TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 155 F. ROAD, LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FL 33470

ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

AUGUST 21, 2025 – 5:00 PM



Committee Member Frank Schiola, Chairperson (Seat 4)
Committee Member Darcy Dean Murray, Vice Chairperson (Seat 3)
Committee Member Katie Lakeman (Seat 1) - Committee Member Ashley Bruce (Seat 5)
VACANT (Seat 2)

Administration

Town Manager Francine L. Ramaglia Town Clerk Valerie E. Oakes

Committee Staff Liaison: Craig Lower, Public Works Superintendent

Civility: Being "civil" is not a restraint on the First Amendment right to speak out, but it is more than just being polite. Civility is stating your opinions and beliefs, without degrading someone else in the process. Civility requires a person to respect other people's opinions and beliefs even if he or she strongly disagrees. It is finding a common ground for dialogue with others. It is being patient, graceful, and having a strong character. That is why we say "Character Counts" in Town of Loxahatchee. Civility is practiced at all Town meetings.

Special Needs: In accordance with the provisions of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall within three business days prior to any proceeding, contact the Town Clerk's Office, 155 F Road, Loxahatchee Groves, Florida, (561) 793-2418.

Quasi-Judicial Hearings: Some of the matters on the agenda may be "quasi-judicial" in nature. Town Council Members are required to disclose all ex-parte communications regarding these items and are subject to voir dire (a preliminary examination of a witness or a juror by a judge or council) by any affected party regarding those communications. All witnesses testifying will be "sworn" prior to their testimony. However, the public is permitted to comment, without being sworn. Unsworn comment will be given its appropriate weight by the Town Council.

Appeal of Decision: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Town Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceeding, and for that purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes any testimony and evidence upon which the appeal will be based.

Consent Calendar: Those matters included under the Consent Calendar are typically self-explanatory, non controversial, and are not expected to require review or discussion. All items will be enacted by a single motion. If discussion on an item is desired, any Town Council Member, without a motion, may "pull" or remove the item to be

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considered separately. If any item is quasi-judicial, it may be removed from the Consent Calendar to be heard separately, by a Town Council Member, or by any member of the public desiring it to be heard, without a motion.

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A limited public audience can be accommodated in our Town Council chambers with mandatory facemasks and socially spaced seating. Public Comments for all meetings may be received by email, or in writing to the Town Clerk's Office until 12:00 p.m. (noon) day of the meeting. Comments received will be "received and filed" to be acknowledged as part of the official public record for the meeting. The meeting will be live-streamed and close-captioned for the general public via our website, instructions are posted there.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Draft proposed Horse/Multi purpose trail sign design with rules, Town Logo, and placement plan
- 2. Committee recommendations to bring forward to the Town Council
- 3. Committee recommendations for any grants that relate to the responsibilities of the RETGAC Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE

September 25, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

155 F Road Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

TO: Roadway, Equestrian Trails, And Greenway Advisory Committee

FROM: Craig Lower, Public Works Superintendent

VIA: Francine L. Ramaglia, Town Manager

DATE: August 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Staff presentation on proposed Horse/Multi purpose trail sign design with

rules, Town Logo, and placement plan

Background:

At the July 17 committee meeting, members and staff reviewed options for new trail signage to be installed throughout Loxahatchee Groves. The goal is to post clear, enforceable, and visible rules that address the needs of multi-use trails while promoting safety and shared use.

Examples from Wellington and Indian Trails were presented, including large "Equestrian Trail Rules" signs posted at trail access points and smaller roadway awareness signs such as "Slow Down / Yield for Horses." These provided a starting point for discussion on what would work best for Loxahatchee Groves.

The committee agreed that signage here should be adapted for multi-use trails rather than focusing solely on equestrian use. This means updating terminology to "Multi-Purpose Trail Rules" and tailoring the content to local conditions. Certain rules from the examples were considered unnecessary, such as "No camping on trails" or "No more than two riders," while others were identified as important to include, such as the helmet requirement for riders under 16, yield instructions for bicyclists and pedestrians, and a clear prohibition on motorized vehicles that still allows bicycles. Ensuring the wording aligns with existing town ordinances will make the rules enforceable by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

Visibility and placement were also emphasized. All signs should be reflective for nighttime visibility, and awareness signs should be installed at major entry points into town—such as both

sides of Okeechobee Boulevard, Southern Boulevard entrances, Forest Hill Boulevard, Folsom Road, letter roads, and trailheads. Rule signs should be posted at major trail intersections to reinforce safety expectations.

In terms of design, members supported incorporating the Town's logo and branding for a consistent identity. Messages should be concise and easy to read at a glance, and combining the trail name with the rules into a single sign could help reduce clutter.

Committee members will be reviewing the example rules and sending markups to Public Works Superintendent Craig Lower. Craig will then prepare draft sign designs with updated language, branding, and a placement plan for review at the next committee meeting.

This work will give Loxahatchee Groves a consistent signage system that is attractive, enforceable, and effective in promoting safe shared use of the Town's multi-purpose trails.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the RETGAC Committee discuss proposed Horse/Multipurpose trail sign design.