



**Marion County  
Board of County Commissioners**

**Office of the County Engineer**

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Ocala, FL 34471  
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May 23, 2025

TILLMAN & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING  
DAVID TILLMAN  
1720 SE 16TH AVENUE BLDG 100  
OCALA, FL 34471

**SUBJECT: DRC INFORMATIONAL LETTER**

PROJECT NAME: RLR GOLDEN OCALA (MASTER PROJECT NO PERMITS)

PROJECT #1999004491

APPLICATION: REZONING TO PUD WITH CONCEPT PLAN #32565

Dear TILLMAN & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING:

The above referenced project was reviewed by Development Review staff and the following comments are for your review. You need not reply to the comments, and if the comments have been previously completed, simply disregard. Your plan will be scheduled for approval by the Development Review Committee on May 23, 2025. This item will be on the consent agenda and attendance is not required.

Your plan has been forwarded to the County Engineer for approval.

- 1 DEPARTMENT: DOH - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Central Sewer/Central Water
- 2 DEPARTMENT: ENGDRN - STORMWATER REVIEW  
REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Stormwater is not opposed to the rezoning. The applicant proposes to amend the existing PUD to allow for a sports complex and to modify design standards. The affected parcels are currently zoned PUD and are a total of 4,276 acres in size. A Major Site Plan Revision submittal will need to be reviewed and approved through DRC for the proposed development of the site. There are County Flood Prone Areas and FEMA Flood Zones on the project site. Please ensure LDC 6.13 is met with the Major Site Plan.
- 3 DEPARTMENT: ENGTRF - TRAFFIC REVIEW  
REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: 4/3/25 – RECOMMEND DENIAL: Applicant submitted applications to 1) Convert 236 acres of Low Residential land use to WEC land use; 2) Add Sports Facilities with acreage limits to WEC land use; 3) Replace existing 13,500 seat limit for Equestrian Facilities with 210-acre limit; 4) Increase existing limit

on hotel rooms from 1,350 to 1,650 rooms; and 5) Remove existing restrictions on concerts.

County Traffic does not support the proposed changes for the following reasons:

1. The proposed land use change with the addition of sports facilities will increase the external daily project trips by 2,926 (131%) and increase the external afternoon peak hour project trips by 494 (223%) as compared to the existing Low Residential land use. This additional traffic will negatively impact operations on 7 roadway segments on SR 40 that already exceed or come to close to exceeding their maximum level of service volume in the existing condition. County Traffic could only support approval of the WEC Sports Complex if the existing entitlements for Golden Ocala were reduced to achieve a net zero increase in project trips as compared to what's already approved for Golden Ocala.
2. There is no established practice of estimating trip generation for Equestrian Facilities or Sports Facilities based on acres of land. The ITE Trip Generation Manual does not include calculations based on acres, but rather number of seats for Horse Racetrack and number of fields for Soccer Complex. Using acres for project entitlements increases the uncertainty in the trip generation as well as the potential impacts to surrounding roadways.
3. County Traffic does not support increasing the limit on hotel rooms at this time. To date, Golden Ocala constructed 2 hotels with a total of 642 rooms. An additional 708 hotel rooms can be constructed before reaching the existing maximum entitlement of 1,350 rooms. Should additional hotel rooms be needed in the future, amendments to the project entitlements can be considered at that time.
4. Removing the existing restrictions on concerts will increase the potential for traffic issues on the surrounding intersections and roadway segments. The ITE Trip Generation Manual does not include a land use for concerts. Therefore, the full impacts of removing the concert restrictions cannot be quantified. The existing Development Agreement for Golden Ocala allows up to 4 concerts per calendar year subject to obtaining a special event permit from the County and providing a traffic management plan. This process ensures that potential traffic impacts are properly vetted prior to approval of the concert event. County Traffic does not support removing the requirements for a special event permit or traffic management plan for concerts. However, we are not opposed to allowing more than 4 concerts per calendar year.

4 DEPARTMENT: ENGTRF - TRAFFIC REVIEW

REVIEW ITEM: 4.2.31.F(2)(b)(14) - Preliminary sidewalk and multimodal circulation plan

STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: 4/3/25 - Interconnectivity needed between on-site locations.

5 DEPARTMENT: FRMSH - FIRE MARSHAL REVIEW

REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan

STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: Marion County has reviewed and approved the concept plan as provided for the location. Approval of this concept plan shall not be inferred or assumed that fire approval has been granted for the entire project. Project will be required to submit plans for review including site plans, improvement plans, building plans, etc. All plans submitted in the future will need to comply with national, state, and local fire codes as applicable to the project.

6 DEPARTMENT: FRMSH - FIRE MARSHAL REVIEW

REVIEW ITEM: 6.18.2 - Fire Flow/Fire Hydrant

STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: Site plans shall note on the plans if a new hydrant is installed shall be installed, tested, and painted per NFPA 291, by a third party contractor and witnessed by a Marion County Fire Inspector.

7 DEPARTMENT: FRMSH - FIRE MARSHAL REVIEW

REVIEW ITEM: NFPA 1 Chapter 18.2.3 Fire Dept Access Roads

STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: Please ensure the site plan meets the minimum requirements per NFPA 1 Chapter 18 for fire department access. Need to show fire department access road with a minimum of 20 feet in width of a stabilized surface to support the weight of a fire truck within 50 feet of the access door.

- 8 DEPARTMENT: UTIL - MARION COUNTY UTILITIES  
REVIEW ITEM: 6.14.2.A(1) - Public water service area/provider  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Marion County Utilities
- 9 DEPARTMENT: UTIL - MARION COUNTY UTILITIES  
REVIEW ITEM: 6.14.2.A(1) - Public sewer service area/provider  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Marion County Utilities
- 10 DEPARTMENT: UTIL - MARION COUNTY UTILITIES  
REVIEW ITEM: 6.15.3 - Fire Protection/Fire Flow Capacity  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Marion County Fire Rescue. MCU will provide water.
- 11 DEPARTMENT: UTIL - MARION COUNTY UTILITIES  
REVIEW ITEM: Additional Utilities Comments  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Marion County Utilities will review connections and services during the site plan review.
- 12 DEPARTMENT: ZONE - ZONING DEPARTMENT  
REVIEW ITEM: 4.2.31.F(2)(b)(8) / 4.2.31.F(2)(13) - A typical drawing of an interior lot, corner lot, and cul-de-sac lot noting setback requirements and parking lot locations.  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: No lot minimums or typicals. Improvements are a single site.
- 13 DEPARTMENT: ZONE - ZONING DEPARTMENT  
REVIEW ITEM: 4.2.31.F(2)(b)(10) - Identify proposed phasing on the plan.  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Note 6 on cover page states there will be phasing but does not provide total number and sequence of phases.
- 14 DEPARTMENT: ZONE - ZONING DEPARTMENT  
REVIEW ITEM: Location of water and sewer facilities.  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: Where are water/sewer facilities?
- 15 DEPARTMENT: LSCAPE - LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND IRRIGATION  
REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO  
REMARKS: 1. Staff does not support modifications to buffers 2. Shade trees shall be 3.5" minimum caliper at installation. 3. Walls or fences shall not be substituted for 3 foot high shrubs. 5. Clarify Type B buffer minimum inches per 100 LF statement 6. Staff does not support notes #3, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16 without further discussion.
- 16 DEPARTMENT: 911 - 911 MANAGEMENT  
REVIEW ITEM: Rezoning to PUD with conceptual plan  
STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: APPROVED

17 DEPARTMENT: 911 - 911 MANAGEMENT

REVIEW ITEM: 6.2.1.F - North arrow and graphic drawing and written scale

STATUS OF REVIEW: INFO

REMARKS: APPROVED

Feel free to contact us at (352) 671-8686 or [DevelopmentReview@marionfl.org](mailto:DevelopmentReview@marionfl.org) with questions.

Sincerely,

*Your Development Review Team*

**Office of the County Engineer**