



TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.a

Meeting Date: March 12, 2024

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Traditionally, members of the Committee share their recent experiences from the trails and at the trailheads.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.b

Meeting Date: March 12, 2024

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: MSS Restoration Project Observations and Concerns

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Chair Thompson requested this item be added to the monthly reviewed items on the T&GC Agenda. He states his hope is that this will provide a basis for some historical record of the project's impact on T&GC infrastructure as otherwise there exists no permits active to which progress / problems would be recognized by and/or acted upon by TOM.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None.

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. None.

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.C
Meeting Date: March 12th, 2024

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Cameron Preserve Update

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. The Trails and Greenway's Committee has been actively working towards improving the Cameron Preserve with additional signage and potentially updating the Management Plan.
 - a. Town Staff met with the FCT Administrator for our area to perform a site visit at Cameron Preserve, Eschenberg Preserve, and the Disc Golf Sanctuary.
 - b. Mr. MacMahon indicated that the FCT would like to see an updated management plan for the properties.
 - c. Staff informed him that the Committee plans to amend the existing plan to give the Town more autonomy over its land, and to incorporate a regular burn cycle in the scrub area.
 - d. Staff also expressed the Committee's wish to maintain the western portion of the property as a Deep Woods or Old Forest section. Mr. MacMahon stated he understood and tentatively approves of our continuing in that direction.
 - e. On 11.01, Staff and CM Hann met with 3 members of the Florida Forestry Division.
 - i. They indicated an influx of funding will allow them to assist in cutting of firebreaks, mechanical vegetation reduction, and controlled burns.
 - ii. They also indicated that any area the Committee wishes to burn must be bordered on all sides by an effective fire line.
 - iii. Staff has developed a rough draft of proposed fire lines which would integrate the scrub habitat restoration cycle previously discussed.
 - iv. Staff has also communicated to Malabar FD about maintaining the firebreaks once they have been refurbished. If the Town procures the proper equipment, they would be willing to assist regularly.
- b. The signs requested at the July 10th Meeting have been procured and all installed. Signs received include:
 - a. 25 "Cameron Preserve Boundary" signs (6"x12")
 - b. 8 "Kiosk Map" signs (36"x36")
 - c. 8 "On-Trail Map" signs (24"x24")
- c. The Bike repair stand has also been received and is awaiting installation.
- d. VC Hann stated at the 11/13 meeting he would develop modifications to the firebreak plan and provide specifications for the mechanical reduction of zone 4.
- e. At the 2/12/2024 meeting, the Committee voted on a new sign for Cameron Preserve. Staff has requested a quote from Brevard County Traffic Maintenance.
- f. Also at the 2/12/2024 meeting, the Committee discussed briefly the possibility of adding a trash can at the Cameron Trail Shelter (CTS). A member of the Parks and Recreation Board also noted an increase in refuse left at the site. Staff is opposed to this proposition, as it will add considerable time to the Public Works refuse removal schedule. Staff also feels that the inclusion of a trash can at the site will encourage more dumping. The site was intended as a "Bring out what you Bring in" site, and hopefully can be maintained as such.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Draft Cameron Preserve Sign for Briar Creek Blvd.

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion

85' BEYOND PAVEMENT



**100-ACRE
CAMERON PRESERVE
TOWN OF MALABAR**



**THIS AL TUTTLE TRAIL IS PART OF THE
PROPOSED 22-MILE SOUTH BREVARD
COUNTY LINEAR TRAIL SYSTEM**



(1) To be posted in TOM ROW on Briar Creek Blvd (E)

85' BEYOND PAVEMENT



**100-ACRE
CAMERON PRESERVE
TOWN OF MALABAR**



**THIS AL TUTTLE TRAIL IS PART OF THE
PROPOSED 22-MILE SOUTH BREVARD
COUNTY LINEAR TRAIL SYSTEM**



(1) To be posted in TOM ROW on Briar Creek Blvd (W)

WELCOME TO TOWN OF MALABAR



100-ACRE CAMERON PRESERVE



TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.d
Meeting Date: December 9, 2023

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Eagles Nest Trailhead

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. The Trails and Greenway's Committee has been actively working towards improving the Eagles Nest Trailhead.
- b. Staff has requested an engineer reviewed drainage plan and filing a permit for the drainage work.
- c. Interim Chief Giantonio of Malabar FD attended the July meeting to discuss the possibility and applicability of a Fire Well at the Trailhead.
 - a. Interim Chief Giantonio provided staff with the response he received about the Fire Well Grant.
 - b. Staff contacted 3 well drillers seeking quotes for a fire well at ENT.
 - i. Heidi Kruger Well Drillers
 1. Not qualified or certified to install Fire Well. Fire Well traditional 6–8-inch pipe.
 2. Can drill 4 inch well. This is what was originally discussed. Quoted at \$8,600.00.
 3. Can also drill a 2 inch well. Stated this is standard for Equestrian Trailheads. Quoted at \$4,000.00.
 - ii. Florida Well Drillers – Spoke to representative, took my information but never responded.
 - iii. Aqua Source Well Drillers – Called and Emailed, no response yet.
 - c. Staff has requested a formal quote from Heidi Kruger Well Drillers (HKWD) for a 4 inch well. The Office Manager of HKWD indicated to Staff that the quote would be ready by Wednesday March 13th. The quote will be brought to Council for final approval.
- d. The Committee was able to host a work day on Friday February 23rd, and installed most of the vertical fence posts.
 - a. Discussion requested on the best path to complete the fence. Options provided are:
 - i. Straight line South to the Berm.
 - ii. 45 degree turn to the South West from current terminus.
 - iii. Other options?

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Photos from Trail Workday.

ACTION OPTIONS:

- Discussion on fence extension, and next steps.





TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.e

Meeting Date: February 12th, 2024

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: South Brevard Trail Master Plan Group Meeting Review

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. On February 22, 2024, Town Staff attended the Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan Working Group Meeting #1.
- b. The agenda for the meeting has been attached to this report.
- c. Staffs Comments to the agenda are as follows:
 1. Page 11 indicated an existing trail connecting Malabar and Valkaria Roads. While some Rights of Ways have been dedicated, the final path and trail type are still undetermined.
 2. Page 12 indicated an existing trail connecting Malabar and Valkaria Roads. While some Rights of Ways have been dedicated, the final path and trail type are still undetermined.
 3. Page 13 does not show the trails through Malabar Scrub Sanctuary West, which includes a connector Right of Way between Port Malabar Blvd and Malabar Road.
 4. Page 15 indicated an existing Paved Trail/On-Street Facility between Malabar Road and Valkaria Road. This does not currently exist.
 5. Page 15 also does not show the existing unpaved trail that connects the Turkey Creek Trail to the Grapefruit Trails, along the C-1 Canal.
 6. Page 17 does not indicate the correct Future Land Use designation for the Cameron Preserve, Malabar Scrub Sanctuary, and Jordan Scrub Sanctuaries. All have a designation of "Conservation."
 7. Page 21 does not show the Malabar L3 Harris Plant, and major source of employment density.
 8. Page 27 indicated that Malabar Road has existing bicycle features between Babcock Street and US 1. There are no bike lanes, sidewalks, multi modal paths, or even a safe shoulder to ride on. It is a very dangerous corridor for bikes and pedestrians.
 9. Page 27 also indicates a proposed pedestrian facility on Weber Road from Malabar Road to Valkaria Road. The Town of Malabar is not aware of any such plans.
 10. Page 37 indicated an existing paved trail/ on street facility between Malabar Road and Valkaria Road. It also does not show the existing unpaved trail connecting the Turkey Creek Trail to the Grapefruit Trails.
- d. The next working group meeting is scheduled for May of 2024, with public participation being included in August of 2024.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan Working Group Meeting #1 Agenda

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion

Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan



Working Group Meeting #1 (Kick-Off Meeting)

February 22, 2024

Grant-Valkaria Town Hall

1449 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL, 32950

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

1. Introductions
2. Project Background and Goals
3. Project Schedule & Planning Process Overview
4. Study Area Overview & Existing Conditions Analysis
5. Active Transportation Propensity Index Overview
6. Next Steps
7. Questions and Discussion

Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan

Working Group Meeting #1



22 February 2024

AGENDA

- 1 | Introductions**
- 2 | Project Background and Goals**
- 3 | Project Schedule & Planning Process Overview**
- 4 | Study Area Overview & Existing Conditions Analysis**
- 5 | Active Transportation Propensity Index Overview**
- 6 | Next Steps**
- 7 | Questions and Discussion**

Please Introduce Yourself

Name

Title/Role







Agency/Organization

Which trail did you last visit and what activity did you do on the trail?

PROJECT BACKGROUND & GOALS

- Create a sub-area trails plan for the Southern Brevard study area based on the goals and objectives from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP)
- Build on the existing regional trail networks like Showcase, SUN Trail Network, EEL, etc. to identify additional trail connections
- Develop a trail system hierarchy (regional, secondary, tertiary, etc.) and typology (surface types and activity types)
- Prioritize new trail connections and identify one or more high priority trail corridors to conduct a feasibility study

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Task No.	Task	2023			2024									2025					
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1	Existing Conditions Analysis	█	█	█	█														
2	Trail System Hierarchy and Typology					█	█												
3	Recommended Trails Network						█	█	█	█	█	█							
4	Trails Network Prioritization							█	█	█	█	█	█						
5	Public and Stakeholder Engagement						█	█		█			█	█		█	█		
6	Master Plan Document														█	█	█	█	█

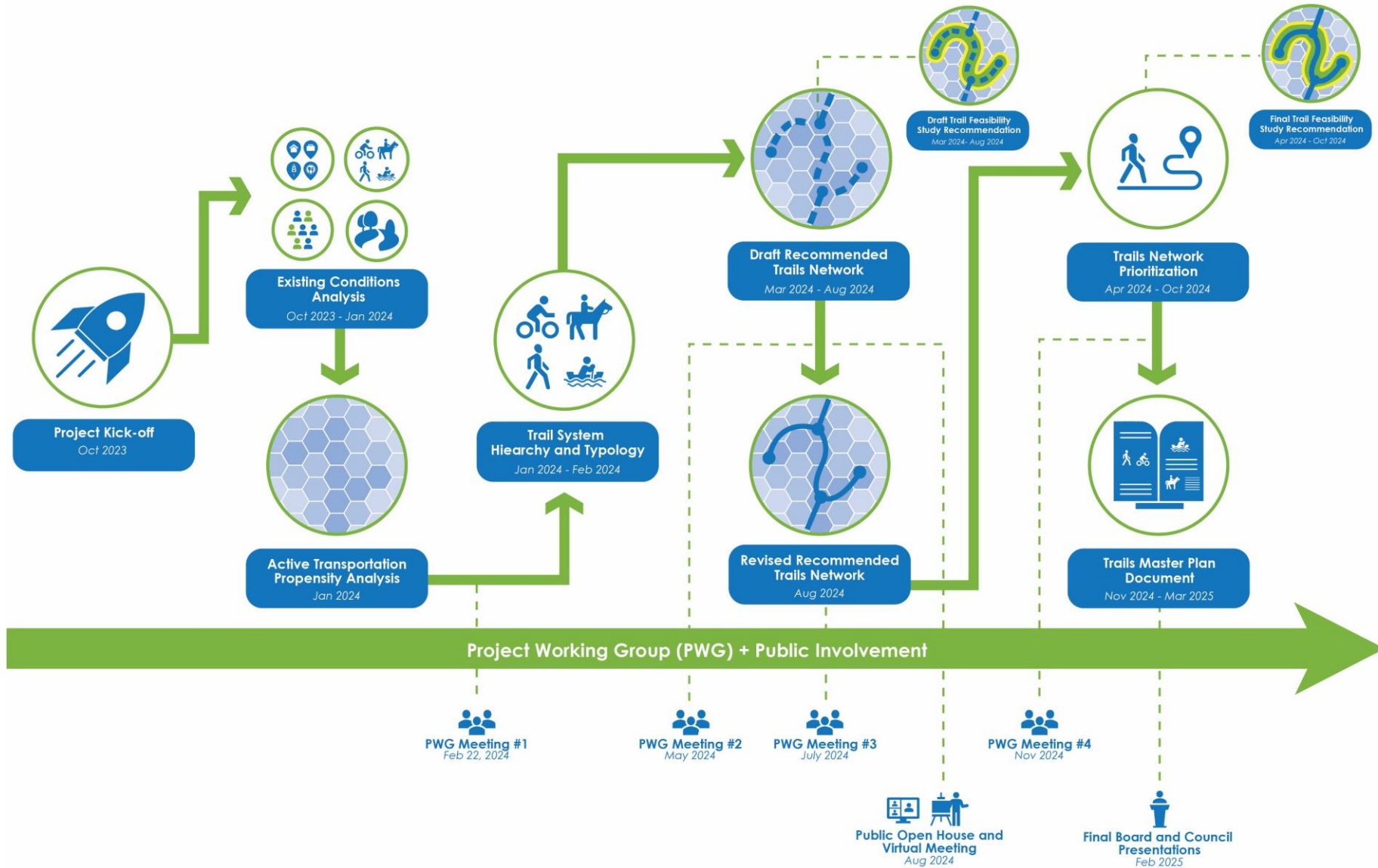
We are Here

 Project Working Group Meetings

 Public Open House + Virtual Meeting

 Final Board and Council Presentations

PLANNING PROCESS



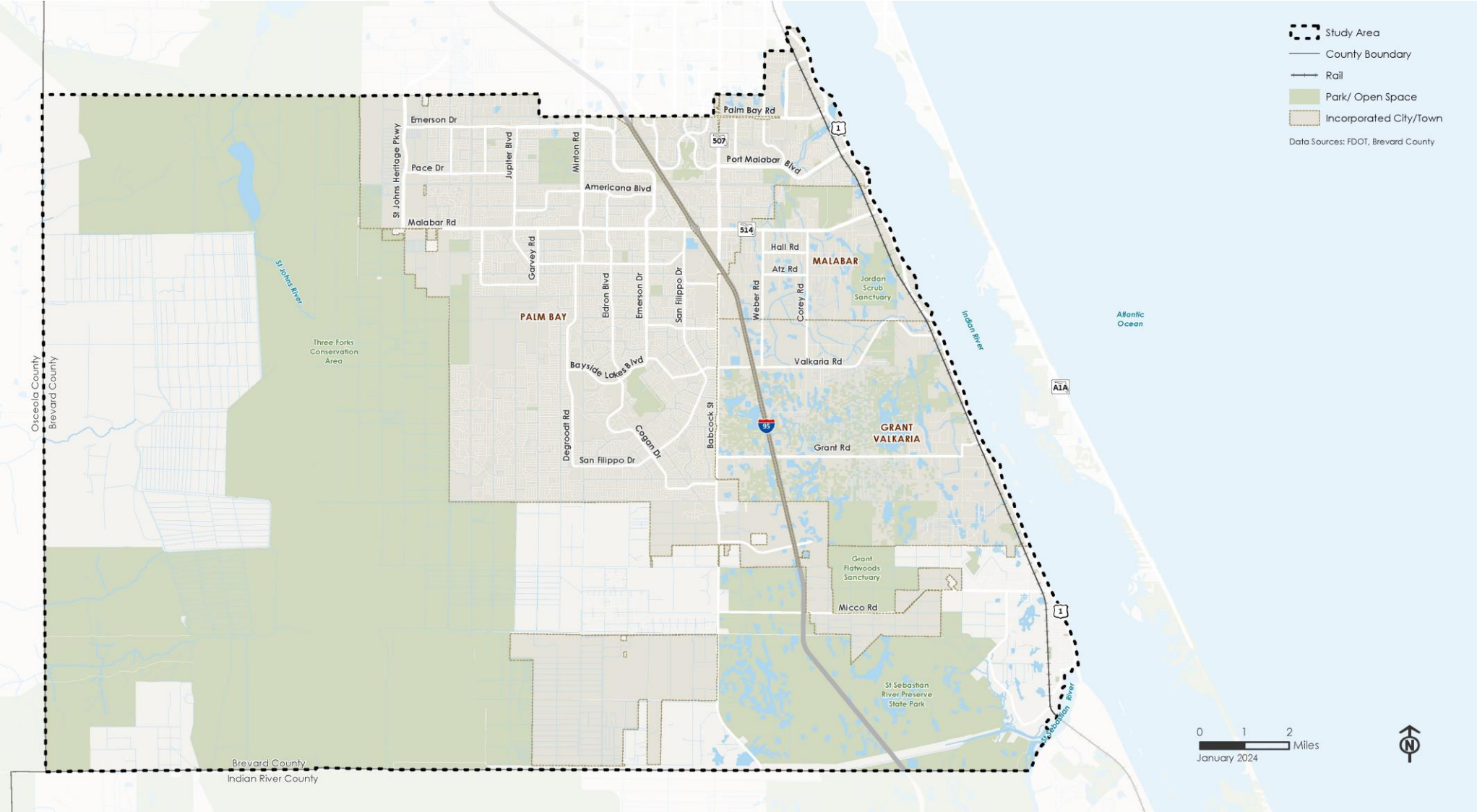
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS?

- *How do you define success for this plan?*
- *Which work products/planning process will be helpful for local jurisdictions to advance trail projects identified in this plan?*



STUDY AREA OVERVIEW & EXITING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

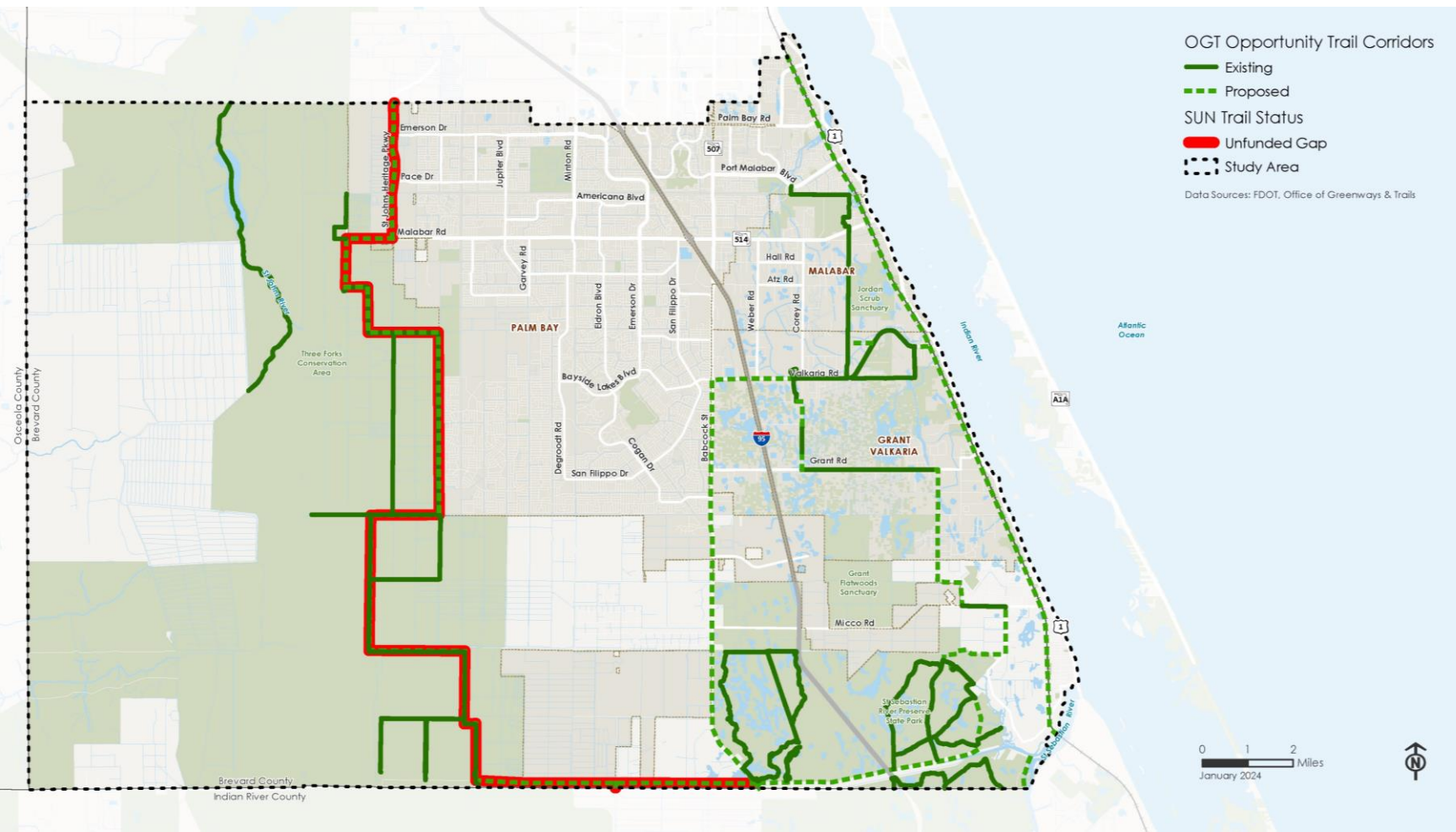
STUDY AREA



EXISTING & PLANNED TRAILS

OGT & SUN TRAIL NETWORK

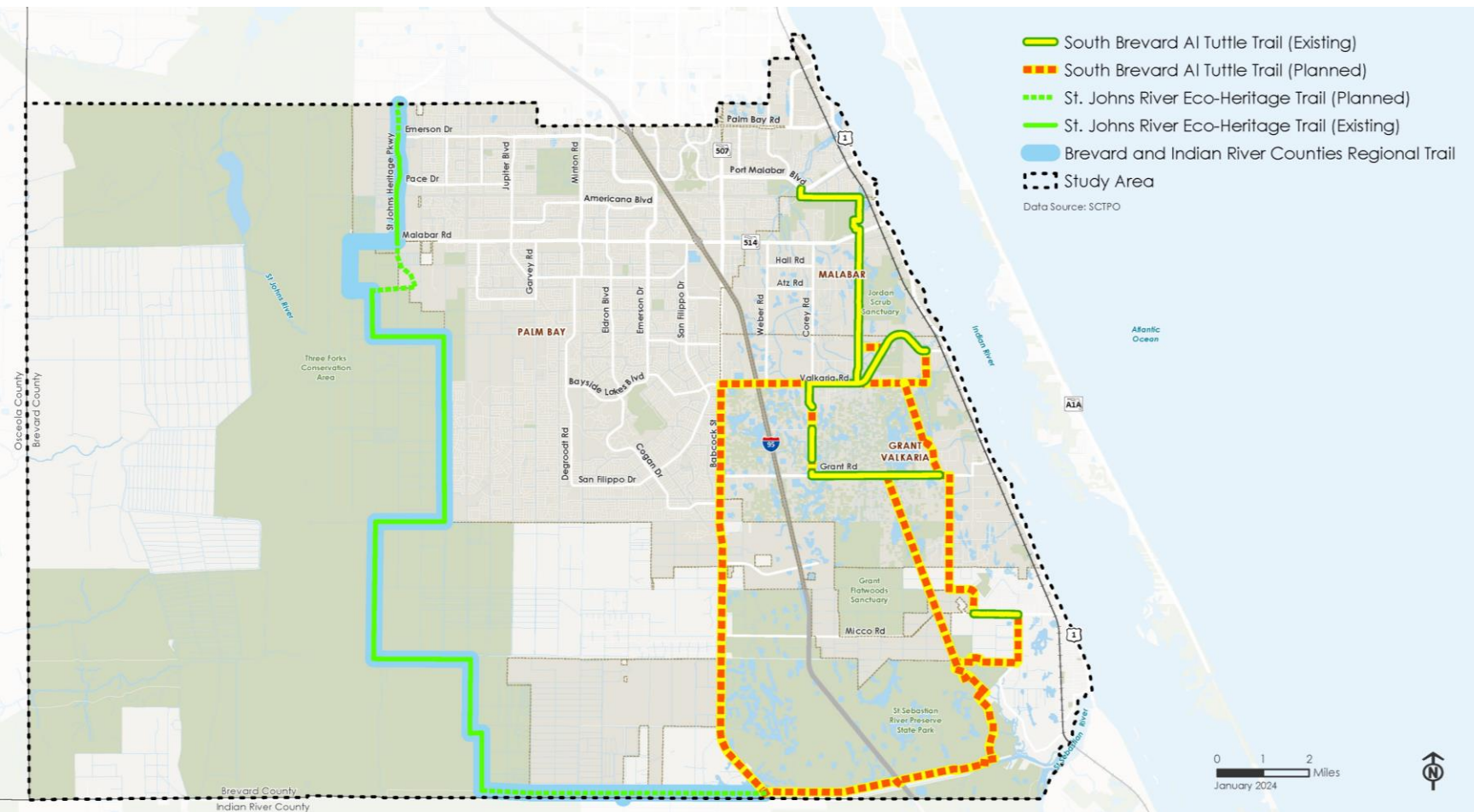
- Office of Greenways & Trails (OGT) and SUN Trail opportunities run north to south throughout the study area



St. Johns River Eco-Heritage Trail is an unfunded gap in SUN TRAIL Network
 Source: SCTPO

SHOWCASE TRAILS

- The AI Tuttle Trail extends through Malabar and Grant-Valkaria, while the St. Johns River Eco-Heritage Trail traverses conservation area along the western portion of the study area



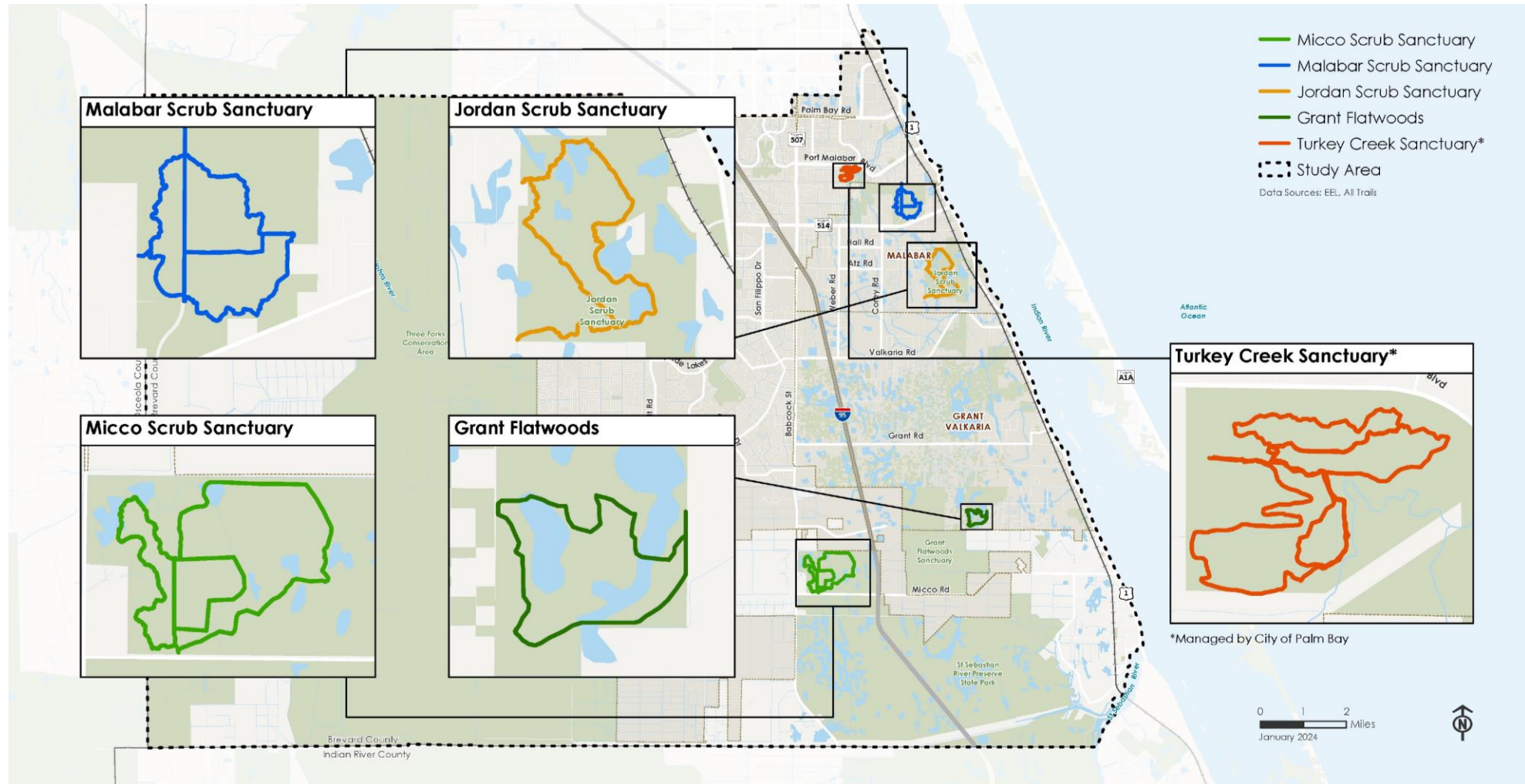
AI Tuttle Trail
Source: SCTPO



St. Johns River Eco-Heritage Trail
Source: SCTPO

ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL)

- Study area includes five EEL properties with unpaved/natural surface trails



ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL)



Malabar Scrub Sanctuary
Source: Visit Space Coast



Jordan Scrub Sanctuary
Source: Brevard County



Turkey Creek Sanctuary
Source: City of Palm Bay

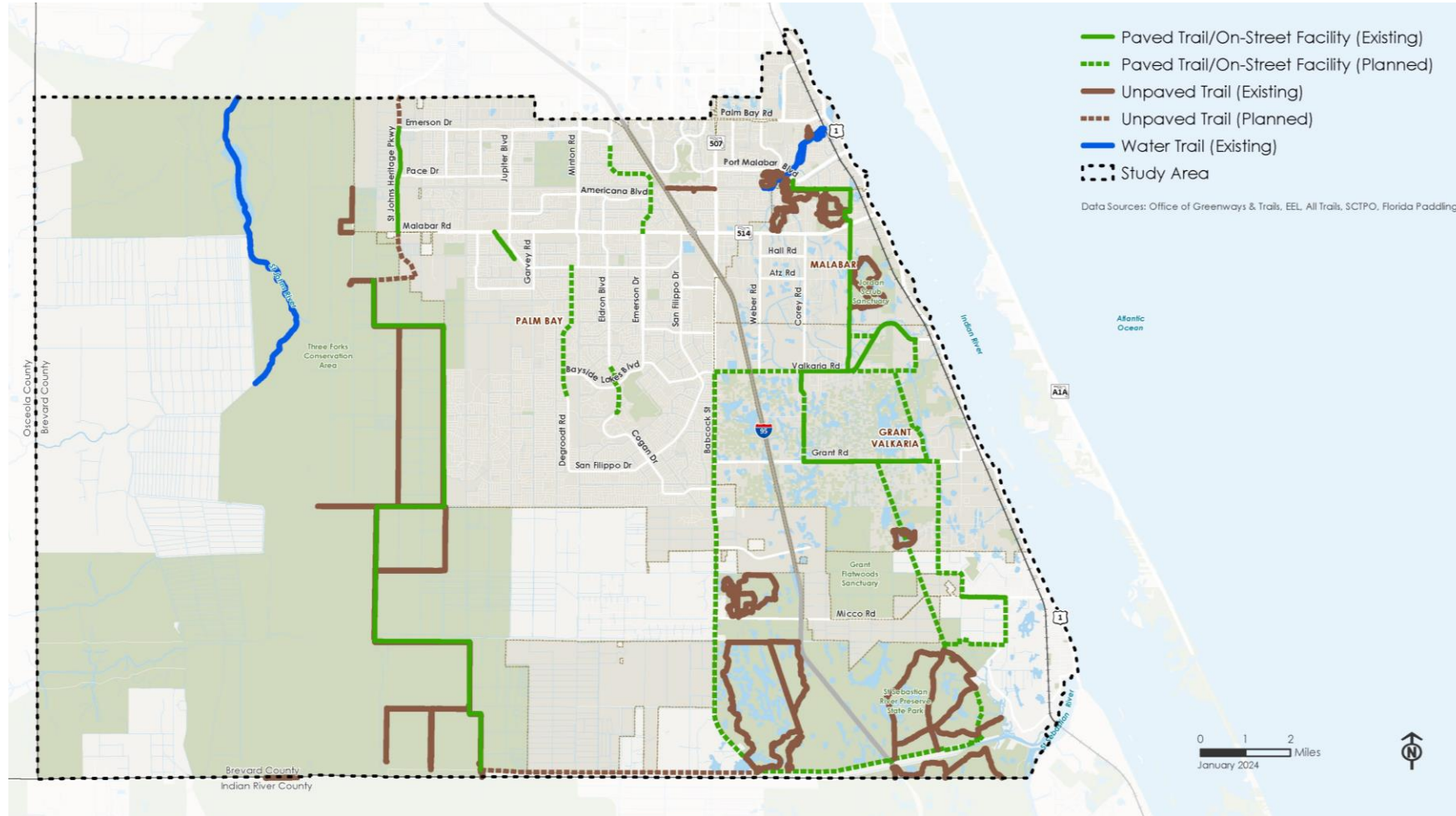


Micco Scrub Sanctuary
Source: Brevard County



Grant Flatwoods
Source: Trailforks

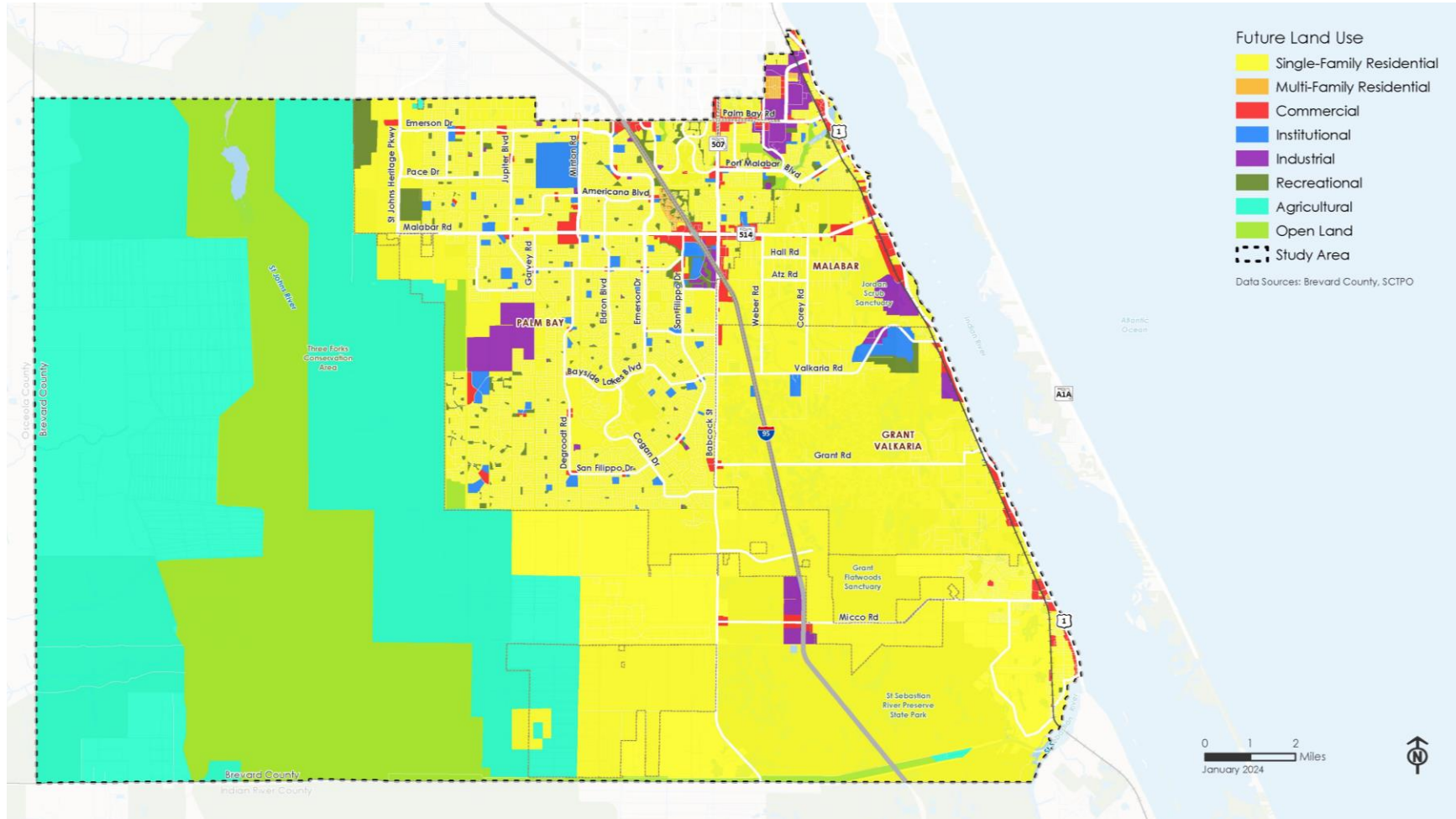
PAVED AND UNPAVED TRAILS (EXISTING & PLANNED)



LAND USE & MAJOR DESTINATIONS

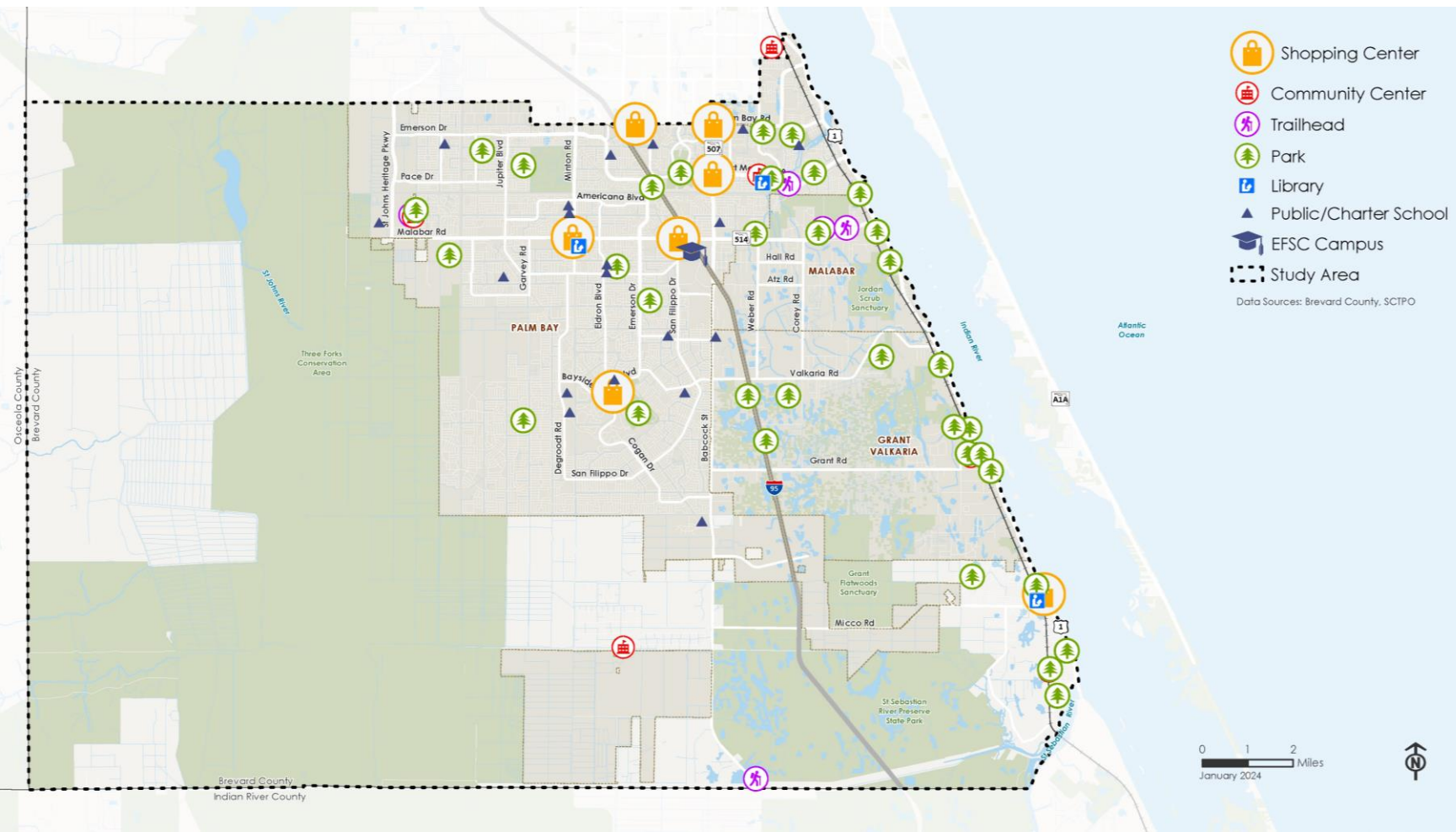
LAND USE

- Study area is predominantly residential with most of the mixed-use centers in Palm Bay



MAJOR DESTINATIONS

- Most retail shopping centers and commercial areas are located Palm Bay while other major destinations such as parks, trailheads, community centers, etc. are distributed throughout the study area



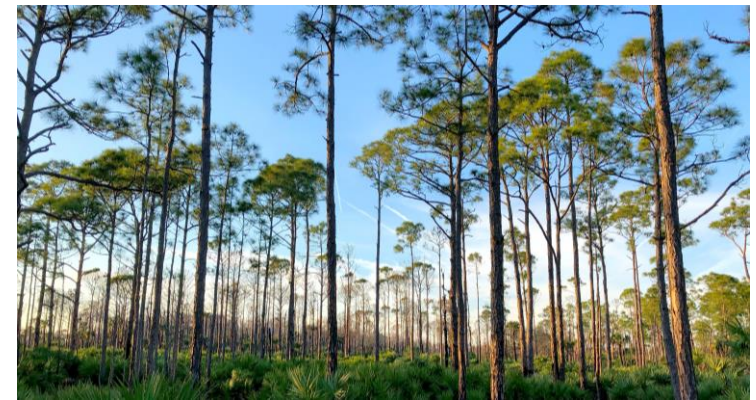
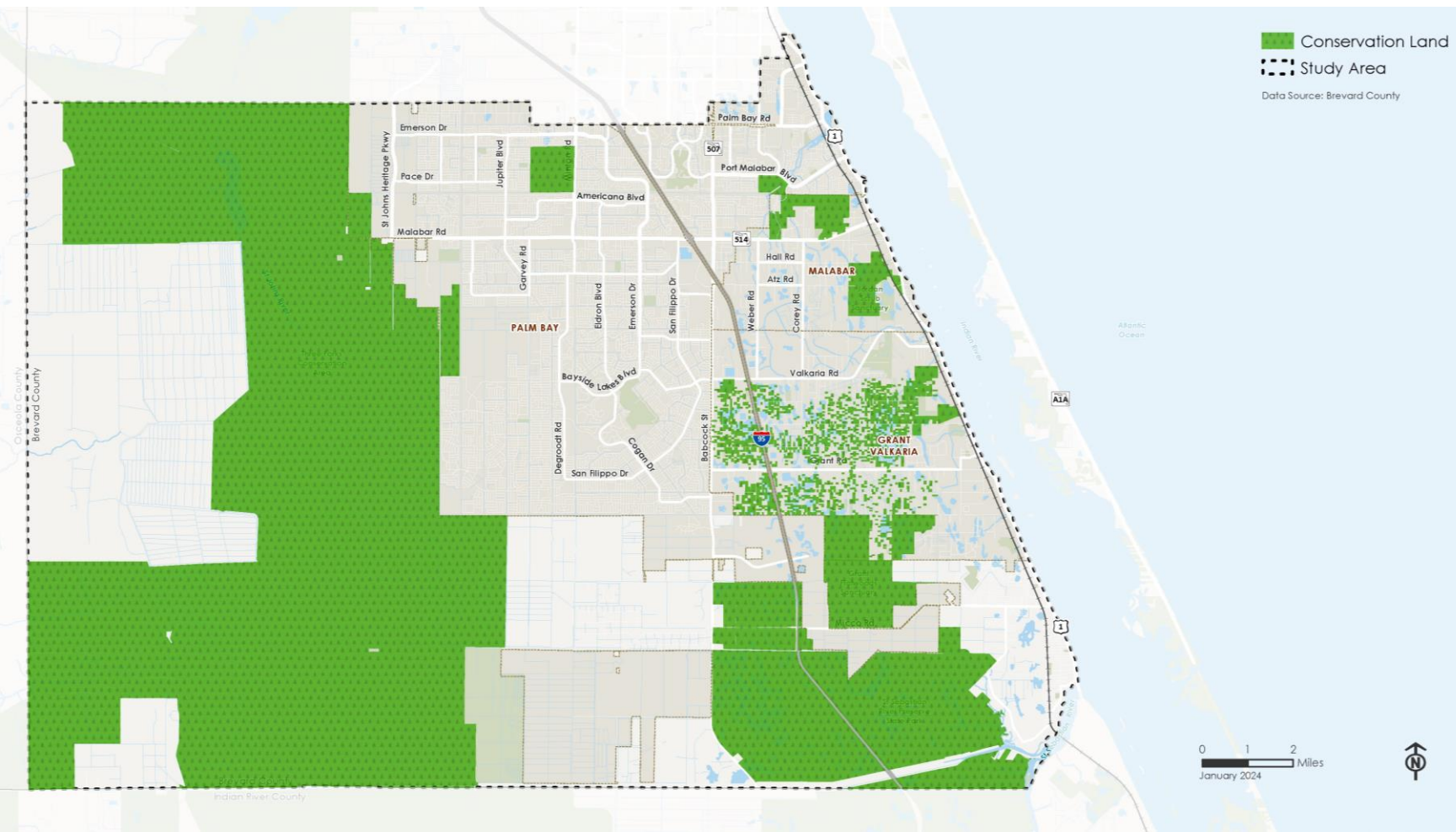
Bayside Lakes Commercial Center
Source: Google Earth



Malabar Community Park
Source: Google Maps

CONSERVATION LAND/NATURAL OPEN SPACE

- Conservation area comprises nearly the western half and the southeast portion of the study area, with smaller areas scattered throughout



St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park
Source: Florida State Parks



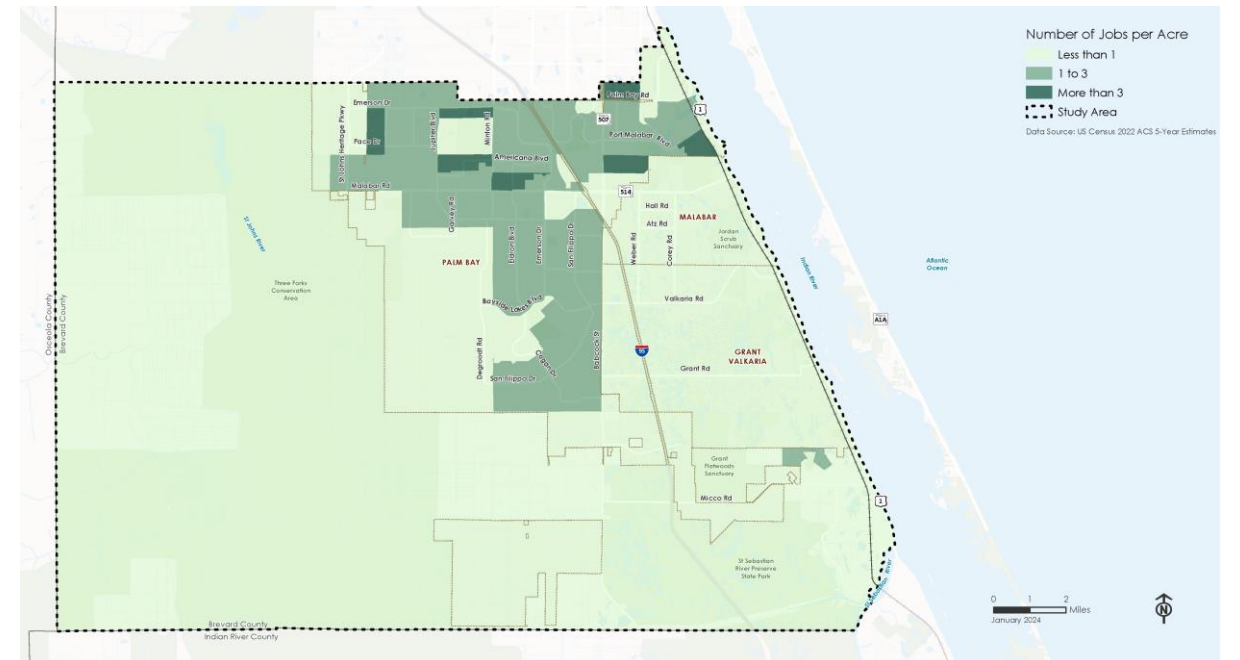
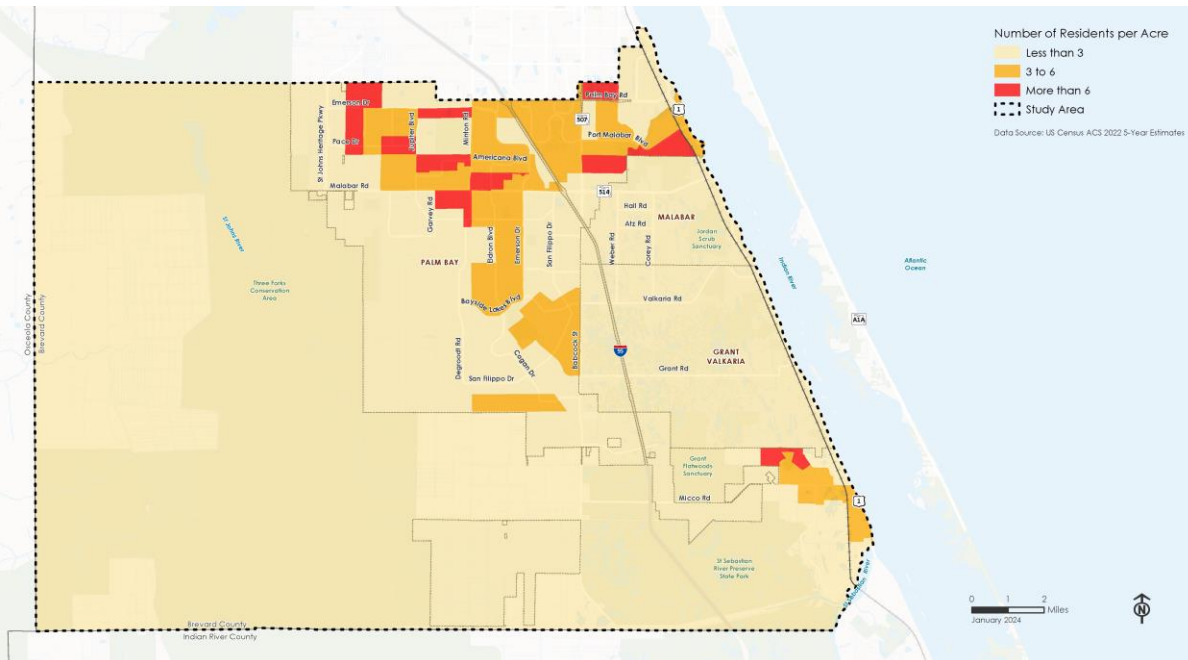
Three Forks Marsh Conservation Area
Source: Florida Hikes

DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION & EMPLOYMENT

POPULATION DENSITY

EMPLOYMENT DENSITY

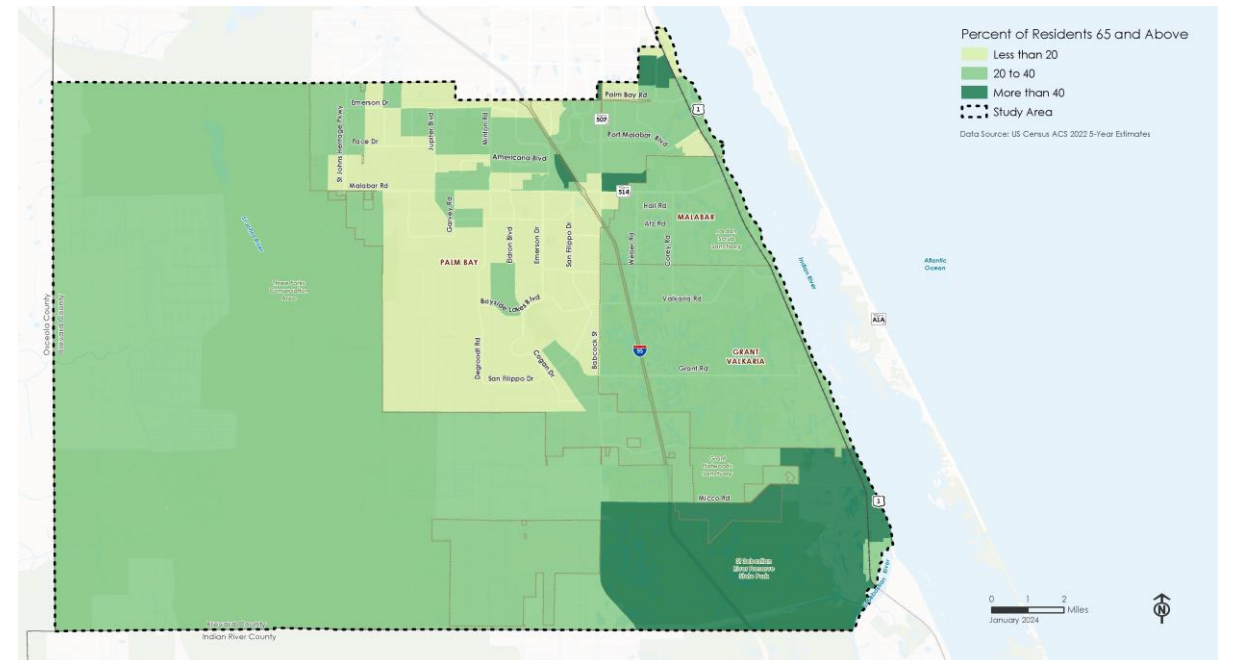
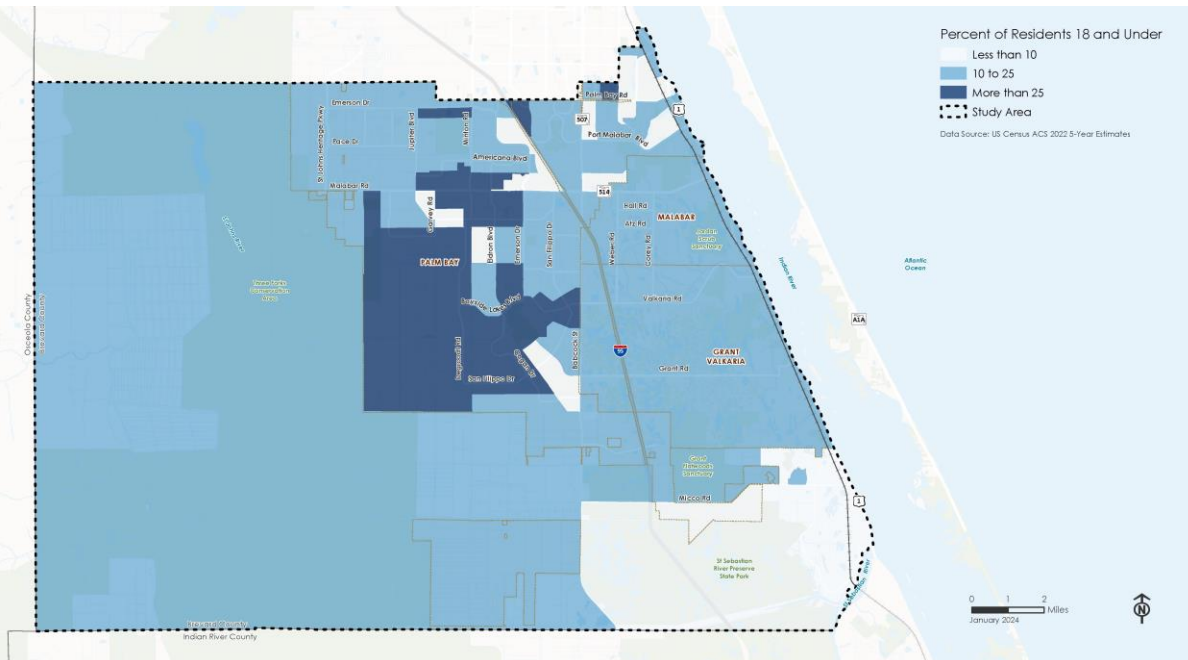


YOUTH & SENIOR POPULATION

- Families with kids under 18 are concentrated in southern Palm Bay, while the senior population is more concentrated in Micco

YOUTH POPULATION

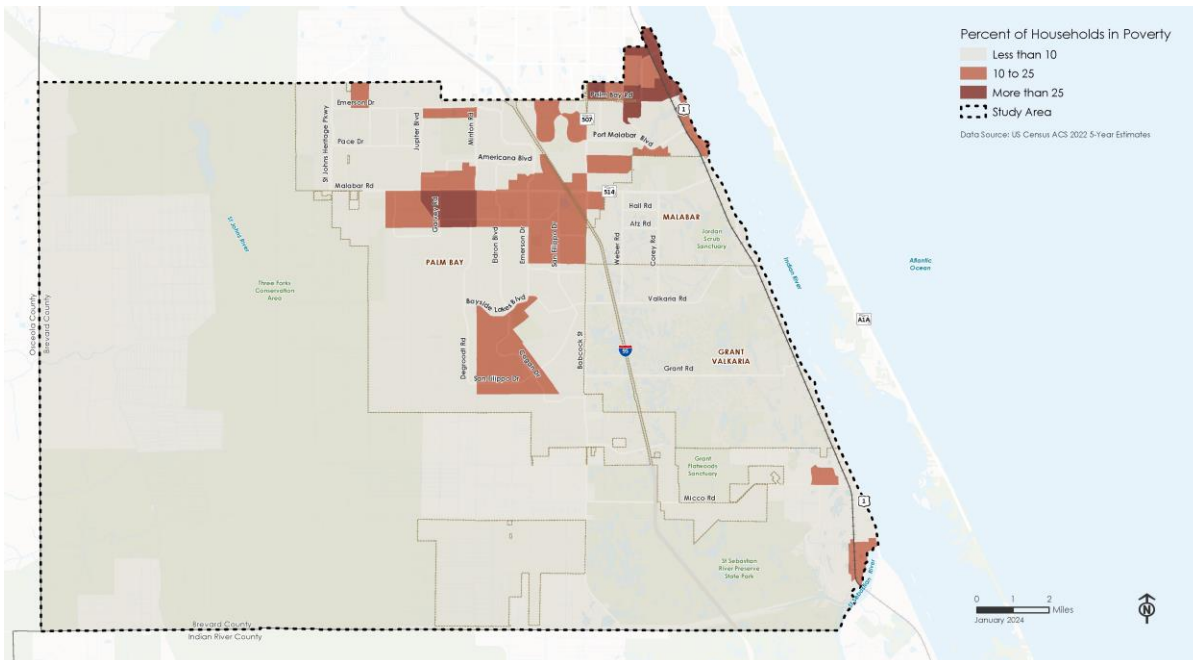
SENIOR POPULATION



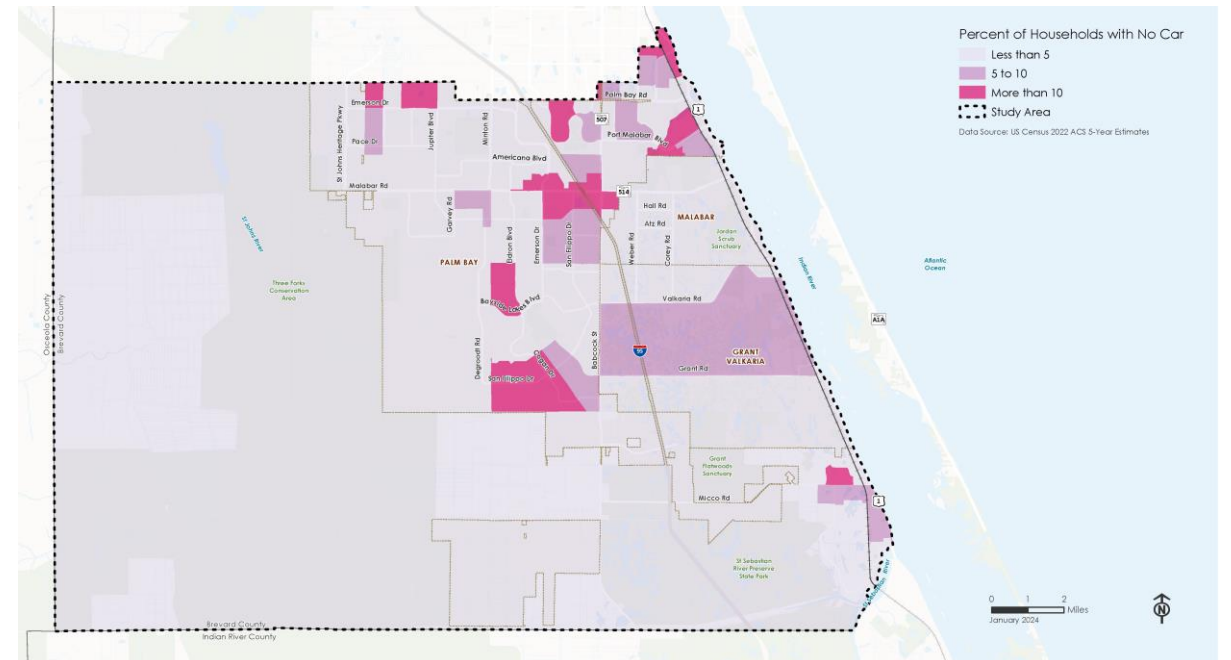
POVERTY & ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLDS

- Households in poverty and/or with no car are concentrated in Palm Bay

HOUSEHOLDS IN POVERTY

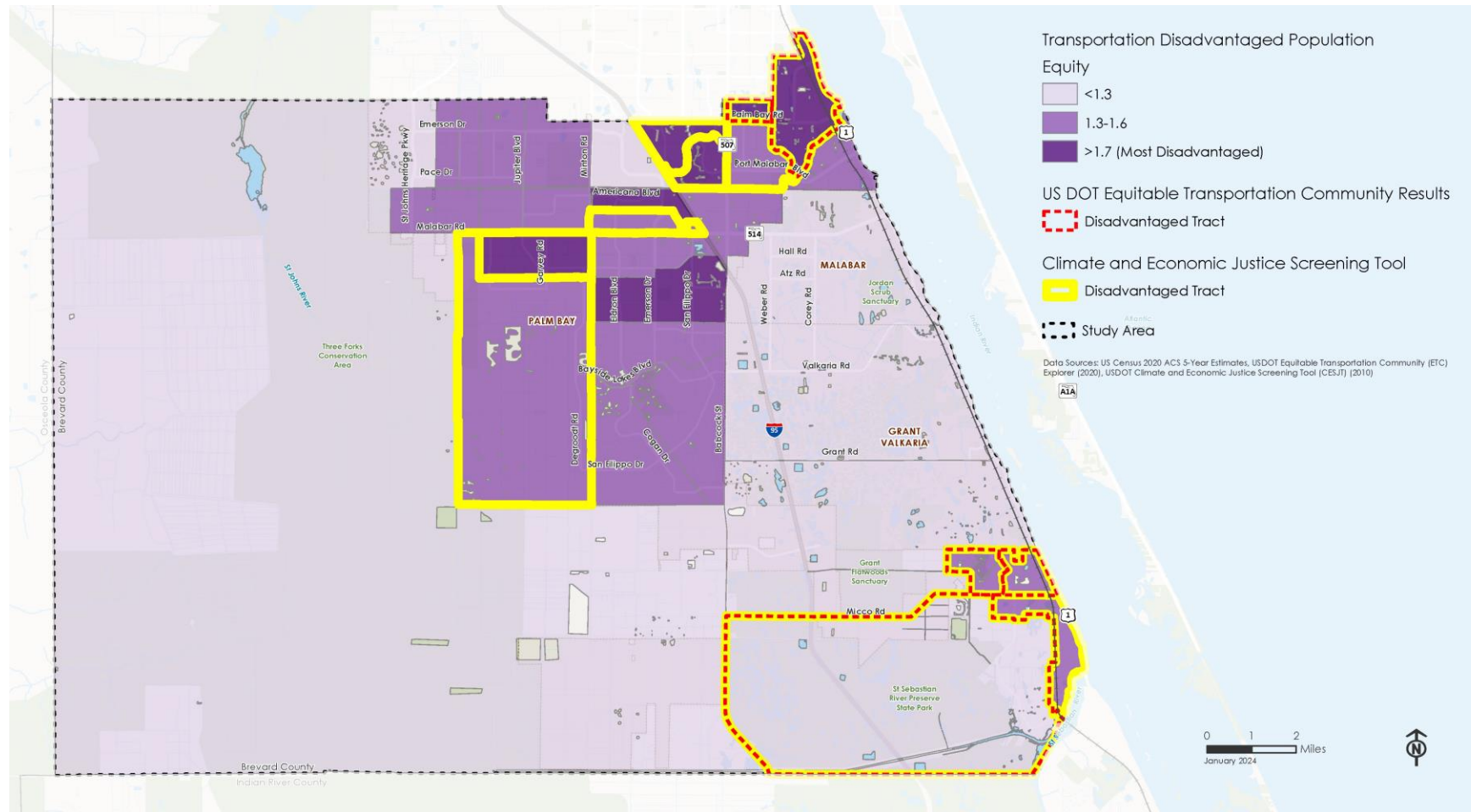


ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLDS



EQUITY

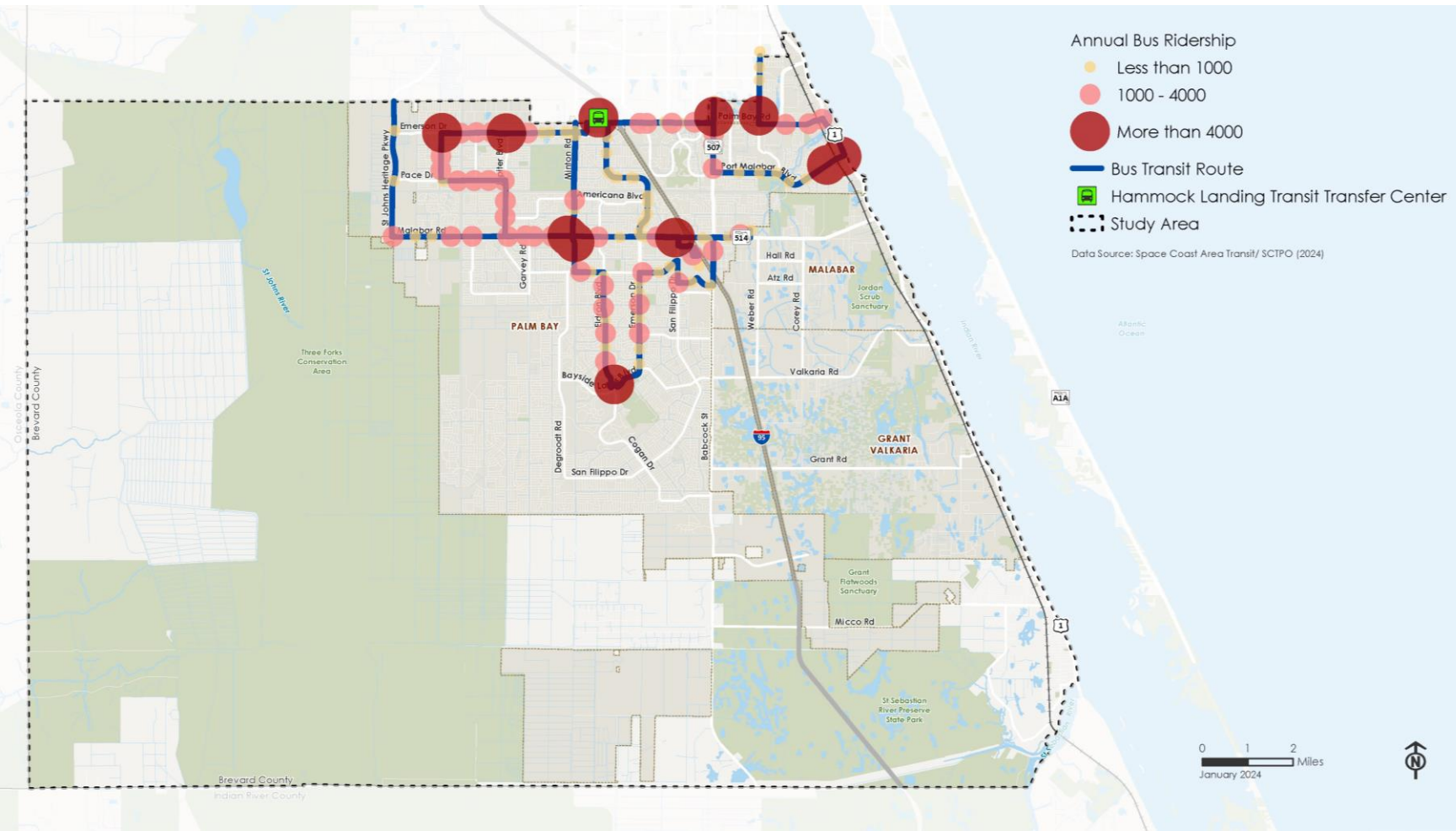
- The most transportation disadvantaged populations are located in Palm Bay, with some located in Micco area



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT

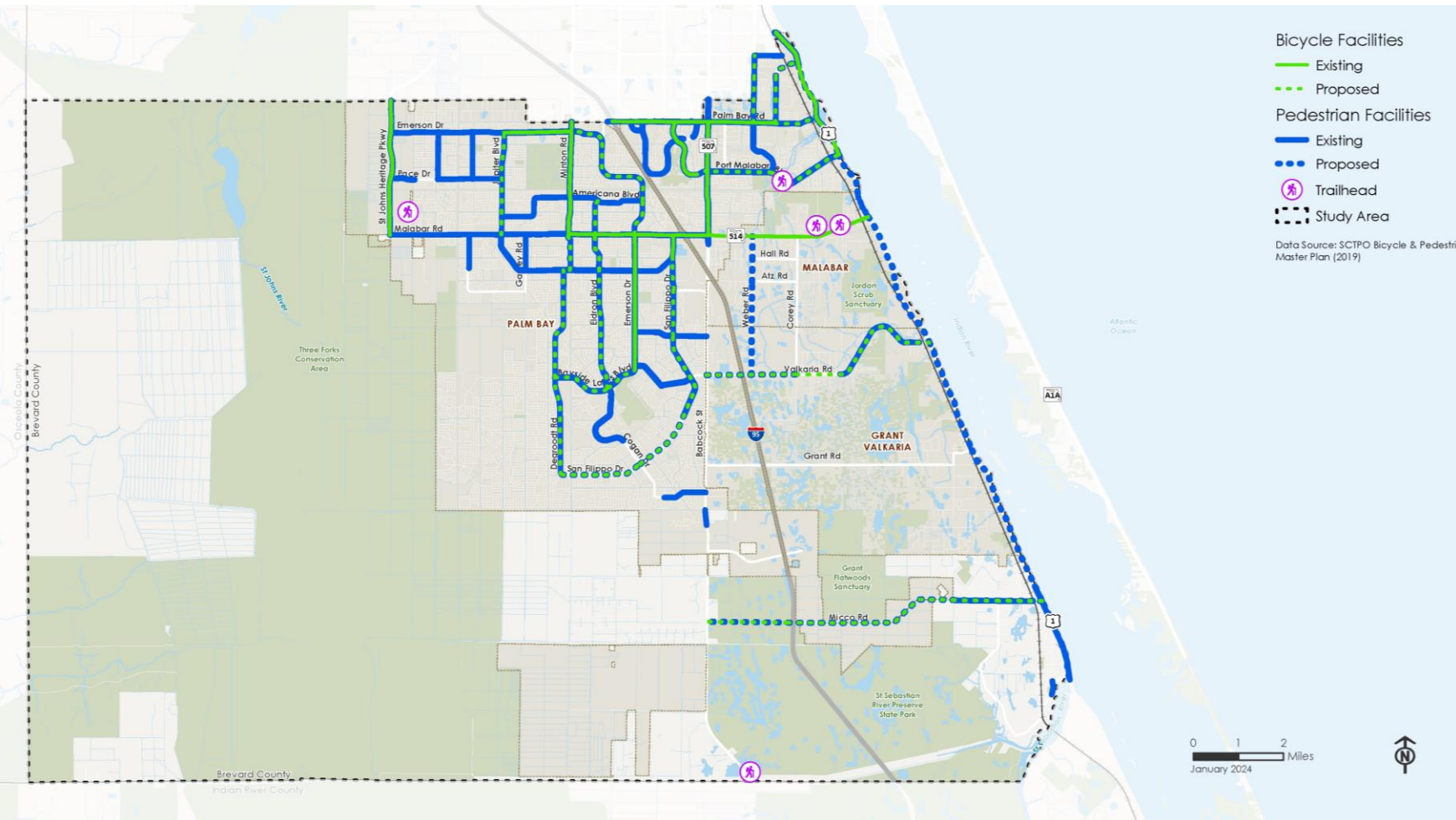
- Space Coast Area Transit service is concentrated in the northern portion of the study area with the highest ridership at Hammock Landing



Hammock Landing Bus Hub
Source: Google Earth

EXISTING AND PLANNED BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

- Most on-street existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian facilities are concentrated in Palm Bay
- Micco Road, Valkaria Road, and US 1 are other prioritized corridors in the study area beyond Palm Bay



Existing bike lanes and sidewalks along Palm Bay Rd
 Source: Google Earth



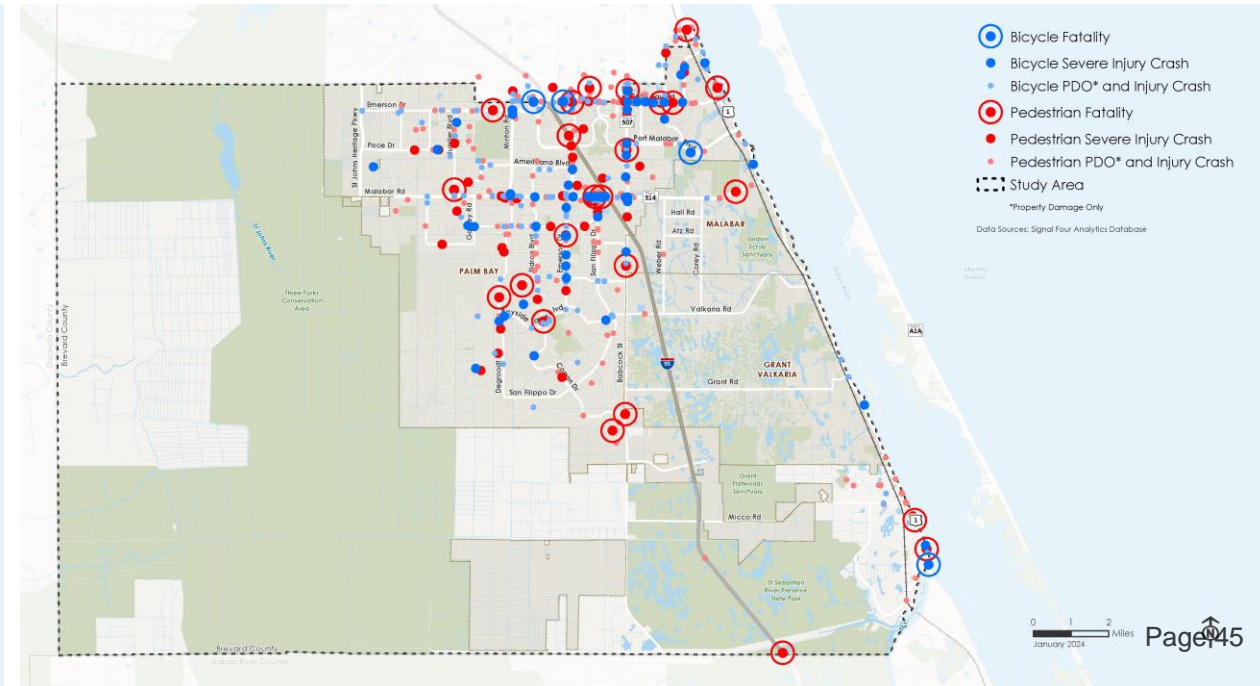
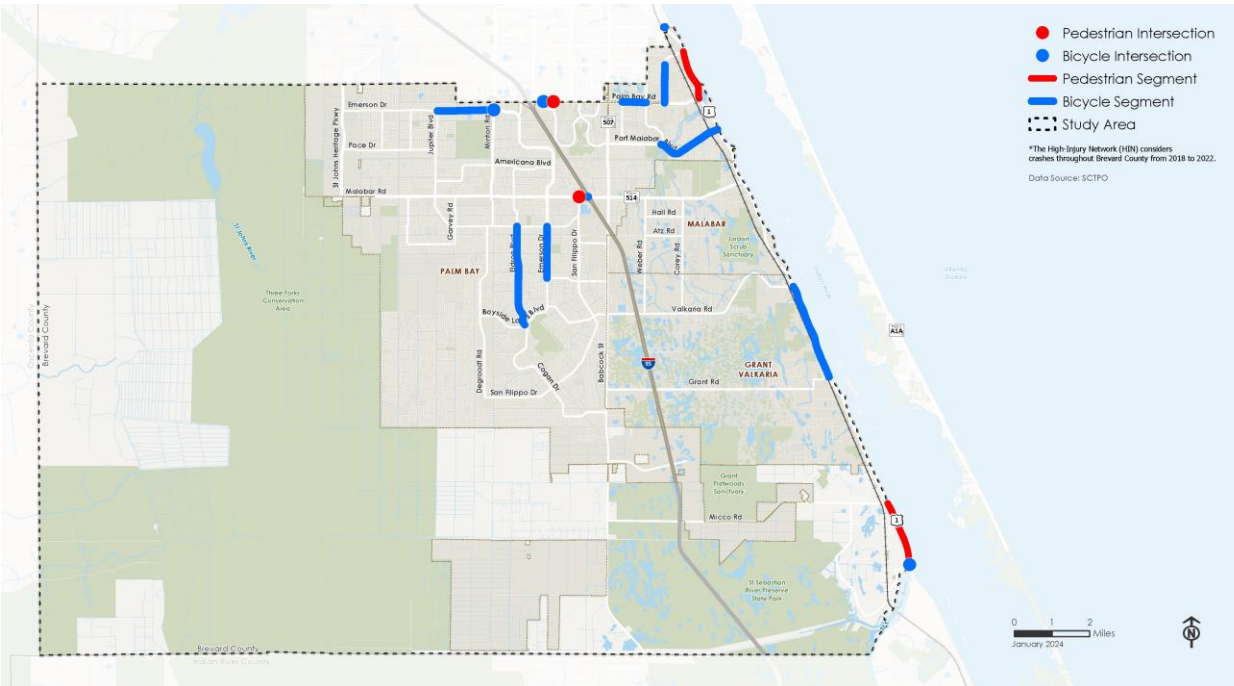
Existing shared use path and crossings along Micco Rd
 Source: Google Earth

SAFETY (HIN & CRASH SEVERITY)

- Majority of bicycle and pedestrian crashes are concentrated in Palm Bay
- Palm Bay Road and US 1 experienced a high number of fatal and severe crashes from 2018-2022

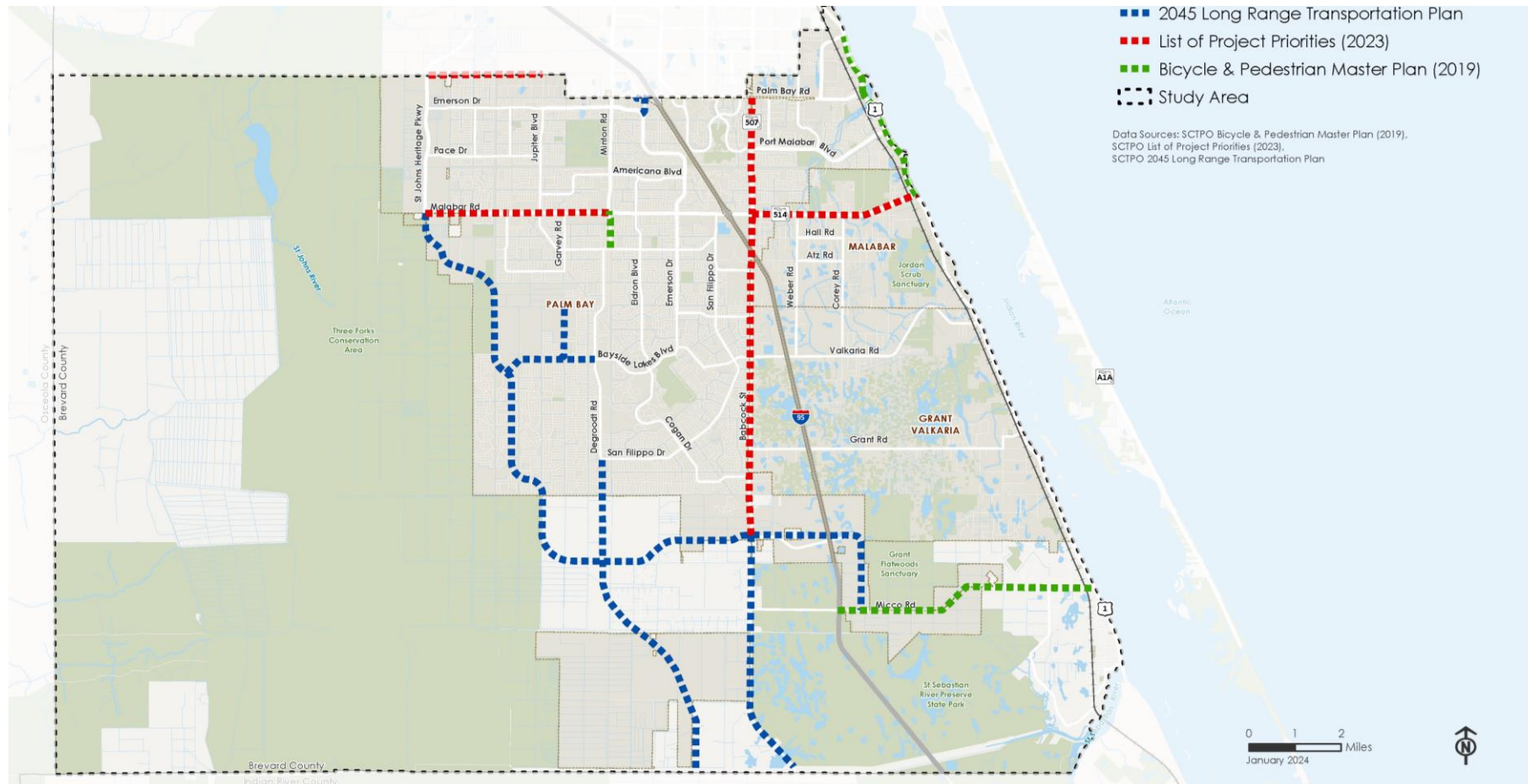
HIGH INJURY NETWORK (HIN)

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN CRASHES



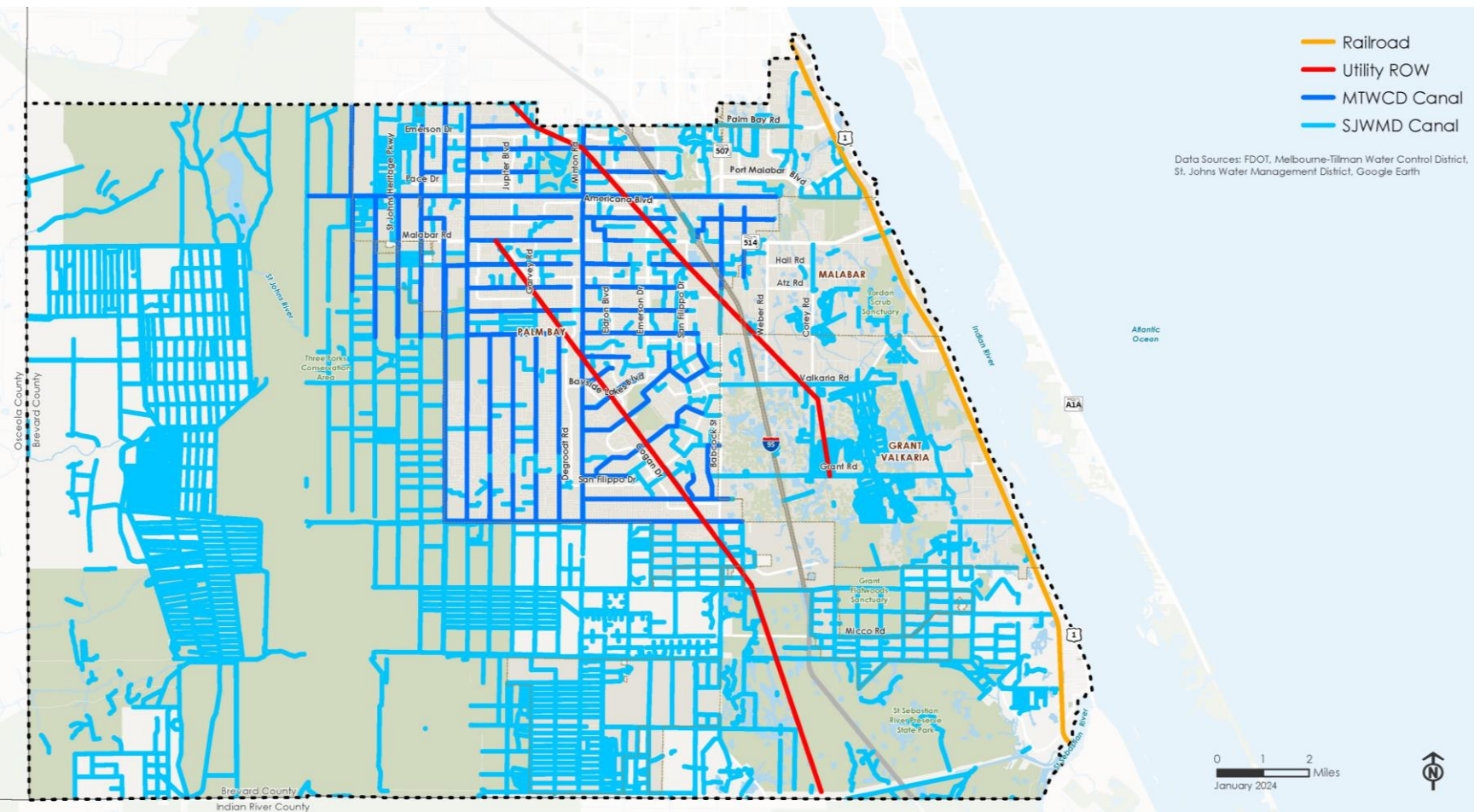
TRANSPORTATION PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

- Several project opportunities in the study area identified in Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), List of Project Priorities (LOPP), and Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP)
- These project opportunities also present opportunities for new trails/shared use paths



NON-ROAD EASEMENT/ RIGHT-OF-WAY

- Melbourne Tillman Water Control District (MTWCD) & St. Johns River Water Management District (SJWMD) canals, utility rights-of-way and railroad rights-of-way offer potential opportunities for new off-road trails



FPL Utility Right-of-Way in the study area
Source: Google Earth



C-1 Canal in Palm Bay
Source: Google Earth

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS?

- *Is anything missing in our existing conditions analysis?*



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROPENSITY INDEX

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROPENSITY INDEX

- Index of land use, demographic, and transportation datasets that indicates high to low propensity for active transportation.
- The Index will serve as a synthesis of existing conditions analysis.
- Datasets included in the Active Transportation Index:



Land Use

(Bike/Ped Trip Generators)

- Commercial/Mixed-Use Activity Centers
- Libraries
- Parks
- Conservation Lands
- Community Centers
- Schools



Demographics

(Higher concentration of people likely to walk and bike)

- High Population Density
- High Employment Density
- Transportation Disadvantaged Populations (TD Pop.)
- Equitable Transportation Communities (ETC)
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJEST)





Transportation

(Existing Infrastructure)

- Transit Stops
- On-street Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities
- Trails & Trailheads
- Pedestrian & Bicycle Crashes


ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROPENSITY INDEX

- Scoring System to Calculate Points

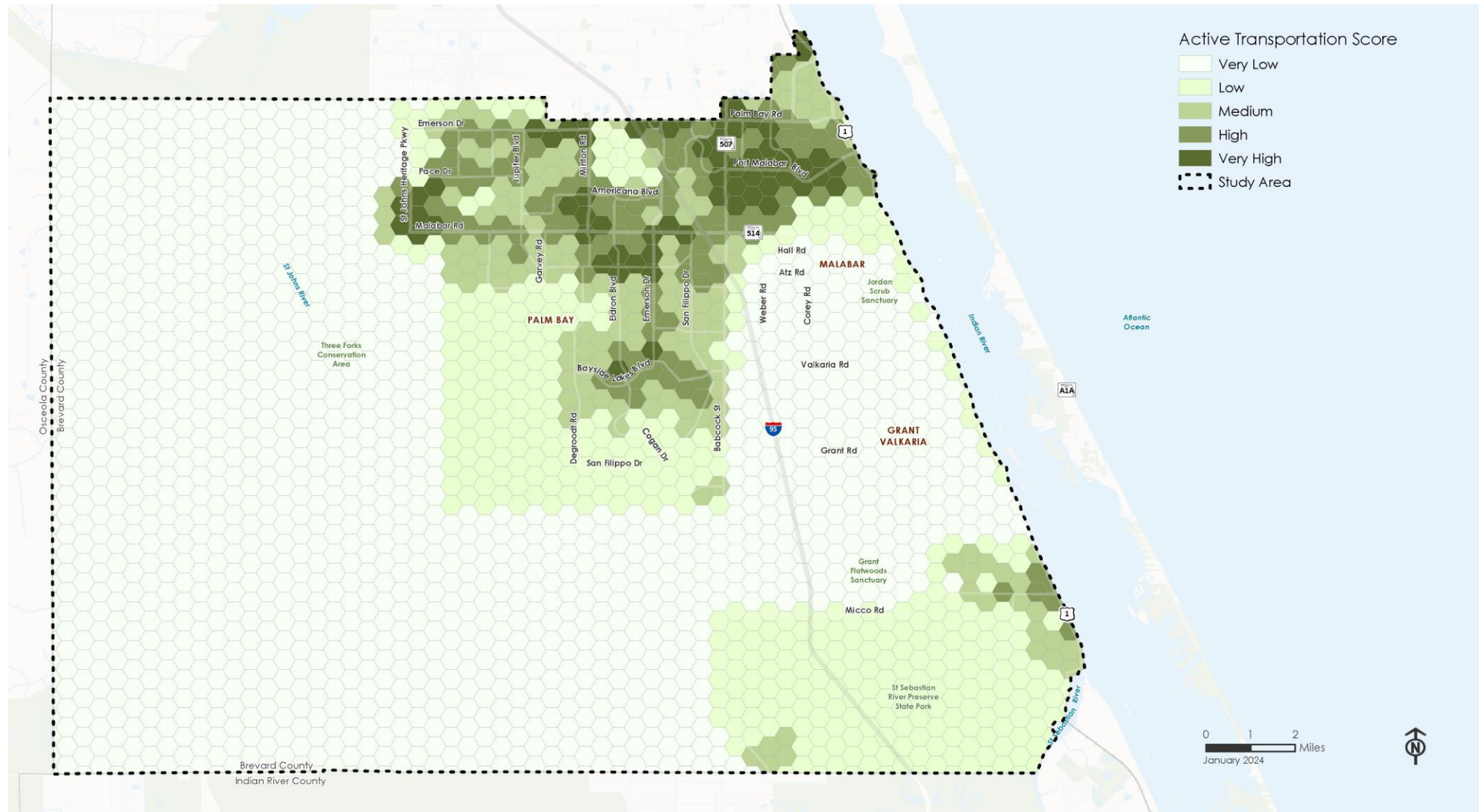
Metric	Factor	Criteria/Measure	Points (Per Factor)
 <p>Land Use & Major Destinations</p>	Commercial/Mixed-Use Activity Center		
	Library	Within 0.25 Mile	3 (Within 0.25 Mile)
	Park	Between 0.25 to 0.5 Mile	2 (0.25 to 0.5 Mile)
	Conservation Land	Between 0.5 Mile to 1 Mile	1 (0.5 to 1 Mile)
	Community Center	Outside 1 Mile	0 (Outside 1 Mile)
	School		
 <p>Demographics</p>	Population Density	High	3 (High)
		Medium	2 (Medium)
	Employment Density	Low	1 (Low)
	Transportation Disadvantaged Communities/Populations (TD Population)	Yes / No	4 (Yes) - 0 (No)
	Equitable Transportation Communities (ETC) (USDOT)	Yes / No	4 (Yes) - 0 (No)
	CEJST (Council on Environmental Quality)	Yes / No	4 (Yes) - 0 (No)

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROPENSITY INDEX

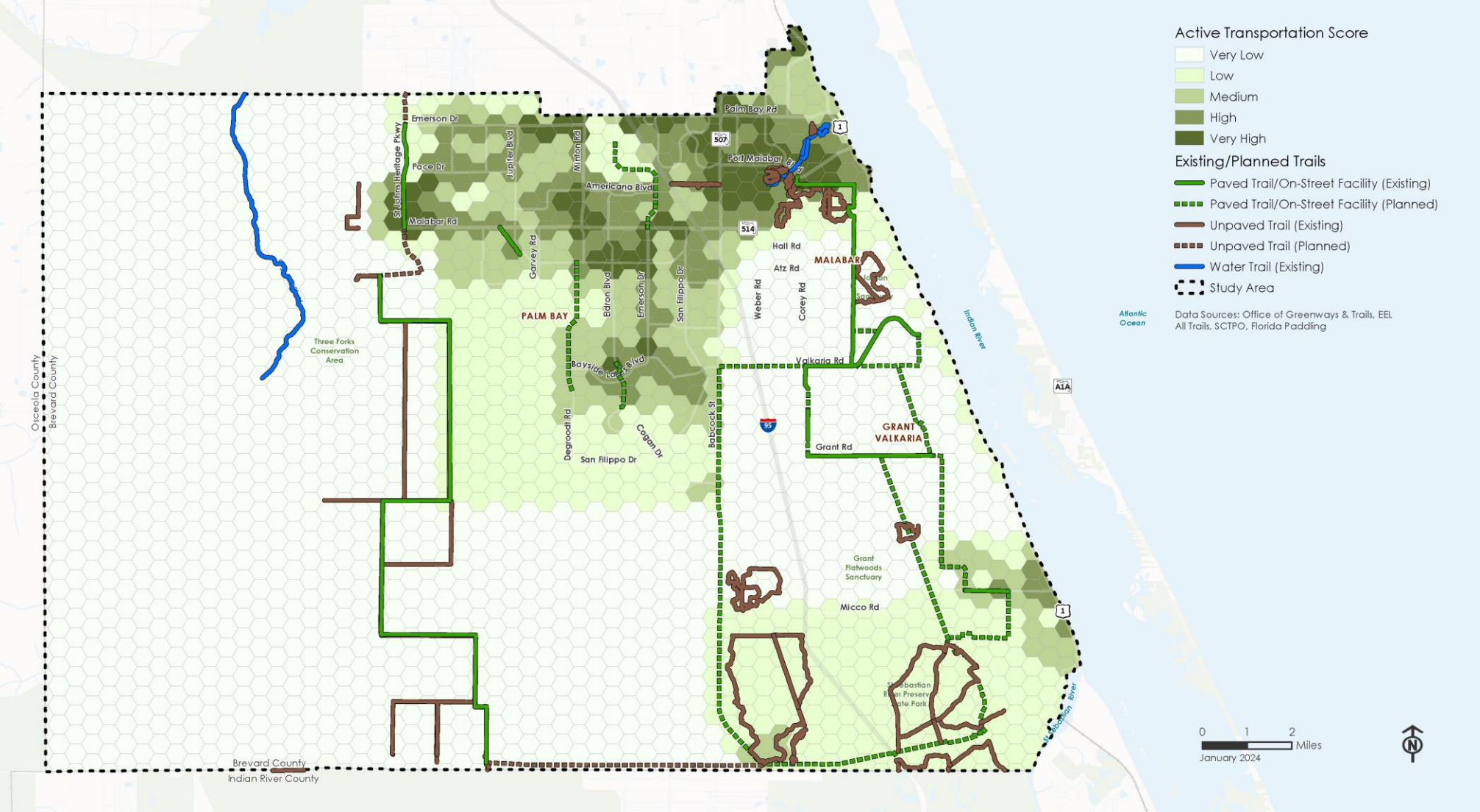
- Scoring System to Calculate Points

Metric	Factor	Criteria/Measure	Points (Per Factor)
 <p>Transportation</p>	Transit Stops	Within 0.25 Mile	3 (Within 0.25 Mile)
		Between 0.25 to 0.5 Mile	2 (0.25 to 0.5 Mile)
		Between 0.5 Mile to 1 Mile	1 (0.5 to 1 Mile)
		Outside 1 Mile	0 (Outside 1 Mile)
	Sidewalk Coverage	High	3 (High)
	Bicycle Facility Coverage	Medium	2 (Medium)
	Length of Existing Trails	Low	1 (Low)
	Trailhead	Within 0.25 Mile	3 (Within 0.25 Mile)
		Between 0.25 to 0.5 Mile	2 (0.25 to 0.5 Mile)
		Between 0.5 Mile to 1 Mile	1 (0.5 to 1 Mile)
		Outside 1 Mile	0 (Outside 1 Mile)
	Bicycle & Pedestrian Crash Equivalent Property Damage Only (EPDO)	High	1.5 (High)
Medium		1 (Medium)	
Low		0.5 (Low)	
Bicycle & Pedestrian Crash Frequency	High	1.5 (High)	
	Medium	1 (Medium)	
		Low	0.5 (Low)

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROPENSITY INDEX

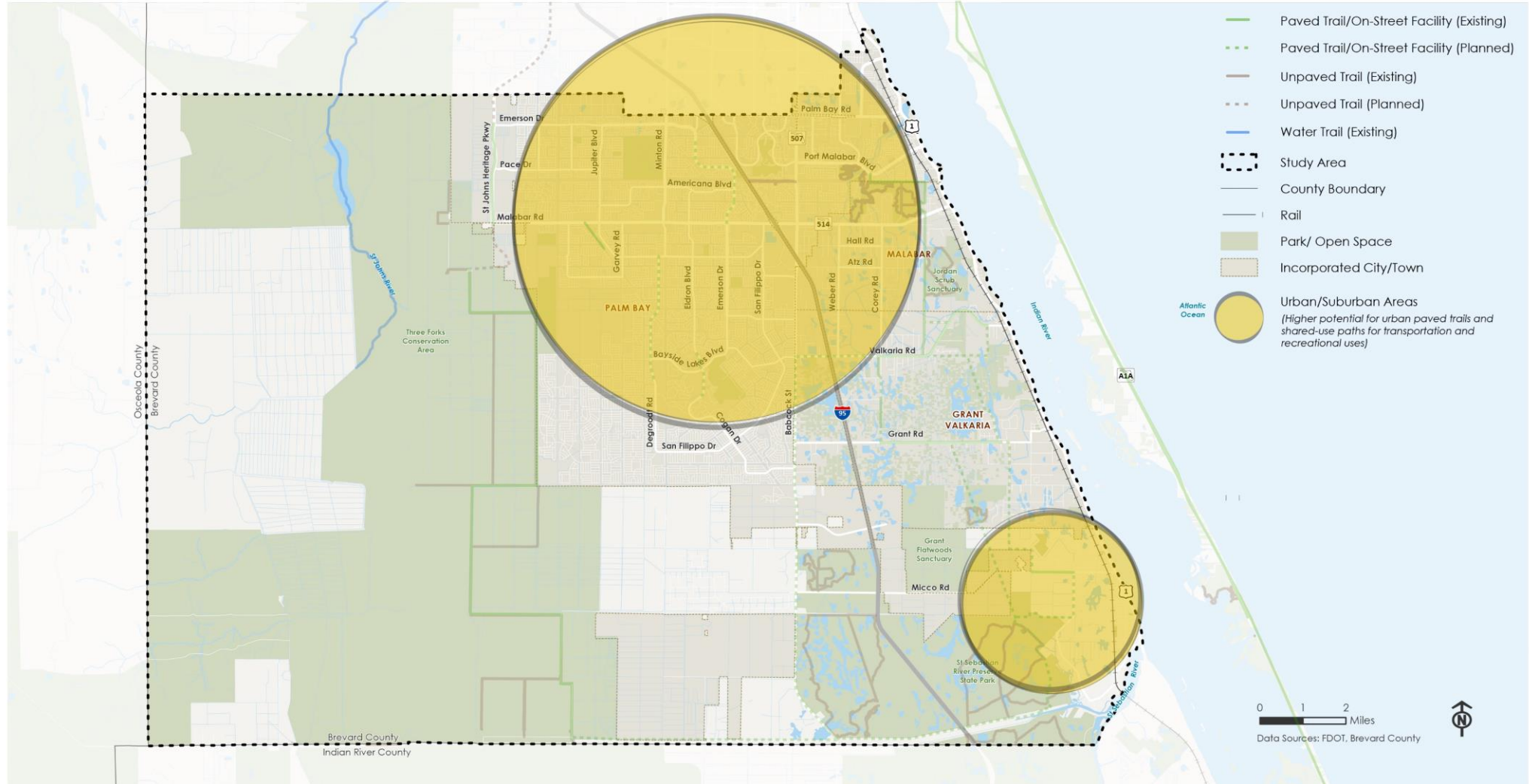


PROPENSITY INDEX & EXISTING/PLANNED TRAILS



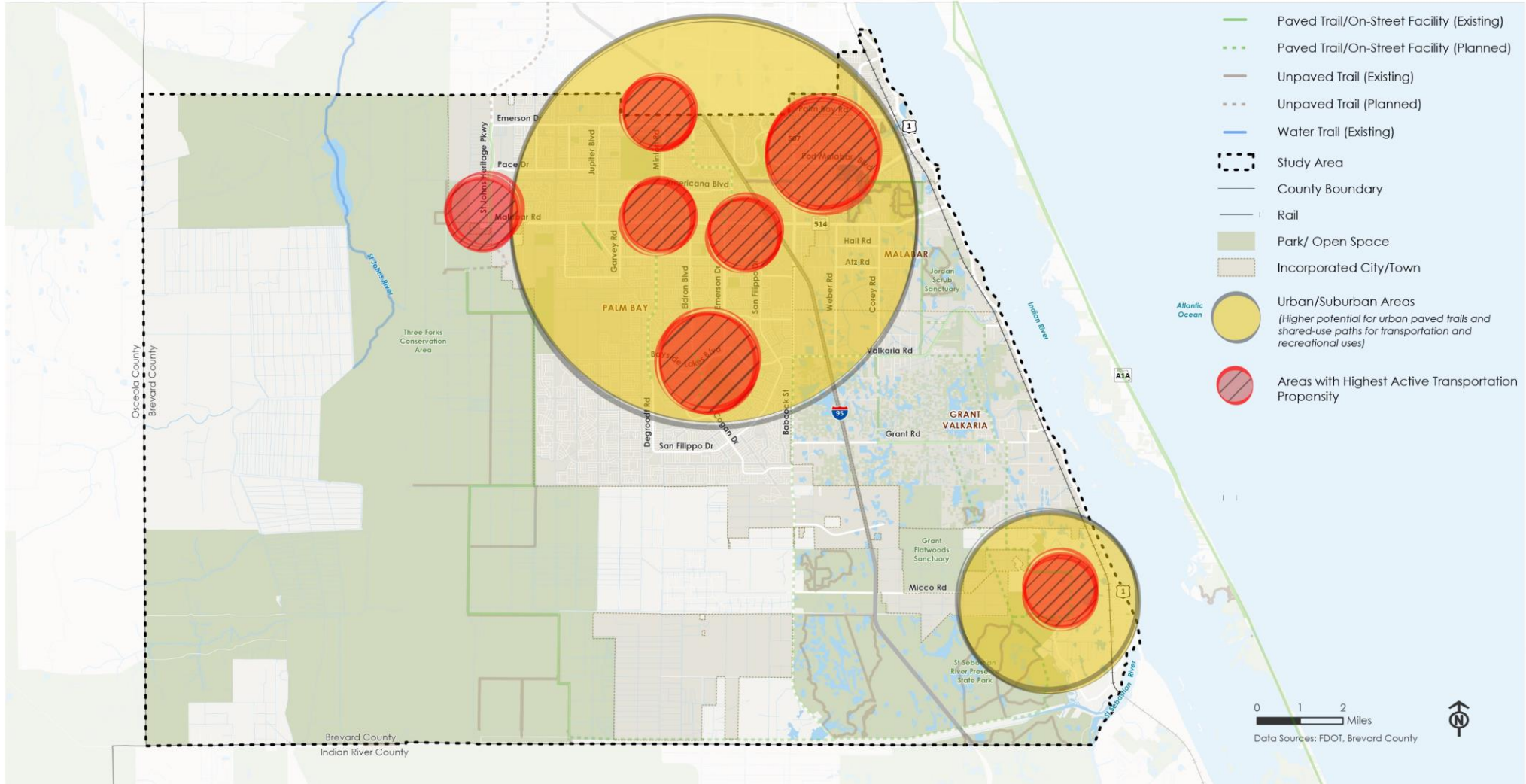
SYNTHESIS DIAGRAM

- Palm Bay and Micco as urban/suburban areas with higher density population, employment, and cluster of everyday destinations



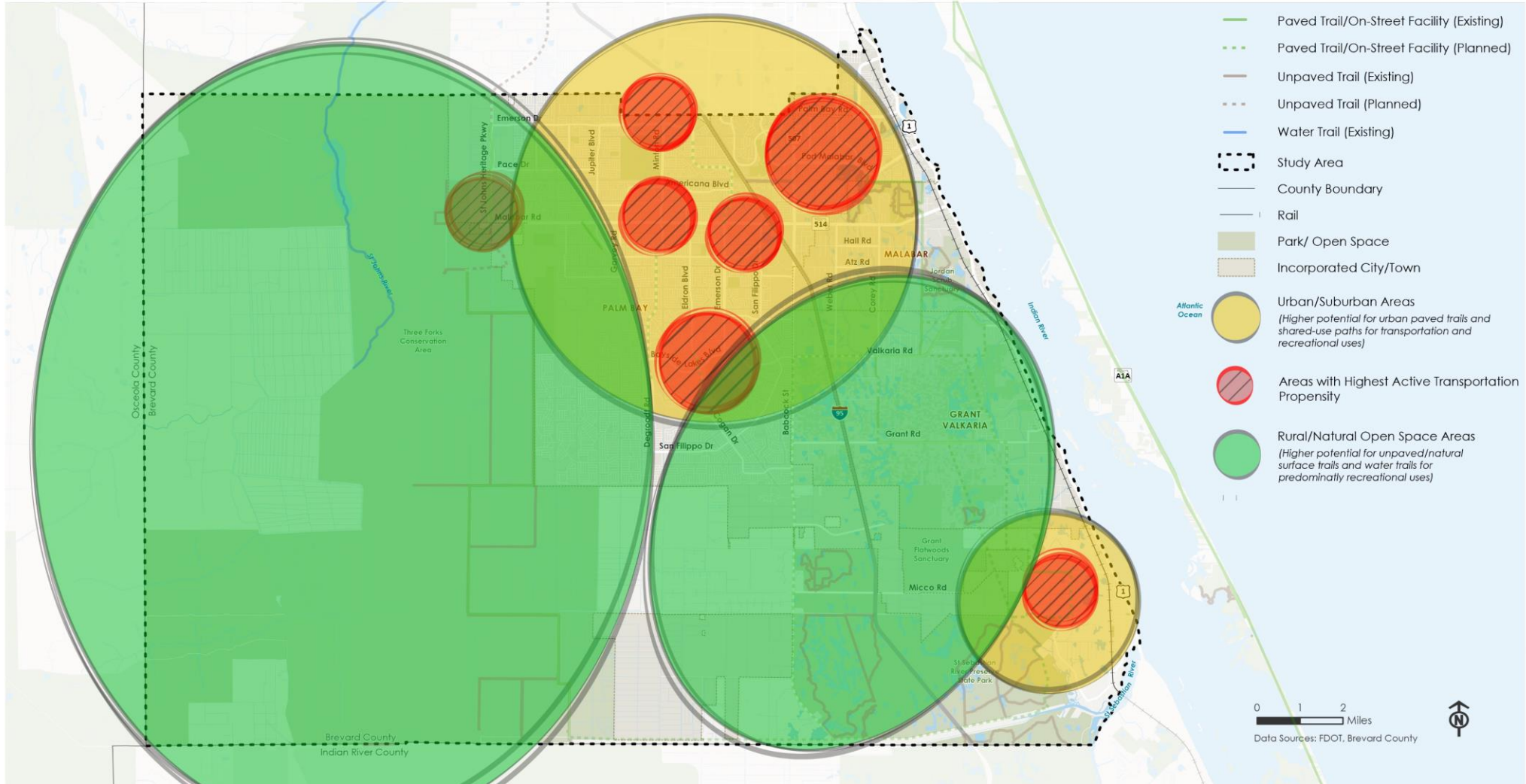
SYNTHESIS DIAGRAM

- Areas with highest Active Transportation Propensity are clustered at major crossroads of arterial corridors



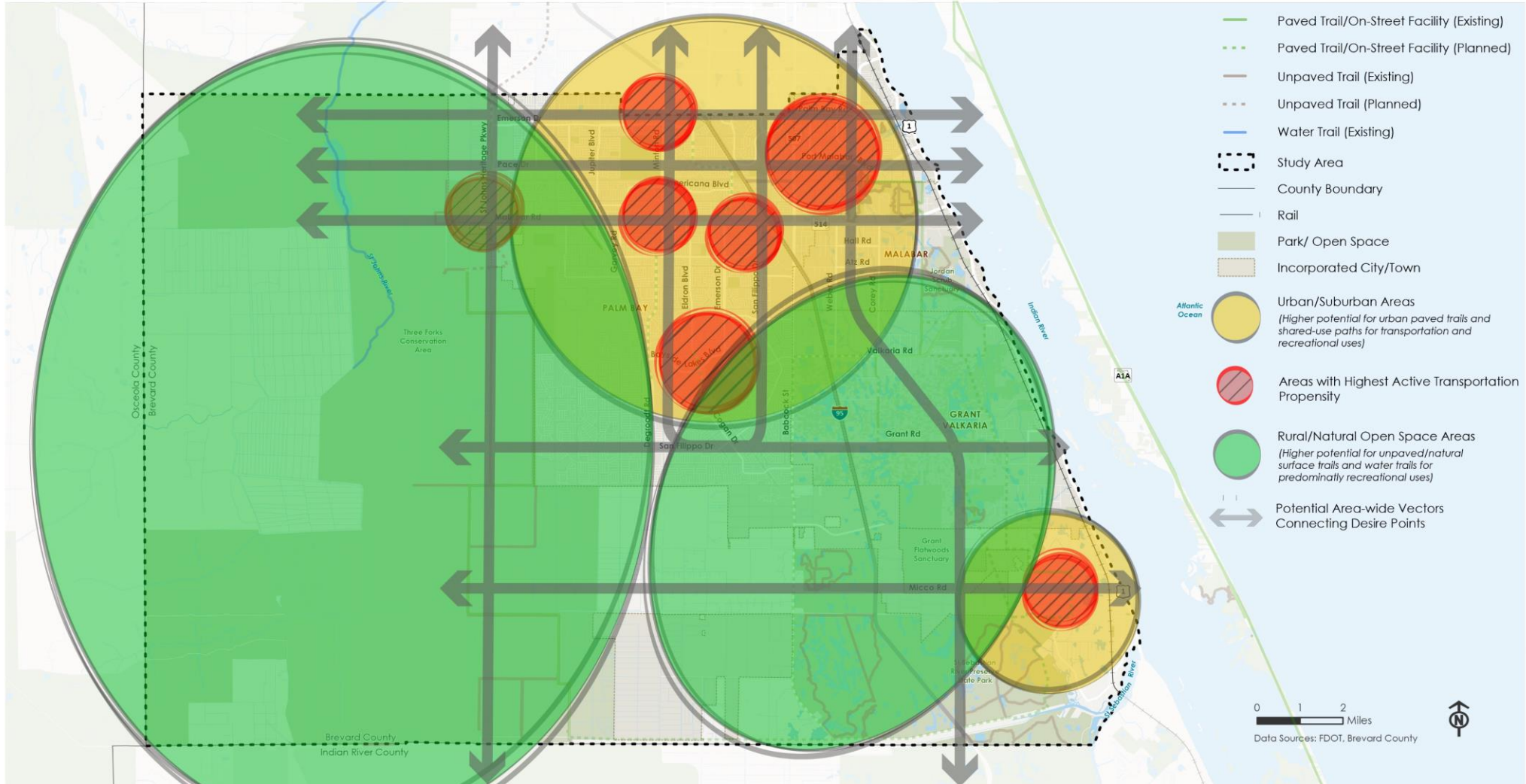
SYNTHESIS DIAGRAM

- Malabar, Grant Valkaria, and St. Johns River corridor as rural and natural area with access to open space and recreational destinations



SYNTHESIS DIAGRAM

- Potential east-west and north-south vectors as potential area-wide connectors



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Study area consist of two major sub-areas:
 - Palm Bay and Micco as urban/suburban areas with higher density population, employment, and cluster of everyday destinations
 - Malabar, Grant Valkaria, and St. Johns River corridor as rural and natural area with access to natural open space and recreational destinations
- Southern Brevard trails network can be conceived as a network of different types of local trails that are context-appropriate within these sub-areas and connected to each other by area-wide trails
- East-west trail connectivity is missing within the study area
- Canal system and utility easements present excellent opportunities to expand off-road trails

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS?

- *Do the results of the Active Transportation Propensity Index analysis match your lived experience here in Southern Brevard County?*
- *Should this plan explore expanding trails along canals, utility easements/ROWs, or focus on shared use paths along roadways?*



Boundary Canal Trail
Source: SCTPO



Cross City Trail
Source: Google Earth



Shared Use Path along Robert J. Conlan Blvd
Source: Google Earth

NEXT STEPS

- Develop Trail System Hierarchy and Typology *(February & March 2024)*
- Identify Draft Trails Network *(April & May 2024)*
- 2nd Working Group Meeting *(May 2024)*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS & OPEN DISCUSSION



Debbie Flynn Project Manager – Space Coast TPO

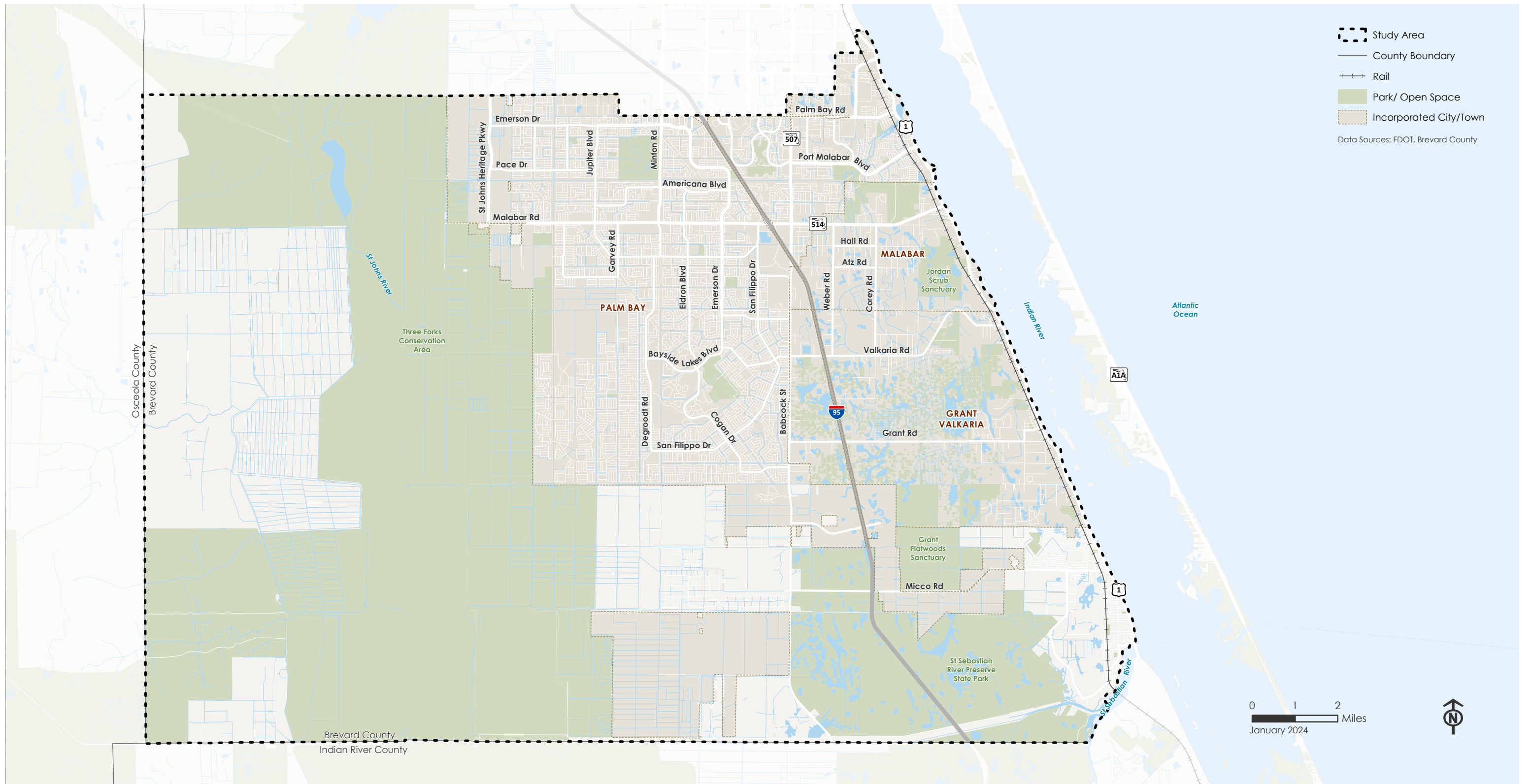
Debbie.Flynn@sctpo.com

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Aditya Inamdar Project Manager – Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

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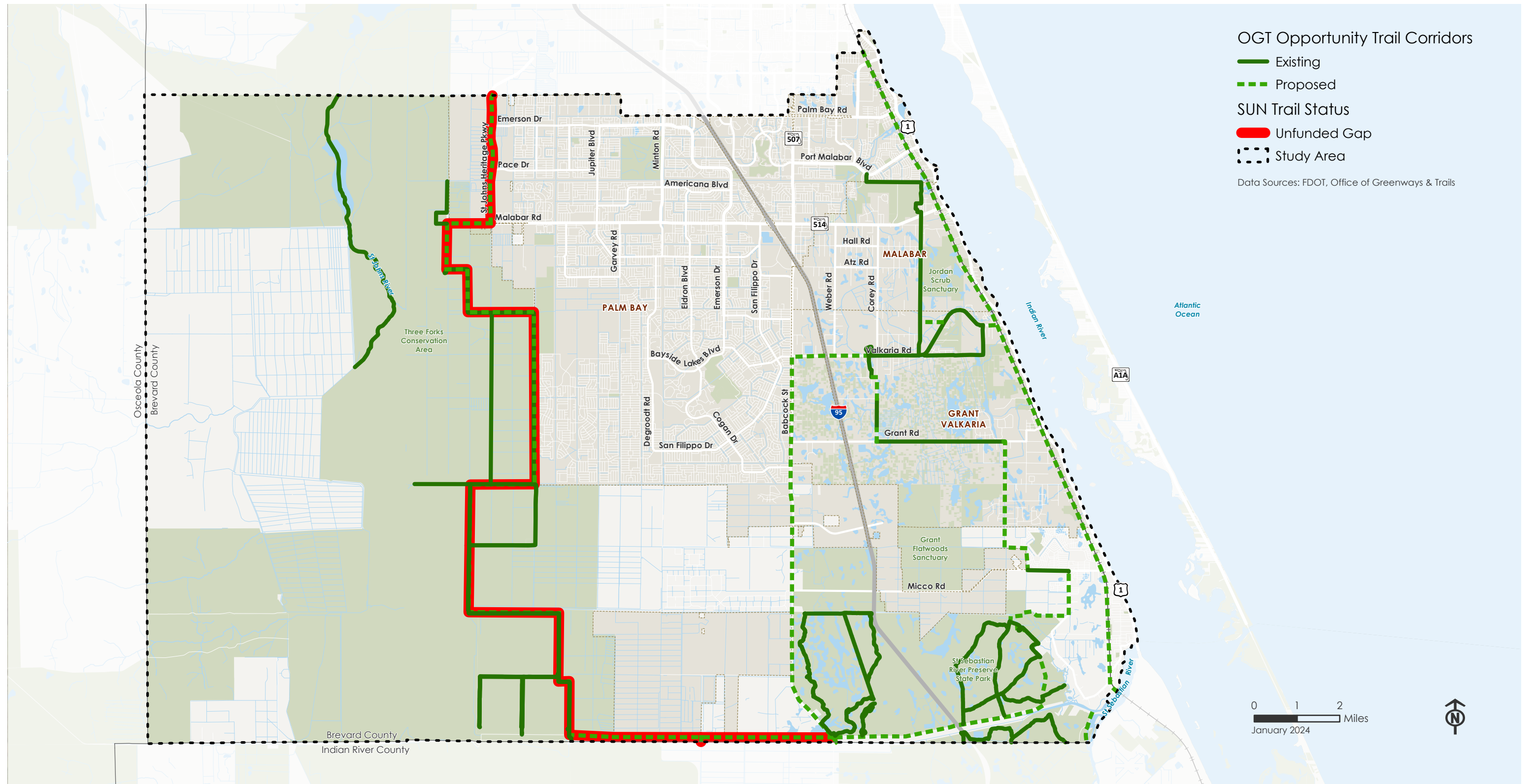


Figure 3: SCTPO Showcase Trails Network

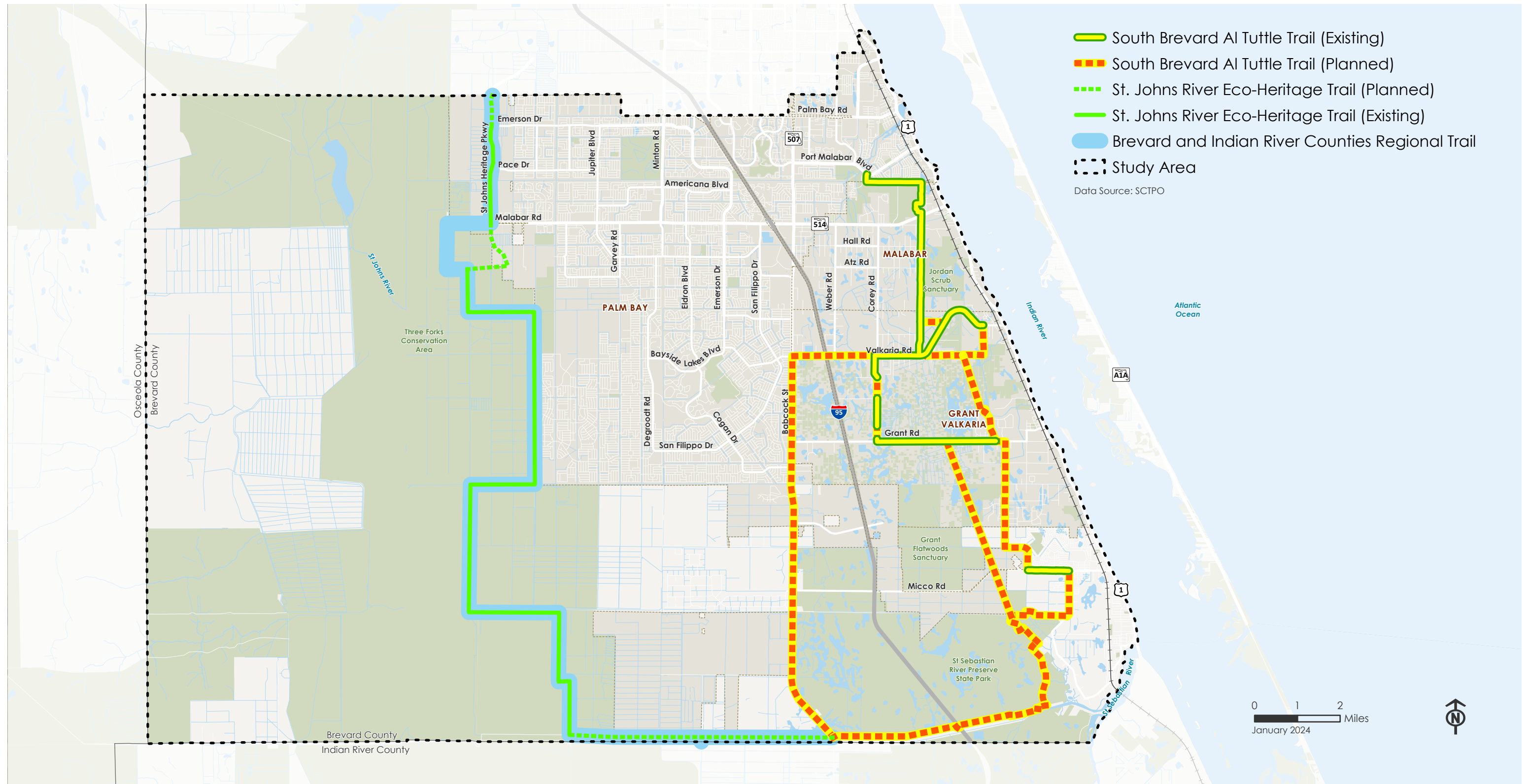
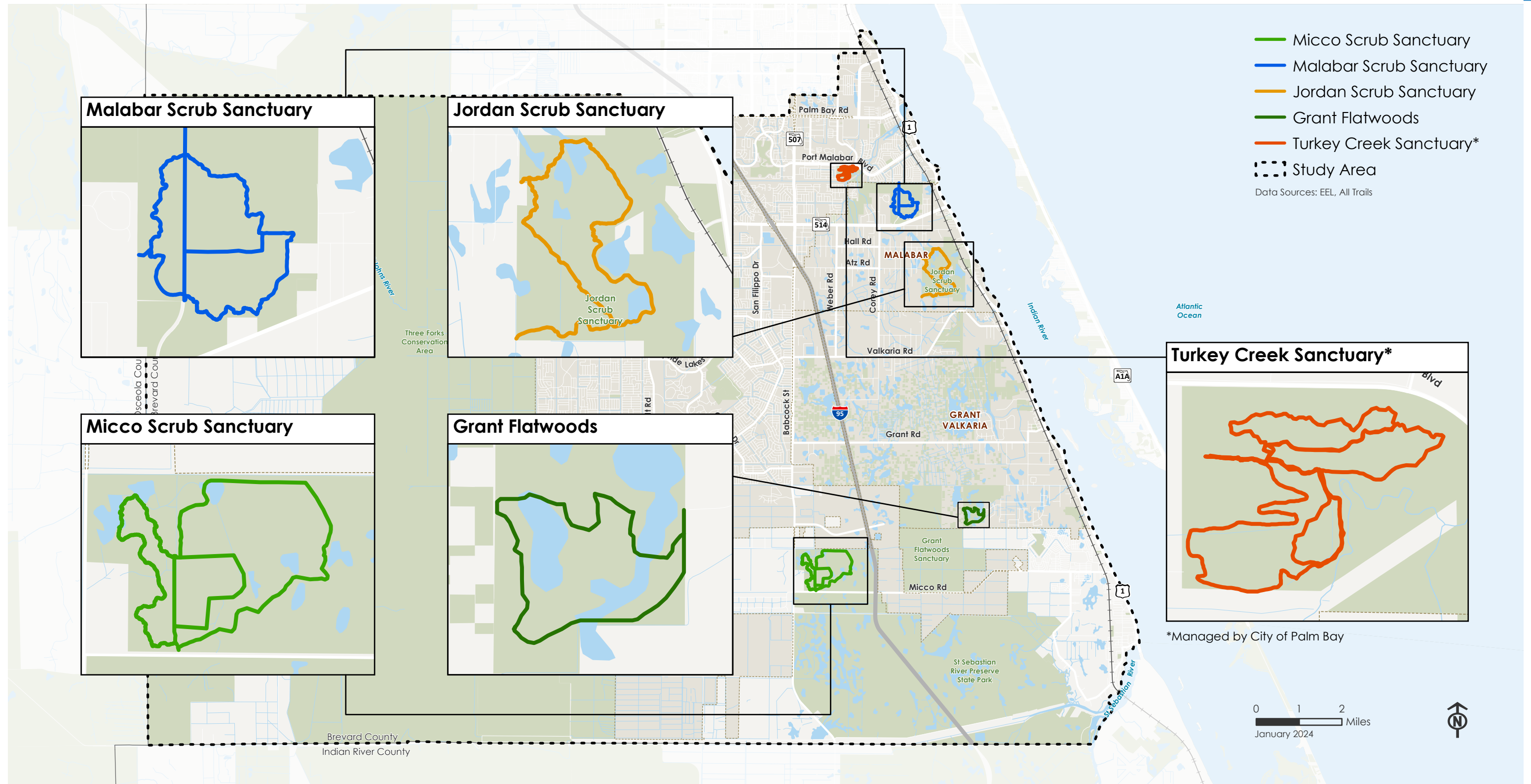
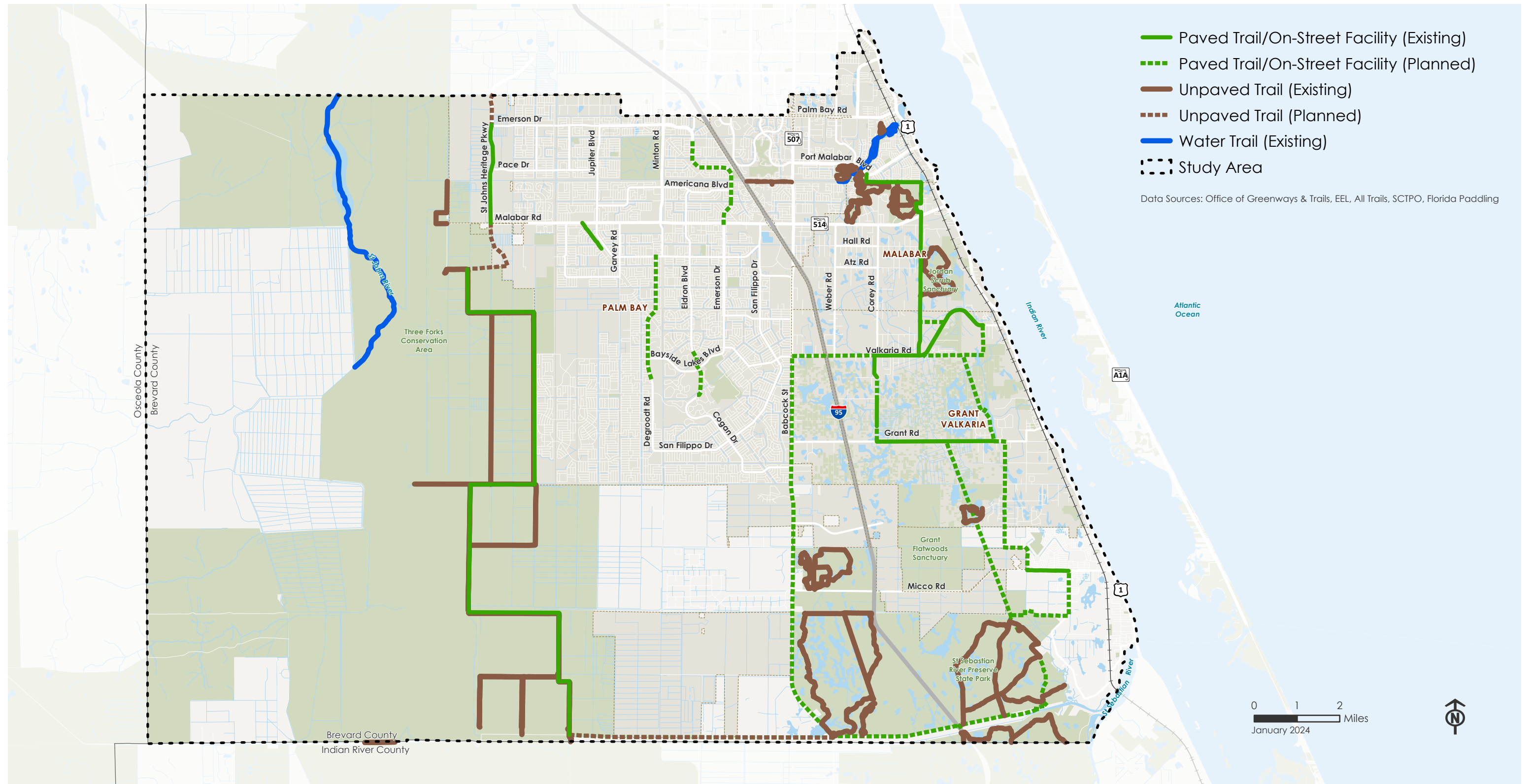
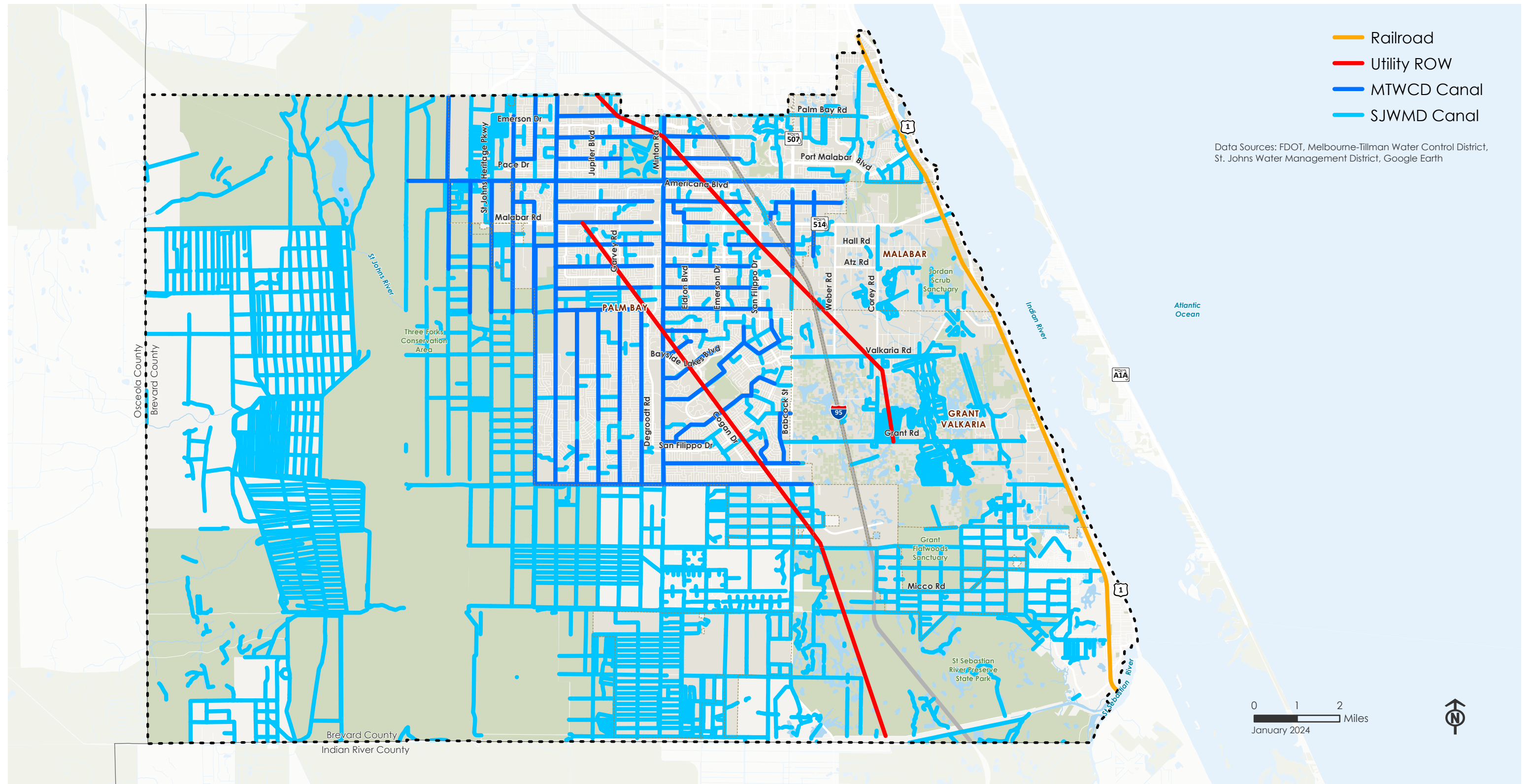


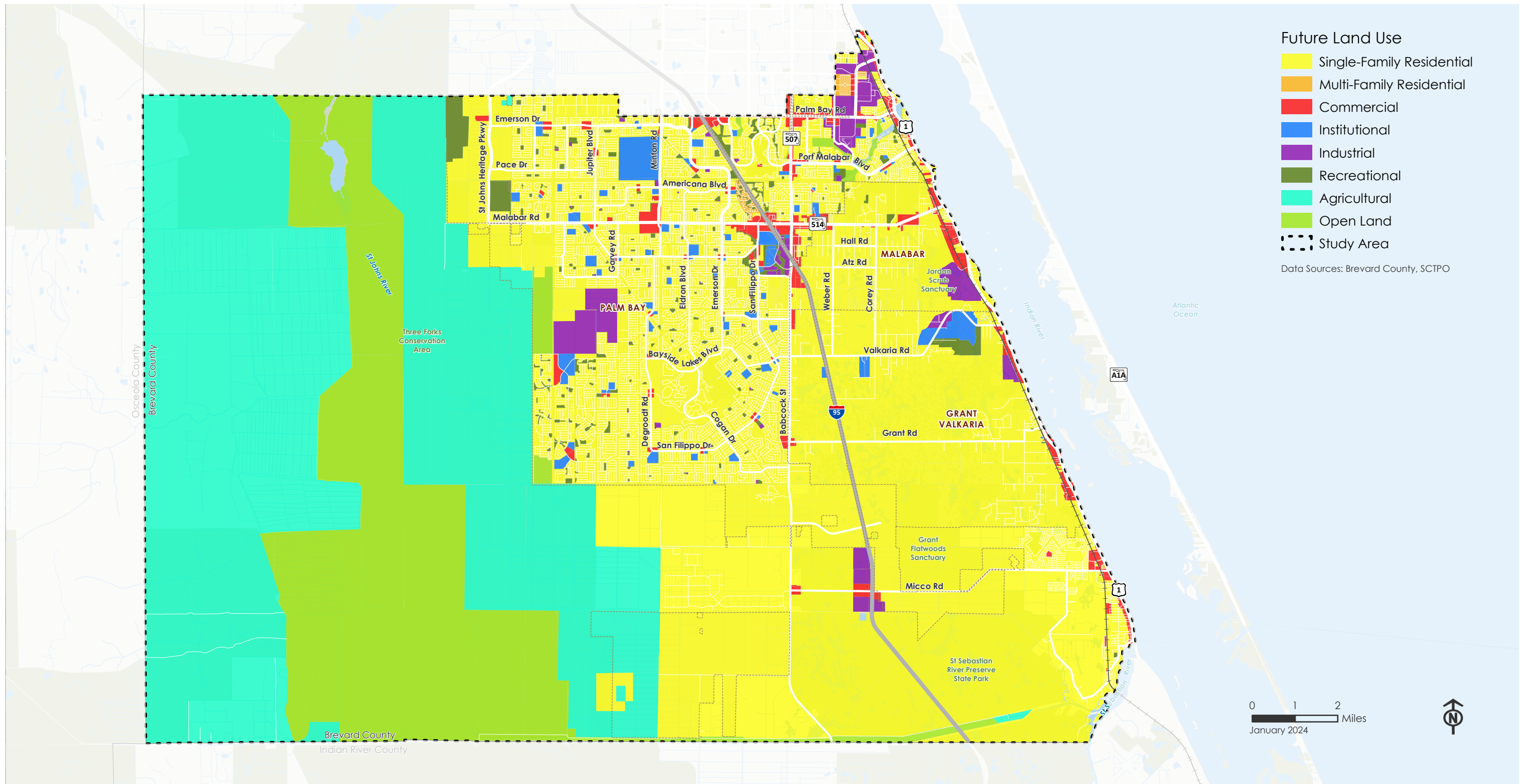
Figure 4: Existing Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program Trails

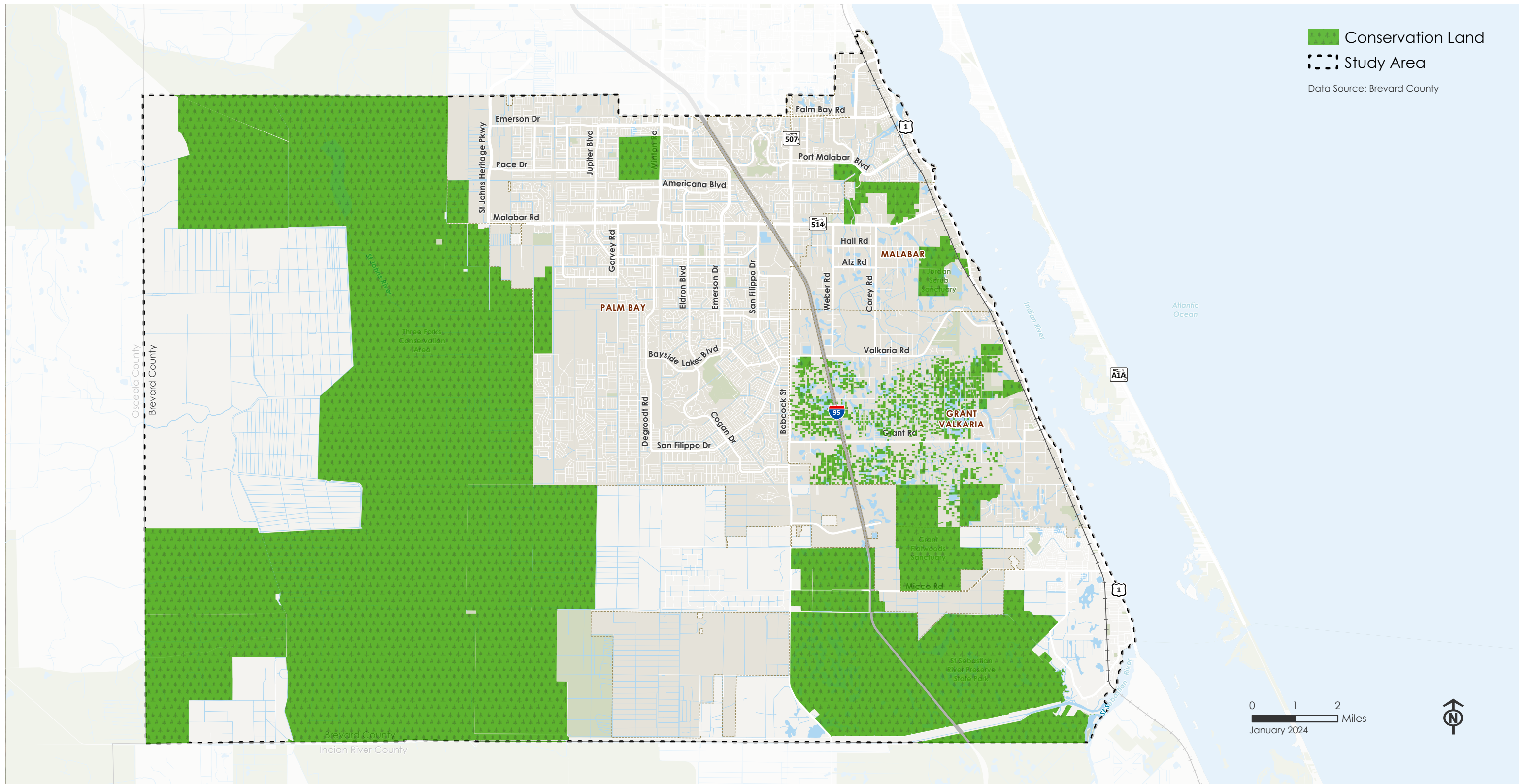


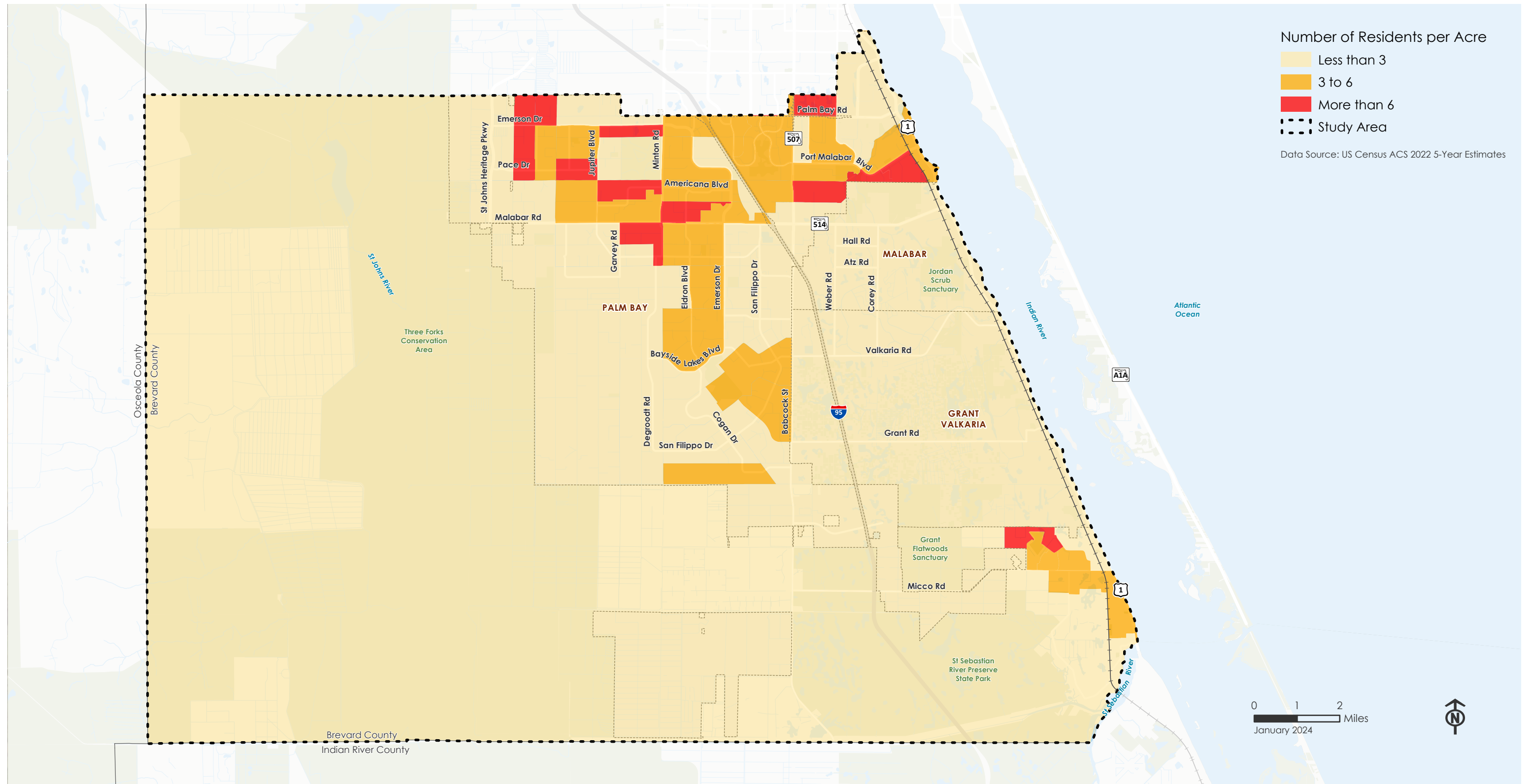


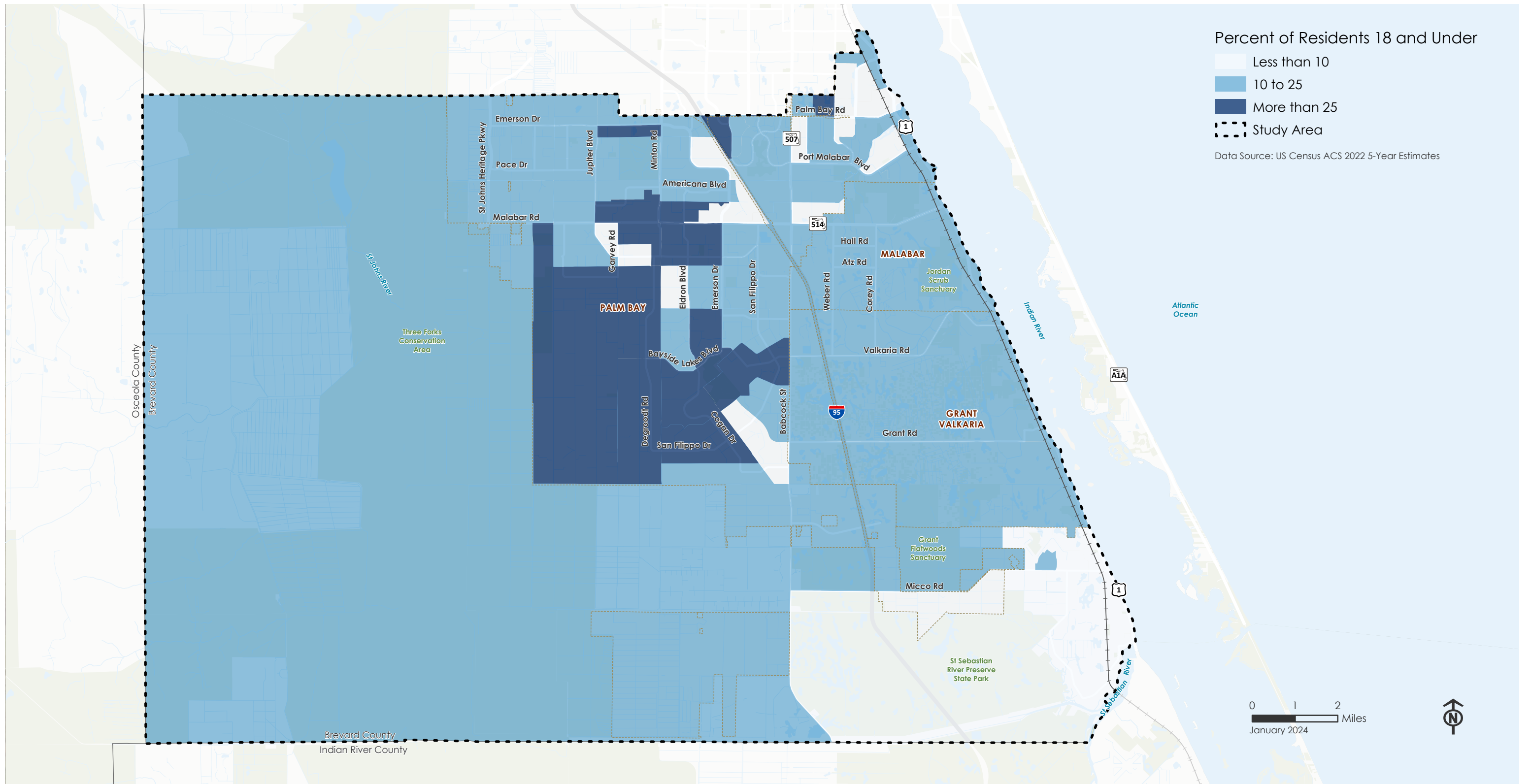


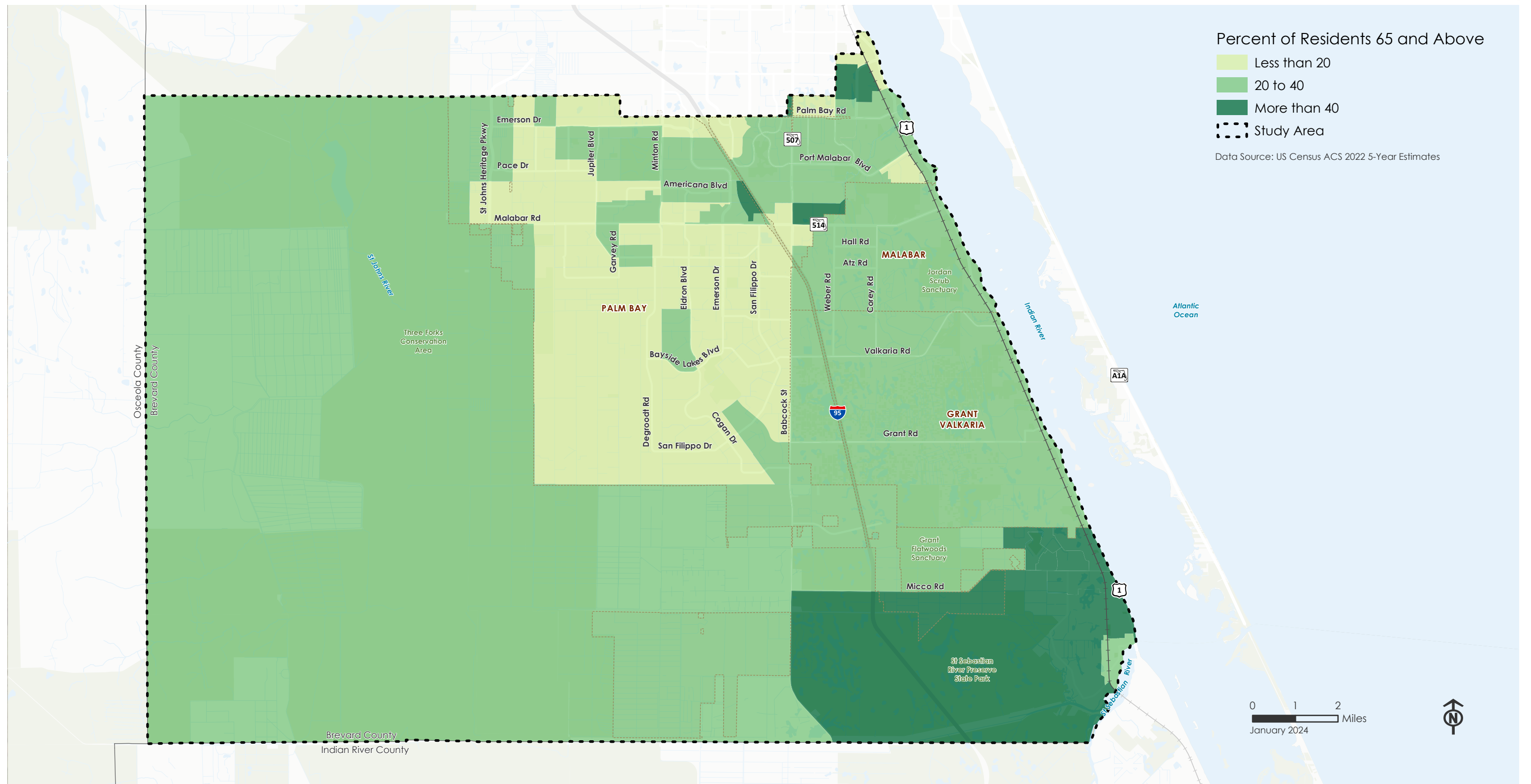
Data Sources: FDOT, Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District, St. Johns Water Management District, Google Earth

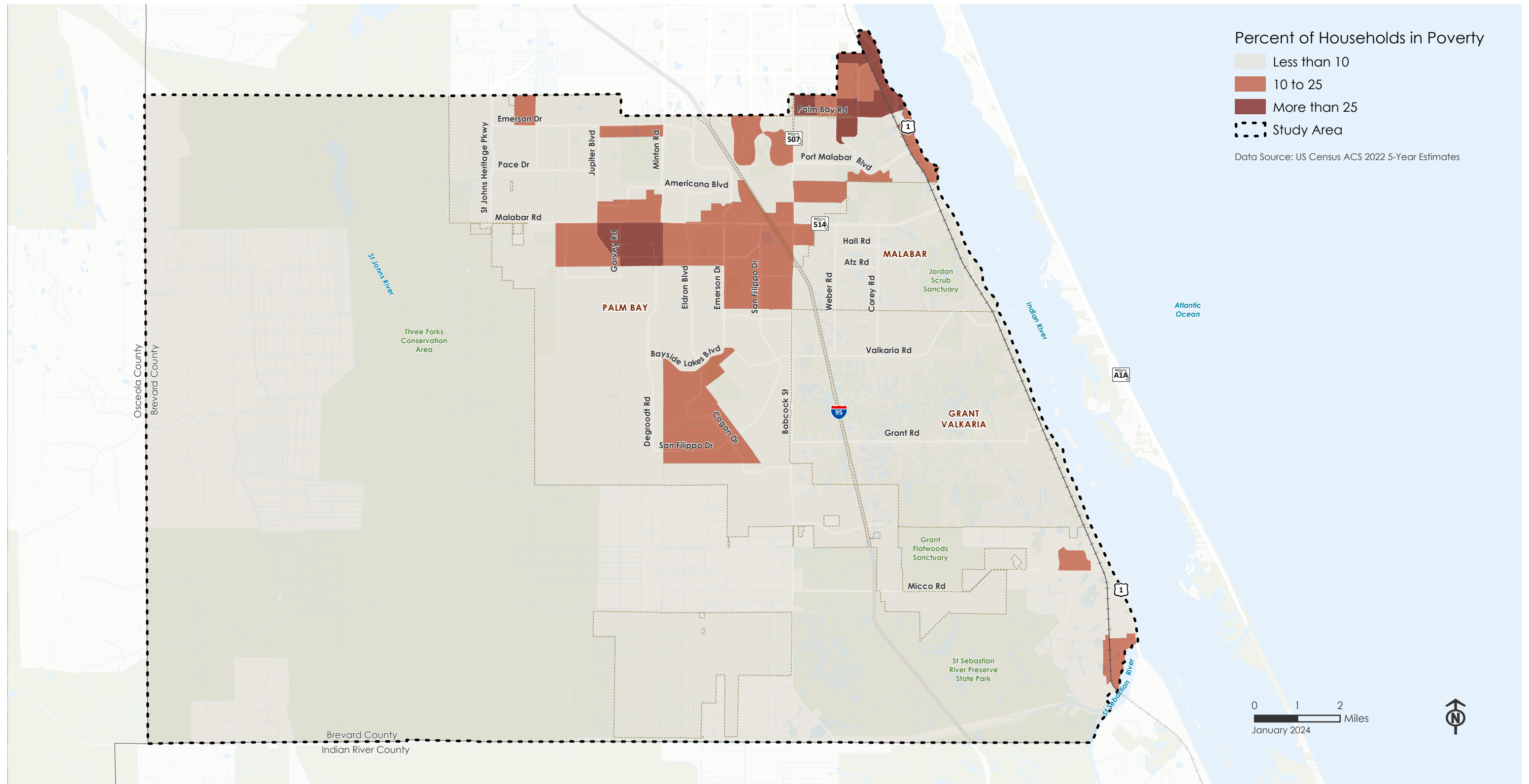


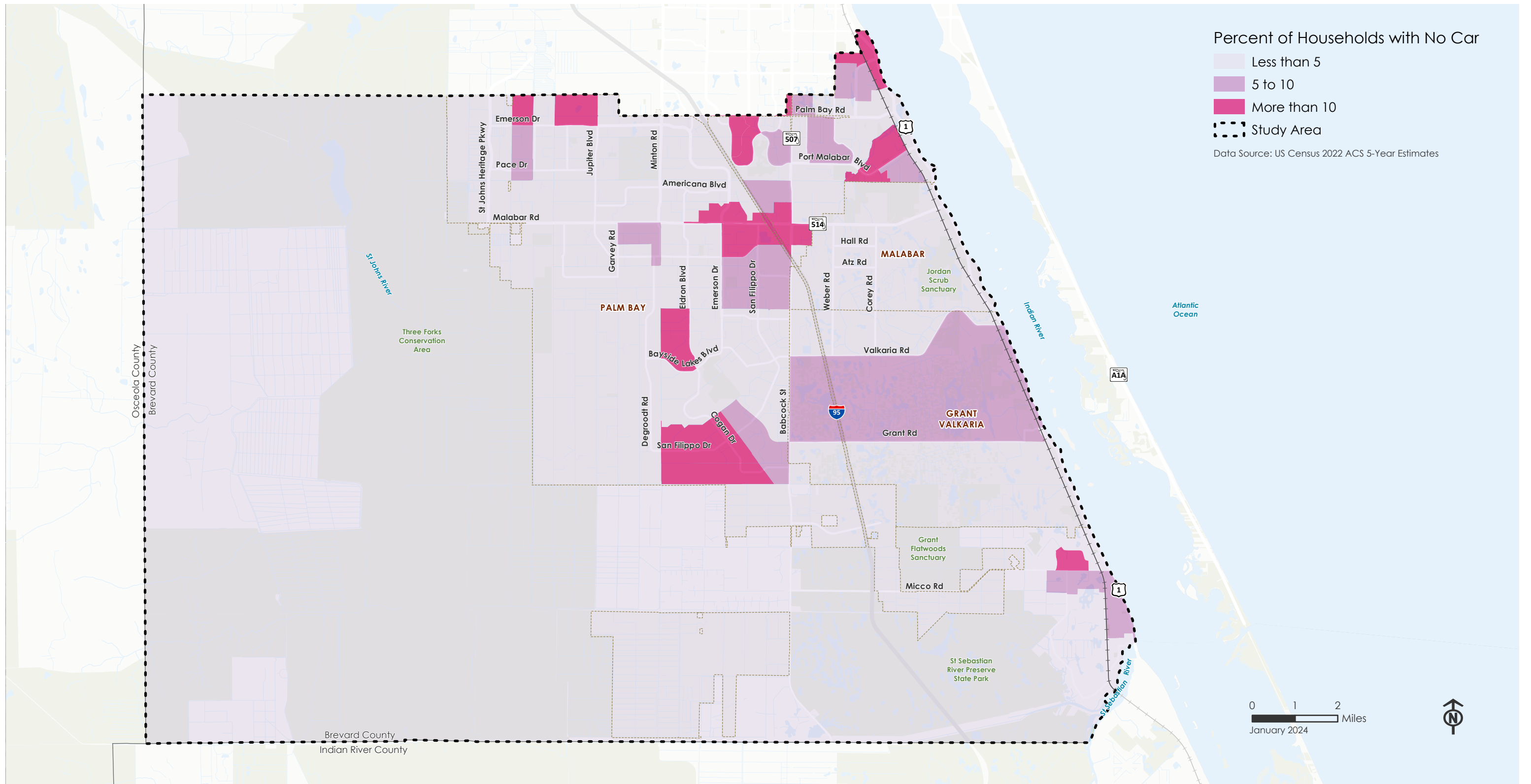


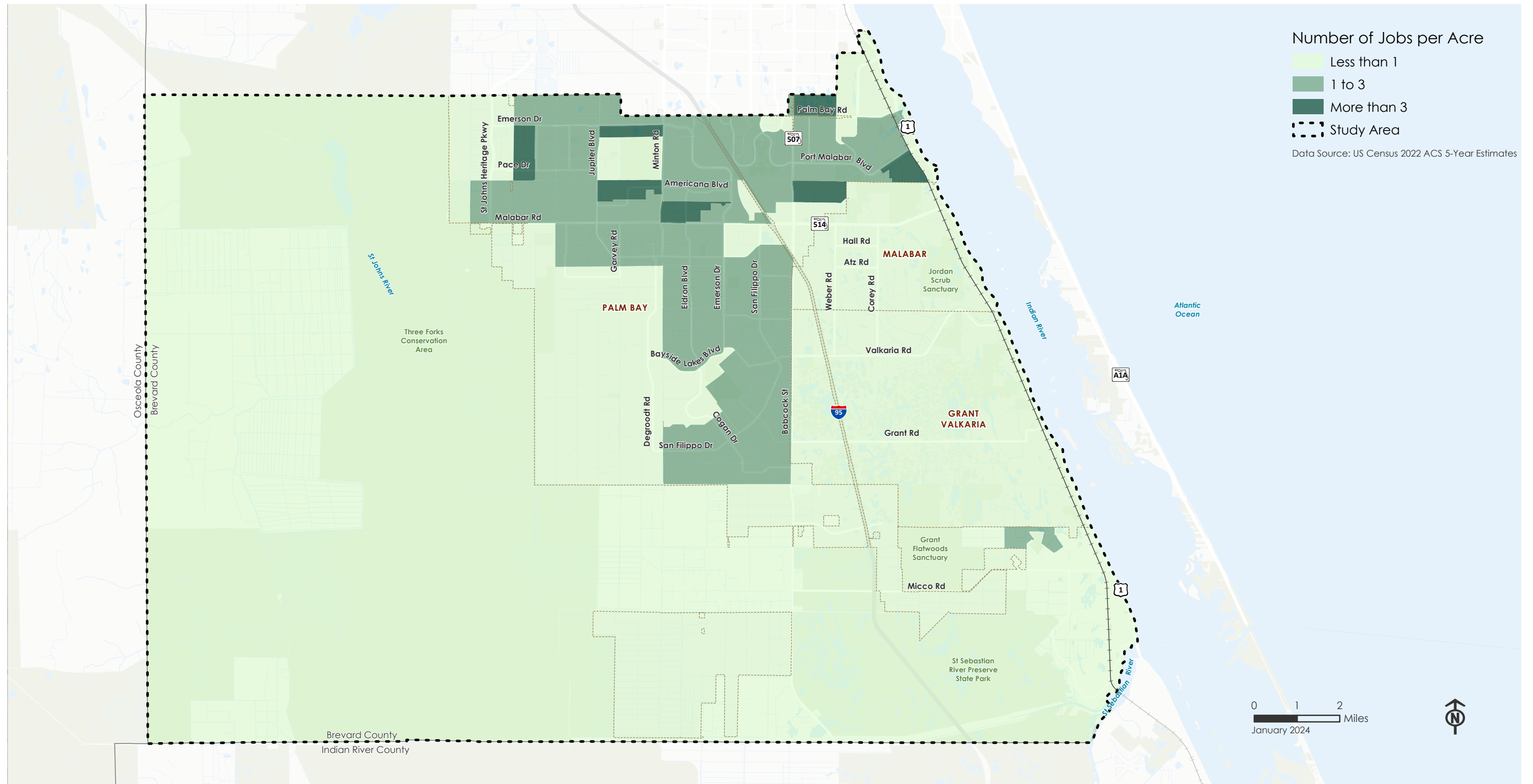


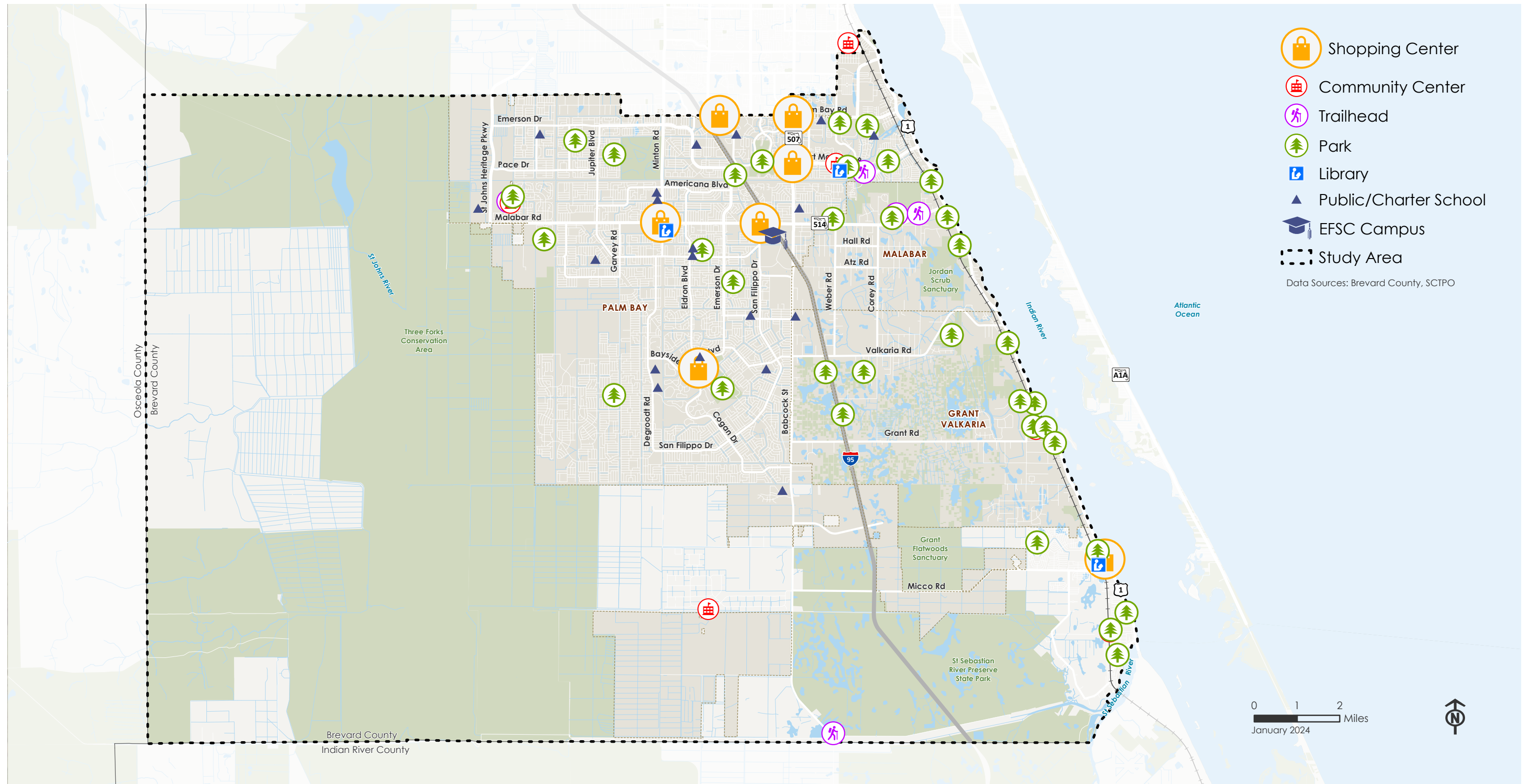


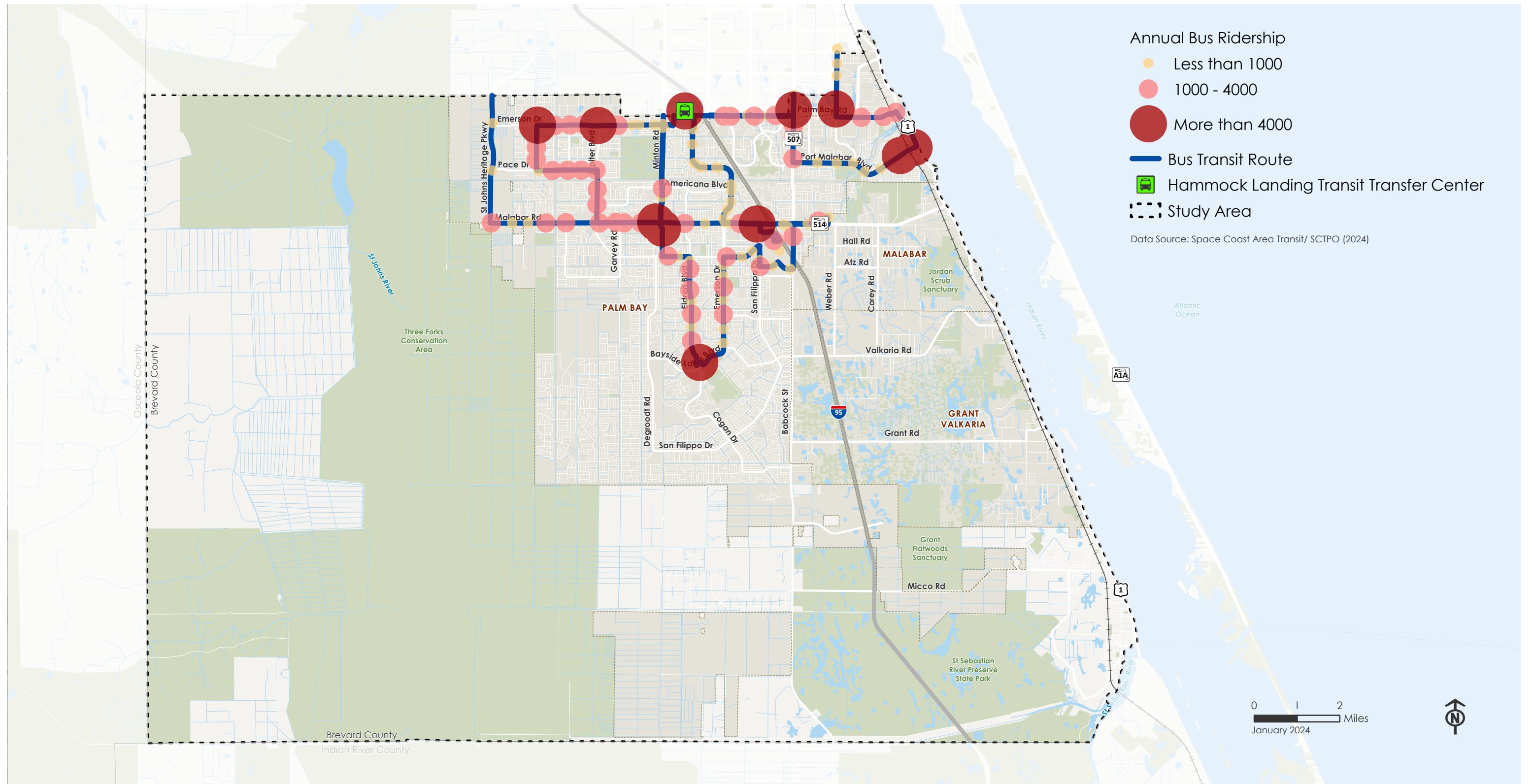


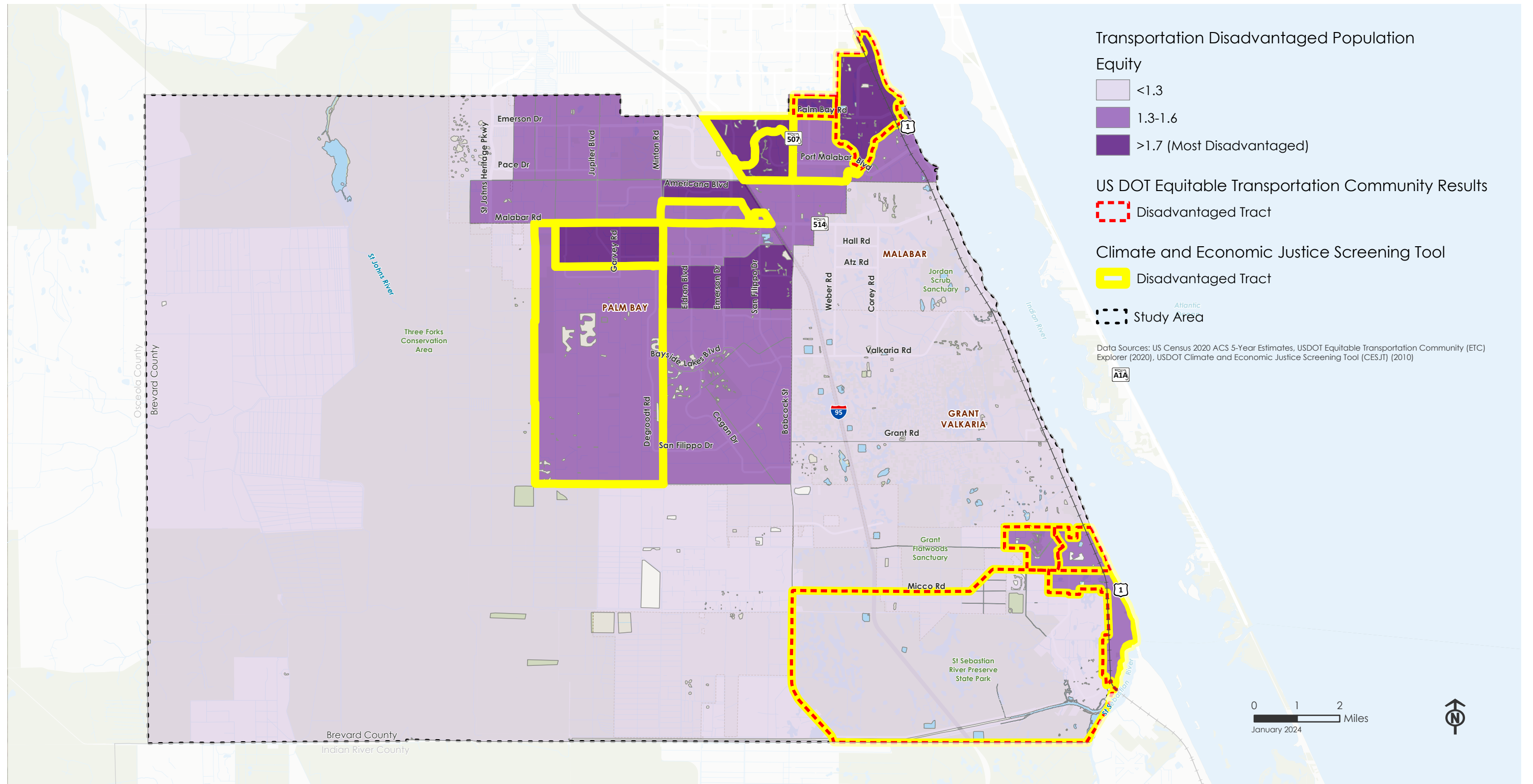


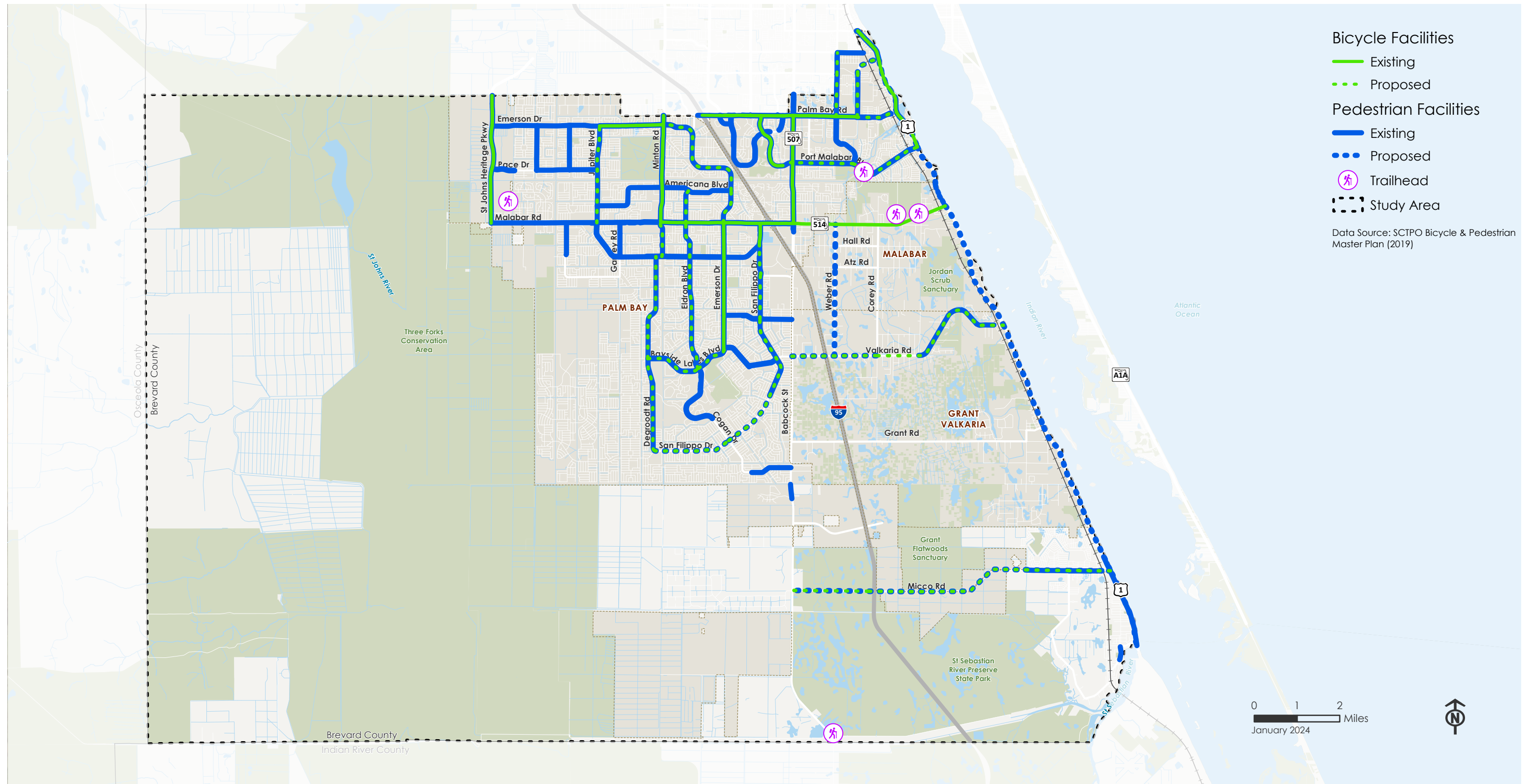


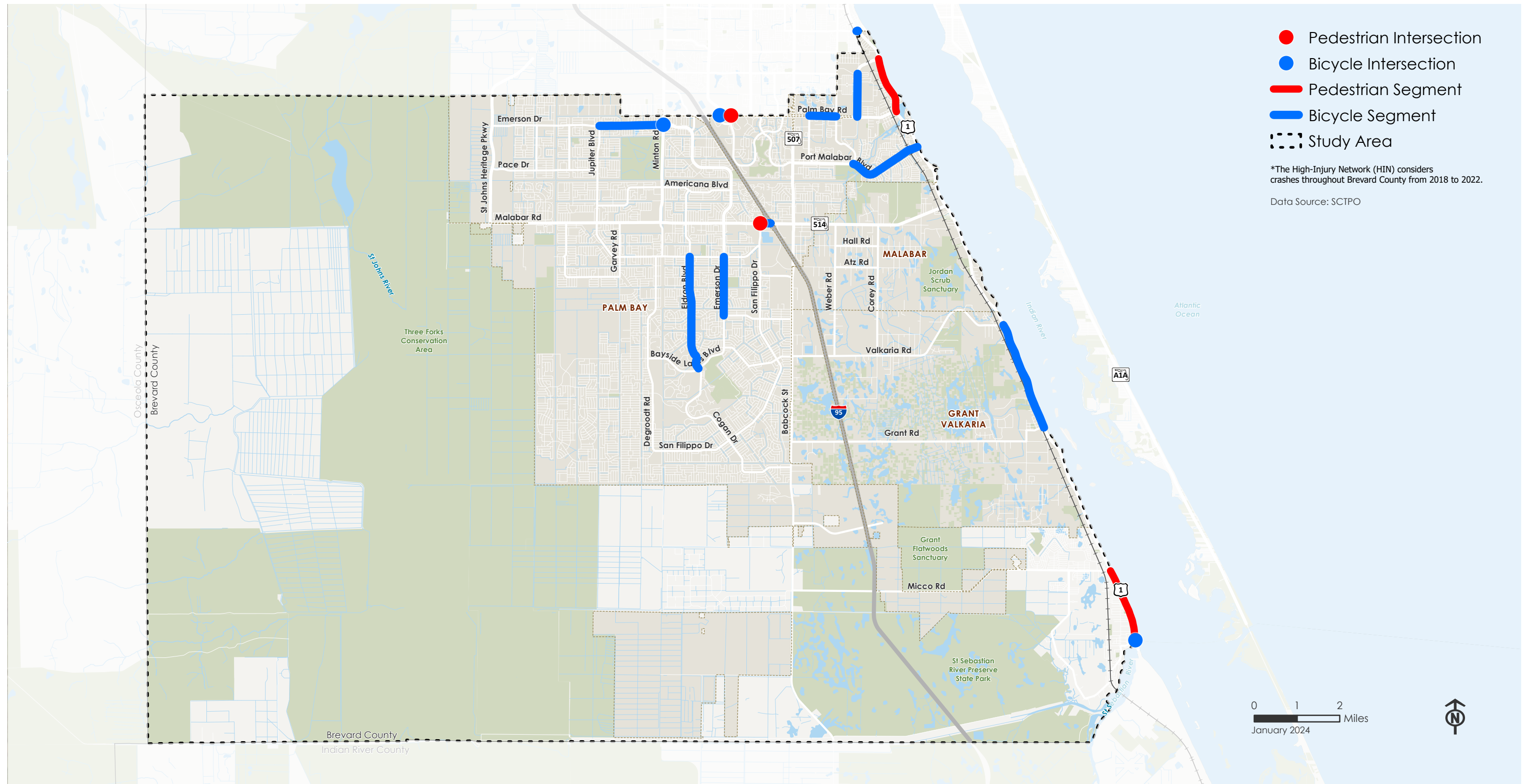


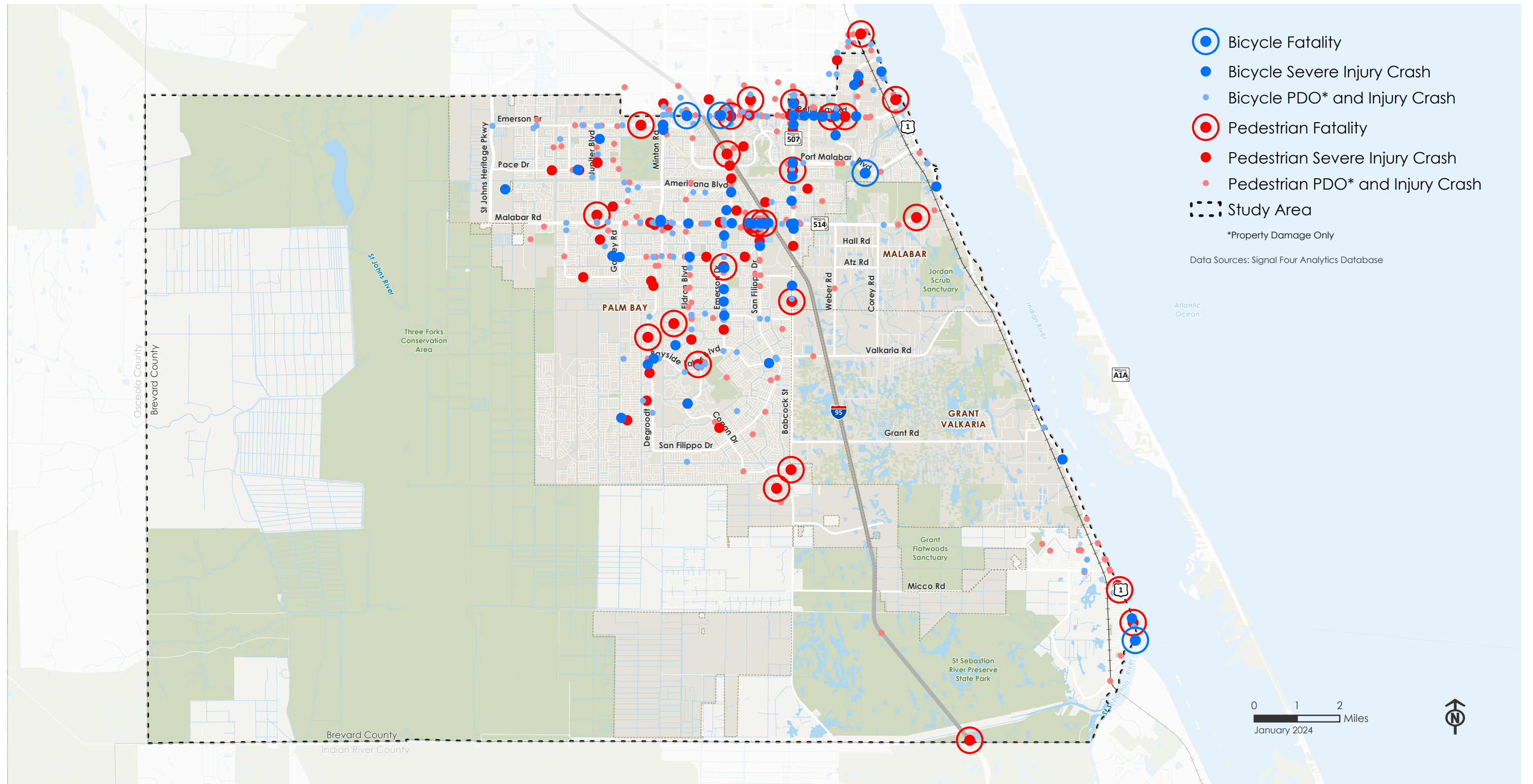


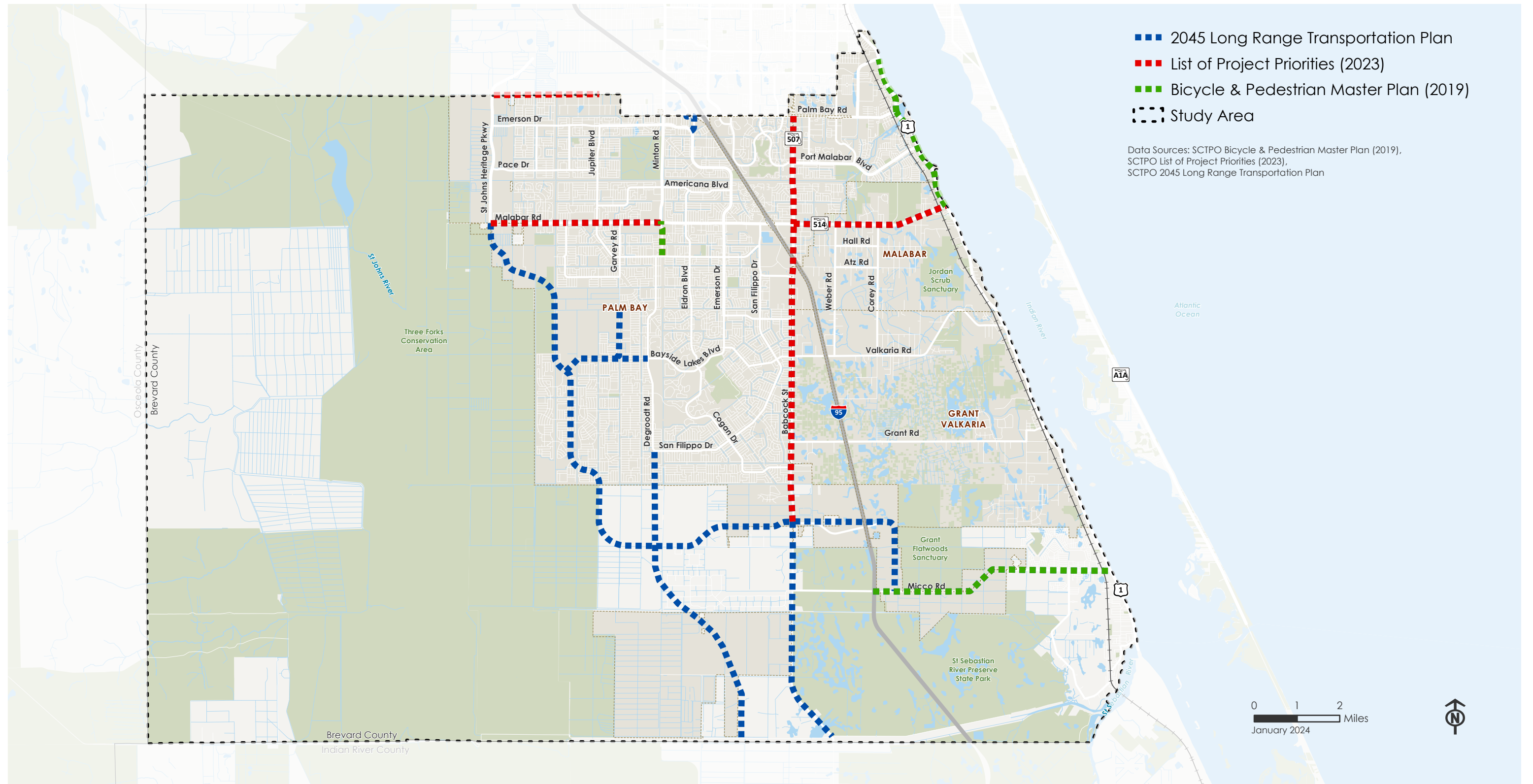


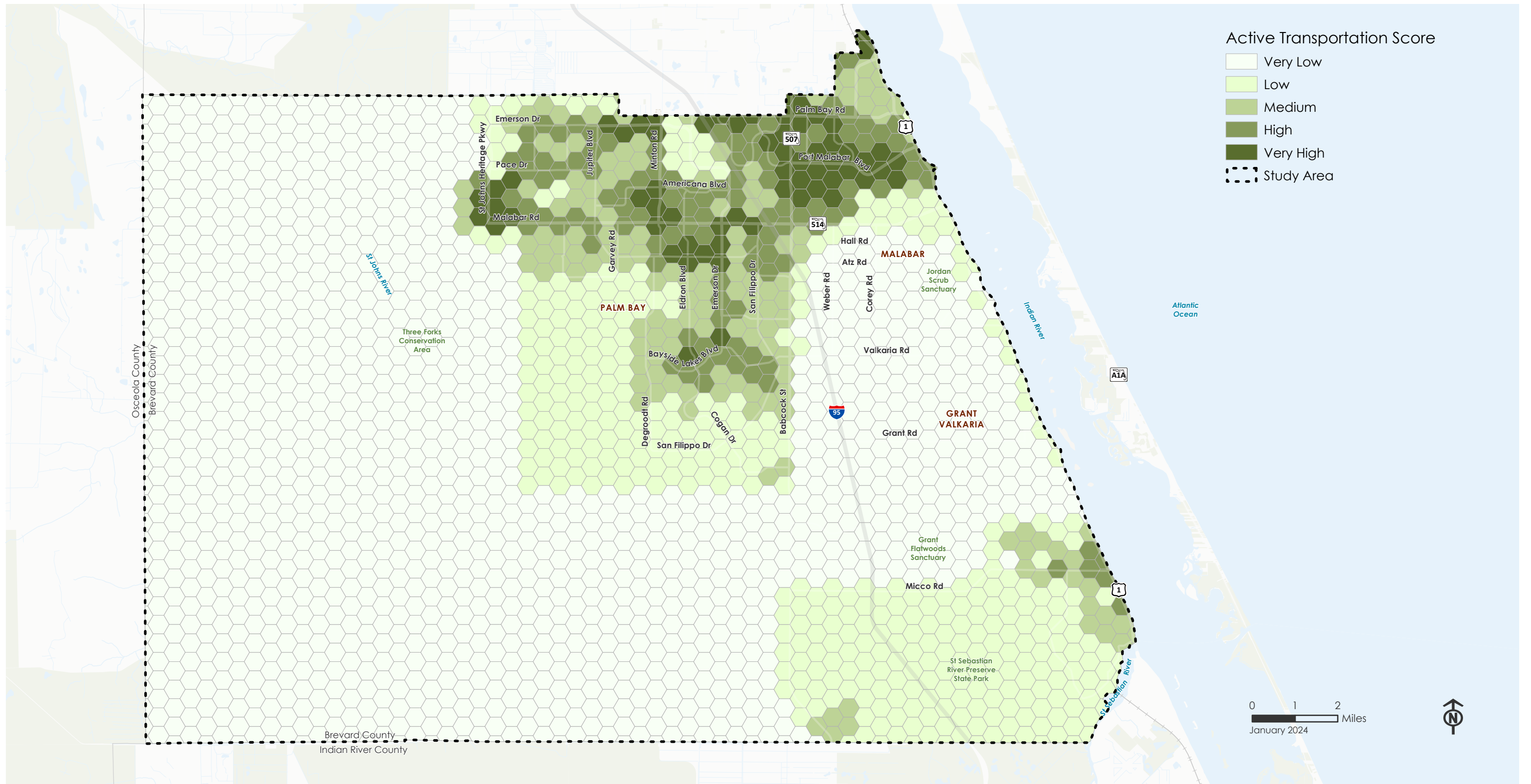


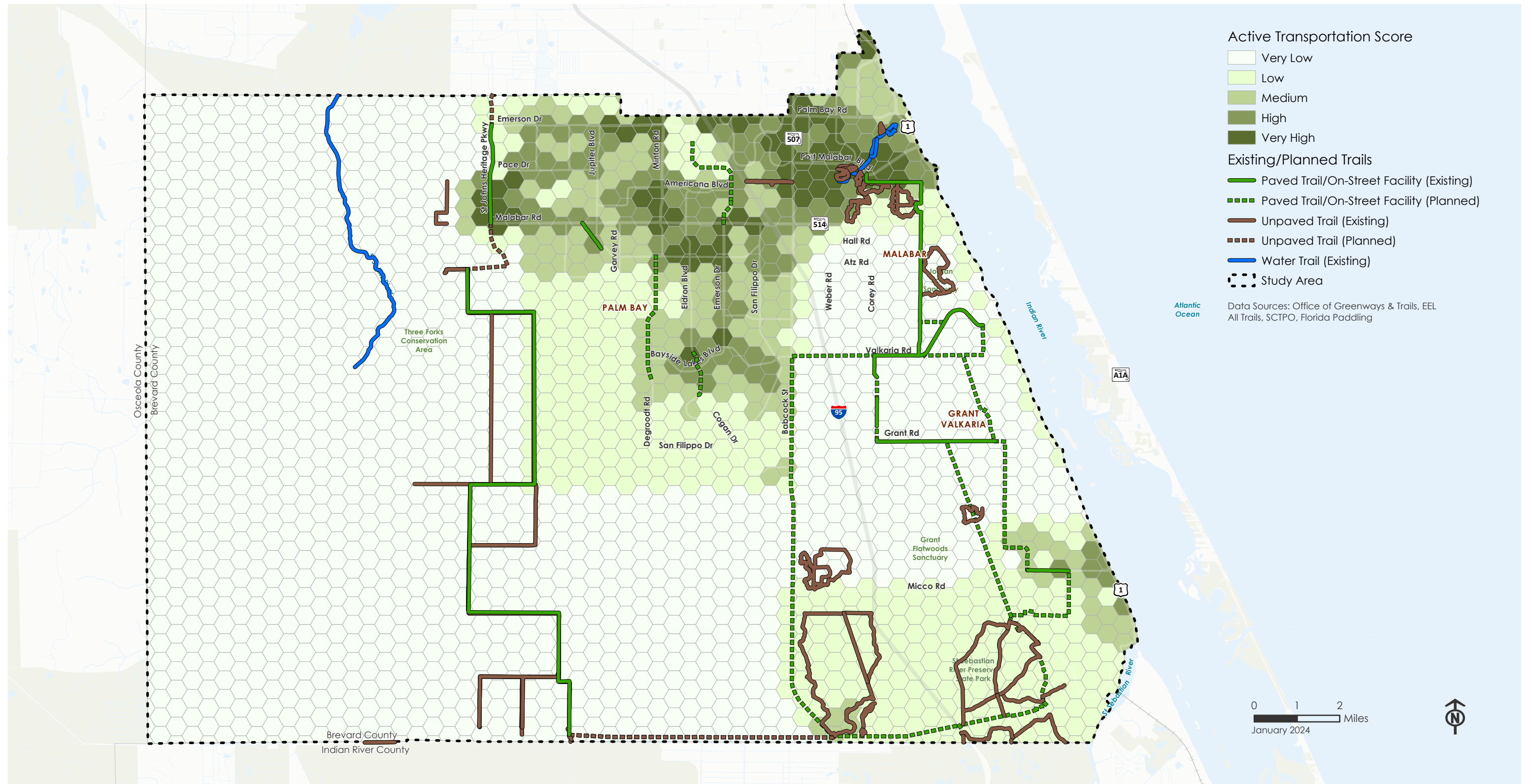












Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan



Project Working Group Meeting #1 (Kick-Off Meeting) Notes

February 22, 2024

Grant-Valkaria Town Hall

1449 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL, 32950

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Introduction & Attendees

A Project Working Group (PWG) meeting was held with Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (SCTPO) staff and PWG members to kick off the Southern Brevard Trails Master Plan (SBTMP). Below are the attendees of the first PWG:

- Sarah Kraum (SCTPO)
- Georgina Gillette (SCTPO)
- Debbie Flynn (SCTPO)
- Travis Hills (Kittelson & Associates, Inc.)
- Aditya Inamdar (Kittelson & Associates, Inc.)
- Roxane Van Horn (Kittelson & Associates, Inc.)
- Mike Knight (Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program)
- Brad Manley (Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program)
- Sarah Davis (Brevard County Planning & Development)
- Tim Craven (Brevard County Planning & Development)
- Peter Nguyen (Brevard County Traffic Operations)
- Stephanie Moss (Florida Department of Transportation, District 5, Safety Office)
- Aish Sandineni (Florida Department of Transportation, District 5 SUN Trail Coordinator)
- Frank Watanabe (City of Palm Bay, Public Works)
- Tracey Wright (City of Palm Bay, Parks & Recreation)
- Rich Kohler (Town of Malabar)
- Jason Mahaney (Town of Grant-Valkaria)
- Anna Hopkins (Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Greenways & Trails)
- John Julianna (St. Johns River Water Management District)
- Jim Cannon (St. Johns River Water Management District)
- Mike McCabe (Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District)
- Murray Hann (SCTPO Bicycle Pedestrian Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC))
- Vince Lamb (Citizen)

Meeting Schedule & Planning Process Overview

- After brief introductions, Aditya walked through the project goals and schedule.
- Kittelson will coordinate with SCTPO to schedule the next three Project Working Group Meetings. Meetings will be scheduled approximately in May, July, and November.
- A representative from Indian River County MPO will be invited to a Project Working Group Meeting during which a trail connection at the county line is discussed.
- There was a discussion about access to the PowerPoint presentation. The meeting materials and notes will be posted to the project website and emailed to the PWG.

Study Area Overview & Existing Conditions Analysis

- There was a question about whether the SBTMP will identify maintaining agencies and cost. Kittelson will consider identifying potential agencies responsible for maintenance based on ROW/easement ownership or any pre-existing maintenance agreements. But these would not be binding.
- There was a question about potential funding sources for trails. In response, SCTPO noted the importance of including trails in an adopted master plan to be well suited for grants in the future.
- There was a discussion about paved trails within EEL property. PWG members clarified that EEL will not use funds to maintain paved trails. EEL does not support adding new paved trails through properties.
- Kittelson will update the data to represent the Al Tuttle Trail from Malabar Road to Valkaria Road as a planned trail as opposed to an existing trail.
- Kittelson will revise the employment density map to include L3Harris Technologies, a major employer located on Jordan Boulevard.
- Multiple PWG members expressed concern for e-bicyclists along sidewalks and multi-use trails due to high speeds. The lack of law enforcement related to e-bicycles and other electric devices was also an area of concern. Kittelson will consider including best practices on policy and management in the final report.
- Staff from the SJRWMD mentioned that most of the land is already open to the public and see value in trails alongside canals.
- PWG members mentioned that pedestrians and bicyclists regularly use the underpass at I-95. PWG members also expressed interest in a pedestrian bridge at a major intersection as part of a potential trail connection.

Active Transportation Propensity Index

- Some PWG members expressed concern that the Active Transportation Propensity Analysis may lead the project team to only identify trails in areas of higher density population and employment. The plan needs to focus on connecting existing trails to each other and to areas with cluster of destinations and higher density populations.
- PWG members noted that the Boundary Canal Trail serves as a spine connector. It is a safe trail because it is located away from vehicles.

-
- Previous recommendations were made by some of the PWG members for east-west and north-south trails in the study area. PWG members agreed to share information on those previous proposals.
 - PWG members expressed that previous recommendations were not advanced due to concerns of liability, safety, ROW ownership, and maintenance costs.
 - SCTPO noted that the goal of the plan is to recommend context-specific trails, with a focus on active transportation as opposed to trail recommendations solely for recreational purposes.

Other Topics

- The City of Palm Bay Parks Department is developing a Parks Master Plan. Kittelson and SCTPO will coordinate with the City of Palm Bay while developing the SBTMP to reflect the analysis and recommendations from the Parks Master Plan. Tracey will be the primary point of contact for the City's Parks Master Plan.
- There was a discussion about considering the use of pervious asphalt to mitigate some of the environmental and stormwater concerns of paved trails. A PWG member mentioned that Volusia County is currently conducting a cost-benefit analysis relating to this.
- Concerns regarding addressing transportation safety and Vision Zero were expressed by several PWG members. These considerations will be included through the project process.

Next Steps

- Kittelson will update some of the existing conditions maps based on input received at the meeting.
- Kittelson will develop a trail system hierarchy and typology in March 2024.
- Kittelson will start developing a draft trails network in Spring 2024.
- Kittelson will coordinate with SCTPO to schedule the 2nd Project Working Group Meeting in May 2024.
- SCTPO will coordinate a meeting with City of Palm Bay staff to discuss their goals and approach to the City of Palm Bay Parks Master Plan as appropriate in both the SBTMP and Parks Master Plan schedule.

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: **7.f.**
Meeting Date: **March 12th, 2024**

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Next Field Event - TBD

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. The Trails and Greenways Committee successfully hosted a trail day and installed the vertical posts for most of the fence line. A second work day could be held to complete the fence line. Staff will order more signs as directed by the Committee and Council, meaning a workday in Cameron Preserve to install signs and the Bike Repair Stand may be necessary.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. None