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**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**  
**GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (~~Re. Ord. 2013-08~~)**

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**GOAL 5A: RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE**

**To provide safe and adequate connected open space and recreation facilities accessible to all Loxahatchee Groves residents.**

5A.1 *Objective:*

*Provide a sufficient supply of park, recreation, and open space facilities to satisfy established level of service (LOS) standards.*

5A.1.1 Policy:

The Town shall ~~make available~~ work property owners to ensure public access facilities are available at a level of service of six (6) acres of park, recreation, and open space per one thousand (1,000) population.

5A.1.2 Policy:

The Town shall encourage development of a public equestrian facility at Loxahatchee Groves Park.

5A.1.3 Policy:

The Town shall continue to lobby the County to develop the Loxahatchee Groves County Park according to the intent of the original Master Plan and the Plan as amended in ~~January 1994~~ May 2011.

5A.1.4 Policy:

The Town shall explore the possibility of obtaining grants, gifts, contributions, funding assistance, and other financial resources for the purchase of land contiguous to the Park, so that the acreage of the park may be increased to its original size.

5A.2 *Objective:*

*Maximize the utility and function of recreation facilities and open space resources. Establish strategies to effectively coordinate the retention of recreation and open space opportunities, as well as the development of future opportunities to meet public demands.*

5A.2.1 Policy: Reserved.

5A.2.2 Policy:

All existing and future parks and recreation facilities shall comply with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

5A.3 *Objective:*

*Establish effective methods of coordinating public and private resources to meet public demands.*

5A.3.1 Policy:

Maintain cooperative relationships with agencies, groups, individuals and organizations currently providing leisure programs to the residents.

~~5A.3.2 Policy:~~

~~Pursue appropriate joint public and private ventures to obtain lands and/or financing necessary to provide recreation areas, including equestrian trails and greenways, facilities and programs.~~

5A.4 Objective:

*Require the provision of open space in redevelopment and new development.*

5A.4.1 Policy:

The provision of open space such as natural areas, vistas, land buffers, or multi-use trails, shall be required in residential and non-residential development as per the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC).

5A.4.2 Policy:

The Town emphasizes that open space is needed in order to create vista, to provide shade, and to create and enhance the rural image and flavor of the Town.

5A.4.3 Policy:

Parks and recreation facilities to serve new development shall be in place or under actual construction no later than 1 year after issuance by the local government of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent. However, the acreage for such facilities shall be dedicated or be acquired by the Town prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent, or funds in the amount of the developer's fair share shall be committed no later than the local government's approval to commence construction.

**GOAL 5B: GREENWAYS AND MULTI-USE EQUESTRIAN TRAILS**

**The Town of ~~Loxahatchee Groves~~ will strive to provide a town-wide greenway and equestrian multi-use trail system designed to accommodate the movement of pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians which preserves the town's rural lifestyle.**

5B.1 Objective:

*The Town of ~~Loxahatchee Groves~~ shall develop a greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail system to meet the needs and interests of the residents of Loxahatchee Groves.*

5B.1.1 Policy:

The Town shall create a map of existing greenway and ~~equestrian riding~~ multi-use trails.

5B.1.2 Policy:

The Town, in addition to recommendations of the ~~Roadways, Equestrian~~ Multi-Use Trails and Greenways (~~RETAG~~) (TAG) Advisory Committee, shall identify new connections to existing trails, which if acquired would greatly enhance pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian circulation throughout the Town.

5B.1.3 Policy:

The existing Roadways, ~~Equestrian~~ Multi-Use Trails and Greenways Plan shall be updated every five (5) years to insure consistency with current Town policy.

5B.1.4 Policy:

Annually, the ~~RETAG~~ (TAG) Advisory Committee shall assess and recommend to the Town Council whether the greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail system is sufficient to meet the needs of the residents, and recommend needed improvements.

5B.1.5 Policy:

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

5B.1.6 Policy:

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

5B.1.7 Policy:

The greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail system shall be consistent with design documents adopted by the Town and based upon ~~RETAG (TAG) Advisory Committee~~ recommendations, ~~in coordination with Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District.~~

5B.1.8 Policy:

The Town shall use landscaping and signs to visually identify street crossings and multi-use trail access points. Safe and controlled greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail crossings shall be constructed.

~~5B.1.9 Policy:~~

~~The Town shall coordinate the construction of proposed multi-use trails with the LGWCD whenever they fall within the LGWCD Town rights-of-way. Doing so shall ensure that sufficient right-of-way is preserved to construct and maintain the Town's multi-use trails.~~

5B.1.10 Policy:

The Town shall coordinate the provision of greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail connections among adjoining or abutting properties during the site plan review process.

5B.1.11 Policy:

Pursue appropriate joint public and private ventures to obtain lands and/or financing necessary to provide recreation areas, including multi-use trails facilities and programs.

5B.2 *Objective:*

*The Town of ~~Loxahatchee Groves~~' greenway and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trail system shall be financially feasible.*

5B.2.1 Policy:

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

5B.2.2 Policy:

The Town shall explore the possibility of obtaining grants, gifts, contributions, funding assistance, and other financial resources for the development of greenways and equestrian-riding multi-use trails.

5B.2.3 Policy:

The Town should pursue joint efforts with all affected local jurisdictions, including local governments, special districts, and other public agencies in the acquisition, development and maintenance of greenways and ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trails as a means for reducing costs and pooling resources.

5B.3 *Objective:*

*The Town of Loxahatchee Groves' equestrian trail system shall support provide access to abutting county parks, open space, and neighboring municipalities.*

5B.3.1 Policy:

The Town shall ~~pursue~~ support direct connections and access between the Town's ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trails and the Loxahatchee Groves County Park and the Royal Palm Beach Pines Nature Area.

5B.3.2 Policy:

The Town shall ~~pursue~~ support direct connections and access between the Town's ~~equestrian~~ multi-use trails and the Village of Wellington's equestrian preserves and public trails.

~~5B.3.3. Policy:~~

~~The Town shall coordinate with Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District for development of greenways and equestrian trails..~~