

Equestrian



EQUESTRIAN GOALS

GOAL EQ 1	PRESERVE THE EQUESTRIAN LIFESTYLE IN WELLINGTON Preserve Wellington's equestrian community and its equestrian lifestyle.
GOAL EQ 2	MAINTAIN A MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK IN THE EPA Maintain a multi-modal transportation network within the EPA with a focus on the safety of horses and riders.
GOAL EQ 3	SUPPORT WELLINGTON'S EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION INDUSTRY Support the equestrian competition industry as a component of the equestrian lifestyle and an economic sector of Wellington.

NOTE: Accomplishing the goals, objectives, and policies of the Equestrian Element is difficult due to state exemptions from regulation of agricultural uses and structures (Florida Statute s. 604.50) without the cooperation of the equestrian community and farm owners within the Equestrian Preserve Area. Any objectives or policies regarding regulation of development are not applicable to any structure or agricultural activity exempted from Wellington codes by §. 604.50 F.S.



**GOAL EQ 1
PRESERVE THE EQUESTRIAN LIFESTYLE IN WELLINGTON**

Preserve Wellington's equestrian community and its equestrian lifestyle.

**Objective EQ 1.1
Equestrian Lifestyle and Development Patterns**

Preserve the equestrian lifestyle and development patterns through the implementation of the Equestrian Overlay Zoning District to support large lot, equestrian farms, to the extent the Village is not preempted by State statute.

**Policy EQ 1.1.1
Equestrian Overlay Zoning District**

Implement the Equestrian Overlay Zoning District (EOZD) to preserve the characteristics of the EPA. The intent of the EOZD is to:

- 1) Preserve the equestrian lifestyles and large lot, equestrian farms which exist in the EOZD;
- 2) Establish site development regulations that recognize the characteristics of the equestrian lifestyle and development pattern while maintaining the overall residential density of the EPA; and
- 3) Permit limited commercial uses as defined in the land development regulations and that are not deemed a nuisance, which support the equestrian industry, within properties approved as planned developments or within commercial recreation land uses.

**Policy EQ 1.1.2
Infrastructure impacts and costs**

Development and re-development within EPA that generates public infrastructure impacts above the entitlement densities that existed on the date of incorporation (12/31/1995) shall bear costs associated with improving or expanding public facilities and infrastructure required to maintain adopted Level of Service standards in the same manner as other development Village-wide.

**Objective EQ 1.2
Environmental Impacts**

Evaluate the impacts of farm and venue operation on the volume and quantity of stormwater discharge, and land development on water quality within the EPA to develop plans to meet the water quality requirements established in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) "*Numeric Water Quality Standards*".



Policy EQ 1.2.1

Horse Waste – Disposal Alternatives

Continue to investigate alternatives for horse waste disposal that have reduced environmental impacts, reduced hauling demands, and sustainable reuse solutions, potentially through a corporative regional approach, which can be supported by Wellington.

Policy EQ 1.2.2

Water Quality

Coordinate with state and federal agencies to address water quality standards in the EPA and identify policies or programs to support water quality improvement, which may be jointly implemented.

Policy EQ 1.2.3

Water Quality Impacts

Current federal water quality standards will require changes in how and when Wellington accepts water into its public water bodies including canals and lakes. Additional regulatory standards may be required to ensure that water entering the public system meets federal water quality standards. The major change will be in phosphorus limits, the federal standard for phosphorous loadings has changed from "*Average Daily Load (ADL)*" to "*Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)*."

Properties within EPA that are not subject to water quality *Best Management Practices (BMP's)* may be subject to limiting direct discharge into ACME canals. This may include a limitation on phosphorous to a TMDL of not more than 49 ppb.

Should the federal government begin enforcement of the changed phosphorous standards, Wellington shall develop an education and outreach program that recommends a broad range of water quality BMP's relating to meeting revised USEPA total phosphorus loads requirements. This program shall address meeting water quality standards on-site prior to discharge into the Wellington/ACME system. The program shall also address the financial responsibilities for costs associated with the impacts on public facilities and the infrastructure required to meet the standard.



**GOAL EQ 2
MAINTAIN A MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK IN THE EPA**

Maintain a multi-modal transportation network with a focus on equestrians.

**Objective EQ 2.1
Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan**

Continue implementation of the adopted Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan (November, 2015) to improve the safety of both motorists and equestrians and provide a connected circulation system in the EPA as funding becomes available from developer contributions, grants, or assessments.

**Policy EQ 2.1.1
Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan Review**

Regularly review and update the adopted Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan, which includes bridle trail mapping and recommendations, along with details for the separation of motorized vehicles from equestrians to improve the safety for both.

**Policy EQ 2.1.2
Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan Implementation**

Use the Equestrian Trails Circulation Plan to program capital improvements that improve equestrian safety, and develop funding options, which may include grants, assessments or other benefit group specific sources.

**Policy EQ 2.1.3
Bridle Trail Easements and Dedications**

Pursue easements or conveyance of property for bridle trails to create a well-connected, public network within the EPA.

**Policy EQ 2.1.4
Bridle Trail Connections**

Pursue trail projects and extensions that link to local, County, State, and Federal lands, providing trail access to locations both within and outside Wellington's borders.

**Objective EQ 2.2
Roadway Network**

Maintain a roadway network within the EPA that minimizes the impacts of vehicular traffic by controlling traffic volumes and speeds appropriate to the equestrian lifestyle while requiring vehicular traffic impacts from the equestrian competition venues to be mitigated by the respective venues.



Policy EQ 2.2.1 Local Roadway Travel Lanes

Local roadways within the EPA shall be maintained at a maximum of two travel lanes, except for possibly Lake Worth Road (see Policy EQ 2.2.2), and South Shore Boulevard between Pierson and Lake Worth Road, provided any expansion/improvement also consider equestrian safety measures to be put in place. These measures may include, but not be limited to signal timing at Lake Worth Road and South Shore Boulevard to consider volume of traffic flow, signalization at Lake Worth Road and 120th Avenue S. considering both equestrian and school traffic, and equestrian safety measures at Pierson Road and South Shore Boulevard. All affected intersections shall incorporate appropriate equestrian crossings to accommodate the new designs.

Policy EQ 2.2.2 Lake Worth Road

Develop Lake Worth Road as a gateway into the EPA by expanding the section from 120th Avenue South to South Shore Boulevard from two lanes to four lanes. The design of this section of Lake Worth Road will celebrate the equestrian competition lifestyle and signify to motorists they're entering the EPA.

Policy 2.2.3 Unpaved Roads

Unpaved roads within the EPA shall be not be paved without approval by the Wellington Council. Roadway paving projects within the EPA shall include separated paths for equestrian and low speed vehicles. Emphasis will be placed on connecting pathways to the existing network. Improvements shall be financed by a special assessment to the benefit properties.

Objective EQ 2.3 Golf Cart and Low-Speed Vehicles

Develop regulations for the use of golf carts and low speed vehicles within the EPA.

Policy EQ 2.3.1 Regulatory Framework

Adopt regulations that provide for the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles within the EPA. These regulations shall be evaluated every five years to establish success rates, identify areas of concern, and update standards.

Policy EQ 2.3.2 Shared Use

Allow for the shared use of roadways and canal banks by horses, golf carts, and low speed vehicles. Use of motorized vehicles on the Blue, Green, Red, White, and Brown Trails shall be strongly discouraged to increase the safety on the bridle trails handling higher equestrian traffic volumes due to proximity to the competition venues.



**GOAL EQ 3
SUPPORT WELLINGTON'S EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION INDUSTRY**

Support the equestrian competition industry as a component of the equestrian lifestyle and an economic sector of Wellington.

**Objective EQ 3.1
Economic Impact and Sustainability**

Continue to work with Wellington's business community, Chambers of Commerce, the equestrian competition industry, the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, the Palm Beach County Tourist Board, and to quantify the equestrian community's economic impact and evaluate Wellington's policies, programs, and regulations on the sustainability of the equestrian competition industry and the equestrian community.

**Policy EQ 3.1.1
Equestrian Competition Support**

Continue to coordinate with local agencies, such as the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and the Palm Beach County Tourism Board, to promote Wellington's equestrian competition industry and equestrian community as an economic and tourism benefit to Wellington, Palm Beach County, and the region.

**Objective EQ 3.2
Equestrian Competition Sustainability and Diversity**

Evaluate Wellington's codes, standards, programs, and policies to support the diversity of the equestrian competition industry through continued coordination with equestrian competition venue operators and the equestrian competition licensing agencies.

**Policy EQ 3.2.1
Equestrian Competition Venues**

Regularly coordinate with the equestrian competition venue operators and equestrian sport's governing bodies regarding changes to the equestrian standards and determine appropriate changes to Wellington's codes, standards, programs, and policies to support the diversity of the equestrian competition industry.