

**From:** Nancy Jacoby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 06, 2017 9:20 PM  
**To:** Carol Calabresa  
**Cc:** Randy Seebach; John Tannahill  
**Subject:** Lakewood Equestrian Trails

John Tannahill directed me to you as the proper person to send a review request for the Planning Committee regarding the use of Lake County Forest Preserve land. There is a group of equestrians in the area who are dedicated to the equestrian sport of carriage driving - both for pleasure and competitive events - that is requesting such a review to change the existing usage to include driving small carriages and carts on the Lakewood Equestrian Trails.

Driving has a long and respected history in equestrian sports and has local participants across a wide spectrum of activities. The current allocation of area to drive in the Lake County Preserves does not meet the needs of those participants, both from a safety standpoint and from a scope of usefulness. The average driving horse requires significantly longer than three miles to condition and it would be a rare driver who would want a chance meeting with a sled dog team on a trail - there is a reason the equestrian trails do not allow dogs. It is likely that past allocation for driving may have been based on limited real experience with the sport of carriage driving and it's many aspects.

Carriage drivers are a "safety first" group of equestrians, with long hours of training and significant investment in equipment such as carts/carriages/harness and the truck and trailer to haul it all. The Lakewood Trails are particularly well suited to carriage driving with excellent width, grading, visibility and gentle hills. They are a safe environment without dogs or motorized equipment and/or bicycles. The trailer parking is excellent for haul in - which offers a nice revenue opportunity for Lake County.

I would like to request a face to face meeting in order to exchange information about the scope of this portion of equestrian activity and the increased utilization that would support the mission of the forest preserves.

In addition, I would like to extend an invitation to you and other interested committee persons to go for a drive with some members of the local driving community so that you can experience first hand the sport of driving.

I look forward to your reply,

Nancy Jacoby