

## INTRODUCTION

(Underlined text is new language)

Included within the Evaluation and Appraisal Report update of the Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan, the Town has opted to create a separate Goals, Objectives and Policies document entitled: "2023 Town of Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives and Policies". Previous amendments were incorporated within the Comprehensive Plan by the following Town Ordinances: 2012-04; 2012-05; 2014-06; 2016-03; 2016-08; 2016-09; 2017-01; 2017-02; and 2018-01).

The following 2023 Town of Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives and Policies (GOPs) document consists of goals, objectives and policies for each of the Comprehensive Plan Elements extracted from the 2009 Town of Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan, as amended (2009 Plan), and updated, where necessary, from the results of the 2023 Town of Loxahatchee Groves Evaluation and Appraisal Report Town Council workshops. GOP updates to the 2009 Plan Elements, included herein, are presented in underline and strikethrough format so that the revisions can be easily tracked. The GOPs are adopted by Ordinance, per Florida Statutes requirements.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Chapter 163.3161-163.3197, Florida Statutes (Community Planning Act) establishes requirements for the format and content of the Comprehensive Plan.

Chapter 163.3164(4), Florida Statutes defines comprehensive plan as "... a plan that meets the requirements of Sections 163.3177 and 163.3178". Section 163.3177 lists required conditions, studies, surveys and elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Further, the following two provisions of Chapter 163, Florida Statutes are emphasized by the State:

1. Loxahatchee Groves is charged with setting levels of service for public facilities in the Comprehensive Plan in accordance with which development must occur and permits will be issued; and
2. Public facilities and services needed to support development in Loxahatchee Groves shall be available concurrent with the impacts of such development.

### DATA AND ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS

All goals, objectives, policies, standards, findings and conclusions within the Town's Comprehensive Plan shall be based upon relevant and appropriate data. The Town is not required to collect original data; however, it is encouraged to utilize any original data necessary to update or refine the Comprehensive Plan data base, as long as methodologies are professionally accepted.

Data used shall be the best available, unless the Town desires original data or special studies. Where data augmentation, updates, special studies or surveys are deemed necessary, appropriate methodologies shall be clearly described or referenced and shall meet professionally accepted standards for such methodologies.

The Comprehensive Plan shall be based on population estimates and projections. Population estimates and projections shall be either those provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research, or those generated by the Palm Beach County Planning Division (Population Model projections), or the Town.

## **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Town's comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended pursuant to the procedural requirements of Sections 163.3184 and 163.3187, Florida Statutes.

## **GOALS OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The following sections of this document shall comprise the goals, objectives and policies component of the Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan:

| <b><u>Element</u></b>          | <b><u>Chapter</u></b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Future Land Use                | 1                     |
| Transportation                 | 2                     |
| Infrastructure                 | 3                     |
| Conservation                   | 4                     |
| Recreation/Open Space          | 5                     |
| Housing                        | 6                     |
| Intergovernmental Coordination | 7                     |
| Capital Improvements           | 8                     |
| Property Rights                | 9                     |

When the Town begins the adoption or amendment process, it is required by State law that appropriate public hearings be held. Procedures presented in Chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes are closely followed and adhered to at that time. As particular issues or matters of an expressed community concern arise, the Local Planning Agency (LPA) may hold additional public meetings or hearings, to address such concerns. Copies of public meeting legal notices are published pursuant to Chapter 166.04 (3) (a), Florida Statutes.

The Town shall review, and revise as necessary, the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements, pursuant to Policy 8.2.1 and Objective 8.6 of the Capital Improvements Element each year.

## **MAPS SHOWING FUTURE CONDITIONS**

Maps showing future conditions and/or illustrating Comprehensive Plan directives, as necessary, are included within each Element.

## **ADOPTION ORDINANCE**

The 2023 Town of Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives and Policies document adoption ordinance is included herein by reference. Copies of the ordinance and legal notices, published pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes are on file with the Town Clerk.

## **SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION**

Support documentation that forms the basis for the Comprehensive Plan, as well as future amendments and updates shall be included within each successive amendment and/or EAR-based comprehensive plan update.

## **PLANNING PERIOD**

The Town's comprehensive plan must include a planning period for at least a ten-year period. On this basis, the 2023 – 2035 period is utilized in the 2023 Loxahatchee Groves Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives and Policies document.

## **POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

The 2020 Census population of Loxahatchee Groves was established at 3,355 residents. Future Town population generated by the Palm Beach County Planning Division Population Model is projected at 4,322 residents by 2035

## **MONITORING AND EVALUAION**

The role of monitoring and evaluation is vital to the effectiveness of any planning program and particularly for the Capital Improvements Element. This is largely because the Town's revenue and expenditure streams are subject to fluctuations every year. In order to maintain the effectiveness and relevance of the Capital Improvements Schedule, the Capital Improvements Element requires a continuous program for monitoring and evaluation.

The annual review will be the responsibility of the Town Council. The Town Manager will serve as principal advisor at all formal deliberations related to capital improvement monitoring and evaluation. The Town Council will direct the Town Manager to take appropriate action based upon its findings.

## **COMMUNITY CHARACTER GOAL**

The community character goal is a vision statement toward which all Comprehensive Plan goals, objectives and policies are directed. Ultimately, the development of plans, enforcement of regulations, and operations of the Town are directed toward this end. The vision for the future of the community is as follows:

"Loxahatchee Groves will protect its natural environment and rural character in the midst of an urbanizing region. The Town will continue to be a rural residential and agricultural community that has great respect for lifestyle choices balanced with historical community needs. This is reflected in a cost effective, minimal government structure that strives to protect the environment and our quality of traditional lifestyles."