

PROPOSED MAJOR COMMUNITY ISSUES RELATING TO ALACHUA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT

FOR LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

- 1. How to strengthen the land use/transportation connection to enhance quality of life, make efficient use of land, promote energy efficiency and reduce the County's carbon footprint, including:**
 - Identification of ways to promote compact, higher density, mixed use development while assessing the capacity of the Urban Cluster relative to updated population projections;
 - Assessment of Activity Center/Commercial policies in meeting goals indicated above; Development of alternative approaches to standard concurrency strategies for traffic congestion (eg. Transit Oriented Development, Transportation System Management, alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips);
 - Extending effective multi-modal transportation to outlying areas of the county to enable access to major destinations in the urban area;
 - Review of road function and design standards in an urban context;
 - Prioritize capital projects, especially for transportation and recreation facilities, to serve existing populations;
 - Determination of best ways to integrate policies relating to these issues and promote energy conservation and green building and design, including consideration of an Energy Element.

- 2. How to enhance the economic strength of the community in a sustainable manner that protects natural resources, including:**
 - Assessment of sufficiency and appropriateness of location of land designated for industrial and office uses (both in the unincorporated area and Countywide) and review of Industrial and Office land use policies;
 - Promotion of job diversification/creation/retention;
 - Evaluation of potential strategies (including implementation of Transfer of Development Rights program) to promote sustainable agriculture and/or retention of existing agriculture;
 - How can economic development in East Gainesville area be promoted in a manner consistent with environmental stewardship?
 - Review of policies promoting eco-tourism and linkage between tourism and arts development;
 - Promotion of use of recycled materials and waste alternatives.

- 3. How to ensure sufficient protection of greenspace:**
 - Assess adequacy of greenspace protection throughout the County;
 - Consider level of service for conservation land separate from resource-based recreation, and assess means of implementation including establishment of permanent funding source, 'less than fee' acquisitions and other tools, including Transfer of Development Rights program.

- 4. Water Resources:**
 - Assess sufficiency of policies protecting wetlands, surface waters, springsheds, groundwater, wellfields, and water quality, including linkages with stormwater management and promotion of low-impact development (LID) techniques, and potable water and sanitary sewer policies and implementation;
 - Assess water conservation and reuse strategies.

- 5. Affordable and Special Needs Housing:**
 - Evaluate effectiveness of Plan in promoting affordable housing, including a range of housing types and lot sizes and policies promoting live/work units;

- Assess how Plan policies and implementation impact the cost of housing;
- Assess need to require affordable housing in all developments and consider funding sources to provide affordable housing retroactively in existing development;
- Address recommendations of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (due by Dec. 08);
- Assess special needs housing and how to best coordinate to meet needs.

6. Recreation:

- Review level of service standards for recreation facilities (currently Activity-Based and Resource-Based) both in terms of the level and structure (i.e. Countywide unincorporated vs. community-based as in Recreation Master Plan) taking into consideration the County role relative to recreation facilities;
- Consider how to best meet recreational programming needs of the community;
- Consider how to coordinate level of service standards with municipalities while providing for development and operation of economically sustainable parks.

7. Intergovernmental Coordination and Planning:

- Assess County/Municipal Comprehensive Plans relative to the Countywide Visioning and Planning Process;
- Consider ways to improve coordination with municipalities and adjacent counties relative to service provision and facility service levels;
- Develop effective approaches to interjurisdictional and interagency coordination regarding protection of resources (Strategic Ecosystems, wetlands and surface waters, groundwater, etc.);
- Review State and Federal agency listings for threatened and endangered species to determine if adjustments are needed, and assess related State and Federal Management Plans;
- Determine key provisions of the Local Mitigation Strategy needing incorporation into Plan.

8. Review and update Long Range Transportation Map Series:

- Update maps based on population projections and planning horizon (currently 2020);
- Assess maps and related policies in context of land use, natural resource and economic development goals;
- Clarify corridor preservation policies and use of the Future Traffic Circulation Corridors Map.

9. Public Health and Safety:

- Assess means of best addressing efficiency, safety and level of service for Fire Rescue and Emergency Services, including need for a Public Safety Element;
- Consider ways to promote public health, including possible Public Health Element.

10. Fiscal Constraints:

- Evaluate various planning initiatives as implementation mechanisms by the County (e.g. Special Area Plans for Strategic Ecosystems, Activity Center Master Plans) in light of budgetary constraints and assess how these issues should be addressed within those constraints;
- Evaluate need for Air Quality Program;
- Evaluate capital project capacity in light of current fiscal constraints.

11. Historic Preservation:

- Assess Historic Preservation policies and develop strategies for implementation (e.g. Historic Preservation Ordinance)