



**STAFF REPORT
VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON
PLANNING & ZONING DIVISION**

I. Ordinance Description:

Ordinance No. : Ordinance 2014-26

Applicant: Village of Wellington

Request: Adoption of the Bridle Trail Map provided for in the Equestrian Preservation Element of Wellington's Comprehensive Plan

II. Background:

Equestrian facilities have been a Village priority since incorporation in 1995. In September 1997 an *Evaluation of Equestrian Circulation* was prepared by International Equestrian Design. This evaluation was utilized by CH2M Hill in March 2004 to prepare the *Equestrian Trails Circulation Master Plan*. This plan has been the basis for improvements to the Village's bridle paths and was utilized in 2010 in the creation of the equestrian trails plan. These improvements are primarily funded through the capital improvement plan (CIP).

The circulation plan is part of the Equestrian Preservation Element in Wellington's Comprehensive Plan. The Element establishes the Equestrian Preserve Area (EPA) and sets out specific goals and objectives for preservation and protection of the equestrian industry and rural lifestyle. The need for the Bridle Trail Map is to provide the Village with a specific instrument for implementing better circulation and improved safety throughout the EPA.

III. Analysis:

One of the Equestrian Preservation Element policies outlined in the Comprehensive Plan requires review of the equestrian circulation map by 2010. In 2010 the Equestrian Preserve Committee reviewed the existing circulation conditions and developed a Bridle Trail Map. This Bridle Trail Map and the 2004 *Equestrian Trails Circulation Master Plan* provide the basis for Ordinance 2014-26.

This ordinance would adopt the Bridle Trail Map that was reviewed during 2010 Equestrian Preserve Committee meetings. This circulation plan provides an update to the circulation map adopted with the Comprehensive Plan. Improvements include better circulation, accessibility, and improved safety through analysis of the Village's trail system and its conflict points.

Staff finds the proposed ordinance to be in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan and the following Objective and Policies of the Equestrian Preservation Element:

Objective 1.2 The Village of Wellington has adopted as part of its Comprehensive Plan, a Future Equestrian Circulation Map. The objective of this map is to provide a plan for the creation of separation of vehicular and equestrian traffic to the greatest extent possible to ensure the safety of both motorists and equestrians. This objective shall be made measurable by its implementing policies and by creation of an equestrian transportation system in accordance herewith through the implementation of capital improvement projects and other actions by the Wellington Council.

Policy 1.2.6 By February 2010, Wellington shall complete a review and report on the location of existing equestrian trails, an analysis of existing and recommended improvements and a prioritization prepared in conjunction with the EPC, for future installation of improvements. Wellington shall, to the extent practical, utilize in-house public works and engineering resources to achieve these reviews.

Policy 1.2.7 By February 2010, Wellington shall review and generate a report analyzing existing or potential plans for enhanced equestrian crossings and intersections at South Shore Boulevard and Pierson Road, South Shore Boulevard and Lake Worth Road, South Road, and any others identified by the Equestrian Preservation Committee. Wellington shall, to the extent practical, utilize in-house public works and engineering resources to achieve these reviews, although specific equestrian engineering expertise may be necessary.

IV. Public Comments:

There were no public comments regarding the proposed comprehensive plan amendment at the Equestrian Preserve Committee meeting on August 18, 2014. There were no public comments regarding the proposed comprehensive plan amendment at the Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board meeting on October 1, 2014.

V. Equestrian Preserve Committee:

The Equestrian Preserve Committee recommended adopting Ordinance 2014-26 by a 4-1 vote at its August 18, 2014 meeting.

VI. Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board:

The Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board recommended adopting Ordinance 2014-26 by a unanimous vote at its October 1, 2014 meeting.

VII. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 2014-26 adopting the Bridle Trail Map created by the 2010 equestrian trail report and 2004 Equestrian Circulation Master Plan.

Exhibit "A"

