Madison County

2035 Comprehensive Plan



Prepared for

Madison County

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Madison, Florida 32340

Adopted

July 2013

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Madison County Comprehensive Plan

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**SECTION 1. FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 – IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVING THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY, DIRECT DEVELOPMENT TO THOSE AREAS WHICH HAVE IN PLACE, OR HAVE AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE, THE LAND AND WATER RESOURCES, FISCAL ABILITIES AND SERVICE CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE MANNER.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: The County shall maintain a Future Land Use Map which coordinates future land uses with appropriate topography, soil conditions, conservation of natural resources and availability of facilities and services.

Policy 1.1.1: The County shall regulate land use through designation of land use districts on a Future Land Use Map. The Future Land Use Map shall be used to determine the location and extent of development within the County consistent with the conservation of natural resources and availability of public facilities and services. Land use districts depicted on the Future Land Use Map shall be described as follows.

1. Agriculture-1

a. Intent. This district is intended to provide for crop cultivation, livestock, specialty farms, silviculture areas and dwelling units.

b. Density. 1 du / 40 acres

2. Agriculture-2

a. Intent. This district is intended to provide for crop cultivation, livestock, specialty farms, silviculture areas and allow for additional residential densities.

b. Density. 1 du / 10 acres

3. Residential

a. Intent. This district is intended to provide areas for the preservation or development of low-density neighborhoods.

b. Density. One (1) dwelling unit per acre for development not served by a community potable water and sanitary sewer system; two (2) dwelling units per acre with community potable water or sanitary sewer service; up to eight (8) units per acre within a planned residential development with community potable water and sanitary sewer service and which contains an internal road system that is paved according to County specifications.

4. Commercial

a. Intent. This district is intended to provide areas used for the sale, rental and distribution of products, or performance of services.

b. Intensity. 1.0 Floor Area Ratio

5. Industrial

a. Intent. This district is intended to create areas used for the manufacturing, assembly processing or storage of products.

b. Intensity. 1.0 Floor Area Ratio

6. Public

a. Intent. This district is intended to provide public buildings and grounds, other public facilities, (including sewer systems, solid waste systems, drainage systems and potable water systems), public health systems and educational uses.

b. Intensity. 1.0 Floor Area Ratio

7. Conservation

a. Intent. This district is intended for public lands devoted to the conservation of the unique natural functions. With silviculture and agriculture activities conducted under best management practices, rules of the Suwannee River Water Management District and other applicable rules and regulations. Conservation uses shall include public access and residential uses necessary to manage such conservation lands (i.e., ranger stations, research stations and park amenities). Silvicultural activities consistent with the conservation purpose shall be allowed.

8. Recreation

a. Intent. This district is intended for user based and resource based recreation uses.

b. Intensity. For buildings and structures, no more than 50% lot coverage, unless otherwise approved by the County Commission and a 0.5 Floor Area Ratio.

9. Highway Interchange

a. Intent. This district is intended for uses surrounding Interstate 10 interchanges, which include the following: high intensity commercial uses such as shopping centers, restaurants, automotive service stations, motels and campgrounds; retail outlets; truck stops; and facilities for the storage and distribution of foods and products including wholesale activity.

b. Intensity. 1.0 Floor Area Ratio

10. Mixed Use

a. Intent. This district is intended for areas which include single family residential units, commercial uses, recreation and open space, and public uses. Agricultural and silvercultural activities are permitted provided that such activities do not adversely impact any adjacent commercial activity. Mixed Use areas may be permitted within the rural areas of the County, which are both (1) highly accessible to principal arterials, minor arterials or major collectors and (2) appropriate locations for commercial activities outside of the designated urban development overlay.

b. Density. One (1) dwelling unit per acre for development not served by a community potable water and sanitary sewer system; two (2) dwelling units per acre with community potable water or sanitary sewer service; up to eight (8) units per acre within a planned residential development with community potable water and sanitary sewer service and which contains an internal road system that is paved according to County specifications.

c. Intensity. 1.0 Floor Area Ratio

d. Development Mix. Up to 25% of the gross acreage within the category may be designated for each of the following types of development. All of the land uses do not have to be developed at the same time, nor is one land use a prerequisite to another land use.

i. Single Family Residential

ii. Commercial

iii. Recreation and Open Space

iv. Public

e. Additional requirements.

i. All subdivisions shall have direct access to a publicly maintained road.

ii. Non-residential uses shall have direct access to a principal arterial, minor arterial, or major collector roadway.

iii. No future industrial use shall be allowed to adjoin an existing residential development.

iv. Development must be located on developable upland away from environmentally sensitive land, including wetlands and 100-year floodplains.

v. A minimum 100 foot vegetative buffer shall be provided between agriculture and nonresidential uses to protect such agricultural uses from potentially adverse impacts associated with encroachment of non-agricultural development or the creation of nuisances by agricultural operations. Buffers shall be provided by the nonresidential development.

11. Commerce Park.

a. Intent. This district is intended to focus on manufacturing, warehousing and distribution around the Interstate 10 corridor.

b. Intensity. 0.25 Floor Area Ratio

Policy 1.1.2: The County shall allocate amounts and mixes of land uses to meet the needs of the existing and projected future populations through the year 2035.

Policy 1.1.3: The County shall require the location of public facilities so as to discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl.

Policy 1.1.4: The County shall establish procedures for the review of proposed development to assure that the facilities and services necessary to serve the development can be provided at the adopted level of service standards.

Policy 1.1.5: The County shall require that utility services necessary to support proposed development including potable water, natural gas, sanitary sewer, solid waste disposal, telephone, television, radio, electrical substations and telecommunications towers are available concurrent with final development approval.

Policy 1.1.6: The County shall consider the appropriateness of site conditions or site modifications relative to soils and topography as part of its development review process.

Policy 1.1.7: Public and Private schools are considered allowable uses in all land use categories except Conservation and Industrial. The County will coordinate with the Madison County School Board to encourage the location of schools proximate to residential areas to the extent possible and shall seek to collocate public facilities such as parks, libraries, and community centers, with schools to the extent possible.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: In order to discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl and to coordinate future land uses with the availability of facilities and services, the County shall establish an Urban Development Overlay on the Future Land Use Map. This overlay shall be the focal point~~s~~ for the provision of urban-type facilities and service, such as central potable water and sanitary sewer facilities, and the location of urban-type uses.

Policy 1.2.1: The land uses permitted within the Urban Development Overlay shall include Agriculture-2, Public, Recreation, Residential, Highway Interchange, Commercial, Industrial, Mixed Use, and Commerce Park.

Policy 1.2.2: The County shall direct the location of higher density residential and high intensity commercial and industrial uses to areas within the UDA, adjacent to arterial or collector roads where public facilities are available to support such higher density or intensity.

Policy 1.2.3: Commerce Park uses within the Urban Development Overlay shall be subject to developer incentives, grant funding, expedited permitting, provision of public facilities, or some other similar incentives as specified in the land development code in order to encourage economic development by promoting a range of uses including light industrial, warehousing, manufacturing and assembly, and other employment-oriented uses.

Policy 1.2.4: The County shall enforce standards contained within this Plan for the coordination and siting of proposed urban development near agricultural or forested areas, or environmentally sensitive areas (including but not limited to wetlands and floodplain areas) to avoid adverse impact upon existing land uses.

Policy 1.2.5: The County shall encourage future urban development within designated urban development overlays in conformance with the land topography and soil conditions, and within an area which is or will be served by public facilities and services.

Policy 1.2.6: The County shall maintain the rural character of the area by limiting development activity outside of the Urban Development Overlay.

Policy 1.2.7: The County shall provide for the establishment of lots for the sole use of family homesteads, not to exceed 1 dwelling unit per acre, notwithstanding the density or intensity of use otherwise assigned to the parcel in this adopted plan. This provision is intended to promote the perpetuation of the family homestead in rural areas by making it possible for an individual who is the grandparent, parent, stepparent, adopted parent, sibling, child, stepchild, adopted child, or grandchild of the person who conveyed the parcel to said individual to reside on lots which exceed the maximum density for such areas. Such provision shall apply only once to any individual.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: The County shall protect existing developments from the potentially adverse impacts of adjacent land uses.

Policy 1.3.1: For development that does occur in rural and agricultural areas, further protect agriculture uses by providing adequate buffers.

Policy 1.3.2: The County shall protect lands owned by the public and lands designated public use on the Future Land Use Map from the adverse impact of adjacent incompatible land uses, which include but are not limited to commercial and industrial land use and mining activity.

Policy 1.3.3: To serve the convenience needs of neighborhoods within urban development areas and rural areas the County shall provide for the location, subject to detailed criteria, of neighborhood commercial uses.

Policy 1.3.4: The County shall allow mining activities within areas designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map as Agriculture-1 or Agriculture-2 as a special exception only.

Policy 1.3.5: The County shall participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and regulate development and the installation of utilities in flood hazard areas in conformance with the program's requirements.

OBJECTIVE 1.4: The County shall implement a housing rehabilitation and redevelopment program as needed.

Policy 1.4.1: The County shall request federal and state funds to redevelop and renew any identified blighted areas, where the County finds there is a competitive feasibility to receive such funding.

OBJECTIVE 1.5: The County shall protect historic resources identified in the Florida Master Site File.

Policy 1.5.1: The County shall maintain a map and listing of all known prehistoric and historic sites within the County. This list shall be provided in the land development code and shall be reviewed and updated as needed by the local planning agency. Prior to the issuance of any development order, preliminary or final, the map and listing shall be consulted to determine whether historical or archeological resources exist on the site proposed for development.

Policy 1.5.2: The County shall implement criteria for designating historic structures and sites and further, establish guidelines for the maintenance and adaptive reuse of historic structures and sites. Such criteria and guidelines shall provide for:

1. Designation of historic districts and historic properties.

2. Alterations or new construction in historic districts or involving historic property.

3. Demolition or relocation of structures within a historic district, or classified as historic property.

4. Maintenance of historic property.

OBJECTIVE 1.6: The County shall protect natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands.

Policy 1.6.1: The County shall protect public potable water wells and their cones of influence. The County shall create wellhead protection areas and zones of exclusion. Zones of exclusion shall consist of all land within a two hundred (200) foot radius of the wellhead wherein no development activities shall be allowed. Wellhead protection areas shall extend for a radius of five hundred (500) feet from the wellhead. Within these areas, the following will be prohibited:

1. Landfills;

2. Facilities for the bulk storage, handling, or processing of materials on the Florida Substance List;

3. Activities that require the storage, use, handling, production, or transportation of restricted substances, agricultural chemicals, petroleum products, hazardous toxic waste, medical waste, and the like;

4. Feedlots or other commercial animal facilities;

5. Wastewater treatment plants, percolation ponds, and similar facilities;

6. Mines;

7. Excavation of waterways or drainage facilities which intersect the water table.

Policy 1.6.2: As part of the County's development review process the impacts on agricultural and forested areas shall be assessed and identified prior to development approval.

Policy 1.6.3: Environmentally sensitive land shall be identified for protection. Floodprone area mapping, U.S. Geological Survey topographic mapping, soils maps, and the resources of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Suwannee River Water Management District, and affected State agencies shall be used as resources for environmentally sensitive lands identification. These environmentally sensitive lands shall include, but not be limited to, wetlands, floodprone areas, areas designated as prime groundwater aquifer recharge areas and critical habitat areas for designated rare, threatened, endangered, or species of special concern.

Policy 1.6.4: The County shall protect groundwater aquifer recharge areas by: preventing drainage wells and sinkholes to be used for stormwater disposal, including well construction, modification and closure regulations; and by establishing regulations which prohibit the discharge and protect against accidental releases of hazardous or toxic materials to the soils or groundwater. These provisions will be applied to all Prime Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Areas, Blue Spring, Campbell Sink, Johnson Sink, Madison Stream/Sink Recharge Area, Patterson Sink, Indian Lake Sink and Rogers Sink.

Policy 1.6.5: The County shall minimize the direct surface run-off into Blue Spring by employing stormwater management and land use design controls.

Policy 1.6.6: In areas designated "agriculture" and "conservation" on the Future Land Use Map, silvicultural shall be subject to the following provisions:

1. Permit existing bona-fide agricultural pursuits that were lawful prior to adoption of the comprehensive plan;

2. Allow silvicultural activities subject to the following provisions:

a. Silviculture activities will be required to follow the best management practices as outlined in the publications titled "Silviculture Best Management Practices Manual" and "Management Guidelines For Forested Wetlands in Florida", Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service, Division of Forestry, editions in effect at the time of plan adoption, and the requirements of Chapter 373 and 403, F.S.

Policy 1.6.7: The County shall restrict new development within unsuitable areas due to flooding, improper drainage, wetlands, steep slopes, rock formations and adverse earth formations, unless acceptable methods are formulated by the developer and approved by the County to solve the problems created by the unsuitable land conditions.

OBJECTIVE 1.7: The County shall coordinate its planning and land development regulatory activities with agencies responsible for the implementation of any regional resource planning and management plan prepared pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.7.1: The County shall require that all proposed development which is subject to the provisions of any regional resource planning and management plan be consistent with such plan and that the proposed development be reviewed for such consistency during the development review process.

Policy 1.7.2: The County shall require the review of all proposed development plans within the drainage basin of any designated priority water body by the Water Management District for with any approved management plan. Further, appropriate regional, state and federal agency permits shall be issued prior to the issuance of the County Development permit.

OBJECTIVE 1.8: The County shall review innovative land development regulatory techniques for applicability to County growth management. These techniques shall include Planned Unit Development and mixed use.

Policy 1.8.1: The County shall administer its adopted land development code for implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. At a minimum these regulations shall:

(a) Regulate the subdivision of land;

(b) Regulate the use of land and water consistent with this Element and ensure the compatibility of adjacent land uses and provide for open space;

(c) Protect environmentally sensitive lands identified within the Conservation Element;

(d) Regulate areas subject to seasonal and periodic flooding and provide for drainage and stormwater management;

(e) Protect public potable water wellfields and aquifer recharge areas;

(f) Regulate signage;

(g) Ensure safe and convenient on-site traffic flow and vehicle parking needs; and

(h) Provide that development orders and permits shall not be issued which result in a reduction of the level of service standards adopted in this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.8.2: The County's land development code shall include provisions for drainage, stormwater management, open space, convenient on site traffic flow and needed vehicle parking for all development.

Policy 1.8.3: In conjunction with the land development code the County shall maintain a system to determine potential impacts caused by proposed development activities. As a minimum the following criteria shall be evaluated.

1. Availability of facilities and services;

2. Suitability of site conditions including topography and soils;

3. Ingress and egress;

4. Drainage and stormwater management;

5. Vehicular traffic, including on-site parking;

6. Required permits of other governmental agencies;

7. Noise;

8. Lighting;

9. Public safety and/or potential to create a public nuisance;

10. Impacts on natural resources; and

11. Potential for production of greenhouse gases.

OBJECTIVE 1.9: Protect airports within Madison County from nearby developments through the implementation of the future land use element and the land development code.

Policy1.9.1: Airport land use restrictions shall be provided within the County's land development code which include special requirements to apply to each permitted use so that no use may be made of land or water adjacent to any airport which will interfere with the operation of airborne aircraft.

**SECTION 2. TRAFFIC CIRCULATION ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1- PROVIDE FOR A TRAFFIC CIRCULATION SYSTEM WHICH SERVES EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USES.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The traffic circulation system of Madison County shall provide for the safe, convenient, and efficient movement of people and commodities.

Policy 1.1.1 Establish the Service Standards as noted below at peak hour for the following roadway segments within the County as defined within the Florida Department of Transportation “Quality / Level of Service Handbook.”

| **ROADWAY****SEGMENT****NUMBER** | **ROADWAY SEGMENT** | **NUMBER****OF LANES** | **FUNCTIONAL****CLASSIFICATION** | **AREA****TYPE** | **LEVEL OF****SERVICE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 1-10(from the County’s east boundary to SR 55) | 4D | Principal Arterial - Interstate | Rural | C |
| 2 | I-10(from S.R. 55 to County’s west boundary) | 4D | Principal Arterial - Interstate | Rural | C |
| 3 | U.S. 19/27 (S.R. 20)(from County’s south boundary to County’s southwest boundary) | 4D | Principal Arterial -Other | Rural | C |
| 4 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from County’s east boundary to east limits of Lee) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 5 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from west limits of Lee to east limits of Madison) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 6 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from NE 22nd Street to east limits of Madison) | 4U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 7 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from west limits of Madison to east limits of Greenville) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 8 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from Greenville west limits to County’s west boundary) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 9 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55)(from County’s north boundary to Greenville north limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 10 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55) (from Greenville south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 11 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55)(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 12 | S.R. 145(from County’s north boundary to Madison east limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 13 | S.R. 53(from County’s north boundary to Madison north limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 14 | S.R. 53(from Madison south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 15 | C.R. 53(from I-10 to County’s south boundary)  | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | C |
| 16 | S.R. 6(from County’s east boundary to U.S. 90) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 17 | S.R. 14(from Madison south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 18 | C.R. 14(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 19 | C.R. 150(from County’s east boundary to C.R. 255) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 20 | C.R. 150(from C.R. 255 to S.R. 145) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 21 | C.R. 150(from S.R. 145 to U.S. 90) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 22 | C.R. 150(from Greenville south limits to I-10) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 23 | C.R. 150(from I-10 to U.S. 19/27) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 24 | C.R. 141(from U.S. 90 to County’s east boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 25 | C.R. 255(from C.R. 150 to S.R. 6) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 26 | C.R. 255(from S.R. 6 to Lee north limits) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 27 | C.R. 255(from Lee south limits to I-10) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 28 | C.R. 255(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 30 | C.R. 360(from I-10 to C.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 31 | C.R. 360(from C.R. 14 to U.S. 221) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 32 | C.R. 360A(from Madison southwest limits to S.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 33 | C. R. 158(from U.S. 221 to C.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 34 | C.R. 150A(from U.S. 221 to S.R. 150) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 35 | Honey Lake Road(from U.S. 90 to U.S. 221) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 36 | C.R. 146(from County’s north boundary to S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 37 | C.R. 253(from County’s north boundary to S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 38 | Rocky Ford Road(from C.R. 150 to Madison north limits) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 39 | Cherry Lake Road(east of S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 40 | Pickle Lane(C.R. 146 to U.S. 90) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 41 | Rocky Springs Church Road(from S.R. 53 to S.R. 145) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 42 | C.R. 254(from S.R. 145 to C.R. 255) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |

D – Divided Roadway

U – Undivided Roadway

Policy 1.1.2. Prior to the approval of developments with direct access to the State Highway System, the County shall coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation to assure that subdivision plats and site plans for multiple family and nonresidential developments conform to access management standards. Those standards shall include at minimum, the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Medians | Median Openings | Signal | Connection |
| Full | Directional | >45 mph | 45 mph or less |
| 2 | Restrictivew/Service Roads | 2,640 | 1,320 | 2,640 | 1,320 | 660 |
| 3 | Restrictive | 2,640 | 1,320 | 2,640 | 660 | 440 |
| 4 | Non-Restrictive |  |  | 2,640 | 660 | 440 |
| 5 | Restrictive | 2,640(> 45 mph) | 660 | 2,640(> 45 mph) | 440 | 245 |
| 1,320(45 mph or less) | 1,320(45 mph or less) |
| 6 | Non-Restrictive |  |  | 1,320 | 440 | 245 |
| 7 | Both Median Types |  |  | 1.320 | 125 | 125 |

Source: Florida Administrative Code Chapter 14-97, State Highway System Access Management Classification System and Standards

Policy 1.1.3 The County shall require the provision of safe and convenient on-site traffic flow, which includes the provision for vehicle parking. On-site traffic flow and parking provisions shall be included in the land development code.

Policy 1.1.4 The County’s land development code shall, for any development which is required to provide a site plan or any development requiring platting, include requirements for additional right-of-way width for bicycle and pedestrian ways to be provided for all proposed collector and arterial roadways, as integrated or parallel transportation facilities.

Policy 1.1.5 The following setbacks shall be established for roadways identified for multi-laning in the Traffic Circulation Element: 1) 75 feet from the centerline of the existing right-of-way for future four-laning; or 2) 25 feet from the existing property line, whichever is greater. Parking and retention facilities are not allowed within the designated setback area.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 All traffic circulation system improvements shall be consistent with the land uses shown on the future land use plan map.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall, as part of the capital improvement scheduling of roadway improvements, review all proposed roadway improvements to determine if such improvement will further the direction of the Future Land Use Plan Element.

Where the roadway is operated and maintained by another jurisdictional authority, the County shall notify such jurisdiction, in writing, if any identified roadway improvement plan is not consistent with the provisions of the Future Land Use Plan Element.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County’s traffic circulation planning efforts shall be consistent with the Florida Department of Transportation 5-Year Transportation Plan and with the and with FDOT Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS) designations.

Policy 1.3.1 The County shall, during the capital improvements planning process, review all proposed roadway improvements for consistency with the Florida Department of Transportation’s 5-Year Transportation Plan.

Policy 1.3.2 The County hereby recognizes and establishes all roadway segments of Interstate 10 as part of the Florida Interstate Highway System.

OBJECTIVE 1.4 The County shall protect existing and future right-of-ways from building encroachment. By implementing the right-of-way setback requirements established in the County land development code.

Policy 1.4.1 The County shall require all developments along new or realigned collector or arterial roadways to provide additional setbacks for the future need of additional right-of-way.

**SECTION 3. HOUSING ELEMENT**

**GOAL OBJECTIVES AND POLICES**

GOAL 1 – PROVIDE DECENT, SAFE AND SANITARY HOUSING IN SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTS AT AFFORDABLE COSTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COUNTY’S PRESENT AND FUTURE CITIZENS, INCLUDING THOSE RESIDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County shall provide an environment that is conducive for the production and maintenance of a variety of housing types to accommodate the varying income needs of the existing population, anticipated population growth through 2035, and households with special housing needs.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall maintain on its future land use map, land use categories that provide sufficient sites and densities which provide for a varied and functional mix of housing types for all income groups.

Policy 1.1.2 The County shall provide information, technical assistance, and improved coordination among participants involved in housing production to maintain a housing capacity sufficient to meet the required demand.

Policy1.1.3 No development will be allowed within the 100-year floodplain as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Flood Insurance Rate Map, unless such development adheres to all FEMA building regulations and restrictions.

Policy 1.1.4 The County shall utilize its development review and approval process as part of its land development code which shall include provisions for pre-development impact assessment and methods for tracking building permits and construction activity.

Policy 1.1.5 The County shall support, through financial and tax incentives within statutory powers, programs which preserve and/or restore buildings so that they may be available for reuse, or uses, or uses other than the original use.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 The County shall promote the maintenance of a safe and sanitary housing stock and the elimination of substandard housing in the County by implementing the County-wide housing plan established in the County SHIP Program and may establish programs for the demolition of housing.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall continue to implement the County-wide housing plan established in the County SHIP Program.

Policy 1.2.2 The County Development Review Committee shall continually monitor the local regulatory permitting process to ensure efficient and timely implementation, consistent with the processes established in the County SHIP Plan.

Policy 1.2.3 The County shall implement housing quality and stabilization standards in their land development code and they shall include (but are not limited to) regulation of the density of development, the provision of adequate yards and buffers between dissimilar developments, and segregation of incompatible uses.

Policy 1.2.4 The County shall include in its land development code measures and standards to protect and stabilize established residential neighborhoods. Such measures and standards shall address mitigation of impacts from adjacent land uses, allowable uses in neighborhoods, elimination of non-conforming land uses, and eyesore/junk control.

Policy 1.2.5 The County shall continue to implement the land development code hazardous building code requiring the rehabilitation or demolition and clearance of housing and other structures which pose a threat to public safety.

Policy 1.2.6 The County shall apply for federal and state housing assistance when the County can meet the eligibility requirements to receive a program award. In the case of assistance programs which use a scoring system based U.S. Bureau of Census data as a factor in determining award, such data shall be reviewed by County staff and a determination shall be made as to the probability of program award prior to application. Where such raw scores provide a low probability of funding, the County may decline to apply for such assistance program until such time as the raw scores improve the County’s standing for award.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County will assist in determining locations of adequate sites for low-, very low- and moderate-income residential development, including mobile homes.

Policy 1.3.1 The County’s Local Planning Agency shall request representatives of the private and non-profit housing industry to assist with the implementation of plans and programs for the development of housing for low-, very low- and moderate-income persons.

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall allow a broad range of housing types (including manufactured housing) in residential areas, consistent with the Future Land Use Element.

Policy 1.3.3 The County will allow for accessory dwelling units in the residential and mixed use categories in order to increase the availability of workforce housing and affordable housing units in accordance with s. 163.31771 F.S.

Policy 1.3.4 The County will amend the land development code to allow accessory dwelling units in the residential and mixed use future land use categories.

OBJECTIVE 1.4 The County shall continue to support through financial and tax incentives within statutory powers, programs which facilitate the restoration or rehabilitation for adaptive reuse of historically significant housing.

Policy 1.4.1 The County shall continue to implement Historic Preservation regulations adopted as part of the County land development code.

Policy 1.4.2 The County shall continue to maintain an historic preservation ordinance and a complete inventory of the significant historical (including archaeological) resources.

OBJECTIVE 1.5 The County shall support ~~of~~ reasonably located standard housing for persons experiencing displacement due to public actions.

Policy 1.5.1 The availability of relocation housing shall be researched and verified by County staff prior to commencement of any governmental housing rehabilitation or neighborhood revitalization program to be enacted by the County, which result in the displacement of residents.

OBJECTIVE 1.6 In order to serve persons with specific disabilities or handicaps, The County shall provide for the location of adequate sites for group homes and foster care facilities through the allowance of such uses.

Policy 1.6.1 The County’s land development code shall establish standards for the location of foster care or group home facilities licensed or funded by the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services within residential areas by number of clients to be served, length of client stay, and intensity of services or treatment provided.

Policy 1.6.2 The County’s land development code shall allow foster care facilities and smaller-sized group homes characterized by smaller populations and less intensive use in lower density residential areas subject to special review procedures to determine consistency with community locational requirements and appropriate safeguards.

Policy 1.6.3 The County’s land development code shall allow larger-sized group homes characterized by larger populations and more intensive use in higher density residential areas and/or the commercial areas subject to special review procedures to determine consistency with community locational requirements and appropriate safeguards.

Policy 1.6.4 The County’s land development code shall contain standards which avoid concentrating group homes in order to maintain compatibility with existing residential character of residential areas.

**SECTION 4. INFRASTRUCTURE ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVIES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 – ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY EFFICENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY’S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County shall correct existing deficiencies by undertaking capital improvement projects in accordance with the schedule contained in the Capital Improvements Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall provide that within the schedule contained in the Capital Improvements Element, that capital improvement projects needed for replacement or correction of existing deficiencies in public facilities be given priority over providing for future facilities needs; (1) if they are imminently needed to protect the public health and safety, which shall be given the highest priority; and (2) if existing facilities are not meeting maintenance or operation level of service standards adopted herein, which shall be given the second order of priority.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 The County shall discourage urban sprawl and maximize the use of existing facilities for infill development and development in the urban development overlay through the following polices.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall encourage the extension of centralized potable~~s~~ water and/or sanitary sewer service to the urban development overlay on the Future Land Use Map by entering into interlocal agreements with municipalities and other public facility providers.

Policy 1.2.2 Approval by the Board of County Commissioners shall be required prior to the extension of any centralized potable water, sanitary sewer ~~of~~ or package wastewater treatment service within the unincorporated area of the County.

Policy 1.2.3 Although sewer and water line extensions are under the jurisdiction of municipalities and other public facility providers, the County shall coordinate with the municipalities and other public facility providers to ensure that extensions are made in the areas of greatest growth and in areas with poor soils and/or other conditions least capable of supporting septic tanks and private water wells. This Coordination shall include, but not be limited to, initiatives made by the County to share land use information with the municipalities, review of soils data in areas adjacent to municipalities and interlocal agreements providing for sewer and water line extensions by the municipalities into adjacent unincorporated areas in conjunction with grants and other similar activities mutually agreed upon by the municipalities and the County.

**POLICES FOR SANITARY SEWER**

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County shall achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standard for sanitary sewer facilities.

Policy 1.3.1 The County herby establishes the following level of service standards for sanitary sewer facilities.

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Individual Septic Consistent with Ch. 64E-6 F.A.C.

 Tanks

 Sanitary Sewer Facility 110 gallons per capita per day

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall coordinate all septic tanks and package wastewater facilities with the Florida Department of Health, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Madison County Health Department.

Policy 1.3.3 The County shall allow package wastewater facilities within the urban development overlay when centralized sanitary sewer service is not economically feasible within the planning period and the package wastewater facility(s) is designed and constructed to provide the capability for future expansion and/or interconnection with the centralized sanitary sewer system.

Policy 1.3.4 Existing or new sanitary sewer facilities shall not discharge into designated prime groundwater recharge areas.

**POLICIES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

OBJECTIVE 1.4 The County shall achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standard for solid waste disposal facilities.

Policy 1.4.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for solid waste disposal facilities:

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

Solid Waste Landfill 5 lbs per person per day

Policy 1.4.2 The County shall continue use of the Aucilla Regional Landfill.

OBJECTIVE 1.5 The County shall continue to use local collection and recycling sites in order to reduce the solid waste volume going to the Regional Landfill.

Policy 1.5.1 The County shall continue the use of the Regional Collection and Recycling sites for voluntary recycling wastes.

**POLICIES FOR DRAINAGE**

OBJECTIVE 1.6 The County shall achieve and maintain the following water quality level of service standards for drainage and stormwater facilities.

Policy 1.6.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for drainage facilities:

LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

Water Quantity –

For all projects not exempted from Chapter 40B-4 and 40B-400, Florida Administrative Code within the County, stormwater management systems must be installed such that the peak rate of post-development runoff will not exceed the peak-rate of pre-development runoff for storm events up through and including either.

1. A design storm with a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall depth with Natural Resources Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture condition for projects serving exclusively agricultural, forest, conservation, or recreational uses; or

2. A design storm with 100-year critical duration rainfall depth for projects serving any land use other than agricultural, silvicultural, conservation, or recreational uses.

 Water Quality –

1. Water Quality treatment shall be provided for the runoff from the first inch of rainfall.

2. Facilities which directly discharge into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 40B-4 and 40B-400, Florida Administrative Code, in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as to provide mitigation for changes to water quality such that these changes do not cause harm to individuals or water resources and to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

3. Facilities which directly discharge to an active sink must treat the runoff from the first two inches of rainfall.

4. Swales must be designed to treat, through percolation or evapotranspiration, a volume of stormwater equal to 80 percent of the runoff resulting from a design storm with a three-year, one-hour rainfall depth and Natural Resources Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture conditions.

Policy 1.6.2 The County’s land development code shall include provisions which prohibit the construction of structures or landscape alterations which would interrupt natural drainage flows, including sheet flow and flow to isolated wetland systems.

Policy 1.6.3 The County’s land development code shall include a provision which requires a certification, by the preparer of the permit plans, that all construction activity undertaken shall incorporate erosion and sediment controls during construction.

**POLICES FOR POTABLE WATER**

OBJECTIVE 1.7 The County shall achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standard for potable water facilities.

Policy 1.7.1 The County herby establishes the following level of service standards for potable water.

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Private Individual Consistent with Suwannee River Water

 Water Wells Management District Standards

 Potable 100 gallons per capita per day

 Water System

Policy1.7.2 The County shall require that densities greater than 1 dwelling unit per acre be directed to areas which are served by centralized potable water systems and that densities greater than 2 dwelling units per acre be directed to areas which are served by centralized potable water systems and sanitary sewer systems, or package wastewater treatment systems.

Policy 1.7.3 The County shall provide that during the development review process, all proposed development within the drainage basin of any designated priority water body shall be coordinated with the Water Management District and ensure that any proposed development is consistent with any approved management plans within that basin. In addition, identified wellhead areas, wellfields and cones of influence shall be protected by requiring protection zones from development, as established in other elements of this plan.

OBJECTIVE 1.8 The County shall continue to coordinate with the Water Management District to protect groundwater aquifer recharge areas and natural drainage features.

Policy 1.8.1 The County shall limit development adjacent to natural drainage features to protect the functions of the feature. Urban development shall be designed to maintain predevelopment flow characteristics, retention and/or detention as necessary to maintain/improve water quality and flow. These requirements shall be coordinated with the water management district to ensure consistency.

Policy 1.8.2 The County shall provide for the limitation of development and associated impervious surfaces in prime groundwater recharge areas designated by the Water Management District to protect the functions of the recharge area, by limiting the impervious surfaces of development to 30% of ground coverage

Policy 1.8.3 The County shall implement the following activities to encourage potable water conservation.

1. Cooperation with the Suwannee River Water Management District by providing locations for display of water conservation exhibits and for distribution of water conservation literature in public buildings;

2. Require that all County facilities which use water comply with water conservation measures imposed by federal, state and water management district laws and regulations;

3. Promote and encourage owners of agriculture and silvicultural lands through public awareness programs, to incorporate the water conserving methods of farming recommended in the soil Conservation Service and U.S. Forest Service Best Management Practices.

**SECTION 5. CONSERVATION ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTS AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 – CONSERVE, THROUGH APPROPRIATE USE AND PROTECTION, THE RESOURCES OF THE COUNTY TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF NATURAL FUNCTIONS.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County land development code shall include best management practices for the conservation, appropriate use and protection of natural resources.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall address during the development review process the mitigation of development activities within environmentally sensitive areas, which include but are not limited to those areas identified as regionally significant areas within the Future Land Use Map Series of this Comprehensive Plan to ensure that the possible impacts created by the proposed development activity will not significantly alter the natural functions of the these significant natural resources.

Policy 1.1.2 The County shall provide for the evaluation of regionally significant natural areas during the development review process. The identification of such areas shall be based on the best available information provided by the Suwannee River Water Management District or other appropriate sources, including but not limited to land cover and vegetative mapping, resource investigations, and special site investigations. Strategies for protecting regionally significant natural areas shall be coordinated with state and regional resource management agencies.

Policy 1.1.3 The County shall participate in the acquisition planning process of state and regional agencies for lands and regionally significant natural areas.

Policy 1.1.4 The County shall require special review criteria, as identified in the Land Development Code, for all developments containing regionally significant natural areas prior to the issuance of any development permit.

Policy 1.1.5 Natural Resource Management Areas.

A: Natural Resource Management Areas means an area located within Madison County which is characterized by one or more of the following:

1. Jurisdictional wetlands; OR

2. A wetland or upland habitat for a species listed as either “threatened” or “endangered” by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. For the purposes of this Chapter, the location of habitat areas shall be as established by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission based on area-wide studies of individual sites; OR

3. An area within five hundred (500) feet of a public potable water wellfield; OR

4. An area within two hundred (200) feet of a historic structure or site or known or suspected archaeological site which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. For the purposes of this Chapter, a site will be considered eligible if it is listed on the National Register or if it is included on the Master Archaeological Site File maintained by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Florida Secretary of State; OR

5. Specific designated areas within the 100-year floodplain.

B. Development proposed in or near Natural Resource Management Areas shall be designed so as to maximize the ability of a Natural Resource Management Area to function in an undisturbed natural condition. The following general standards for developments shall be applied to all Natural Resource Management Areas:

1. Uses and activities within Natural Resource Management Areas shall be limited to those uses and activities which by their nature must be located within these areas, or which are compatible with the need for resource management and protection. Uses and activities on other lands which might create an adverse impact on Natural Resource Management Areas shall be designed so as to reduce or eliminate such impacts. The County Commission may require the rearrangement of uses or activities, including density, on a site plan or the rearrangement of lots within a subdivision in order to minimize the impact of such uses on Natural Resource Management Areas.

2. Use of planned unit development design is required for development located within or near Natural Resource Management Areas.

3. Site Plan review for development approval shall be required to include the designation of wetlands by a professionally conducted survey.

Policy 1.1.6 Where a site for development is affected by more than one resource (such as a wellfield located in a wetland), all standards shall apply collectively, with the more restrictive standard applying in the case of a conflict. Where meeting one standard would have the effect of violating another, the County Commission shall determine how the standards shall apply.

Policy 1.1.7 The County shall require that any mining permit be coordinated with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection so that areas disturbed by mining activities are reclaimed to productive and beneficial use.

Policy 1.1.8 The County shall require, during the development review process that multiple use of forest resources, where appropriate, be required to provide for timber production, recreation, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, erosion control and maintenance of water quality.

Policy 1.1.9 The County shall cooperate with adjacent local governments, other governmental entities, research and interest groups to conserve and protect unique vegetative communities located within the County and adjacent local government jurisdictions.

Policy 1.1.10 The County may cooperate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in the monitoring and inventorying of wildlife and wildlife habitats within the County.

Policy 1.1.11 The County may assist in the application and compliance with all Federal and state regulations which pertain to endangered and rare species.

Policy 1.1.12 The County may consult with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission prior to the issuance of a development order where there is an indication that such issuance would result in an adverse impact to any endangered or rare species.

Policy 1.1.13 The County shall implement provisions within the site plan review process to protect air quality by requiring the appropriate siting of development and associated public facilities.

Policy 1.1.14 The County shall require that all appropriate air quality permits are obtained prior to the issuance of development orders, so that minimum air quality levels established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection are maintained in the County.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 The County shall implement land development regulations. For the conservation, appropriate use and protection of the quality and quantity of current and projected water sources, water recharge areas and public potable water wells.

Policy 1.2.1 The County, as part of the development review process, shall require the coordination of development plans with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Water Management District to assist in the monitoring of uses which may impact the County’s current and projected water sources.

Policy 1.2.2 The County shall prohibit uses within or adjacent to the surface waters of the County which degrade the present water quality classification, as established by the rules of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation.

Policy 1.2.3 The County shall identify and make recommendations, where appropriate, for the purchase of environmentally sensitive lands by the state of Florida, Water Management District, or U. S. Government, under programs administered by the U. S. Department of Interior, Florida Department of Natural Resources of the land acquisition programs of the Water Management District.

Policy 1.2.4 The County shall, through the development review process, require that post-development runoff rates and pollutant loads do not exceed pre-development conditions.

Policy 1.2.5 The County shall cooperate with the Water Management District in their conducting of water conservation programs.

Policy 1.2.6 The County shall comply with the plans of the Water Management District for the emergency conservation of water sources.

Policy 1.2.7 The County shall require a 75-foot regulated natural buffer adjacent to the Suwannee, Withlacoochee, and Aucilla Rivers identified on the Future Land Use Map Series and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best management practices, the rules of the Suwannee River Water Management District and other applicable rules and regulations.

Policy 1.2.8 The County shall require a 50-foot regulated natural buffer adjacent to all other perennial rivers, streams and creeks and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best Management District and other applicable rules and regulations.

Policy 1.2.9 The County shall, as part of the developmental review process, limit development to low density and non-intensive uses in prime groundwater aquifer recharge areas designated by the Water Management District, in order to maintain the natural features of these areas.

Policy 1.2.10 All new development and redevelopment within a high recharge area shall not reduce the aquifer recharge quality or quantity (volumes and rates). Subsurface storage and flow shall stimulate pre development natural conditions.

Policy 1.2.11 Hazardous waste handling and storage within high recharge areas shall meet all applicable federal and state requirements prior to issuance of any development orders.

Policy 1.2.12 The County as part of the development review process shall require the maintenance of the quantity and quality of surface water runoff within freshwater stream to sink watersheds by prohibiting any development which may diminish or degrade the quality and quantity of surface water runoff within the County.

Policy 1.2.13 All development near a known sinkhole will maintain at least a 50-foot buffer from such formations. Additionally, no sink formation shall be filled or excavated, and no debris placed adjacent to the sink, until a professional investigation has been conducted to determine what actions are necessary to protect adjacent property and ground water quality.

Policy 1.2.14 Development of Industrial areas located in fracture zones, areas of known/sinkhole formation, and Karst topography features will be required (at the Developer’s expense) to be checked by ground penetrating radar to identify underground cavities and areas of potential sinkholes, will be so identified from the data gathered by the Department of Environmental Protection, or the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Policy 1.2.15 Industries and businesses using hazardous materials shall avoid using sites with known underground Cavities and sites with potential for sinkhole formation.

Policy 1.2.16 The following standards shall apply to all public water wells and cones of influence:

1. The installation of septic tanks within 200-feet of public potable water wells shall be prohibited.

2. Land uses which store, transfer, or use hazardous materials shall not be permitted within 200-feet of public potable water wells.

3. Underground storage tanks containing gasoline, diesel fuel, or other hazardous substances shall not be permitted within 300-feet of public potable water wells.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: The County shall protect the 100-year floodplain by regulating land use types, densities and intensities for all lands within it in order to maintain the flood-carrying and flood storage capacities of the floodplains and reduce the risk of property damage and loss of life.

Policy 1.3.1 “Floodplain” shall be defined as the 100-year floodplains shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall request the Suwannee River Water Management District to provide a complete set of topographic maps delineating the 100-year and 10-year flood elevations within the County's jurisdiction.

Policy 1.3.3 To help ensure that development proposals and activities wholly or partially within the 100-year floodplain are conducted in accordance with the physical limitations of this environmentally sensitive area, the County shall coordinate with all agencies with jurisdiction within the 100-year floodplain to provide for affected agency review prior to the issuance of a County development permit. Further, the use of septic tanks shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 64E-6, FA.C.

Policy 1.3.4 All development and redevelopment occurring in the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River system shall meet the building and design standards of the National Flood Insurance Program, the County, and the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Policy 1.3.5 The County shall require an undisturbed regulated buffer along the property lines of public lands within the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River system for the purposes of visual screening, stormwater runoff and erosion control, public safety, and buffering potentially incompatible land uses. The width of such buffering shall be established as a cooperative effort with the Suwannee River Water Management District. Variations in the width of this buffer shall be made only for cases of undue hardship and on a site-specific review.

Policy 1.3.6 The lands within the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map, as amended, which are located outside of the designated urban development overlay shall maintain an average lot size of 10 acres. This designated corridor area shall conform with the following densities: dwelling units may be clustered on smaller lots with no lot being less than 1 acre, if the site is developed as a planned residential development and a density of 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres be maintained for the total site. (Excluded are existing platted subdivisions).

Policy 1.3.7 The County may consider the vacating or replacing of those portions of unimproved, undeveloped, and unrecorded subdivisions containing lots of record within the 100-year floodplain which do not meet the minimum lot area requirements based upon density standards established in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.3.8 Within the urban development overlay within the 100-year floodplain of, the County shall limit dwelling unit density of residential uses to no greater than one (1) dwelling unit per acre, and each individual parcel shall conform to all applicable state and County regulations.

Policy 1.3.9 No hazardous materials or hazardous waste shall be stored within the floodplain.

Policy 1.3.10 Development on sites which include areas within the 100-year floodplain shall be required to be located outside of the floodplain wherever possible.

Policy 1.3.11 Subdivisions shall be required to include buildable area outside of the floodplain on each lot, wherever possible.

Policy 1.3.12 Fill within floodplains shall be limited to the minimum which is necessary for development and access.

Policy 1.3.13 Fill shall be placed and designed so as to minimize interference with natural water flows.

Policy 1.3.14 The County shall require that all habitable structures be elevated no less than two feet above the 100-year flood elevation, without the use of fill materials in the regulatory floodway of the Suwannee River system.

Policy 1.3.15 The County shall require that all road construction and improvement projects within the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River system be designed in such a manner as to avoid any increase in floodway obstruction, any increase in the peak rate or volume of stormwater runoff, and any increase in pollutant loading to the receiving waters.

Policy 1.3.16 The County shall monitor the use of County-owned facilities on or within the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River system to ensure that the public use of these facilities does not threaten the facility or adjacent natural resources. Such facilities shall be maintained in order to prevent any potential adverse impacts to the Suwannee River system such as erosion, release of inadequately treated stormwater or wastewater, or the accumulation of trash and debris.

OBJECTIVE 1.4 The County shall require all new development to maintain the natural functions of the jurisdictional wetlands so that the long term environmental integrity and economic and recreational value of these areas is maintained.

Policy 1.4.1 The County shall mitigate the adverse effects of land uses on wetlands. Such mitigation shall contain wetland provisions which prohibit the development of commercial, industrial and waste disposal uses and which allow but tightly control such low intensity uses as recreation, open space, fish and wildlife management and single family residential development at a density not to exceed 1 unit per 1 acre~~s~~, or the gross density established by the land use district, whichever is less.

Policy 1.4.2 The County shall require a 35-foot natural buffer around all wetlands and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best management practices.

Policy 1.4.3 The County shall provide for the conservation of wetlands through prohibiting any development or dredging and filling, which would significantly alter their natural functions and by only allowing non-intensive agricultural, aquaculture and silviculture consistent with best management practices manuals developed by the Florida Division of Forestry and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and subject to the rules of the Suwannee River Water Management District and all the other applicable rules and regulations.

Policy 1.4.4 Development is to be clustered or located on upland areas if available on parcels which contain wetlands, and all development shall avoid the creation of lots which do not include upland areas, if upland areas are available.

Policy 1.4.5 With the exception of recreation and silviculture, non-residential land uses shall be prohibited in wetlands. However, activities which further the conservation and protection of wetlands, or which serve an overriding public purpose may be permitted, only if these activities meet the following conditions:

1. Such activities are necessary to prevent or eliminate a public hazard (for example, elimination of a dangerous curve in a road, dredging in order to clean up a spill of hazardous material, or removal of underwater obstructions to boat traffic.)

2. Such activities would provide a direct benefit to the public at large which would exceed those which are lost as a result of development (for example, maintenance dredging, removal of exotic species, restoring natural hydroperiods).

3. Such activities would occur in wetlands in which the functions or values have been significantly altered, and can be restored (for example, altering properties that have been legally drained prior to the adoption of the plan, altering properties that have been badly invaded by exotic species, and filling of polluted or poorly-flushed man made canals).

4. Such activity consisted of development that cannot be reasonably located outside of all wetlands (that is, utility transmission, corridors, and utility collection and distribution lines; however, once underground facilities are in place, the disturbed wetlands must be restored).

OBJECTIVE 1.5 Silviculture activities are to be conducted in a manner compatible with the need to protect, conserve and appropriately use wetlands, uplands and natural resources adjacent to lakes and streams and to ensure the protection of water quality within water bodies.

Policy 1.5.1 Silviculture activities shall follow the best management practices outlined in the publications titled Silviculture Best Management Practices Manual (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry) and Management Guidelines for Forested Wetlands in Florida (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry and Florida Forestry Association).

Policy 1.5.2 In order to maintain the overall ecological integrity of the wetlands community, select cuts, small clear cuts, or other irregularly shaped harvesting techniques will be allowed provided:

1. Viable populations of the endangered, threatened and species of special concern found on-site can be maintained on-site.

2. Harvests are planned to provide for varying age and height diversity supporting a variety of vegetative successional stages within the overall wetland ecosystem.

3. The natural hydrology and hydroperiod of wetlands are not significantly modified on a long-term basis and state water quality standards are not violated.

4. There is no conversion of wetland systems to upland systems.

Nothing in this Policy is intended to conflict with Policy 1.5.1.

Policy 1.5.3 The Silviculture polices of this plan shall be reevaluated when the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services prepares new guidelines and best management practices, and the County shall incorporate any amendments consistent with these new provisions within the Plan Amendment process.

**SECTION 6. RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICES**

GOAL 1 - ENSURE THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF ADEQUATE RECREATION FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE FOR CITIZENS AND VISITORS AND ACCESS TO THESE FACILITIES FOR ALL PERSONS, REGARDLESS OF SPECIAL NEED OR CONDITION.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County shall continue to provide vehicular and pedestrian access to County owned activity and resource based recreation facilities including freshwater beaches and shores through implementation of the following polices.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall maintain the number of access points to water oriented recreational resources which will meet or exceed the level of service standards contained herein. Current access points shall be set aside for continued public use, either by dedication to a public agency or under a required home owner’s association maintenance covenant for new subdivisions and re-subdivisions along water bodies.

Policy 1.1.2 The County shall retain current access to streams and isolated land areas by retention and maintenance of County roads and boat ramps.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 The County shall maintain accurate recreation activity/facility inventories so that accurate levels of service can be determined based upon the total public and private recreation resources available to the County.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall establish cooperative policies with other units of government, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management District, School Board and community organizations to meet recreation demands.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County shall ensure that adequate facilities are provided in all County owned parks and recreation areas. This shall be accomplished by undertaking the activities described in the following policies:

Policy 1.3.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for recreation facilities.

Parks and Open Space 2 acres per 1,000 population

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall maintain a facilities inventory for all County owned parks and recreation areas.

Policy 1.3.3 All new subdivisions or re-subdivisions must allocate land, for parks, recreation facilities, and open space so the County’s recreation facilities are provided in quantities to maintain the adopted level of service standards for recreation as contained herein.

Policy 1.3.4 The County, through the annual capital improvements budgeting process, shall identify funding sources to correct or improve existing deficiencies in County-owned parks and recreation facilities in accordance with the level of service standards contained herein.

Policy 1.3.5 The County shall include in the annual budget a schedule for replacement and renewal of facilities to maintain the level of service standards adopted in this plan. The County shall utilize grants and similar financial resources in the funding of replacement, renewal and / or acquisition / construction of new facilities.

**SECTION 7. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 - ESTABLISH PROCESSES AMONG THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES TO ACHIEVE COORDINATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, ENSURE COMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICES AND PROMOTE THE EFFICIENT USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES AMONG GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County shall coordinate its comprehensive planning with the School Board, Water Management District, Regional Planning Council, adjacent counties, and the municipalities of Madison, Greenville and Lee. The coordination mechanisms shall include, as appropriate, interlocal agreements, written and verbal communications, participation on technical advisory committees, utilization of mediation processes and joint meetings with appropriate other local, regional, state and federal governing bodies and agencies of other designated representatives. These coordination procedures shall include interlocal agreements which will identify and implement any joint planning areas which are mutually established for the purpose of annexation and joint infrastructure service areas.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall use the voluntary dispute resolution process as established pursuant to s. 186.509, F.S. for bringing to closure in a timely manner intergovernmental disputes. The County may also use other alternative~~s~~ local dispute resolution processes for this purpose.

Policy 1.1.2 The County shall establish interlocal agreements for the provision of services across jurisdictional boundaries.

Policy 1.1.3 The County shall coordinate its comprehensive planning with the School Board pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning by reviewing and commenting on the Five-Year Facilities Work Program of the School Board annually; reviewing and commenting on the Educational Plant Survey of the School Board; providing growth and development trend reports to the School Board annually; reviewing and commenting on future school sites for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan; providing notification of Comprehensive Plan amendments, rezonings, and development proposals to the School Board; considering co-location and shared use opportunities for community facilities with the School Board; providing applications for residential development to the School Board for a determination of whether there is adequate school capacity to accommodate the proposed residential development; and jointly evaluating with the School Board proportionate share mitigation options if school capacity is not available.

Policy 1.1.4 The County shall include a representative of the school district, appointed by the School Board, as a nonvoting member of the local planning agency as required by Section 163.3174, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.1.5 The County shall use joint planning agreements to coordinate with the Lee, Madison, and Greenville regarding annexations and infrastructure service areas.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 To ensure compliance with the Regional Plan and the State Comprehensive Plan the County shall provide adjacent units of local government, the Regional Planning Council and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity the opportunity to comment on Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Policy 1.2.1 The County, as part of the development review process, shall review the relationship of proposed development to the existing comprehensive plans of adjacent local governments by exchanging comprehensive plans with the respective local governments and meeting~~s~~ with representatives of the respective local governments to discuss the impacts of proposed development.

Policy 1.2.2 The County will provide information, as necessary~~;~~ to assist adjacent local governments in managing growth within their respective jurisdictions.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County shall coordinate the establishment and amendment of future level of service standards for public facilities with state and local entities having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities prior to the adoption or any amendment of such level of service standards in accordance with the following ~~policy~~.

Policy 1.3.1 The County, as part of the Comprehensive Plan and evaluation process shall coordinate amendments of any level of service standards with appropriate state, regional and local agencies, such as the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Natural Resources, Water Management District, Regional Planning Council, adjacent local governments and the School Board prior to such amendment.

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall coordinate the provision of public facilities with the Cities of Madison, ~~and~~ Greenville, and Lee by entering into interlocal agreements for the extension of potable water and sanitary sewer services into designated unincorporated areas, entering into joint grant applications for funds to construct needed public facilities and exchanging respective comprehensive plans.

Policy 1.3.3 The County shall coordinate the provision of solid waste disposal with the municipalities of Madison, Greenville and Lee for the existing landfill by continuing Interlocal agreements.

OBJECTIVE 1.4 The County shall ensure that the impacts of proposed developments are coordinated with development in municipalities within the county, adjacent counties and agencies within the region by providing a copy of the adopted plan to each governing body or agency for review and comment.

Policy 1.4.1 In order to keep public entities informed of proposed future development, copies of future plan amendments shall also be provided to these governing bodies and agencies prior to adoption of the plan amendments.

Policy 1.4.2 Madison County shall establish interlocal agreements with all the municipalities, the Madison School District and all other units of local government which provide public services for collaborative planning and decision making on population projections and public school siting, the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency, and siting facilities with countywide significance, including locally unwanted land uses whose nature and identify are established in the agreements. These interlocal agreements shall be consistent with and implement the provisions of this Intergovernmental Coordination Element.

Policy 1.4.3 To ensure consistency in development review, the County shall coordinate with the Water Management District regarding all development proposals with the potential for impacting the water resources of the County.

**SECTION 8. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 - THE COUNTY SHALL ANNUALLY ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM WHICH COORDINATES THE TIMING AND PRIORITIZES THE DELIVERY OF THE NEEDS ADDRESSED WITHIN THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF THIS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 The County shall provide capital improvements to correct the existing and projected deficiencies as identified within the schedule of improvements and funding of this plan element, by adopting an Annual Capital Improvements Budget which is consistent with the schedule of improvements and funding.

Policy 1.1.1 The County shall established as part of the annual budgeting process the following criteria for the evaluation of proposed capital improvement projects:

 Criteria

A. The County shall assess the level of service for the public facilities which have adopted level of service standards established by the Comprehensive Plan, on an annual basis, prior to or concurrent with the County’s budget process;

B. The County shall schedule only those projects which are Consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of this Comprehensive Plan and which do not exceed the County’s fiscal capacity;

C. The County shall identify those existing or projected public facility needs, which occur or are projected to occur, due to deficiencies in the maintenance of adopted levels of service standards;

D. The capital improvement projects identified which are eminently needed to protest the public health and safety shall be given the highest priority;

E. The capital improvements projects related to the maintenance and operation of existing or projected needs, do not or are not expected to meet the adopted level of service standard for such facility shall be given the second order of priority;

F. The capital improvements projects with the greatest deficiencies based upon the established level of service standards within the Comprehensive Plan shall be given the third order of priority;

G. The capital improvement projects, which due to deficiencies based upon the established level of service standard within the Comprehensive Plan, are needed to provide public facilities to areas which have received development approval prior to the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan shall be given the fourth order of priority;

H. The capital improvement projects necessary to accommodate new development and redevelopment facility needs shall be given the fifth order of priority; and

I. The plans of the water management district and state agencies of public facilities within the County shall be considering during the annual budget process to ensure consistency and coordination of public facilities.

Policy 1.1.2 The County shall, upon identification of a need for drainage facility improvements due to deficiencies based upon the established level of service standards within the Comprehensive Plan, coordinate plans for improvements with the water Management District prior to scheduling such drainage facility improvement.

Policy 1.1.3 The County shall annually assess capacity of existing facilities to address any existing or projected deficiencies in adopted level of service standards in order to prepare an annual update to the Five-Year Schedule of Improvements that identifies, schedules, and specifies funding for any capital improvement projects needed to maintain level of service standards.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 The County shall coordinate land use decisions with its financial capability to meet level of service standards, manage the land development process so that facility needs created by permitted development do no exceed the financial ability of the County and identify the extent to which future development will be required to contribute to its proportional cost of facilities necessary to meet level of service standards through accomplishment of the following policies.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall use the following level of service standards in reviewing impacts of new development and redevelopments upon the provision of public facilities:

 PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

 ACTIVITY LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Elementary 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

Elementary/Middle 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

 Middle 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

 High School 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

 TRAFFIC CIRCULATION LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

 Establish the Service Standards as noted below at peak hour for the following roadway segments within the County as defined within the Florida Department of Transportation “Quality / Level of Service Handbook.”

| **ROADWAY****SEGMENT****NUMBER** | **ROADWAY SEGMENT** | **NUMBER****OF LANES** | **FUNCTIONAL****CLASSIFICATION** | **AREA****TYPE** | **LEVEL OF****SERVICE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 1-10(from the County’s east boundary to SR 55) | 4D | Principal Arterial - Interstate | Rural | C |
| 2 | I-10(from S.R. 55 to County’s west boundary) | 4D | Principal Arterial - Interstate | Rural | C |
| 3 | U.S. 19/27 (S.R. 20)(from County’s south boundary to County’s southwest boundary) | 4D | Principal Arterial -Other | Rural | C |
| 4 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from County’s east boundary to east limits of Lee) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 5 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from west limits of Lee to east limits of Madison) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 6 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from NE 22nd Street to east limits of Madison) | 4U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 7 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from west limits of Madison to east limits of Greenville) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 8 | U.S. 90 (S.R. 10)(from Greenville west limits to County’s west boundary) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 9 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55)(from County’s north boundary to Greenville north limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 10 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55) (from Greenville south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 11 | U.S. 221 (S.R. 55)(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 12 | S.R. 145(from County’s north boundary to Madison east limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 13 | S.R. 53(from County’s north boundary to Madison north limits) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 14 | S.R. 53(from Madison south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 15 | C.R. 53(from I-10 to County’s south boundary)  | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | C |
| 16 | S.R. 6(from County’s east boundary to U.S. 90) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 17 | S.R. 14(from Madison south limits to I-10) | 2U | Minor Arterial | Rural | C |
| 18 | C.R. 14(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 19 | C.R. 150(from County’s east boundary to C.R. 255) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 20 | C.R. 150(from C.R. 255 to S.R. 145) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 21 | C.R. 150(from S.R. 145 to U.S. 90) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 22 | C.R. 150(from Greenville south limits to I-10) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 23 | C.R. 150(from I-10 to U.S. 19/27) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 24 | C.R. 141(from U.S. 90 to County’s east boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 25 | C.R. 255(from C.R. 150 to S.R. 6) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 26 | C.R. 255(from S.R. 6 to Lee north limits) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 27 | C.R. 255(from Lee south limits to I-10) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 28 | C.R. 255(from I-10 to County’s south boundary) | 2U | Major Collector | Rural | D |
| 30 | C.R. 360(from I-10 to C.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 31 | C.R. 360(from C.R. 14 to U.S. 221) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 32 | C.R. 360A(from Madison southwest limits to S.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 33 | C. R. 158(from U.S. 221 to C.R. 14) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 34 | C.R. 150A(from U.S. 221 to S.R. 150) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 35 | Honey Lake Road(from U.S. 90 to U.S. 221) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 36 | C.R. 146(from County’s north boundary to S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 37 | C.R. 253(from County’s north boundary to S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 38 | Rocky Ford Road(from C.R. 150 to Madison north limits) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 39 | Cherry Lake Road(east of S.R. 53) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 40 | Pickle Lane(C.R. 146 to U.S. 90) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 41 | Rocky Springs Church Road(from S.R. 53 to S.R. 145) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |
| 42 | C.R. 254(from S.R. 145 to C.R. 255) | 2U | Minor Collector | Rural | D |

D – Divided Roadway

U – Undivided Roadway

**SANITARY SEWER LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS**

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Individual Septic Tanks Consistent with Ch. 64E-6, F.A.C.

 Sanitary 110 gallons per capita per day

 Sewer System

**SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS**

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Solid Waste Landfill 5 lbs per person per day

**DRAINAGE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS**

LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

Water Quantity –

For all projects not exempted from Chapter 40B-4 and 40B-400, Florida Administrative Code within the County, stormwater management systems must be installed such that the peak rate of post-development runoff will not exceed the peak-rate of pre-development runoff for storm events up through and including either.

1. A design storm with a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall depth with Natural Resources Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture condition for projects serving exclusively agricultural, forest, conservation, or recreational uses; or

2. A design storm with 100-year critical duration rainfall depth for projects serving any land use other than agricultural, silvicultural, conservation, or recreational uses.

 Water Quality –

1. Water Quality treatment shall be provided for the runoff from the first inch of rainfall.

2. Facilities which directly discharge into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 40B-4 and 40B-400, Florida Administrative Code, in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as to provide mitigation for changes to water quality such that these changes do not cause harm to individuals or water resources and to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

3. Facilities which directly discharge to an active sink must treat the runoff from the first two inches of rainfall.

4. Swales must be designed to treat, through percolation or evapotranspiration, a volume of stormwater equal to 80 percent of the runoff resulting from a design storm with a three-year, one-hour rainfall depth and Natural Resources Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture conditions.

**POTABLE WATER LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS**

 FACILITY TYPE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

 Private individual Consistent water wells with Suwanee River Water Management District Standards

 Potable water 100 gallons per capital per day.

 system

**RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY / FACILITY LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS**

Parks and Open Space 2 acres per 1,000 population

Policy 1.2.2 The County shall require that public facilities are in place and available to serve new development no later than the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 The County, shall maintain an annual capital improvements budgeting process to manage the fiscal resources of the County, so that needed capital improvements, identified within the Comprehensive Plan, are provided for existing and future development and re-development.

Policy 1.3.1 The County shall incorporate within the County's annual budgeting process, a capital improvements budget which addresses the needed projects found in the schedule of improvements and funding of this plan element.

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall limit development to areas where the adopted level of service standards for the provision of public facilities found within the Comprehensive Plan are maintained. This provision also includes areas where development orders were issued prior to the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.3.3 The County shall establish a policy as part of the annual capital improvements budgeting process to issue revenue bonds only when the maximum total of the annual payment for all revenue bonds does not exceed 20 percent of the County’s annual non-ad valorem operating revenues.

Policy 1.3.4 The County shall establish a policy as part of the annual capital improvements budgeting process to request issuance of general obligation bonds only when the maximum general obligation bonding capacity does not exceed 20 percent of the property tax base.

Policy 1.3.5 The County shall maintain a program for replacement and/or renewal of capital facilities to ensure that the levels of service do no fall below the standards called for in this plan. Criteria for replacement and/or renewal of capital facilities under the County’s fiscal responsibility include historical and projected maintenance costs, number of accidents, number of users, changes in performance or regulatory standards and other factors relating to the specific capital facility.

Policy 1.3.6 The County shall implement appropriate programs, and development requirements, for providing a pro rata or proportionate share by new development of the costs necessary to finance public facility improvements in order to maintain adopted level of service standards.

IMPLEMENTATION

FIVE YEAR SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS

The five year schedule of improvements shown in the table is the implementation mechanism of the Capital Improvements Element to stage the timing, location, projected cost and revenue sources for any capital improvement needs identified within the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

TABLE

FIVE YEAR SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS

2013-2018

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Description | Schedule | ProjectedCost | Location | RevenueSource | Consistent withother elements |
| Widen/Resurface Existing Lanes | 2014 | $1,328,352 | Balboa Road from SR 53 to Farm Road | FDOT | Yes |
| New Road Construction | 2014 | $1,495,618 | Balboa Road from SR 53 to Dale Leslie Road | FDOT | Yes |

Source: Florida Department of Transportation Five-Year Work Program 2013-2018.

**SECTION 9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT**

**GOAL, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 - ENHANCE THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF ALL CITIZENS OF MADISON COUNTY AND EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THE COUNTY’S TAX BASE WITHOUT COMPROMISING ITS RURAL QUALITY OF LIFE.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 Achieve a diversified and sustainable economic base in Madison County to minimize the vulnerability of the local economy and to provide economic opportunity for all segments of the population.

Policy 1.1.1 Madison County shall promote and support the goals and objectives of the Madison County Development Council in recruitment and expansion of targeted industries that will contribute to economic diversification that include, but are not limited to: manufacturing, warehousing, logistics, distribution, food processing, healthcare, communication and eco-tourism related businesses.

Policy 1.1.2 Madison County shall implement the goals of the Tourist Development Council to promote Madison County as a tourism destination through events, advertising and accessible recreation sites.

Policy 1.1.3 The County shall promote tourism, including eco-tourism, agritourism, heritage tourism and tourism-related businesses which complement the County’s environmental, social and economic quality.

Policy 1.1.4 Madison County shall expand its economic base by creating an environment that encourages entrepreneurship through partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce, North Florida Community College, North Florida Workforce and related organizations that provide education and training to the community.

Policy 1.1.5 Madison County shall promote economic development efforts that build on, complement and support existing commercial, industrial and agricultural assets in the local economic system.

Policy 1.1.6 Madison County shall encourage and allow flexibility in the development of “home-based businesses” consistent with public health, safety and nuisance concerns. Home-based businesses are defined as a business or occupation conducted on a property which is accessory to the residential use of that property. The land development code shall include provisions to allow rural home based businesses or occupations.

Policy 1.1.7 The County shall evaluate and ensure that new or expanding businesses will contribute to maintaining a clean environment (air, water, soil) and will be located in areas with the properly designated land use category and suitable infrastructure.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 Provide an economic development strategy for Madison County.

Policy 1.2.1 Madison County shall pursue an integrated approach to economic development that includes citizen input and addresses the needs of the County along with its Municipalities. The County shall support the activities of the Madison County Development Council in the development and implementation of a strategic plan for county wide economic development.

Policy 1.2.2 Madison County shall coordinate its economic development activities with its municipalities and the appropriate federal, state, regional and local agencies and economic development organizations.

Policy 1.2.3 Madison County shall pursue and utilize incentive programs such as Tax Abatement, Enterprise Zones, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and any other programs or grants that may be available and appropriate and are designed to assist local economic development projects.

Policy 1.2.4 Madison County shall support and promote educational, vocational, technical training and internship opportunities to meet the needs of existing and new employers. In addition, the County will collaborate with local agencies and institutions to provide and expand on vocational and entrepreneurial skills training opportunities.

**SECTION 10. PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ELEMENT
GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1 - IT IS THE GOAL OF THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH ADOPTED LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS. THIS GOAL SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITY CAPACITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE LEVEL OF SERVICE. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL CONCURRENCY WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ADHERING TO AND RECOGNIZING THE COUNTY’S AUTHORITY IN LAND USE DECISIONS, WHICH INCLUDE THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE OR DENY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS, REZONINGS, OR OTHER DEVELOPMENT ORDERS THAT GENERATE STUDENTS AND IMPACT THE SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND THE SCHOOL BOARD’S STATUTORY AND CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OBJECTIVE 1.1 Establish level of service standards in order to ensure that there is sufficient school capacity to support student growth for each year of the five-year planning period and for the long term planning horizon.

Policy 1.1.1 The level of service is defined as school enrollment as a percentage of school student capacity based upon the Florida Inventory of School Houses. The level of service standard is the maximum level of school utilization that will be permitted in the School District. The level of service is established for schools in the County, as follows:

 (a) Elementary: 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes;

 (b) Elementary/Middle: 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes;

1. Middle: 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes;
2. High: 90 percent of permanent Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

Policy 1.1.2 Individual schools should generally not operate in excess of the established level of service. Moreover, the issuance of final development orders for subdivision plats or site plans shall be strictly conditioned upon the availability of school capacity and the maintenance of the adopted level of service.

Policy 1.1.3 The level of service standards will be used to determine whether sufficient school capacity exists to accommodate future development projects, and evaluate the sufficiency of the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element. The Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element shall be reviewed, updated and adopted annually thus ensuring that projects necessary to address existing deficiencies, and to meet future needs based upon the adopted level of service standards, are scheduled accordingly.

Policy 1.1.4 The addition of a new fifth year to the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element based upon the School District’s public schools facilities capital program and five-year facilities work plan shall be included as part of the updated Capital Improvements Schedule. The School District shall provide to the County an updated five-year district facilities work plan no later than October 1 of each year and the County shall adopt the level of service capacity projects listed in the updated five-year district facilities work plan into the Capital Improvements Element no later than December 1 of each year. The annual plan amendment shall ensure the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element continues to achieve and maintain the level of service standards.

Policy 1.1.5 The County shall review the Public School Facilities Element annually for potential amendments. Any potential amendments to the adopted level of service standards shall be considered annually. The Initiating Party shall provide a memorandum to all involved parties – the School Board, County, and Municipalities – that includes a description of the proposed amendment, a statement concerning the impact of the proposed amendment on the Comprehensive Plan, and supporting data and analysis that demonstrates that the amendment can be achieved and maintained over the five years of the School District’s public school facilities capital program. If there is consensus among all parties to amend the Public School Facilities Element, it shall be accomplished through an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning and the adoption of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. The amendment shall not be effective until the amended Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning is fully executed by all parties and Comprehensive Plan amendments are adopted and found compliant.

OBJECTIVE 1.2 Establish the school concurrency service area as the entire school district within which a determination can be made as to whether there is adequate school capacity available based on the adopted level of service standards. The concurrency service area shall maximize capacity utilization, taking into account transportation costs, limiting maximum student travel times, the effect of court-approved desegregation plans, achieving social economic, racial and cultural diversity objectives, and other relevant factors as determined by the School Board’s policy on maximization of capacity. Other considerations for amending concurrency service areas may include safe access (including factors such as the presence of sidewalks, bicycle paths, turn lanes and signalization, and general walkability), diversity and geographic or man-made constraints to travel. The types of adjustments to school operations that will be considered shall be determined by the School Board’s policies on maximization of capacity.

Policy 1.2.1 The County shall demonstrate that adopted level of service standards will be achieved and maintained within the period covered by the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Facilities Improvements and that the utilization of school capacity is maximized to the greatest extent possible, taking into account transportation costs and other relevant factors.

OBJECTIVE 1.3 Ensure that Comprehensive Plan amendments and other land use decisions are concurrently evaluated with school capacity availability within the concurrency service area.

Policy 1.3.1 The County shall rely upon School Board findings and comments on the availability of school capacity when considering the decision to approve Comprehensive Plan amendments and other land use decisions.

Policy 1.3.2 The County shall identify methods to direct development to areas with adequate school capacity or where school sites adequate to serve potential growth have been donated to or set aside for purchase by the School Board in written agreements approved by the School Board.

Policy 1.3.3 The School Board shall review potential new development student generation impacts and available school capacity. Where capacity will not be available to serve students generated by a proposed development and proportionate share mitigation is not an option, the School Board shall not issue a favorable concurrency determination. The County shall use lack of school capacity demonstrated by an unfavorable concurrency determination as a reason for denial.

OBJECTIVE 1.4 Ensure that the planning and construction of educational facilities are coordinated so that the timing is appropriate and the selected location is compatible with the surrounding area, concurrent with necessary service and infrastructure, and consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.4.1 The County and School Board will jointly determine the need for and timing of on-site and off-site improvements (including water, sanitary sewer, roads and drainage) necessary to support each new school or the proposed renovation, expansion or closure of an existing school as provided for in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facilities Planning and will enter into a written agreement as to the timing, location, and the party or parties responsible for constructing, operating and maintaining the required improvements. The County shall coordinate with the School Board so that proposed public school facility sites are consistent with the applicable land use designations and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, as well as the land development code of the applicable zoning districts. Pursuant to Section 1013, Florida Statutes, the County will consider each public school facility site plan as it relates to environmental concerns, health, safety and welfare, and effects on adjacent property. In addition, road capacity and traffic concerns will also be evaluated. The County will also continue to pursue the development of mutually acceptable guidelines for the selection of future school sites including, but not limited to:

(a) Acquisition of school sites which allow for future expansions to accommodate future enrollment and other facility needs deemed beneficial for joint-uses, as identified by the School Board and the County;

(b) Coordination of the location, phasing, and development of future school sites to ensure that site development occurs in conjunction with the provision of required infrastructure to serve the school facility; and

(c) Preferences for residential, urban areas with allowances for rural sites as deemed necessary and appropriate under certain circumstances.

Policy 1.4.2 The County shall coordinate with the School District to evaluate and locate potential sites where the co-location of public facilities, such as parks, libraries and community centers, with schools can be selected and developed by the County and the School Board.

OBJECTIVE 1.5 Enhance community design through effective school facility design and siting standards. Encourage the siting of school facilities so that they are compatible with the surrounding land use.

Policy 1.5.1 The County shall implement and maintain mechanisms designed to closely coordinate with the School Board long-range school facilities planning with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan and public school facilities programs, such as:

(a) Greater efficiency for the School Board and the County by the placement of schools to take advantage of existing and planned roads, water, sewer, parks and drainage systems;

(b) Improved student access and safety by coordinating the construction of new and expanded schools with road and sidewalk construction programs;

(c) The location and design of schools with parks, ball fields, libraries, and other community facilities to take advantage of shared use opportunities; and

(d) The expansion and rehabilitation of existing schools to support neighborhoods.

Policy 1.5.2 The County and School Board shall permit and encourage the joint-use of school sites and County facilities with similar facility needs, such as libraries, parks and recreation facilities and health care facilities. Also, the School Board shall coordinate with the County in the location, phasing and design of future school sites to enhance the potential of schools as recreation areas.

Policy 1.5.3 The County and the School Board shall coordinate the location of public schools with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan to ensure existing and proposed school facilities are located consistent with the existing and proposed residential areas that schools serve, are approximate to appropriate existing and future land uses, and that schools serve as focal points within the community.

Policy 1.5.4 The County and the School Board shall coordinate emergency preparedness issues including, but not limited to, the use of school facilities as public shelters during emergencies.

Policy 1.5.5 The School Board shall provide bicycle and pedestrian access consistent with Florida Statutes on public school property. Bicycle access and trails to public schools should be incorporated in trail projects and programs that are currently scheduled by the County. The School Board shall provide parking and sidewalks on public school property in accordance with applicable land development regulations.

GOAL 2 - IT IS THE GOAL OF THE COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL CONCURRENCY BY PROVIDING FOR CAPACITY DETERMINATION STANDARDS, AVAILABILITY STANDARDS, APPLICABILITY STANDARDS AND PROPORTIONATE SHARE MITIGATION.

OBJECTIVE 2.1 Establish school capacity determination standards.

Policy 2.1.1 The School District shall determine whether adequate school capacity exists for a proposed development, based upon adopted level of service standards, concurrency service area and other standards stipulated in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning.

Policy 2.1.2 The School District shall conduct a concurrency review that includes findings and recommendations of whether there is adequate school capacity to accommodate the proposed development for each type of school within the concurrency service area consistent with the adopted level of service standards. The School District shall issue a concurrency determination based on the findings and recommendations.

OBJECTIVE 2.2 Establish school availability standards.

Policy 2.2.1 The County shall not deny a subdivision plat or site plan (or functional equivalent) for the failure to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service for public school capacity where:

(a) Adequate school facilities will be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of the final plat or site plan (or functional equivalent); or

(b) The developer executes a legally binding commitment to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand for public school facilities to be created by the actual development of the property subject to the final plat or site plan (or functional equivalent).

Policy 2.2.2 If the School District determines that adequate capacity will not be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of final plat or site plan approval and mitigation is not an acceptable alternative, the School District shall not issue a School Concurrency Determination. If the School District determines that adequate capacity does not exist, but mitigation, through proportionate share mitigation or some other means, the application will remain active pending the conclusion of the mitigation negotiation, as provided for within the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning.

OBJECTIVE 2.3 Establish proportionate share mitigation alternatives which will achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standards consistent with the School Board’s capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan.

Policy 2.3.1 In the event that mitigation is an acceptable alternative to offset the impacts of a proposed development, where the adopted level of service standards would otherwise be exceeded, the following options listed below, for which the School Board assumes operational responsibility through incorporation in the School Board’s adopted capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan and which will maintain the adopted level of service standards, shall include:

 (a) The contribution of land; or

(b) The construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; or

(c) The creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in exchange for the right to sell capacity credits.

Policy 2.3.2 Proposed mitigation shall be directed toward a permanent capacity improvement identified in the School Board’s capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan. Consideration may be given by the School Board to place an additional improvement required for mitigation in its capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan. The proposed mitigation must satisfy the demand created by the proposed development consistent with the adopted level of service standards or identified as an amendment to the School Board’s adopted capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan. Portable classrooms shall not be accepted as mitigation.

Policy 2.3.3 Mitigation shall be directed to projects on the School Board’s adopted capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan that the School Board agrees will satisfy the demand created by that development approval, and shall be assured by a legally binding development agreement between the School Board, the County and the applicant executed prior to the issuance of the final plat approval, site plan approval, or functional equivalent. If the School Board agrees to the mitigation, the School Board must commit in the agreement to placing the improvement required for mitigation in its capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan.

Policy 2.3.4 The process to determine proportionate share mitigation shall be in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning. The applicant’s proportionate share mitigation obligation will be credited toward any other impact fee or exaction imposed by local ordinance for the same need, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, at fair market value.

Policy 2.3.5 The School District shall annually review and update student generation multipliers for single-family, multi-family and mobile home housing types for elementary, middle and high schools based upon the best available district-specific data; cost per student estimates for elementary, middle and high schools that include all cost of providing instructional and core capacity including land, design, buildings, equipment and furniture, and site improvements while the cost of ancillary facilities that generally support the school district and the capital costs associated with the transportation of students shall not be included in the cost per student estimate used for proportionate share mitigation; capacity of each school, and current and reserved enrollment of each school in accordance with professionally accepted methodologies.

Policy 2.3.6 The School District shall review and update student enrollment projections in accordance with professionally accepted methodologies on an annual basis.

OBJECTIVE 2.4 Ensure that existing and planned public school facilities are coordinated with plans for supporting infrastructure and have safe access, including sidewalks, bicycle paths, turn lanes, and signalization.

Policy 2.4.1 The County shall maximize efficient use of existing and planned infrastructure by coordinating with the School District future school sites that take advantage of existing and planned roads, potable water, sanitary sewer, parks and drainage systems.

Policy 2.4.2 The County shall ensure safe student access to school sites by coordinating the construction of new residential developments, expansion of existing residential developments and redevelopment or revitalization of existing residential developments with safe road and sidewalk connections to public schools.

Policy 2.4.3 The County shall coordinate bicycle access to public schools by requiring new residential developments adjacent to existing and proposed school sites, other than age restricted residential developments, to include pedestrian connections between any sidewalk network within the residential development and adjacent school site.

Policy 2.4.4 The County shall work with the School Board to determine responsibility for the costs and construction of any needed off site improvements for new public school facilities, such as signalization, installation of deceleration lanes, roadway striping for crosswalks, safe directional/warning signage and installation of sidewalks.

APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS

CAPACITY: “Capacity” as defined by the Florida Inventory of School Houses Manual.

CLASSROOM: An instructional space requiring no special design or equipment and used for housing general programs such as language arts, social studies and mathematics.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES: The buildings and equipment, structures, and special educational use areas that are built, installed or established to serve educational purposes only.

EDUCATIONAL PLANT: The educational facility, site and site improvements necessary to accommodate students, faculty, administrators, staff and the activities of the educational program assigned to the administrative control of one person and uniquely identified in an educational plant survey.

EDUCATIONAL PLANT SURVEY: A systematic study of educational and ancillary plants and the determination of future needs to provide appropriate educational programs and services for each student.

FIVE-YEAR DISTRICT FACILITIES WORK PLAN: A plan which demonstrates the ability to finance capital improvements from existing revenue sources and funding mechanisms to correct deficiencies and meet future needs based on achieving and maintaining the adopted level of service for each year of the five year planning period for all schools of each type in each concurrency service area, and for the long range planning period.

FLORIDA INVENTORY OF SCHOOL HOUSES: An official inventory, which is based on design codes, of all district owned facilities.

LEVEL OF SERVICE: The measure of the utilization, expressed as a percentage, which is the result of comparing the number of students with the satisfactory Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity at a given location.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: A process of devising a systematic method based on educational information and needs, carefully analyzed, to provide the facilities to meet the goals and objectives of the educational agency.

MITIGATION OPTIONS: The provision by an applicant of any combination of land, construction, expansion and payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; or the creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in exchange for the right to sell capacity credits. Fair market value of the proportionate fair-share mitigation shall not differ based on the form of mitigation. Such options must include execution by the applicant and the local government of a binding development agreement that constitutes a legally binding commitment to pay proportionate-share mitigation for the additional residential units approved by the local government in a development order and actually developed on the property, taking into account residential density allowed on the property prior to the development that increased overall residential density. The School Board shall be a party to such an agreement.

PERMANENT: A structure built with a fixed foundation that has permanently attached walls, roof and floor that cannot be moved or transported either as a unit or in sections.

PERMANENT STUDENT STATION: The floor area in a public school facility required to house a student in an instructional program.

PORTABLE CLASSROOM: A classroom within a building or portion of a building made up of prefabricated units that may be disassembled and reassembled frequently, or a single unit of construction consisting of walls, roof and floor that is moveable as a unit either on wheels or by truck.

PROPORTIONATE SHARE MITIGATION: The contribution by a developer or applicant, through any of various means (see definition of Mitigation Options), of resources sufficient to offset or compensate for the site-specific impacts generated by a development. The fair market value of mitigation is credited against any impact fees or other exactions levied against the development.

SITE: A space of ground occupied or to be occupied by an educational facility or program.

SITE DEVELOPMENT: Site development means work that must be performed on an unimproved site in order to make it usable for the desired purpose; or, work incidental to new construction or to make an addition usable.

SITE IMPROVEMENT: The work that must be performed on an existing site to improve its utilization, correct health and safety deficiencies, meet special program needs or provide additional service areas. Site improvement incident to construction is the work that must be performed on a site as an accompaniment to the construction of an addition to an educational facility for a modernization project.

Future Land Use Map Series

Future Land Use Plan Map 2035

Future Traffic Circulation Map

Historic Resources

Regionally Significant Natural Resources – Ground Water Resources

High Aquifer Recharge Areas and Stream-to-Sink Watersheds

Regionally Significant Natural Resources – Surface Water Resources

Flood Prone Areas

Rivers and Lakes

Waterwells

Wetlands

Soil Associations

Minerals

Regionally Significant Natural Resources – Natural Systems