

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

155 F Road Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470



AGENDA MEMO

TO: Town Council of Town of Loxahatchee Groves

FROM: Richard Gallant, CDM E.I., Public Works Director

DATE: January 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Road, Drainage, and Emergency Management Update

Background:

The following items are an update to the road and drainage systems in the Town:

- Currently IFB# 2024-01 Town FY24 Road Improvement Program has been awarded and the following actions have taken place:
 - The contractor has completed the paving portion of the project and has installed the speed humps in the various locations. To date they have paved and installed speed humps on the following roads:
 - 161 Terr N
 - 147th Ave N
 - Gruber Ln
 - Casey Rd
 - 24th Ct N West of F Rd
 - 24th Ct N East of F Rd
 - E Cirtus Dr
 - The next step in the process is to install stop bars and 20' long double yellow lines off the stop bars. The balance of the paving will remain unstriped.
- The Public Works Department continues to remediate roadside drainage swales as part of the FY24 Road Improvement Program. Additionally, the roads that are planned to receive small equestrian paths will be installed after the paving and swales are completed. Work has commenced on E Citrus Dr on the equestrian trail.
- Staff has relocated the mailboxes on 161st Terr N, Casey Rd, E Citrus, and Gruber to follow the guidelines established by the United States Postal Service.
- Staff will resume the remediation of the roadside swales on 161st Terr N and 147th Ave N before continuing on the equestrian trails. The other roadside swales that are part of the

FY24 paving plan will start after that until all of the swales are complete. Once complete staff will commence on the FY25 projects.

- Staff continues to work on clearing the tree debris left from the damage caused by the impacts of the EF-3 tornado that ripped through town. The majority of the debris was removed and cleared by the middle of December.
- Public Works management continues to prepare for preparing the FY25 paving plan, specifically A Rd from Okeechobee to Collecting Canal Rd and Collecting Canal Rd from A Rd to B Rd.
 - Staff continues to work with residents to obtain easements to properly install the road and drainage for the road. This includes removing required trees, preparing the road surface, and correct the canal bank and stabilize the section needed to build a safe road. Easements from all of the residents are required prior to the commencement of the remediation work.
- The Public Works Director awaiting the arrival of our new 2025 12-Yard 8.8L Freightliner or approved equal through the Florida Department of Financial Services Contract 25101600-21-STC.
 - The purchase order for the amount of \$120,031.30 was issued on May 8, 2024, and sent to the vendor, Southport Truck Group.
 - The initial date provided by the vendor to pick up the vehicle was December 2024.
 - Staff contacted the vendor and after receiving an update from the vendor, due to a delay caused by both Hurricane Helene and Milton, it is anticipated the vehicle will be ready in early 2025.
- The Public Works Director continues to finalize the required documentation to procure the LPR cameras that will be installed throughout the town to assist the Public Works Department and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office find and prosecute those individuals who wish to use our town for illegal dumping.
 - The Public Works Director has obtained quotes from Flock Safety, one of the leading companies in LPR technology. These are also the only cameras that will interact with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Real-Time Center systems.
 - Red Speed will also be providing supplement cameras as part of their agreement that will augment the LPR cameras to be procured by the Town
 - Staff will bring forward the associated agreements in January for the system the Town will obtain..
 - Staff is still reviewing a limited number of trail cameras that can be located in strategic locations.
- The Public Works team has completed the work with our debris hauler, Ashbriitt, and has removed the debris from the tornado that came through town in October. Our debris hauler removed 14,842 cubic yards of vegetative debris and 816 cubic yards of construction debris from throughout the Town. The total amount of storm related debris removed to date is 15,658 cubic yards. On December 2, the debris hauler began hauling all construction debris to Coastal's yard. Ashbriitt received yard waste debris to C Rd site until all of the debris on site was ground up and removed. All of the debris has been ground up and removed from the debris site and the site has been returned back to the state in which it was received. If a resident has storm related debris, it will be reviewed and if determined it is FEMA reimbursable storm related debris, it will be taken to

Coastal's yard until January when the 100% reimbursement period ends from FEMA. Coastal has resumed its normal routes and contractual vegetative debris limits of 6 CY.

- The Public Works Director is finishing the last items needed for the CIP bids for the FY25 projects.
- In March, the Public Works Superintendent is slated to attend the Certified District Manager course, and the Public Works Coordinator is scheduled to attend the Certified District Administrative Professional course in January.
- The Public Works Director serving as the Emergency Management Director has identified 64 online training opportunities to improve the educational prowess of various staff members in their duties of emergency management during an activation. Some of these trainings include navigating the FEMA grant portal and various aspects of damage assessment and protective measures. Response of personal to livestock emergencies during disasters, and working with volunteers and CERT during activations. All of the trainings are free, many take less than two hours to complete, and if started now all of the affected personal could have them complete before the start of the 2025 hurricane season.
- The Town contractor has commenced on removing the noxious exotic trees from the roadway swales and drainage pond on Hyde Park. In the beginning of the year staff will begin the process of removing the tree stumps, then reestablish and grade the swales, pond, and ditches to allow for better flow of water from the road and property. Once this work is complete, Public Works management will meet with the residents to discuss the replanting of the pond area.
- Staff continues its maintenance operations in grading the unpaved roads and mowing the drainage canals and canal banks.
- In the month of December, Public Works staff removed a larger Australian Pine from Gruber Ln that fell during the tornadic activity. Staff also beautified Town Hall by adding new rock and mulch around the flag poles and islands. Staff also removed debris from North Rd, F Rd, and B Rd canals with the Thing-a-ma-Digger. Staff completed repairs to the asphalt apron on Bryan Rd and F Rd and prepared the area for the replacement of the apron. Staff replaced the blind spot mirrors on D Rd, North Rd, W D Rd, and 6th Ct N in various locations. Staff continues to install new signs and street labels around the town, this month around Okeechobee and Collecting Canal Rds.