



Position Statement
Golden Ocala Equestrian Land Proposals for the
Crupi Farm, the Plumley Farm and the Ocala Jockey Club

Horse Farms Forever supports the proposal from Golden Ocala Equestrian Land (GOEL) to replace the B-2 zoning on the 256-acre Crupi farm and 247-acre Plumley farm properties with A-1 zoning and to develop these properties into horse farms of 10-acres or larger.

In addition, Horse Farms Forever supports the GOEL proposal to develop the 1,000+ acre Jockey Club properties into less than 100 horse farms of 3-acres or more, thus reserving over half the remaining acres for equestrian activities including polo, eventing, driving, rodeo, and other equine activities. The development of this property would include a hotel and other venues.

While Horse Farms Forever strongly favors maintaining 10-acre or larger parcels within the Farmland Preservation Area, the GOEL proposal to cluster the farm sites into 3-acre or larger tracts and thus allow a much larger common area for equine activities is smart planning. In particular, the fact that the total acreage divided by the number of farm sites results in a 10-acre or greater average was impactful in our support.

The consensus of the HFF Board of Directors was that these GOEL proposals align with the mission and vision of Horse Farms Forever. The Golden Ocala Equestrian Land organization is to be complimented for the tremendous investment they have made in the Marion County equestrian industry.

The mission of Horse Farms Forever is to inspire conservation of horse farms through education, awareness and idea exchange so as to preserve the character and culture that horses and the Farmland Preservation Area make unique to Marion County. We are watchful of government and others to preserve and protect horse farms and farmland for future generations, especially in the Farmland Preservation Area. We are neither anti-growth nor anti-development, rather encouraging urban growth to remain inside the Urban Growth Boundary.

Horse Farms Forever is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as a charitable organization and approved as a tax-exempt 501 (C) (3) corporation by the Internal Revenue Service. Horse Farms Forever does not have a political mission. Our status as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization does not allow us to participate or intervene in political activities. The organization will neither advocate on behalf of political candidates nor advocate for the passage of legislation.