TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members
From: Staff
Date: December 14, 2018 Council Meeting
Subject: Local Government Comprehensive Plan Review
Draft Amendment to the Town of Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan
Amendment No. 18-2ESR

Introduction

The Community Planning Act, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, requires that the regional planning council review local government comprehensive plan amendments prior to their adoption. The regional planning council review and comments are limited to adverse effects on regional resources or facilities identified in the strategic regional policy plan (SRPP) and extrajurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any affected local government within the region. Council must provide any comments to the local government within 30 days of the receipt of the proposed amendments and must also send a copy of any comments to the state land planning agency.

The amendment package from the Town of Loxahatchee Groves was received on September 27, 2018 and contains a text amendment to the Transportation Element. This report includes a summary of the proposed amendment and Council comments.

Summary of Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment is to delete policies within the Town’s comprehensive plan that require fencing along canal maintenance easements. The staff reports indicate that policies requiring fencing have the potential to act as a deterrent to implementation of the Town’s greenway and equestrian trail system due to financial feasibility. Although fencing will still be permitted at the Council’s discretion for safety purposes, it will no longer be required.

Regional Impacts

No adverse effects on regional resources or facilities have been identified.
Extrajurisdictional Impacts

The proposed amendment was circulated by the Palm Beach County Intergovernmental Plan Amendment Review Committee Clearinghouse Coordinator on September 11, 2018. No extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified.

Conclusion

No adverse effects on regional resources or facilities and no extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified at this time.

Recommendation

Council should approve this report and authorize its transmittal to the Town of Loxahatchee Groves and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Attachments
## List of Exhibits

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EXHIBIT 1
General Location Map

Town of Loxahatchee Groves
EXHIBIT 2
Text Changes Shown in Strikeout and Underline

Words underlined are additions to and words struck through are deletions from the current text of the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

2.4 Objective:
The Town of Loxahatchee Groves' greenway and equestrian trail system shall be financially feasible.

2.4.1 Policy:
The Town shall determine which trails should be considered for public ownership.

2.4.2 Policy:
The Town shall explore the possibility of obtaining grants, gifts, contributions, funding assistance, and other financial resources for the development of equestrian riding trails.

2.4.3 Policy:
The Town should pursue joint efforts with all affected local governments, special districts, and other public agencies with respect to the acquisition, development and maintenance of trails as a means for reducing costs and pooling resources.

2.4.4 Policy:
The following equestrian trails and greenways projects shall be pursued by the Town until such time that a plan pursuant to Policy 2.3.3 is completed:

1. North/south Town-wide trail connectivity along all Letter Roads by pursuing trail crossings of Okeechobee Boulevard and Collecting Canal at these intersections.

2. East-west Town-wide trail connectivity along easements along the south side of Collecting Canal and 6th Court North, North Road, and Okeechobee Boulevard.

3. Equestrian trail/greenway easements within future non-residential developments along Southern Boulevard.

4. Equestrian Trail easements to provide connectivity between Loxahatchee Groves Park and the existing trail on F Road.

5. Installation of fencing adjacent to canal maintenance easements along the Letter Roads to insure the safety of riders, animals and residents.

6. Additional projects as deemed appropriate by the Town Council, as the opportunity arises.