

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

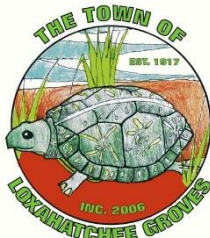
TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

155 F. ROAD, LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FL 33470

ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS & GREENWAY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

JUNE 25, 2026 – 5:00 PM



Katie Lakeman (Seat 1), Committee Member

Jodi Jansen (Seat 2), Committee Member Darcy Dean Murray (Seat 3), Committee Member

Frank Schiola (Seat 4) Committee Member Ashley Bruce (Seat 5), Committee Member

Administration

Board Liaison: Craig Lower, Public Works Superintendent

Board Clerk: Gabriella Croasdaile, Assistant to the Town Clerk

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 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.

COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND/OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- [1.](#) 05/21/2026 - Roadway, Equestrian Trails & Greenway Committee Meeting Minutes

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

- [2.](#) Swearing In of Ashley Bruce
- [3.](#) Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair
- [4.](#) Discussion Regarding Pillars of Strategic Planning

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Katie Lakeman (Seat 1), Committee Member
Jodi Jansen (Seat 2), Committee Member
Darcy Dean Murray (Seat 3), Committee Member
Frank Schiola (Seat 4), Committee Member
Ashley Bruce (Seat 5), Committee Member

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING DATE

- [5.](#) July 16, 2026 at 5:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

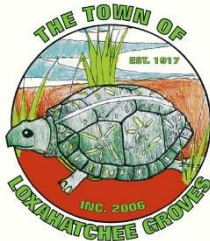
Published and Posted on June 18 , at 6:00 PM

By: Gabriella Croasdaile, Assistant to the Town Clerk

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

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

ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES MAY 21 , 2026 – 5:00 PM – 5:46 PM



Meeting Audio Available Upon Request in the Office of the Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Roadway, Equestrian Trails and Greenway Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Committee Chairperson Frank Schiola.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Committee began the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Chairperson Schiola.

ROLL CALL *(Please note there is a vacancy in Seat 5)*

Present Members:

- **Frank Schiola, Chairperson**
- **Katie Lakeman, Committee Member**
- **Jodi Jansen, Committee Member**

Absent Members:

- **Darcy Dean Murray, Committee Member**

Present Staff:

- **Craig Lower, Public Works Superintendent**
- **Gabriella Croasdaile, Assistant to the Town Clerk**

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND/OR MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA

Staff requested the appointment of a chair and vice chair to the agenda. The committee concluded that once all members were present, they would select their chair.

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN/ COMMITTEE MEMBER JANSEN
MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. MOTION PASSED 3-0.**

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

1. 01/15/2026 – Roadway, Equestrian Trail & Greenway Committee Minutes

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER JANSEN/ COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN
MOVED TO APPROVE THE 01/15/2026 MINUTES. MOTION PASSED (3-0).**

2. 02/19/2026 – Roadway, Equestrian Trail & Greenway Committee Minutes

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN/ COMMITTEE MEMBER JANSEN
MOVED TO APPROVE THE 02/19/2026 MINUTES. MOTION PASSED (3-0).**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. Swearing In of New Members – Katie Lakeman & Jodi Jansen

Assistant to the Town Clerk Gabriella Croasdaile swore in Committee Member Lakeman and Committee Member Jansen.

4. Discussion Items Regarding Roadway Standards, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Connectivity for presentation to the Town Council by the Chair of the RETGAC Committee

The committee discussed and developed a list of priorities and recommendations they believe should go before Town Council. The discussion included:

- Long -term improvements of North Road;
- Efforts to notify property owners of vegetation extending into public right of ways;
- Safety improvements for equestrians on Okeechobee Boulevard

The committee and liaison Lower concluded that they would come back next meeting with a condensed list as members send in their priorities and recommendations.

5. Discussion Regarding the Naming and Designation of Trails for Presentation by the Chair of the RETGAC Committee to the Town Council

Discussion began by the committee stating they would like names that are unique to Loxahatchee Groves and are representative of the community. Chairperson Schiola suggested using the names of animals that are unique to the area.

Committee Liaison Lower explained that he would avoid using colors to name the trails as that is similar to neighboring communities. He also explained that the committee also has the privilege of naming the trails within Solar Sportsystems. Long-term plans to designate canal bank corridors as equestrian trail connections and continue efforts to improve trail connectivity throughout the Town were discussed.

6. Discussion Regarding Connectivity Between the ALDI Trails and the Park System

The Committee discussed opportunities to improve connectivity between the ALDI trail system and the Town's park network. Members reviewed existing access points near Madison Green and identified areas where trail entrances and fencing improvements could enhance accessibility and safety.

Discussion focused on potential trail crossings and bridge connections, although staff noted that constructing new bridges would involve significant costs. As a more practical alternative, members discussed the use of equestrian crossing flashers, additional warning signage, pavement markings, and signal improvements to increase safety for trail users.

The Committee also reviewed existing and potential future crossing locations along Folsom Road, G Road, and other trail corridors. Staff discussed challenges associated with acquiring easements and securing cooperation from property owners to create additional trail connections, as well as limitations posed by existing roadway and utility easements that may affect future connectivity projects.

7. Update on the North Road Trail Project

Mr. Lower provided an update on the North Road Trail Project, reporting that staff is preparing to begin clearing vegetation and developing the trail corridor. He explained that constructing the trail along the fence line is the most practical and cost-effective option due to the roadway's existing location. Staff also plans to improve drainage crossings and continue installing equestrian safety signage as work progresses.

8. Update on the Solar Sport Systems Trail Improvements

Mr. Lower presented gave an update on the continuing work that has been happening on Solar Sport Systems Trails, specifically the maintenance. He is currently working on trying to implement a hitching post and the committee suggested a water area as well.

Mr. Lower let the members know if they see anything they would like to report in the area to let him know so he can work with Diane Jenkins on the area.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

Committee Member Katie Lakeman thanked staff for recent maintenance improvements.

Committee Member Jodi Jansen expressed appreciations for recent roadway improvements.

Chair Frank Schiola requested staff investigate reports of equipment and materials being placed within trail easements and rights-of-way that may obstruct equestrian access. As well as suggested the idea of committee branded shirts.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee decided that the next meeting would be on June 25th at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Lakeman moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 PM. Chair Frank Schiola seconded the motion.

Roadway, Equestrian Trails
and Greenway Advisory Committee
Chairperson

Gabriella Croasdaile,
Assistant to the Town Clerk



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES
ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS & GREENWAY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM**

Item 4.

TO: Roadway, Equestrian Trails & Greenway Advisory Committee
FROM: Valerie Oakes, Acting Town Manager
DATE: June 25, 2026
SUBJECT: Discussion Regarding Pillars of Strategic Planning

Legal Sufficiency: N/A

Background:

Per the Town Council’s direction, the Town’s Boards and Committees have been tasked with participating in a strategic visioning initiative focused on defining the Town’s rural character, identifying strategic pillars that support the overarching goals of preserving quality of life and protecting resident property values, and developing concepts and initiatives that promote and encourage those objectives.

The proposed worksheet is intended to facilitate meaningful discussion and constructive feedback regarding the future of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Defining what the term “rural” means within the context of the community;
- Identifying strategic pillars that support quality of life, community identity, and protection of resident property values;
- Encouraging concepts, initiatives, and long-term planning efforts that preserve and promote the Town’s rural character and overall community vision;
- Identifying priorities, projects, and initiatives Boards and Committees would like the Town Council to consider for future planning, policy direction, and implementation; and
- Establishing a more unified and collaborative strategic planning framework among Boards, Committees, staff, and the Town Council.

The worksheet is intended to serve as a planning and discussion tool and may assist in identifying common themes, community priorities, and long-term strategic goals for the future of Loxahatchee Groves.

Recommendation/Motion:

Discuss the worksheet between the committee liaison and chair for presentation to Town Council at the July 21 Workshop meeting.

Attachments: Strategic Planning Worksheet

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

Strategic Visioning & Priorities Worksheet

PURPOSE

The purpose of this worksheet is to assist the Town Council, advisory boards, and committees in identifying priorities, initiatives, and long-term goals for the future of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves. This exercise is intended to promote collaborative planning efforts focused on preserving the Town’s unique rural character and enhancing overall quality of life for current and future generations.

SECTION 1 — DEFINING “RURAL” IN LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

In your opinion, what does the term “rural” mean within the context of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves?

Consider: community identity, agriculture and equestrian lifestyle, open space preservation, roadway character, environmental preservation, density, and community values.

Response:

SECTION 2 — STRATEGIC PILLARS

Identify three (3) to four (4) major strategic pillars that support the Town’s overall vision, quality of life, and protection of resident property values.

Examples: Rural Preservation, Infrastructure & Drainage, Public Safety, Community Engagement, Agriculture & Equestrian Support, and Government Transparency.

Response:

SECTION 3 — COMMUNITY CONCEPTS & INITIATIVES

Identify one (1) to two (2) concepts, programs, initiatives, or ideas that could help promote or encourage the strategic pillars identified above.

Examples may include, equestrian trail systems, agricultural education, agritourism branding, historic preservation initiatives, or community events.

Concept / Initiative #1:

Concept / Initiative #2:

SECTION 4 — BOARD PRIORITIES & REQUESTS TO TOWN COUNCIL

Please identify projects, initiatives, policies, or priorities that your board or committee believes should be requested of the Town Council for consideration.

Priority Requests:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

SECTION 5 — ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR IDEAS

Please provide any additional comments, recommendations, concerns, or ideas related to the future of Loxahatchee Groves.

SUBMITTED BY

Board/Committee: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____