

**Wellington
Equestrian Preserve Committee Meeting
December 7, 2016
Village Hall
12300 Forest Hill Boulevard**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm. Jane Cleveland, Dr. Sergio Guerreiro, Doug Hundt, Dr. Rachel Eidelman, Robert Bushey, and Carol Cohen were present. Dr. Kristy Lund arrived late.

Staff present: Robert Basehart, Michael O'Dell, David Flinchum, J. Higbee, and Ryan Harding

II. Approval of the December 7, 2016 Equestrian Preserve Committee Meeting Agenda

III. Workshop

A. Venues Discussion

The venues discussion was postponed for a later date.

B. Levels of Service and Traffic Performance

Wellington traffic consultant, Andrea Troutman of Pinder Troutman Consulting, Inc., explained the levels of service for traffic performance. She stated most jurisdictions choose Level of Service D because it is where the speed levels begin to decrease as traffic increases. The Equestrian Preserve Area (EPA) is at Level of Service E. Ms. Troutman stated the reasons she believes level of service E was chosen for the EPA was to keep the roads at two lanes and to slow down traffic.

Ms. Troutman explained that if Wellington chose to go to a higher level of service, such as LOS C, some roads in the EPA would exceed the traffic counts allowed. This would mean any future development could possibly require the developer to share some of the costs of development associated with roadways and traffic standards. However, Level of Service D is closer to E and would not have as great an impact.

Dr. Guerreiro asked where the discussion came from to change the level of service. Mr. O'Dell replied our charter states that development shall pay for itself. The citizens should not be burdened with the cost of roadway improvements for development. Throughout discussions with the community, we've heard that improvements are needed for better traffic flow in the EPA. On the other hand, we've also heard that traffic needs to be slowed down.

Dr. Guerreiro stated he does not want a four-lane highway at the intersection of Pierson Road and South Shore Boulevard. Actions should be taken to decrease speed, not increase it, and he would like

a flashing 15 m.p.h. sign during equestrian events. Ms. Cohen agreed that traffic needs to be slowed down around the Pierson and South Shore areas.

Ms. Cleveland stated the committee should consider adding improvements to the intersections of Pierson at South Shore and Lake Worth at 120th to the recommendations of the Plan of Action. There was discussion about Lake Worth Road becoming the gateway to the EPA given the turnpike improvements and the location of IPC and Grand Champions. Dr. Guerreiro stated it would really help the EPA to widen Lake Worth Road. The committee agreed improvements at the two intersections and the widening of Lake Worth Road should be focal points of roadway improvements recommended in the Plan of Action.

C. Equestrian Plan of Action – Infrastructure

Mr. O'Dell discussed the multi-purpose pathway backbone system recommended in the Plan of Action. He stated all of the roadways in the south end of Wellington with the exception of South Shore and 50th Street are 25 m.p.h. or less. That means licensed golf carts can use those roadways. The backbone system would provide a way to get around the EPA to paved surfaces. It would be a separate system from bike paths in the roadway.

Mr. Bushey asked how we could add a multi-purpose path to Pierson. Mr. O'Dell replied, "That's a good question." It may be an area where different users have to merge such as cars and bikes. If we have it in the plan though, when developers come through we can ask for those improvements.

Dr. Guerreiro stated there is room on the north side of Pierson and he thinks there's an opportunity to create a path for golf carts, motorcycles, scooters, and other modes.

Mr. O'Dell stated he has talked with the Information Technology Department about ways to improve cellular and internet service in the EPA. He added staff will come back with a plan with various options for improving service.

Ms. Cleveland asked about the recommendation for an equestrian overpass in the Plan of Action. Mr. O'Dell replied it is something that has been talked about for decades. Dr. Guerreiro stated the overpass would be very expensive, and could make crossing more difficult in some locations because of the size of the structure. He stated the flashing signs work well and he has talked with council members about adding more of the signs. The committee agreed that flashing signs and continued use of PBSO officers may be a better option than creating an overpass.

IV. Staff Comments

There were no staff comments.

V. Board Comments

Chair Cleveland advised the board there may be a need for a second January meeting depending on how many items are confirmed for the first.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Lund made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bushey and it passed unanimously (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Jane Cleveland, Chair

Ryan Harding, Recording Secretary