



155 F Road Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470

Agenda Item # 5

TO: Town Council of Town of Loxahatchee Groves
FROM: Francine L. Ramaglia, Town Manager
DATE: February 6, 2024
SUBJECT: Follow Up on Previous Public Comments

Background:

During Community Conversations, Public Comment and Council Comments, issues are raised for consideration by Council and staff. In some instances, inaccurate information may be the basis of comments and/or questions. This item is intended to provide information on issues raised and to provide clarification briefly and as necessary.

ROADS & TRAFFIC

Dept assigned: Public Works

- PBSO increased patrols to monitor speed
 - Impact of additional patrols included in presentation of annual report by PBSO in separate agenda item
- Consider stop signs, stop-lights and/or roundabouts to slow traffic on Okeechobee – (Locations to consider B, D, Folsom & F)
 - In response to the request for comments on the 5 year plan, Public works is drafting a letter to send to Palm Beach County requesting consideration of traffic calming measures on Okeechobee Blvd, including yet not limited to a single lane roundabout at B Rd as well as at F Rd or Folsom and either a single lane roundabout or a traffic light at D Rd.
 - Staff is also requesting multi-purpose crosswalks with flashers and other safety markings on Okeechobee
- For improved traffic safety, clearly line & paint turning lanes & intersections (i.e. B, D & Southern)
 - The Public Works director has contacted Palm Beach County Traffic Operations Section to review and improve the lane marking on their rights of way.
- Address all confusing pavement markers
 - In process of identifying and addressing where markings need to be corrected/redone throughout Town. Also implementing sign replacement program beginning with stop signs.
- Road Standards
 - The Public Works Director is currently reviewing various Town standards in practice that can either be adopted and/or adapted to best fit both the rural nature of the roadway system in the Town as well as the specific roadway type and/or location within the Town.



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A formally adopted Town road standard wherein one size does not fit all is necessary for numerous reasons—one being contracting for road work and another being private paving of roads.

- ITB for FY24 paving plan, plus revisions
 - The ITB for the 2024 Paving Project is set to be placed out to bid on February 5th. It is anticipated to be on May agenda for award of contract.
- Improved communication with PBC (i.e. work on North Rd.)
 - The Public Works Director is communicating with the Palm Beach County Water Utilities Director to request the information from the Zone 5 management and enter to talks regarding prior notification for incidents.

MOWING

Dept assigned: Public Works

- Outside contracts to leverage staff effort & need for equipment
 - Public Works staff is capable of maintaining the mowing demands of the Town.
- D Road west side not properly maintained & canal bank falling in, what is the plan to address this
 - At this time Public Works does not have easements to access the West side of a large section of the D Rd canal. The Public Works Directors is going to begin the process of securing maintenance easements to provide better access to the area. In the meantime, Public Works is exploring its options for maintaining the banks from the opposite side.
- North side of town overgrown
 - The Public Works Department has been working to and is making headway on removing or trimming back the overgrowth.
- Tree removal in swales – Who does & when? Letters need to go to residents ASAP
 - Large trees that are a threat to the safety and welfare of the residents or staff are being removed by the town. All other debris removal is being sent to Code Compliance for the residents to be notified their overgrowth is considered a nuisance.

TRAILS

Dept assigned: Public Works

- Need signs for horse trails
 - The Public Works Directors is currently reviewing verbiage and consulting with our legal team to obtain the correct verbiage in regards to horse trail safety signs.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Dept assigned: Town Manager

- Late agendas
 - Current Clerk goal is to implement/better use agenda process and civic plus publishing system to meet deadlines and to improve consistency. She has also already put in place a modified format
- Policy for accepting gifts



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- Town has policy for accepting gifts under \$5,000 in its procurement policy and will bring forward a policy for accepting gifts greater than that amount an upcoming agenda.
- Change easement policy to allow staff to accept easements without Council approval
 - Revised policy placed on this agenda with respect to staff acceptance of temporary or construction easements as well as where Council directions easements for specific properties to be obtained for properties specifically related to an approved project and/or purpose. A code revision making the change for all easement acceptance will be brought forward in the future.