



DRAFT DISCUSSION DOCUMENT FOR JANUARY 11, 2010 EQUESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Clark County Equestrian Plan

Goals:

1. Complete the construction the County's Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan.
2. Integrate trail systems and open space within rural centers and urban areas, thus enhancing the overall character of existing development, providing additional economic opportunities, and providing additional opportunities for the reduction of motorized transportation.
3. Whenever feasible, require new equestrian residential development to adopt residential cluster design concepts with shared use facilities, and permanently designated open space, thereby reducing the overall environmental impact and protecting sensitive or otherwise high quality habitat. They must be compatible with surrounding land uses and be located adjacent to or in close in proximity to other open space , multi-use trails, and/or rural centers or urban areas. These new developments should include appropriate internal trails, as well as trails allowing linkage to rural centers or urban areas, multi-use trail systems, open space, regional parks, etc., as well as natural buffers to screen facilities, primary roadways, and between individual residential tracts.
4. Encourage all new construction and development to meet or exceed LEED certification standards, or equal.
5. All equestrian properties should employ best management practices to ensure animal health, protect the environment, and be sensitive to surrounding neighbors and land uses.
6. Educate the general public regarding the benefits to all citizens of equestrian based communities. These may include but are not limited to:
- 7.

- a) The preservation of open space through the use of shared habitats
 - b) Improved water quality due to open space and multi-use trail system buffers
 - c) Wildlife corridors
 - d) Improved air quality due to the use of expanded/interlinked non-motorized trail systems
 - e) Positive impacts to the local economy not only by equestrians, both local and at large, but also local and visiting non-equestrians utilizing trails and open space
 - f) Increased values and faster sales for all properties adjacent to or nearby trail systems or other open space
 - g) Open space and multi-use trail systems provide recreational opportunities for non-equestrians, resulting in significant health/fitness benefits and therefore an overall reduction in healthcare costs
 - h) Unique social and educational opportunities
 - i) Business opportunities which meet equestrian and recreational needs.
8. Provide historical information to the public regarding the significance of equines in the county's cultural heritage, as well as historical information about specific trails and open space.
 9. To ensure safe interactions between equestrians, non-equestrians, and motorized vehicles; educate the general public regarding proper equine etiquette.
 10. Educate the general public about the myths and facts surrounding the equine's use on trail systems, conservation lands, etc.
 11. Develop an identity program. Work with the appropriate organizations and public agencies to promote Clark County as a regional, state and national equestrian and recreational destination. Develop marketing materials and update websites to clearly describe the equestrian overview, parks, trails, facilities, events, and services. Promote the County for equestrian tourism as well as ecological tourism (eco-tourism).
 12. Encourage economic growth by promoting commercial opportunities that provide viable equestrian based services along major travel corridors, multi-use trail systems, parks, or other facilities as appropriate.
 13. Expand existing public facilities, add facilities, and/or develop a new equestrian park, which address needs of the County's equestrian community and will provide the appropriate venue and services required to attract large regional or national equine events and thereby further enhance economic development.
 14. Preserve quality agriculture lands to ensure adequate and sustainable local feed production.