

Underlined text is an addition to existing text **deleted** text is a deletion of existing text.

GOAL 1

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall provide, maintain and improve a safe, convenient and energy efficient multi-modal transportation system that is consistent with the Town's growth management principles, specifically the maintenance of its character, and is coordinated with a regional network which balances the needs of all current and future users in a manner to ensure the economic vitality of the Town as a rural residential community and the enhancement of the Town's quality of life.

Concurrency Management

2.1 Objective

The Town shall ensure that adequate public facilities are available concurrent with the impacts of development, and shall monitor impacts resulting from new development.

2.1.1 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall adopt the generalized two-way peak hour volumes for Florida's Urbanized Areas for all County urban collector roadways such as Okeechobee Boulevard at the Level of Service (LOS) "D" standard. However, in order to maintain Okeechobee Boulevard as a two-lane section, the Town may pursue a CRALLS (Constrained Roadway Operating At A Lower Level Of Service) designation or alternative roadway classification.

2.1.2 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall adopt the generalized two-way peak hour volumes at the Level of Service standards established by the Florida Department of Transportation for all roadways on the State Highway System, Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS), and/or Strategic Intermodal System (SIS).

2.1.3 Policy:

The transportation network should be kept at the adopted Levels of Service by means of implementation of improvements to correct projected deficiencies. Projects should be listed in the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements .

2.1.4 Policy:

The Town shall coordinate with Palm Beach County and the Florida Department of Transportation to address the deficiencies of roadways, as identified in the existing and future level of service analysis.

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2.1.5 Policy:

Prior to the granting of a building permit, an applicant shall obtain transportation concurrency approval from Palm Beach County and the Town. No building permit will be issued unless documentation of the corresponding transportation concurrency approval certificate has been presented.

Intergovernmental Coordination

2.2 *Objective*

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall participate in cooperative intergovernmental plans and programs to improve the safety, efficiency of the transportation system, while protecting the interests of the Town.

2.2.1 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall coordinate with Palm Tran and the Palm Beach County MPO to identify programs and policies that will assist in the provision of a convenient, public transit network that will provide both local and regional connections and that will accommodate the physically disabled.

2.2.2 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall participate in cooperative intergovernmental plans and programs that will improve safety for users of all modes of transportation including pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, motor vehicle and transit.

2.2.3 Policy: Reserved.

2.2.4 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves will coordinate with all affected local governments, special districts, the Florida Department of Transportation, Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County MPO and other public agencies to provide input and advocate for implementation of the Town's policies regarding future roadway plans for Okeechobee Boulevard, SR-80 and other roadways as necessary. The Town shall accordingly protect rights-of-way for future roadway projects and shall include right-of-way requirements in the Land Development Regulations.

2.2.5 Policy

The following shall be Town policies: (1) permanent removal of the "E" road, 140th Avenue thoroughfare from the Palm Beach County Thoroughfare Right-of-Way Identification Map; (2) annual exclusion of that portion of Okeechobee Boulevard from Folsom Road to west of "A" Road from consideration of expansion to four lanes from the County's 5-Year Road Program; (3) support for the extension of Seminole Pratt-Whitney Road north to State Road 710, the Beeline Highway; (4) opposition to the extension of Okeechobee Boulevard to State Road 80 (Southern Boulevard); and (5) support of the extension of State Road 7 from Okeechobee Boulevard to Northlake Boulevard.

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Greenways and Equestrian Trails

2.3 Objective

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall develop a greenway and equestrian trail system to meet the needs and interests of the residents of Loxahatchee Groves. To assist in this effort, the Town may maintain the Roadway Equestrian Trails and Greenways (RETAG) Advisory Committee, created by Town Resolution 2011-05.

2.3.1 Policy:

The Town shall create a map of existing equestrian riding trails.

2.3.2 Policy:

The Town shall work toward establishing equestrian trails and greenways within the existing canal maintenance easements on all Letter Roads. In addition, the Town shall identify new connections to existing trails, which if acquired would greatly enhance pedestrian, bicycle, or equestrian circulation throughout the Town.

2.3.3 Policy:

A plan for a cohesive internal trail system with connections to neighboring communities may be completed, under the direction of the Roadway, Equestrian Trails and Greenways (RETAG) Committee.

2.3.4: Policy

Annually, the (RETAG) Committee shall assess whether the greenway and equestrian trail system is sufficient for the needs of the residents. As part of its annual assessment, RETAG shall recommend projects to be included in the Five-Year Schedule of Improvements.

2.3.5 Policy:

The greenway and equestrian trails system, wherever feasible, shall provide connections between residential homes, parks, recreational facilities, open spaces, and commercial facilities throughout the Town.

2.3.6 Policy:

All vehicular parking for land uses which are adjacent to the greenway and equestrian trail system should provide the parking on a side away from the trail.

2.3.7 Policy:

The Town, in cooperation with LGWCD and the RETAG, shall develop minimum design standards for greenway and equestrian trails for inclusion in its Land Development Regulations. The Town shall coordinate the application of its minimum design standards with the LGWCD whenever a proposed greenway or equestrian trail falls within an LGWCD right-of-way. Further, the RETAG shall work cooperatively with the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District to develop trail design documents.



2.3.8 Policy:
The greenway and equestrian trail system shall be maintained and improved to be consistent with the Town's minimum design standards.

2.3.9 Policy:
The Town shall use landscaping and signs to visually identify crossings and trail access points. Safe and controlled crossings shall be provided.

2.3.10 Policy:
The Town shall ensure sufficient right-of-way is preserved to construct and maintain the multiuse trails.

2.3.11 Policy:
The Town shall coordinate the provision of greenway and equestrian trail connections among adjoining or abutting properties during the site plan review process.

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 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.

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4. Equestrian Trail easements to provide connectivity between Loxahatchee Groves Park and the existing trail on F Road.
5. Additional projects as deemed appropriate by the Town Council, as the opportunity arises.

Land Use/Transportation Coordination

2.5 Objective

The Town shall coordinate the transportation system with the future land use map and ensure land uses are consistent with transportation modes and services proposed to serve those areas.

2.5.1 Policy:

The Town shall encourage connectivity among all new development and redevelopment projects so as to minimize impacts on the roadway network.

2.5.2 Policy:

The Town shall collocate where possible primary civic facilities, thereby reducing the number of vehicle trips.

2.5.3 Policy:

The Town shall coordinate the transportation system with land uses through implementation of, but not limited to, the following programs, activities or actions:

1. Transportation facilities and services shall be planned and located in a manner which minimizes the potential impacts on adjacent land uses with consideration given specially to existing residential areas.
2. Intermodal facilities shall be located so as to maximize the efficiency of the transportation system.
3. All opportunities to provide adequate bus shelters will be explored.

2.5.4 Policy

Service Level 4 and Service Level 5 roads, including private access easements, shall not provide ingress to and/or egress from the Town from areas outside of its corporate limits.

Right of Way Protection

2.6 Objective

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall ensure that future development does not encroach upon existing rights of-way.

2.6.1 Policy:

The Town shall ensure that future development does not encroach upon existing rights-of-way.

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2.6.2 Policy:

Future Right-of-Way requirements for State and County roads shall be established in conformance with and Palm Beach County Standards to meet the future needs, while maintaining the rural character of the Town.

2.6.3 Policy:

The Town shall continue to obtain additional survey data on the Town Roads as the basis for implementing future road improvements.

Safety, Maintenance and Improvement of Roadways

2.7 Objective

The Town shall maintain a safe local roadway network.

2.7.1 Policy:

For the purpose of allocating public maintenance and capital improvements projects funds, the Town's local roads shall be classified as follows:

1. Category 1—Surfaced local public roads under the jurisdiction of the Town.
 1. A.—Paved local public roads.
 1. B.—OGEM-surfaced local public roads.
2. Category 2—Unsurfaced local public roads.
 2. A.—Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District roads.
 2. B.—Town of Loxahatchee Groves roads
3. Category 3—Private local roads (public access).
4. Category 4—Private local roads (no public access).

Table #TRN 2-1
Local Road Functional Classification System

<u>Road Classification</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Design Objective</u>	<u>Funding</u>
<u>Service Level 1</u>	<u>Principal public access from Town properties to both Okeechobee Boulevard and Southern Boulevard</u>	<u>Improved or unimproved, as determined by the Town</u>	<u>Town gas tax, road & drainage assessments, and/or a cost-sharing assessment</u>
<u>Service Level 2</u>	<u>Public access from Town properties to Okeechobee Boulevard or Southern Blvd.</u>	<u>Improved or unimproved, as determined by the Town</u>	<u>Town gas tax and road & drainage assessments, and/or a cost-sharing assessment</u>
<u>Service Level 3</u>	<u>Connector public access between two or more Service Level 1 Roads</u>	<u>Improved or unimproved determined by Town and abutting owners</u>	<u>Town gas tax and road & drainage assessments, cost sharing assessment</u>
<u>Service Level 4</u>	<u>Non-through public direct access to Town properties</u>	<u>Improvement can be requested by abutting owners and approved by Town.</u>	<u>Town gas tax and road & drainage assessments, cost sharing assessment</u>
<u>Service Level 5</u>	<u>Non-through private direct access to Town properties</u>	<u>Improvements may be made by abutting owners</u>	<u>Owner's responsible for improvements and maintenance at Town standards.</u>

Source: Town of Loxahatchee Groves Roadway Equestrian Trail and Greenways Advisory Committee; 2019.

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2.7.10 The following general roadway programs, determined to be necessary for attaining or maintaining desired service levels, shall be pursued by the Town. Specific projects shall be included as part of the annual review and update of the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements:

2. Intersection control improvements at Okeechobee Boulevard and Southern Boulevard intersections with "D" Road.
3. Installation of OGEM surface treatment and/or pavement at appropriate locations on the Town Roads.
4. Installation of OGEM surface treatment on non Town Roads provided that public right-of-way dedications from all affected property owners are procured.
5. Construction of new Town local roads, reconstruction or resurfacing of existing paved Town local roads, or paving or surfacing of existing graded Town local roads.

Transit

2.8 Objective

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall support and coordinate with Palm Beach County to provide safe, efficient, and convenient accessibility and availability to transit for all users.

2.8.1 Policy:

The Town shall coordinate with Palm Tran and the MPO to provide convenient service and access to intermodal terminals and facilities, including Palm Beach International Airport and other generators and attractors.

2.8.2 Policy:

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall coordinate with Palm Tran, and the MPO to identify programs and policies that will assist in the provision of a convenient, public transit network that will provide both local and regional connections and that will accommodate the physically disabled.

2.8.3 Require all applicants for site plan approval of all non-residential development on a property fronting Southern Boulevard to conform with the need for a Bus Stop Boarding and Alighting Area (BSBAA), as determined by Palm Tran.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction

2.9 Objective

The Town of Loxahatchee Groves shall support and coordinate with Palm Beach County to reduce greenhouse gas emission by promoting alternative modes of transportation.



2.9.1 Policy:

The Town will strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing traffic congestion and air pollution. The Town will promote alternative forms of transportation by solidifying a greenways/equestrian trail plan and cooperating with Palm Beach County for new and improved transit. The Town will also plan internal roadways and cross access between parcels that will allow for more efficient travel.

2.9.2 Policy:

The Town shall ensure redevelopment is transit-ready along major transportation corridors.



LOXAHATCHEE GROVES FLORIDA

Transportation Element Map TRN 2.3 Functional Classification of Roads

Municipal Boundaries

Parcels

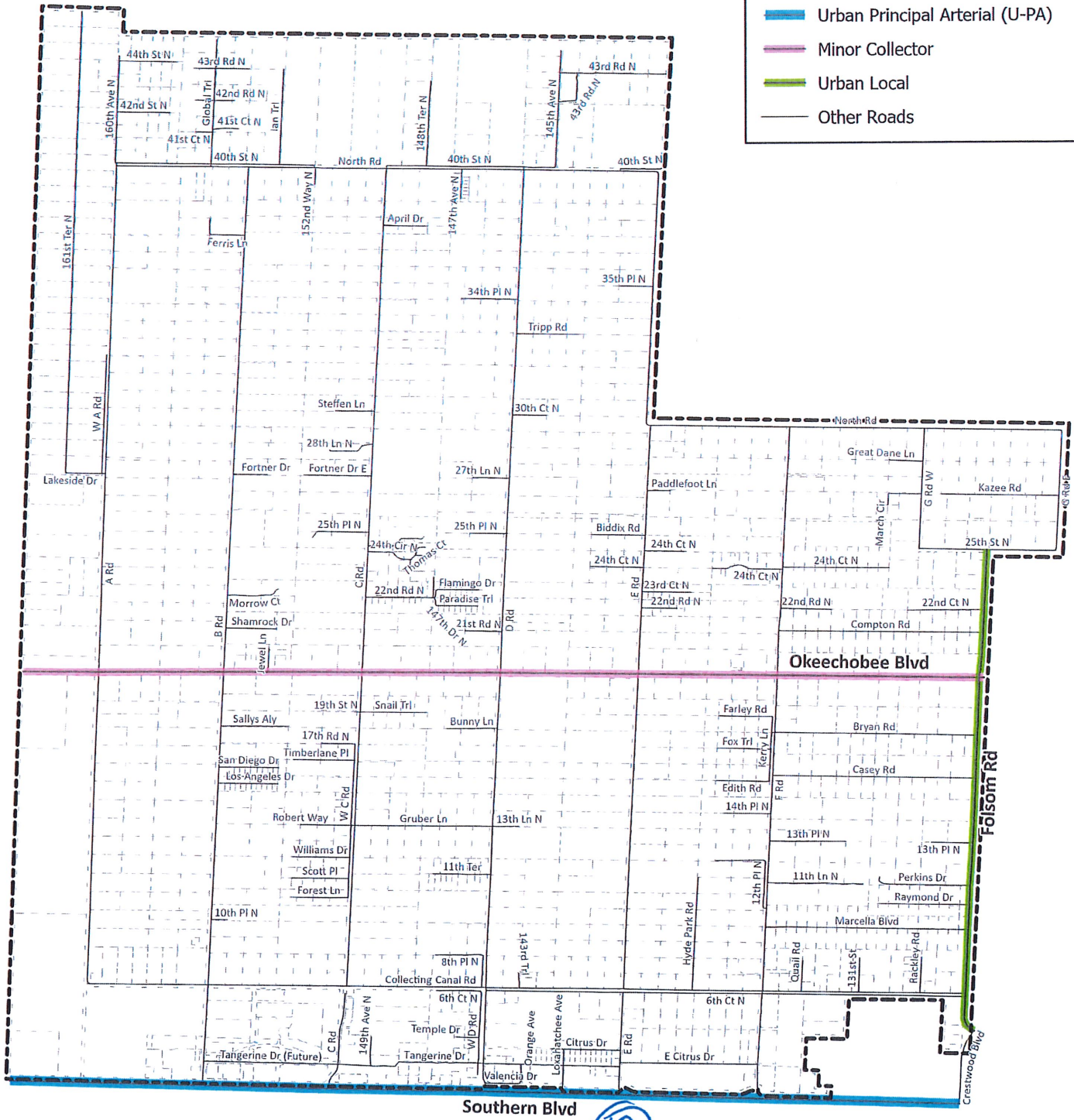
Functional Classification

Urban Principal Arterial (U-PA)

Minor Collector

Urban Local

Other Roads



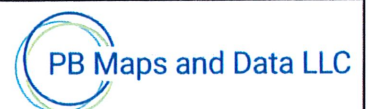
Southern Blvd



Source: 2022 Town of Loxahatchee
Municipal Boundaries and Roads;
County Property Appraiser Parcels



0 0.5 1 Miles



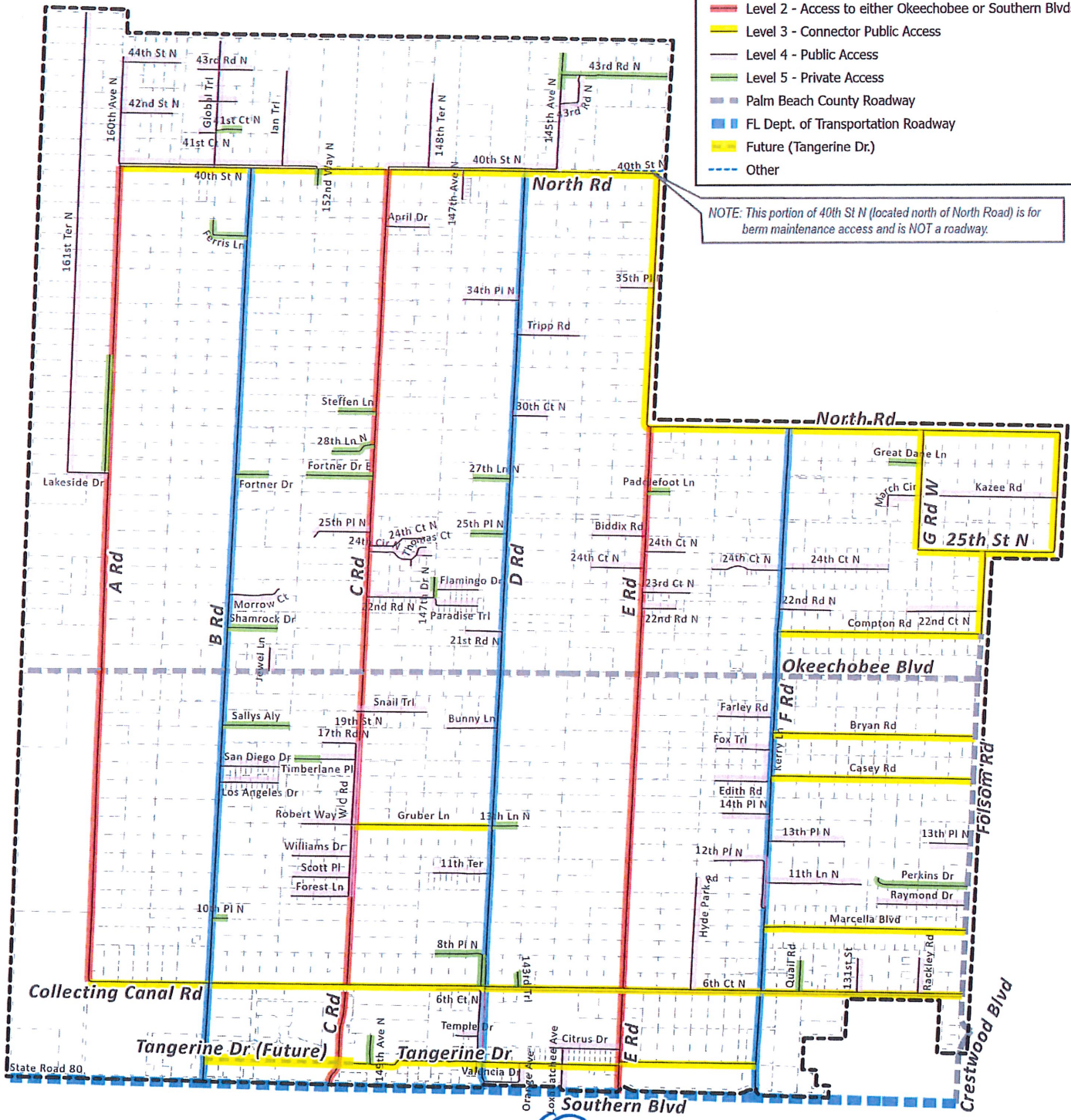


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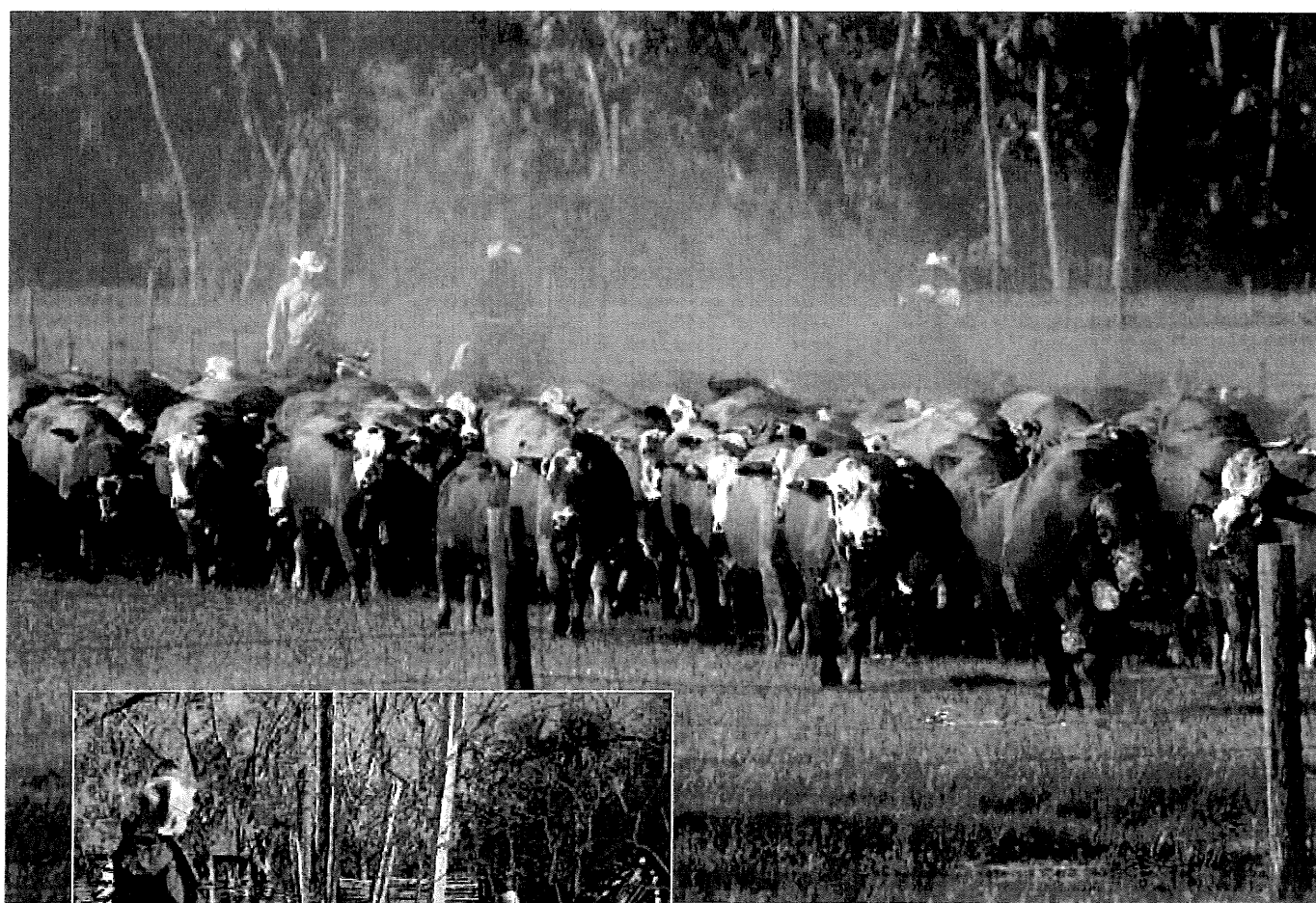
Proposed Roadway Classification Map

- Municipal Boundaries
- Parcels
- Level of Service
 - Level 1 - Access to both Okeechobee and Southern Blvds
 - Level 2 - Access to either Okeechobee or Southern Blvds
 - Level 3 - Connector Public Access
 - Level 4 - Public Access
 - Level 5 - Private Access
- Palm Beach County Roadway
- FL Dept. of Transportation Roadway
- Future (Tangerine Dr.)
- Other

NOTE: This portion of 40th St N (located north of North Road) is for berm maintenance access and is NOT a roadway.



AGRITOURISM



UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



With less than two percent of Americans living on a farm, the public is becoming more and more removed from farming practices and agricultural production. Consumers are more interested than ever in learning where their food comes from, and the technological advancements behind producing that food. Agritourism provides an excellent opportunity to open meaningful connections between agriculture and the public. The vast majority of farms depend on outside income to stay in business, and any additional revenue agritourism could provide a farm might significantly increase its economic viability.



Issue

In 2013, the Florida Legislature passed SB 1106, a bill that protects and strengthens agritourism opportunities for Florida's farmers and ranchers.

Agritourism combines Florida's two largest industries – tourism and agriculture – and allows farmers to open their agricultural land to the general public for education and entertainment as long as the activity relates directly to agricultural production.

Unfortunately, before this legislation became law in 2013, Florida's farmers and ranchers were faced with several challenges and barriers that prevented them from taking advantage of the opportunity agritourism could provide. Agritourism owners and operators faced increasing regulation at the local level and a heavy burden of liability, keeping farmers from inviting the public on their land and finding other beneficial uses of their agricultural land.

Definition of Agritourism

The intent of SB 1106 was to break down those barriers of local regulation and liability for agritourism operators. But in order to do that, the definition of agritourism had to be changed to ensure a direct linkage between agritourism and actual agricultural production. As a result of the legislation, Florida Statute 570.86, defines an agritourism activity as "any agricultural related activity consistent with a bona fide farm or ranch or in a working forest which allows members of the general public to view or enjoy activities related to farming, ranching, historical, cultural or harvest-your-own attractions for recreational, entertainment or educational purposes."

This definition clearly indicates that in order to receive any of the protection provided by the statute, a agritourism activity must be directly linked to a farm,

ranch or forest that is actually in production and that it must be an activity that is related to agriculture.

Protection from Liability

Florida Statute 570.88, provides limited liability protection for agritourism owners, operators and their employer or employees against injury, death or damage to participants unless the agritourism operator commits an act that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton disregard for the safety of the participant.

This liability protection should not be considered a total substitute for insurance protection. However, in most instances agritourism owners and operators who use diligence in considering the well-being of their guests will be protected from frivolous lawsuits.

Protection from Local Government Overregulation

Florida Statute 570.85, eliminates the duplication of regulatory authority over agritourism. In essence, this means that local governments may not create new ordinances, rules, etc. that limit agritourism activities on land that has an agricultural classification pursuant to Florida Statute 193.461. This primarily pertains to ordinances that would restrict hours of operation, number of participants, parking regulations, etc., when the facilities are used for agritourism activities.

It is important to note that this exemption does **not** prohibit the enactment of new local governmental ordinances related to the construction of new or additional structures intended primarily to accommodate members of the general public. If you build or use a building primarily for accommodating the public, you must abide by all building and zoning regulations.

Posting and Notification (Florida Statute 570.89)

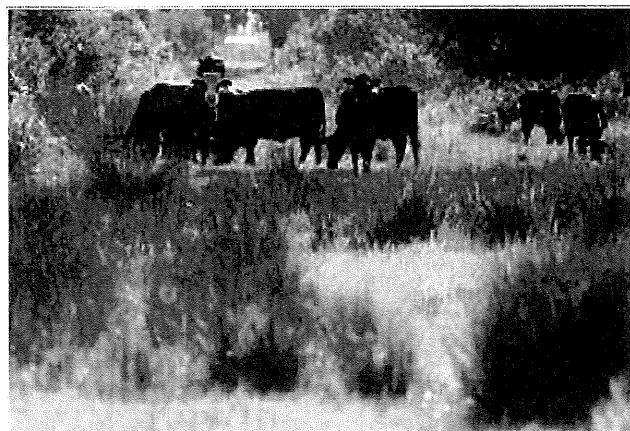
In order to receive the protection offered under this legislation, agritourism operators must post and maintain signs that are visible at the entrance of the

agritourism location and at the site of the agritourism activity. The sign must include the following language and consist of clearly visible black letters, at least 1 inch in height:

WARNING

Under Florida law, an agritourism operator is not liable for injury or death of, or damage or loss to, a participant in an agritourism activity conducted at this agritourism location if such injury, death, damage, or loss results from the inherent risks of the agritourism activity. Inherent risks of agritourism activities include, among others, risks of injury inherent to land, equipment, and animals, as well as the potential for you to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to your injury, death, damage, or loss. You are assuming the risk of participating in this agritourism activity.





For further information contact:

Florida Farm Bureau Federation

Division of Government and Community Affairs
352-374-1543

Florida Farm Bureau at <http://www.floridafarmbureau.org/>

UF/IFAS Extension

Local UF/IFAS Extension County Office at <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/>

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