

— Intergovernmental Coordination Element

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I. Purpose

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element is to identify and resolve incompatible goals and objectives and development pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan, and to determine and respond to the needs for coordination processes and procedures with adjacent local governments and regional and state agencies. The Intergovernmental Coordination Element provisions in Florida's Growth Management Act emphasize strong intergovernmental coordination, identification of coordination needs in the planning stage and use of existing procedures.

Interaction between local governments is not only necessary, but also vital, as the needs of community stakeholders spill across jurisdictional lines and require communication and cooperation between governments. The City and Pasco County share a wide variety of concerns in their charges to provide various facilities and services. The City and County, through interlocal agreements, provide water, sewer and reclaimed water services, public safety, recreational programs, solid waste disposal and transportation facilities and services.

The Intergovernmental Coordination Element also addresses joint planning areas, municipal incorporation and joint infrastructure service areas; voluntary dispute resolution; coordination with the District School Board of Pasco County; dealing with problematic land uses; and coordination with special districts.

Definition of Coordination

Intergovernmental coordination includes a continuum of activities ranging from informal contacts to formal procedures and agreements. For the purposes of this element, the concept of coordination may encompass the following actions or processes as may be applicable to a given circumstance:

- Telephone communication
- Written communication
- Sharing of information, proposals or plans
- Comments or requests
- Joint meetings
- Special purpose groups organized to resolve an issue or implement a specific task
- Coordination organizations like TBRPC or the MPO
- Special subcommittees or task forces
- Joint planning areas
- Interlocal agreements, memorandums of understanding, resolutions, ordinances, contracts, grants, etc.

III. Inventory

Coordinating Entities

Pursuant to Chapter 9J-5.015, FAC, the following organizations, utilities and governmental entities have been identified as being involved in planning and coordination aspects of the New Port Richey Comprehensive Plan:

- Adjacent Local Governments:*
- Pasco County
 - City of Port Richey
- Countywide Agencies:*
- District School Board of Pasco County
 - Pasco County Sheriff's Department
 - Pasco County Health Department
 - Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - Pasco County Public Transit
 - Pasco County Community Development Department (Housing)
- Regional Authorities:*
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
 - Southwest Florida Water Management District
 - Tampa Bay Water
- State Agencies:*
- Florida Department of Transportation
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Florida Department of Community Affairs
 - Florida Department of Education
 - Florida Department of Health
 - Florida Department of Commerce
 - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
 - The Executive Office of the Governor
 - Florida Department of State
- Federal Agencies:*
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
 - US Environmental Protection Agency
 - US Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - US Department of Agriculture - Soil Conservation Service
 - US Department of Justice
 - US Department of Transportation
 - US Department of Commerce
 - US Department of the Interior
 - US Department of Health and Human Services
 - US Department of Education
- Private Utilities:*
- Progress Energy (Electricity)
 - Verizon (Telephone)
 - Bighthouse (Cable Television)
 - Clearwater Gas
- Other*
- Solid Waste Haulers (4)

Existing Coordination Mechanisms

Existing Contacts and Agreements

Local Option Gas Tax The City has an interlocal agreement with Pasco County that provides a distribution formula for the local option gas tax levied under §336.025, FS.

<i>Electric Service</i>	Ordinance Number 1103, as amended, grants Progress Energy Corporation an electric franchise with the right to construct, operate and maintain those facilities necessary for supplying electricity to the residents and businesses within the corporate limits of the City. The City receives a franchise fee from Progress Energy Corporation and both parties coordinate and communicate when maintenance or construction of the electrical transmission system is necessary, and when activity will occur in easement and rights-of-way. The Public Works Department is the office with primary coordination responsibility.
<i>Telephone Service</i>	Ordinance Number 1133 grants Verizon Telephone Company of Florida a franchise to construct, operate and maintain those facilities necessary to provide public and private telecommunications service to the businesses and citizens of the City. The City receives a franchise fee from Verizon, and both parties coordinate and consult when maintenance or construction of the telephone system is necessary, or when activity will occur in easements and rights-of-way.
<i>Natural Gas Service</i>	Ordinance Number 504 grants a franchise to Clearwater Gas to erect, install, operate and maintain a system of works for the purpose of transporting, distributing and selling natural gas to the residents and businesses in the City.
<i>Cable Service</i>	Ordinance Number 1036 grants Brighthouse Cable of Pasco County a franchise to construct, operate and maintain a community antenna system for the New Port Richey area. The City and cable company coordinate and consult when maintenance or construction of the cable system is necessary or when those activities require construction or alteration of easements and rights-of-way. Additionally, the City recently entered an agreement with Verizon for cable service.
<i>Water Supply</i>	<p>An interlocal agreement between the City, Pasco County and TBW establishes procedures, rates and water entitlement for the purchase of water from the Starkey Wellfield. The Public Works Department is the office with primary coordination responsibility.</p> <p>A Potable Water Sale and Purchase Agreement between the City and Lindrick Service Corporation contracts the City to sell to the buyer potable water in bulk form from the municipal water system. The Public Works Department coordinates this agreement.</p> <p>An interlocal agreement between the City and the City of Port Richey contracts Port Richey to buy potable water from the City for 25 years. This service agreement is coordinated by the Public Works Department.</p>
<i>Water and Sewer Facilities</i>	The City has executed an interlocal agreement with Pasco County that delineates a service area outside the City for water and sewer services. Through this agreement, the City has right of first refusal to supply water and sewer services to County residents within the City

service area if services can be made available.

A lease agreement between the City and School District of Pasco County allows the City to construct and maintain a water tank in order to provide a good, steady and ample supply of water to the school site at that location. This lease agreement allows the City to maintain the 500,000 gallon tank as necessary. The Public Works Department has coordination responsibility for this agreement.

An interlocal agreement between the City and Pasco County provides that the expansion of the New Port Richey Wastewater Treatment Plant be jointly owned by the County and the City so the County may use capacity available from the expansion of the facility. The agreement also establishes the obligation of the City to reimburse the County for those expansion costs if the County does not use the facility. The City operates and maintains the plant and the County pays a proportional share of the costs based on the volume of wastewater treated for the County at the facility. This service agreement is coordinated by the Public Works Department.

An agreement between Port Richey and New Port Richey whereby New Port Richey agrees to treat up to 225,000 gallons per day of wastewater for Port Richey. This is a service agreement where Port Richey is charged as a wholesale customer. The office with primary responsibility is the Public Works Department.

Public Safety

Fire rescue/emergency service (suppression, investigation, inspections, plans review, fire prevention, public education and emergency medical care)

The New Port Richey Fire Department also operates under a mutual aid agreement with the City of Port Richey and Pasco County fire/rescue departments.

The New Port Richey Police Department works closely with the Pasco County Sheriff's Office in cases that occur at or near the City limits and conducts joint investigations when necessary.

Pasco County 911 Emergency System enhances coordination of City and County fire and emergency service delivery.

Recreation

The City and Pasco County coordinate relative to recreation programs for City and County residents. The City owns athletic fields used by County athletic programs.

Solid Waste

Currently, the City contracts with private haulers for the collection of solid waste from residential and commercial customers. Solid waste is then transported to Pasco County solid waste disposal facilities in the Shady Hills area. The City will continue disposing of its solid waste in this manner through an agreement with Pasco County.

Coordination with Local Governments

Pasco County Government

The City coordinates with several County departments including:

- Traffic Control
- Development Review
- Utilities
- Emergency Management
- Growth Management
- Community Development

City of Port Richey

New Port Richey coordinates with Port Richey in matters of police protection and fire by interlocal agreement and the provision of sanitary sewer, potable water and wastewater treatment. The coordination of fire and law enforcement services is an informal relationship that is coordinated interdepartmentally as circumstances dictate. The City also coordinates with the City in conjunction with regular meetings of the Municipal Association of Pasco.

Coordination with Countywide Agencies

District School Board of Pasco County

The City has contracts with the District School Board of Pasco County for a municipal water tank located on School Board property. Also, the School Board leases property from the City for the storage of school buses. The City provides school crossing guards within the City, but this function entails no coordination with the School Board. In matters of safety and discipline, the School Board cooperates with New Port Richey Police Department.

The 1995 Florida Legislature enacted requirements for improved coordination between local governments and school boards for school siting. New requirements for the Future Land Use Element pertain to criteria for siting schools proximate to urban residential areas and to co-locate schools with other public facilities such as parks. To implement these requirements, the City has incorporated relevant policies to the Comprehensive Plan and has entered into an interlocal agreement with the School Board.

Pasco County Sheriff's Department

The City cooperates and coordinates with the Sheriff's Department on a regular basis on request and in areas that concern both agencies. There is no one office that has primary responsibility for coordination. Contact between elected officials, administrators and law enforcement officials occurs when necessary. This is an informal, historical relationship.

Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) coordinates transportation planning efforts between the County, municipalities, adjacent counties and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is the entity that promotes intergovernmental coordination on transportation issues.

New Port Richey coordinates transportation planning with the County's Metropolitan Planning Organization for the development and maintenance of mass transit plans, programs and projects. The City has representation on the MPO Board and City staff participates on the MPO Technical Advisory Committee.

A mutual interest of the City and the MPO is for local, county and state roads to be coordinated for effective traffic flow. The City and County have joined in local intergovernmental agreements aimed at improving roadway and intersections with joint jurisdiction.

Coordination with Regional Entities

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was established in 1962, under Chapter 160, FS, and by Interlocal Agreement, Chapter 163.01, FS, in 1975. It was reorganized under Chapter 160, FS, amended in 1980 and subsequently replaced by Chapter 186, FS, in 1985.

TBRPC is designated under Florida statutes and federal law for many of its responsibilities. TBRPC engages in areawide comprehensive and functional planning, mediates conflicts between local governments, adopts and maintains a Strategic Regional Policy Plan, reviews and comments on applications and development orders for Development of Regional Impact (DRIs) and reviews development orders issued by local governments. TBRPC also reviews applications for federal and state grants as the Regional Clearinghouse for Administrative District VIII, as designated by Presidential and Gubernatorial Executive Orders. TBRPC coordinates bay management as the administrator of the Agency on Bay Management.

As a member of the TBRPC, the City is represented on the Council and various subcommittees by an elected official appointed by the City's elected officials. TBRPC, composed of locally elected representatives and gubernatorial appointees, is designated to conduct long-range planning for the region and assist and guide in the resolution of contemporary problems and issues. As a voting member, the City assists in establishing regional policy.

TBRPC reviews and transmits to the proper agencies dredge and fill permits, state and federal grant applications and transportation projects that impact or are located in the City. In these instances, the City and TBRPC communicate and coordinate review-related activities, as necessary.

Since 1974, the TBRPC Area Agency on Aging has served as the designated agency for Planning and Service Area 5, which includes Pasco and Pinellas counties in west central Florida. The function of the Area Agency on Aging is to plan, develop and fund a comprehensive and coordinated service delivery system to meet the needs of the older persons in greatest social and economic need within the planning and service area. The Area Agency enters into contracts with local service providers to furnish these services at the community level. It is also the Area Agency's mandate to serve as an advocate and focal point for the elderly within the community by monitoring, evaluating and commenting on all policies, programs and community actions that will affect the elderly. Other specific responsibilities of the Area Agency on Aging are monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of service providers; providing opportunities for community input on agency policies, procedures and funding allocations; and coordinating with other service agencies to facilitate service delivery and access to the elderly.

The City receives technical assistance by request from TBRPC and has access to the agency's Regional Resource Library. The formal relationship between the City and TBRPC is delineated by interlocal agreement. The City Council, City Manager and Community Development staffs have coordination responsibilities with this agency.

Southwest Florida Water Management District

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) is an independent special district created in 1961 under Chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, as a public corporation for carrying out and effectuating the provisions of Chapter 373, FS.

The District is responsible for administration of a permitting system for consumptive water use and other water related activities; the regulation of wells; and the management and storage of surface waters. SWFWMD is charged to effect the maximum beneficial utilization, development and conservation of the water resources of the district in the best interest of its people and to prevent the waste, depletion, deterioration and unreasonable use of resources.

SWFWMD covers all or parts of 16 counties along west central Florida. SWFWMD's Governing Board is appointed by the Governor and determines overall policies; carries out regulatory responsibilities and functions; enters into contracts; and authorizes a tax levy for administration of the District. The District is divided into nine watershed basins, eight of which have Basin Boards (the Governing Board serves as the basin board for the Green Swamp watershed basin due to its hydrologic significance). The Coastal Rivers Basin Board is the basin board that serves the New Port Richey area.

Members of the Basin Boards are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Basin boards are responsible for identifying water related issues within their boundaries and for adopting budgets which address those issues. To receive funding, the water resource problem must be determined by the District's technical staff to be of regional significance and not strictly a localized problem.

The Basin Boards adopt a budget and makes request to the Governing Board to levy the appropriate amount of ad valorem taxes. Chapter 378, FS, provides the authorizing language for SWFWMD and allows the Governing Board to levy ad valorem taxes up to 0.40 mills in the SWFWMD jurisdiction while individual basin boards may levy ad valorem taxes up to 0.60 mills to support projects which directly benefit the basin in which the revenue is collected.

SWFWMD is involved in major programs in the areas of flood control and water management. The District has conducted numerous water resources studies utilizing federal, state, regional and local input. In conjunction with municipal, regional and county governments, the District has sponsored several multiple use projects combining water management and recreation facilities.

SWFWMD bases land acquisition on the following needs criteria: natural flood control water detention and/or retention; preservation and/or restoration of natural systems; water conveyance; water quality enhancement; structural control; aquifer recharge; and potable water supply. Local governments can nominate projects to the District for consideration under these programs.

The Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program provides information and assistance on restoration, protection and management of the City's important surface water bodies. The Save Our Rivers program can be a source of acquisition funds the City may wish to become involved with to enhance protection of environmentally sensitive areas. SWFWMD bases land acquisition on the following needs criteria; natural flood control, water detention and/or retention; preservation and/or restoration of natural systems; water conveyance; water quality enhancement; structural flood control; recharge; and potable water supply. Local governments can nominate projects to SWFWMD for consideration under this program.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 373, FS, SWFWMD develops and implements a Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP). The RWSP is an assessment of projected water demands and potential sources of water to meet these demands to the year 2020. The City falls within the northern portion of RWSP planning region known as the North Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area (NTB). The Comprehensive Plan is required to assess water needs and sources taking into consideration RWSP. The intent of this requirement is to strengthen coordination between water supply planning and local land use planning.

The City also has a regulatory relationship with SWFWMD. The City receives permits for pumping potable water from City-owned wells, permits for drainage plans and improvements and must file monthly reports concerning data on the amount of water pumped and water quality testing. The City has an interlocal agreement with SWFWMD that provides for the documentation of sources and magnitude of pollutants to the Pithlachascotee River. The Office of the City Manager and Public Works and Community Development departments are the offices with primary coordination responsibility with this agency.

Tampa Bay Water

Tampa Bay Water (TBW) is a regional water authority formed under the provisions of Section 373.1962, FS. The authority is specifically exempted from compliance with local government comprehensive plans as stated in Section 198.4155(3), FS. However, it is still required to coordinate with local governments as listed under "Required Special District Coordination.

TBW is a wholesale supplier of potable water to its member local governments of Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough counties, as well as the City of Tampa, St. Petersburg and New Port Richey. These member local governments in turn directly supply their citizens and businesses, as well as enter into agreements to provide water to other local governments.

An agreement between TBW, SWFWMD and member governments (Tampa, St. Petersburg, New Port Richey and Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties) was developed to help resolve water resource impacts in the north Tampa Bay region. The North Tampa Bay New Water Supply and Groundwater Withdrawal Reduction Agreement (1998) established an overall strategy to reduce reliance on ground water, implement alternative sources and allow recovery of natural systems. The City is currently planning and operating consistent with this agreement.

TBW maintains regular interaction with its member governments. The City Manager and Public Works Director are the primary contacts for this agency.

Coordination with State Agencies

Florida Department of Transportation

The FDOT was created by the Governmental Reorganization Act of 1969, and operates under the authority of Chapter 334-339, FS, and Chapter 341, FS. FDOT is responsible for coordinating the planning of all modes of transportation on land, sea and air, and for constructing and maintaining the state highway system, including facilities on the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS). The State Transportation Engineer coordinates transportation project development in the FDOT districts. The district engineers manage and administer the FDOT Five-Year Work Program and systems maintenance. The City of New Port Richey is located in FDOT District Seven.

Plans for the urban transportation system in Pasco County are developed jointly by the MPO and FDOT. US 19, a facility on the Strategic Intermodal System, is the sole facility in the City under the jurisdiction of FDOT. The City informs FDOT of maintenance hazards and problems with the facility. The City coordinates development review requests with FDOT to ensure compliance with minimum level of service standards and access management requirements for US 19. The City Manager and Community Development and Public Works Departments have primary coordination responsibilities with FDOT.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) is the principle agency for the implementation of state environmental policy and law. The FDEP established standards for the protection of natural systems through the permitting process of activities that may impact the environment, including permitting and monitoring potential sources of pollution and discharges for compliance with state standards. In the event of non-compliance or violation, the FDEP can take enforcement action. The FDEP manages eight environmental regulatory programs: Water Quality; Water Quantity; Drinking Water; Solid Waste; Air Quality; Noise Control; Coastal Zone Planning; and Power Plant Siting.

FDEP programs are administered mainly through field offices located throughout the state; however, the Water Quantity program is managed through five regional water management districts. The functions of the FDEP and its districts are coordinated through using joint application procedures. FDEP permitting programs require coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers. In administering the Water Quality program, FDEP assists local governments in obtaining grants for sewage treatment facilities and loans for other pollution control projects.

The City and FDEP have a regulatory relationship. The City must receive various permits for installation of sewer lines and projects related to the transfer of wastewater. The Public Works Department files monthly reports detailing the amount of wastewater processed and the quality of the treated wastewater. The City requires that development requests to connect with City sewer facilities have all appropriate permits from FDEP before the City will issue a local permit. FDEP also regularly inspects the City's wastewater treatment facilities, and has the latitude to issue restrictions or conditions of the operations of those facilities. The City Manager and Public Works Director have primary coordination responsibilities with FDEP.

Florida Department of Community Affairs

The Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) was created by the Government Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to Chapter 20-18, FS. DCA serves as the State Land Planning Agency and the State agency for advising the Governor on policies and programs for improving the state criminal justice system. As the State Land Planning Agency, DCA reviews comprehensive plans for Florida's 11 regional planning councils. Additionally, DCA reviews and approves local government comprehensive plans and plan amendments.

In the area of criminal justice planning, DCA provides technical assistance to local governments, state agencies and public and private agencies. DCA also reviews local applications for federal criminal justice grants and administers awarded funds.

Other responsibilities of DCA include assisting communities and units of local government in defining and responding to problems in the area of housing, community development and building codes and standards; reviewing Developments of Regional Impact through the Division of Resource Planning and Management; and determining the consistency of local emergency management plans with regional plans through the Division of Emergency Management.

The nature of the City's relationship with DCA is regulatory and involves review of the Comprehensive Plan and amendments to ensure consistency with Florida statutes and rules, review of the local emergency management plan to ensure consistency with the regional plan and administration of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The City Manager and Community Development Department have primary coordination responsibility with DCA.

Florida Department of Education

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) was created in 1885 and established in present form in 1969 under Article IX, Section 2, of the Constitution of the State of Florida and Section 20.15, FS. The FDOE develops comprehensive objectives for all public education, policies for the efficient operation of all phases of public education, and all required rules and regulations for the enforcement of school codes. The State Board of Education consists of the Governor and Cabinet, with an appointed Commissioner of Education who serves as chief executive officer of FDOE. FDOE coordinates with all levels of government in carrying out each phase of the educational program, and exercises general supervision over all divisions and boards to ensure coordination of educational plans and programs, and to resolve controversies.

The City has no relationship with FDOE. If needed, the City Manager would assume coordination responsibility.

Florida Department of Health

Florida Department of Health (FDOH) represents a division of the former Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS). HRS was created by the Governmental Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to Section 20.19, FS.

The mission of the FDOH is to promote and protect the health and safety of all Floridians. Goals are attained by preventing and controlling the spread of acute, chronic and infectious disease;

providing basic family health care services to persons unable to access care from the private sector; and monitoring the sanitary status of water and sewage systems, group living facilities and other activities that have the potential to threaten the public's health.

Environmental conditions, some occurring naturally and others manmade, have an effect upon the well-being of Florida's inhabitants. These effects are often of such magnitude and complexity that only government can mount an adequate response. Contamination of the air, ground, water and food may cause disease or death. FDOH tries to prevent or contain such contamination.

The FDOH, in conjunction with county health units, protects the health of the population by monitoring and regulating activities that may contribute to the occurrence or transmission of disease. FDOH regulates private and certain public water supplies and provides advice on well location and maintenance. Waste disposal programs ensure that septic tanks and other on-site sewage disposal systems are properly planned, installed and operated to prevent the spread of disease.

Counties inspect nursing homes, day care centers, schools, mobile home and recreational vehicle parks, swimming pools and bathing places and other public and private group care facilities to ensure that the facilities are safe and sanitary. Staff also investigate and resolve complaints about sanitary nuisances.

There is no formal relationship between the City and the FDOH. The City Manager has primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

Florida Department of Commerce

The Department was created by the Government Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to Chapter 20.17, FS. The Department is responsible for guidance, stimulation and promotion of economic development within the state, as it relates to industry, marketing and international development and providing state leadership in the development and promotion of the tourist industry. Through its five field offices, the Department assists regional and local governments in economic support of economic development programs, and serves as a liaison between the state and Florida businesses and the State and Caribbean, South America and Central America concerns. The Division of Tourism coordinates national and international ad campaigns and assists municipalities, chambers of commerce and other tourism oriented entities in formulating cooperative promotional programs.

There is no direct relationship with the Department of Commerce. The City Manager has primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) came into existence on July 1, 1999, the creation of a constitutional amendment approved in the 1998 General Election as part of the package proposed by the Constitutional Revision Commission. Chapter 20, FS, establishes the FWC as being the specifically provided for under Section 9, Article IV, of the State Constitution. Seven appointed commissioners are charged to exercise the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life and shall also exercise

regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to marine life (except license fees and penalties for violations are provided by law).

The FWC exercises regulatory authority with respect to wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life for the purpose of management, protection and conservation. FWC reviews comprehensive plan amendments, and the City coordinates with FWC where development proposals potentially impact endangered and threatened species or habitat. The Community Development Department is the office with primary responsibility for coordination.

The Executive Office of the Governor

The Executive Office of the Governor was created in 1972 under Section 14.201, FS. The functions of the Executive Office of the Governor apply mainly to preparation of the annual executive budget and legislative agenda of the Governor, and review of the state agency plans and programs. Another major responsibility is the preparation, development and revision of the State Comprehensive Plan. This office also gathers data on the state energy resources and administers the State's role in petroleum allocation and conservation.

The Executive Office of the Governor is directed by an Administrative Commission composed of the Governor and the Cabinet which coordinates planning among federal, state, regional and local levels of government and those of other states. The Executive Office of the Governor also coordinates all State agency planning and programming activities, serves as state planning and development clearinghouse, and designates regional and area clearinghouse review agencies. The Executive Office of the Governor also serves as liaison between state and federal officials, agencies and members of Congress.

The Executive Office of the Governor receives all grant applications from the City and forwards them to clearinghouse review agencies. There is no regular relationship between this office and the City. The City Manager has primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

Florida Department of State

Chapter 20, FS, establishes the Department of State, while Chapter 15, FS, specifies the duties of the head of the Department. The Department has the following divisions: Administration; Corporations; Cultural Affairs; Elections; Library Services; Licensing; and Historic Resources. The Division of Historic Resources is authorized to conduct and carry out a program of historic preservation grants-in-aid, including matching grants, to any department or agency of the state; any unit of the county, municipal, or other local government; any corporation, partnership, or other organization, whether public or private, for the purposes of administration and protection.

The City has no continuing formal relationship with the Department of State. However, the Community Development Department coordinates with the Division of Historic Resources regarding historic structures and sites within the City. The City Manager, Community Development Department and City Clerk are offices with coordination responsibility, if needed.

Florida Department of Children and Families

The Florida Department of Children and Families was created by the Governmental Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to Section 20.19, FS. The Department administers

programs in the areas of health, mental health, retardation, youth services, children's medical services, social and economic services, vocational rehabilitation and aging and adult services.

All of the Department's health, social and rehabilitative services are provided through 11 statewide service districts. Departmental services are coordinated with those of other public and private agencies in each district through advisory councils.

The Department also contains the State Health Planning and Development Agency which is charged with the planning of Florida's Health System Agencies in establishing state health policy.

There is no relationship between the City and the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. The Office of the City Manager of New Port Richey is the office with primary responsibility for coordination if needed.

Coordination with Federal Agencies

Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was established under Reorganization Plan Number 3 of 1978 and Executive Orders 12147 and 12148. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, PL 100-707, signed into law November 23, 1988; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, PL 93-288. This Act constitutes the statutory authority for most Federal disaster response activities especially as they pertain to FEMA and FEMA programs.

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS). FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first-responders and manages the National Flood Insurance Program.

Ten regional offices are the primary means by which the agency administers and manages programs carried out at state and local levels. Region IV includes Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

In order to minimize potential damage in flood hazard areas, FEMA works closely with officials at all levels of government through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FEMA also develops and disseminates materials concerning fire services and provides training in civil management preparedness activities to federal, state and local government personnel.

FEMA regulates and coordinates the applications and requirements for federal flood insurance for the City. FEMA annually reviews procedures, records and ordinances of the City to verify compliance and certifies flood zone areas. The Community Development Department communicates with FEMA on technical questions and data requests, as needed. The City Manager, Building Official and Public Works Director are the offices with primary coordination responsibilities.

US Environmental Protection Agency

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established in 1970 pursuant to Reorganization Plan Number 3 of 1970. The purpose of the agency is to protect and enhance the environment through control and abatement of pollution in the areas of water, air, solid waste, noise, radiation and toxic substances. The Agency integrates a variety of research, monitoring, standard setting and enforcement activities. The City participates in the EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Program (NPDES). EPA coordinates and supports research and anti-pollution activities by state and local governments, public and private groups and educational institutions. The development of local programs for pollution abatement is accomplished through the agency's 10 regional offices. EPA also reinforces efforts among other federal agencies concerning the impact their operations may have upon the environment.

The Public Works Department reports to EPA on a monthly basis concerning volume of wastewater treated and measurements of the quality of treated wastewater. The City also has a permit from EPA to operate the treatment facility, and EPA conducts an operation and maintenance audit on the treatment facility every year. The City also has a permit from the EPA to discharge effluent. This is a regulatory relationship concerning the processing, transmission and discharge of wastewater. The City Manager and Public Works Department are the offices with primary coordination responsibility.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was established by the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, 79 Statute 667; 42 USC 3531-3537. HUD is the principal federal agency responsible for programs relating to housing needs, fair housing opportunities and improving and developing the nation's communities. HUD administers mortgage insurance programs; rental subsidy programs; anti-discriminatory activities related to housing; and programs that assist in neighborhood rehabilitation.

The Department stresses the role of states, cities, counties and other units of local government in the solution of housing and community development problems through a number of program functions. Such activities, such as Urban Development Action Grants, assist local governments in maintaining and improving the availability of housing and the preservation of rehabilitation of local communities.

Programs of research studies, testing and demonstrations are carried out through the awarding of grants, cooperative agreements and contracts with industry, educational institutions and units of local government. The City has no continuing relationship with the Department.

US Department of Health and Human Services

The US Department of Health and Human Services was created in 1953 as the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and redesignated in 1979 under its current name by the Department of Education Organization Act, 93 Statute 695; 20 USC 3508. In addition to the Social Security System, the Department administers a broad range of social service and human development programs oriented toward the elderly, children of low income families, persons with physical and/or mental handicaps, runaway youths and Native Americans.

The Department conducts the following health-related functions: provides national leadership and administration for a program of federal, state and areawide health planning and health delivery systems; supports education for the health professions; conducts and supports research in the fields of medicine and related sciences; protects the health of the nation against impure foods, drugs and cosmetics; and administers Medicaid and Medicare programs.

Ten regional offices represent the Department in official interactions with the state and local governments. Grants and technical assistance are available for the development of local health resources and the improvement of local social service systems. For example, state agencies may receive funding to establish community service programs. This is accomplished through the designation and funding of Area Agencies on Aging such as the role played by the TBRPC.

There is no direct relationship with the Department. The Office of the City Manager is the office with primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

US Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service

The US Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS) is primarily responsible for classifying and mapping soil types and capabilities. It aids local governments and citizens with information and testing services to determine if specific soils capabilities related to development and agricultural practices. Existing coordination of these activities include providing soil consulting to local governments and individuals relating to effective and environmentally sound practices for agriculture and development pursuits.

There is no relationship with the Department. The Office of the City Manager is the office with primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

US Department of Justice

The US Department of Justice was established in 1870 under 16 Statute; 28 USC 501, 503. The Department plays a key role in protecting the public from criminals and subversion, in providing and ensuring the healthy competition of business, in safeguarding the consumer, and in enforcing drug, immigration and naturalization laws. The Department also protects citizens through its efforts for effective law enforcement, crime prevention, crime detection, prosecution and rehabilitation of offenders.

The Department is comprised of a number of agencies that provide financial and technical assistance to state and local governments for improvements of correctional systems, drug control capabilities and general law enforcement and criminal justice. Forms of technical assistance range from training of personnel to developing data base and communication systems. The Department also represents the government on legal matters.

The City's Police Department coordinates with the Justice Department through the National Crime Information Center. This information network allows the City access to Justice Department data banks for information concerning criminal justice. The relationship to the City is primarily regulatory and concerns the information network. The Police Chief is the point of primary coordination, if needed.

US Department of Transportation

The US Department of Transportation (USDOT) was established in 1966 under 80 Statute 391; 49 USC 1651. DOT establishes the nation's overall transportation policy in regard to highway planning, development, construction, urban mass transit, railroads, aviation and the safety of airports, ports and waterways, highways and oil and gas pipelines. USDOT consists of several administrations, a number of which provide financial assistance to state, regional and/or local agencies for various transportation projects and programs, such as funding to the states for highway improvement, traffic operations and highway safety programs. Financial assistance is also provided for capital and operating expenses, technical studies, managerial training, research and development projects and demonstration projects.

There is no direct relationship between the City and USDOT. The Office of the City Manager is the office with primary responsibility for coordination, if needed.

US Department of Commerce

The US Department of Commerce was titled as such in 1913 under 37 Statute 736; 15 USC 1501, which reorganized the Department of Labor and Commerce created under 32 Statute 825; 15 USC 1501. The Department serves and facilitates the nation's economic development and technological advancement. It offers assistance and information to domestic and international business; provides social economic statistics and analysis for business and government planners; assists in the development of the US Merchant Marine; provides research and promotes the increased use of science and technology in the development of the economy; promotes foreign tourism; provides assistance to speed development of economically underdeveloped areas of the nation; seeks to improve the understanding of the earth's physical environment and oceanic life; and assists in the growth and development of minority businesses.

The Department encompasses a number of agencies that provide technical assistance and financial aid to state and local governments. The Economic Development Administration focuses on areas of excessive unemployment, while the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awards grants to states for developing and carrying out plans for management of their coastal zones. All levels of government utilize data provided by the Department's Bureau of the Census.

There is no relationship between the City and the Department. The City Manager and Community Development Department are the offices with primary responsibility for coordination, if needed.

US Department of the Interior

The US Department of the Interior was created in 1849 under 9 Statute 395; 43 USC 1451. The Department administers most federally-owned and managed public lands and natural resources; including water, mineral, fish and wildlife. Jurisdictional responsibilities includes the coordination of Federal and State recreation programs, the preservation and administration of the nation's scenic and historic areas, operation of conservation and youth training programs, reclamation of lands, hydroelectric power systems and administration of programs for Native Americans.

State and local governments can receive financial and/or technical assistance from the Department for a number of activities including fish and wildlife restoration and management projects; surveys and research related to topography, geology and water and mineral resources; historic preservation; acquisition of critical natural areas; acquisition and development of parks; enhancement and restoration of local recreational systems; Indian Affairs programs; and development of coal resources.

There is no relationship with the Department; however, development that potentially impacts eagle's nests is coordinated directly with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The Office of the City Manager and the Community Development Department are the offices with primary responsibility for coordination, if needed.

US Department of Education

The US Department of Education was created in 1979 under the Department of Education Organization Act, 93 Statute 668; 20 UDC 3401. The Department establishes national education policy and administers and coordinates most federal assistance to education. An Intergovernmental Advisory Council on Education, composed of elected officials, educators, parents and students makes recommendations to the Secretary of the Department and the President for improvement of the administration of federal education programs.

The Department administers grants and technical assistance to state educational agencies and/or local school districts for a variety of purposes including: the elimination of segregation and discrimination; special programs such as Drugs and Alcohol Abuse Education; vocational and technical training; special programs and services to assist the handicapped; and support of post-secondary institutions and students. The Department also provides some financial support to federally aided institutions including colleges for the deaf and blind.

There is no relationship with the Department. The Office of the City Manager is the office with primary coordination responsibility, if needed.

US Department of Defense

The US Department of Defense was established as an executive department of the US Government by the National Security Act Amendments of 1949, 63 Statute 578; 5 USC 101. Through the Department, specifically the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), the Defense Department administers permitting programs designed to protect water quality and environmentally valuable wetland resources, to prevent alteration or obstruction of navigable waters, and to control dumping of dredged materials into ocean waters. The types of activities requiring permits include excavating and filling, construction and work in ocean waters such as beach renourishment.

Corps programs are administered through 37 districts nationwide. Florida falls within the Jacksonville, Florida and Mobile, Alabama districts. Due to overlapping legal jurisdictions, the Corps and FDEP jointly review permit applications, issue joint public notices, and where possible, hold joint public hearings.

The City coordinates dredge and fill permit review with the ACOE. The Office of the City Manager and Public Works Department is the office with primary responsibility, if needed.

Coordination with Utility Companies

The following utilities coordinate their activities with the City through franchise agreements or by City ordinance. The City Manager has primary coordination responsibility with all utilities.

Progress Energy Corporation

Florida Power Corporation has a franchise agreement with the New Port Richey to provide electricity for residential and commercial uses. Progress Energy is regulated by the Public Service Commission.

Verizon Telephone of Florida

Verizon Telephone of Florida has a franchise agreement with the City to provide commercial and residential phone service. Verizon is regulated by the Public Service Commission.

Brighthouse Cable of Pasco County

Brighthouse Cable of Pasco County has a franchise agreement to provide cable television service to the City. Brighthouse Cable is regulated by the Public Service Commission.

Clearwater Gas

The City has a franchise agreement with Clearwater Gas to provide natural gas to residential and nonresidential uses in the City. The Public Works and Fire departments monitor the location and installation of natural gas lines.

III. Analysis

Effectiveness of Existing Coordination Mechanisms

This section addresses the effectiveness of existing intergovernmental coordination mechanisms including specific problems and needs that would benefit from additional coordination.

Coordination with Local Governments

City of Port Richey

The City of New Port Richey provides wastewater treatment and potable water to the City of Port Richey through an interlocal agreement. The City's Fire Department operates under a mutual aid agreement with the Port Richey Fire Service. City administration and City Council meet quarterly with those of the City of Port Richey and the other Pasco municipalities to discuss common issues at Municipal Association of Pasco (MAP) meetings.

Pasco County

The City provides water treatment and distribution for residents in the unincorporated area of Pasco County. The City and the County jointly operate and maintain the wastewater treatment plant that serves the City and parts of the unincorporated area. Current interlocal agreements are deemed satisfactory. Additionally, there is no indication that interlocal agreements in place between the City and the County for hazardous material spill response, solid waste disposal, affordable housing programs administration, land use related technical assistance, joint application for NPDES permitting and emergency medical and fire services require any changes.

Coordination with Countywide Agencies

Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) coordinates transportation planning efforts between the County, the municipalities, adjacent MPOs and FDOT. The MPO Technical Advisory Council (TAC) promotes intergovernmental coordination on transportation issues and programs. The City is represented on the TAC, as well as the MPO Board. City residents are eligible for appointment to the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and may participate in MPO public workshops and meetings. These coordination mechanisms are functional and of benefit to the City and the MPO.

District School Board of Pasco County

The City Manager is the liaison with the School District's Department of Facilities Planning Manager for issues pertaining to school sites and services. A joint planning process exists that requires coordination between the City and the School Board for any school-related activities within the greater New Port Richey area.

Additionally, the City and the School Board cooperate regarding a City water tower on School Board property and school bus parking on City property. These relationships are controlled by lease and interlocal agreements. There is no indication that the agreements need to be changed.

Pasco County Sheriff's Department

The New Port Richey Police Department cooperates and coordinates with the Pasco County Sheriff's Department on a regular basis for issues of concern to both agencies. Agency contacts include law enforcement staff, administration and elected officials, as needed and appropriate.

Coordination with Regional, State and Federal Agencies

The City coordinates and communicates with the TBRPC on an as needed basis. The TBRPC serves as the state-designated regional clearinghouse and, as such, reviews all grant and permit applications submitted for regional impacts that affect the City.

Through the permitting process and the allocation of federal and state grant funds, the City communicates and coordinates with various federal and state agencies that have regulatory and review jurisdiction over development in the City.

Coordination with Utility Entities

Utility services in the City are provided through formal franchise agreements. These mechanisms have proved to be effective and require no change.

Intergovernmental Coordination Relative to Comprehensive Plan Elements

This section discusses specific problems and needs within the Comprehensive Plan elements that would benefit from improved or additional intergovernmental coordination.

Future Land Use Element **Issue:** Prevention and elimination of incompatible land uses along common boundaries.

Finding: New development and redevelopment in the City and in adjacent areas under the jurisdiction of neighboring local governments should be compatible with established or planned development patterns and land uses. Through the exchange of information including development applications, proposed future land use and zoning changes and proposed ordinances, local government staff can fully participate in the development review process. Also, increased code enforcement on behalf of the County in these areas would increase the effectiveness of the City's code enforcement program. The City should alert the County of code enforcement violations in the unincorporated area that have the potential to affect the stability of City neighborhoods.

Future Land Use Element **Issue:** Growth pressures in areas in and around the City. Formulation and adoption of a coastal management plan for the City.

Finding: The municipal boundaries currently contain no coastal land, but the possibility of acquiring coastal lands by annexation is a distinct possibility. If and when the City does acquire coastal lands, the City should coordinate and consult with Pasco County and the City of Port Richey on matters that may affect the beaches and shorelines of the coast; such as beach renourishment, the construction of piers and jetties and development in coastal lands.

Future Land Use and Intergovernmental Coordination Elements **Issue:** Annexation to accomplish efficient municipal service delivery and land use compatibility.

Finding: The establishment of a joint planning area for annexation decisions would allow the City to designate future land uses for these lands in advance of the annexation. Toward this approach, policies addressing this arrangement have been added to the Intergovernmental Coordination and Future Land Use elements. The agreement could also address unincorporated enclaves in the City.

*Future Land Use
and Transporta-
tion Elements*

Issue: Blighted, underutilized and obsolete commercial development, inefficient land use patterns, level of service deficiencies, Coastal High Hazard Area limitations and crime are impediments to redevelopment along the US 19 corridor.

Finding: The complex issues associated with the US 19 corridor will require coordination, efforts and funding by several agencies. US 19 is a major state highway which is part of the Florida Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), and the predominant gateway to numerous neighborhoods and commercial districts in west Pasco. Solutions to US 19's myriad issues will be essential to community sustainability and quality of life. The County is currently developing the US 19 Urban Infill and Redevelopment Plan, a plan which will not address segments of US 19 in the incorporated areas (i.e., New Port Richey and Port Richey). To remain competitive from a redevelopment perspective, the City should be included as a partner in the County's Urban Infill and Redevelopment Plan to achieve a comprehensive approach to resolving issues. Alternatively, the City should pursue funding under the State's Urban Infill and Redevelopment program for the preparation of a plan to address land use and transportation issues on US 19.

*Transportation
Element*

Issue: Level of service deficiencies and safety issues on US 19.

Finding: The US 19 segment, a particularly long segment from Main Street to Grand Boulevard, is currently operating at LOS F. Observation suggests that the congested portion of the segment is north of the Pithlachascotee River bridge beyond the City limits. The functioning of this segment south of the river is more representative of US 19 segments south of Main Street, which is operating at an acceptable LOS. The City will coordinate with the MPO and FDOT to examine this issue as well as to resolve safety concerns relative to motorized and nonmotorized modes on US 19.

Housing Element

Issue: Availability of affordable housing.

Finding: The City should continue coordination with the Pasco County Community Development Department, which administers housing assistance programs in the County, concerning the housing needs of very low- to moderate-income households in New Port Richey.

*Infrastructure
Element*

Issue: Stormwater Drainage. The City is located in a drainage basin that extends into the unincorporated area. Flooding problems in this basin need to be addressed by the City and the County.

Finding: The City has developed a Master Stormwater Drainage Plan that prescribes a holistic approach to resolving drainage problems in the basin.

*Infrastructure
Element*

Issue: The City owns and operates its own wastewater treatment plant, and provides treatment services to unincorporated areas of the County adjacent to

the City. Pasco County assisted in the funding of the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant and was allocated 50 percent of the expansion project's capacity. The City also owns and operates its own potable water distribution system and provides water to several unincorporated areas. The Intergovernmental Coordination Committee is the forum that will be used by the City to resolve any conflicts surrounding provision of sanitary sewer and potable water.

Finding: Due to the rapid growth of New Port Richey and the concomitant expansion of its wastewater treatment service area, it is difficult to determine the potential future demand for these services. Plans for expansion would indicate that the City will be able to maintain current levels of service through the year 2010.

*Infrastructure
Element*

Issue: The Resource Recovery Facility is approaching capacity.

Finding: Pasco County is currently in the permitting process for expansion of this facility. The City should coordinate with County to develop effective reuse and recycling programs to reduce the solid waste stream and to defer the need for costly expansion of the Resource Recovery Facility in the future.

*Conservation
Element*

Issue: Pithlachascotee River Water Quality. Stormwater runoff from City and upstream have deteriorated water quality in the river and its estuaries.

Finding: The City, Pasco County, the City of Port Richey, FDEP and other community stakeholders should continue to work cooperatively to implement pollution control techniques that are effective in improving water quality in the river.

*Conservation,
Coastal
Management and
Recreation and
Open Space
Elements*

Issue: Acquisition and Preservation/Conservation of Environmental Lands. Cooperative efforts to identify and protect coastal environmental lands would further the Comprehensive Plan objectives of multiple local governments.

Finding: The City should coordinate with Pasco County and the City of Port Richey relative to the acquisition and protection of environmentally-sensitive lands in the coastal area and along the Pithlachascotee River. Cooperative opportunities for preservation and conservation in conjunction with the County's environmental lands acquisition program should be explored.

*Coastal
Management and
Future Land Use
Elements*

Issue: Development in the Coastal High Hazard Area. Past losses and the continued threat to life and property in the Coastal High Hazard Area has contributed to an especially severe insurance crisis in Pasco County. Exorbitant increases in homeowner insurance rates are pricing low income households out of the local housing market and affecting the County's long term economic stability.

Finding: A coordinated coastal management plan should present a unified approach among the local governments in the area to limit the density of new development in the Coastal High Hazard Area.

*Recreation and
Open Space
Element*

Issue: Preservation and Acquisition of Open Space.

Finding: The City should closely coordinate with Pasco County and the State to protect natural resources and open space in the City and to acquire additional property that may become available for open space.

*Recreation and
Open Space
Element*

Issue: Maintenance of Recreational Facilities. The City of New Port Richey's coastal and riverfront setting affords its residents and visitors a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation. In addition, the City also provides public facilities that allow a diverse menu of organized recreational activities.

Finding: Since most recreational facilities in the City are focused along the Pithlachascotee River, attracting residents and nonresidents, the maintenance of these facilities is critical in meeting the needs of citizens and visitors. New Port Richey should coordinate with Pasco County, the District School Board of Pasco County and the City of Port Richey to ensure that the existing and planned recreational resources are used for maximum benefit.

*Capital
Improvements
Element*

Issue: Coordination of Concurrency Management. The City is required to coordinate level of service standards and methodologies for level of service analyses with the entity having operational responsibility for a facility.

Finding: The City coordinates with Pasco County for transportation facility concurrency management methodologies and level of service standards during updates to the Comprehensive Plan. Coordination with the City Port Richey for this purpose needs to occur for streets traversing both municipalities.

Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Process

By statute, the City must complete an Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) on the Comprehensive Plan on regular intervals in conjunction with updating of the Comprehensive Plan. The EAR and the Plan update serve to ensure coordination with the plans of others, moderate the plan's effect on others and maintain internal consistency of plan elements.

Consideration of Plans by Others

The focus of this section is the identification of goals or directives in the plans of others (campus master plans and special district plans) that may affect the Comprehensive Plan, and a discussion of existing or needed coordination mechanisms that serve to resolve issues.

Campus Master Plans

Per §489.404(h) and §189.4155 (1), FS, the impacts that campus master plans may have upon the local government must be coordinated to ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. The City is not impacted by a campus of the State University System.

Special Districts

The State has declared its policy to foster coordination between local governments and special districts. This is accomplished in the Intergovernmental Coordination Element and includes coordination of public facilities owned and operated by the special districts and the consistency of plans to build, improve, or expand these facilities, as well as their current and future demands and capacities, with the local government comprehensive plans. The coordination occurring between local governments and special districts is similar to that of campus master plans, whereby impacts that the special district may have upon the local government must be coordinated to ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan (Sections 489.404(h) and 189.4155 (1), FS).

As provided for in Chapter 189, FS, special districts are required to submit a public facilities report within one year of their creation to the local government with jurisdiction over the area the special district operates. Prior to creation of a special district, the local governing body must declare that the creation of the district is consistent with the adopted Comprehensive Plan (Section 189.404(4)(h), FS), and that the local governing body has no objection to the creation of the proposed district (Section 189.404(2)(e)4, FS).

The following lists a summary of special district actions necessary to coordinate with the local government:

- Provide a public facilities report to the local government within the first year of the special district creation;
- Update related plans every five years or to coincide with local government evaluation and appraisal report due date;
- Provide notice of any changes annually;
- Describe each public facility owned and operated, current capacity, current demands and location;
- Describe plans to build, improve, or expand a public facility within the next five years and include a description of how the facility will be financed and timing for construction;
- Describe plans to replace public facilities within the next 10 years;
- Describe anticipated capacity of public facilities and demands on each public facility when completed; and
- File with the local government the registered office and agent as well as a schedule of the special district's regular meetings.

Dependent Special Districts

Special districts are authorized under Chapter 189, FS, and must either be dependent or independent. Dependent special districts have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Governing body members are identical to the governing body of a single county or single municipality (e.g., community redevelopment agency);
- Governing body members are appointed by the governing body of a single county or single municipality (e.g., housing authority);
- Governing body members are subject to removal by the governing body of a single county or single municipality (e.g., housing authority);

- Budget requires approval by the governing body of a single county or single municipality; or
- Budget can be vetoed by the governing body of a single county or single municipality.

Dependent special districts in the City include the Community Redevelopment Agency. By virtue of the fact that dependent special districts are either the local government or board appointed by the local government and have a budget approved or vetoed by the local government, additional coordination is unnecessary. The City has many opportunities to ensure that the actions of the Community Redevelopment Agency are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Independent Special Districts

An independent special district meets the following criteria:

- Is not dependent (as defined in the foregoing section);
- Boundaries cover more than one county;
- Boundaries exceed that of a single municipality (i.e., created by general law authorization or by special act);
- Operates as an independent political subdivision within defined district boundaries; and
- Constructs basic public infrastructure or provides public services such as drainage, lighting, fire protection, etc. Many have revenue raising authority such as ad valorem taxing, or non ad valorem assessments, fees, or charges on benefited property.

Independent special districts encompassing the City include SWFWMD and Tampa Bay Water.

Southwest Florida Water Management District – Independent Special District

The 11 member SWFWMD Board meets twice monthly and allows public input on its decisions, plans and actions. The Basin Board meets once every two months and includes input from the Governing/Basin Board Planning Committee which also has regular public meetings. The SWFWMD Community Affairs Department maintains regular, consistent interaction with local government and helps identify and resolve water management issues in a timely, coordinated fashion. The SWFWMD Planning Department is responsible for providing land and water resource planning, awareness and technical assistance including long range planning which integrates water management activities with local growth management efforts. The Department is responsible for a comprehensive local government planning assistance program. The Public Communications Department for SWFWMD is responsible for coordinating, facilitating, clarifying and disseminating information on water issues.

The existing coordination mechanisms are staff communications and public meetings. These coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating the plans of SWFWMD with the Comprehensive Plan. No changes are recommended.

Tampa Bay Water – Independent Special District

Since 1998, Tampa Bay Water (TBW) has been the sole and exclusive water provider to the six governments it serves, including the City. TBW has achieved its main goals to reduce

groundwater pumping from 11 long-producing wellfields, develop new water supply sources, end litigation and obtain funding from SWFWMD.

TBW policy is directed by a nine member Board of Directors from its member governments. The Board is comprised of two elected representatives from each member county and one elected representative from each member city to ensure balanced voting power. Board meetings are every one to two months. The agency prepares annual reports and financial statements.

The existing coordination mechanisms are staff communications and TBW Board of Director meetings. The City is currently planning and operating consistent with the TBW member agreement and maintains regular interaction with TBW. These coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating the plans of TBW with the Comprehensive Plan. No changes are recommended.

Identification and Implementation of Joint Planning Areas

Section 163.3177, FS, states that the "...intergovernmental coordination element shall provide for procedures to identify and implement joint planning areas, especially for the purpose of annexation, municipal incorporation and joint infrastructure service areas." This section will identify and suggest ways to improve upon the implementation of joint planning areas that relate to local government comprehensive plans. A *joint planning area* represents an area where:

- A municipality or county government provide municipal services to another local government;
- Both a municipality and county government provide municipal services to the same area; or
- A municipal or county government has designated a planning area with the intent of future annexation.

Joint Planning Areas for Annexation

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Annexation Proposals – Direct or written communications. The City does not have an interlocal agreement with Pasco County for the purpose of identifying a Planning Area to define the ultimate limits of the City’s municipal boundaries. The City ensures that annexation proposals are consistent with the requirements of Chapter 171, FS, and notifies the County of their intent to process the annexation.

Analysis of Effectiveness: There appear to be no issues or problems associated with this coordination mechanism.

Joint Planning Areas for Service Delivery

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Direct or written communication with the Pasco County Public Works Department.

Analysis of Effectiveness: These coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating population projections used in the local planning process.

Joint Processes for Collaborative Planning and Decision Making

Section 163.3177, FS, states that the "...intergovernmental coordination element shall describe joint processes 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." In addition, "[w]ithin one year of adopting their intergovernmental coordination elements, each county, all municipalities within that county, the district school board and any unit of local government service providers in that county shall establish by interlocal or other formal agreement executed by all affected entities, the joint process described..."

Population Projections

The City typically relies on population projections provided by the State of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR). However, the City coordinates with Pasco County to ensure that the projections being used for the City are consistent with the State's.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Direct or written communication with the Pasco County Growth Management Division.

Analysis of Effectiveness: These coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating population projections used in the local planning process.

School Facilities and Siting

The 1995 Legislature enacted Chapter 95-341, Laws of Florida, which made dramatic changes relating to how schools were to be coordinated with local government comprehensive plans. A key requirement was that by October 1, 1996, each local government was to include criteria for the siting of public schools. Even though many local governments met the original deadline, the 1998 Legislature passed Senate Bill 2474 (Chapter 97-176, Laws of Florida) which changed this deadline to October 1, 1999, and added requirements for the collocation of public facilities such as libraries, parks and community centers.

The Comprehensive Plan contains policies that are compliant with the School Siting Act. Additionally, the City has an interlocal agreement with the District School Board of Pasco County outlining specific coordination mechanisms.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: An interlocal agreement exists between the City and the School Board relative to school facilities planning.

Analysis of Effectiveness: There has not been any identified need for a new school in the City for decades. Therefore this coordination mechanism is untested.

Facilities Subject to Concurrency

Separate from facility location and construction is the need for coordination of local government concurrency methodologies and systems, and levels of service with other units of local government providing services, but not having the regulatory authority over the use of land. The public facilities in the City subject to concurrency requirements and the mechanisms for

establishing consistent concurrency methodologies and level of service standards among agencies are discussed in the following:

- Potable Water* An interlocal agreement between the City and Pasco County provides for City review of any development proposal that may impact potable water level of service.
- Sanitary Sewer* An interlocal agreement between the City and Pasco County provides for City review of any development proposal that may impact the sanitary sewer level of service.
- Solid Waste* The City's solid waste disposal needs are served by Pasco County via the Resource Recovery Facility. Due to multiple haulers serving a number of areas in the County, there is no accounting of actual quantity of solid waste generated in the City. With this information, the City is unable to evaluate its performance relative to its adopted solid waste level of service standard. This level of service standard is the same as adopted by the County.
- Stormwater Drainage* The City implements stormwater management through its development review process. The City coordinates with SWFWMD during the development review process, and requires proof of permitting by SWFWMD. The City coordinates with Pasco County through the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) process.
- Transportation* The City's adopted level of service standards for County and State roadways are consistent with the level of service standards of the County and FDOT.
- Parks and Recreation* Parks and other recreation facilities are provided on a local basis to City residents and on a countywide or regional basis by provision of large-scale County parks. The County uses the unincorporated population to calculate the need for regional parks; although the countywide population would be a better indicator of need for these parks.
- Public School Facilities* After Pasco County has developed and adopted a level of service standard for public school facilities, the City will adopt a consistent standard for implementation as part of the City's Concurrency Management System (Chapter 4, Land Development Code).

Facilities with Countywide Significance

The coordination mechanisms for countywide facilities of relevance to the Comprehensive Plan are identified in this section. There are no designated Area of Critical State Concern in the City and, therefore, are not addressed in this element.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Resource Recovery Facility and Emergency Operations Center – Meetings. These services are operated by Pasco County and are governed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Commission is elected on a countywide basis, representing both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Major decisions concerning countywide facilities are made at public meetings where residents, business owners, and local government representatives have equal opportunity to express concerns or ideas.

Analysis of Effectiveness: The existing coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating these countywide facilities.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Transportation Facilities and Services – Meetings. Transportation facilities and services are coordinated through Pasco County MPO advisory committees and Board comprised of county and municipal representatives. Additionally, public workshops for projects and plans are held by the MPO.

Analysis of Effectiveness: The existing coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating these countywide facilities.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: Hurricane Shelters and Evacuation Clearance – Meetings. The provision of hurricane shelters and evacuation of vulnerable populations are coordinated through various staffs of TBRPC, Pasco County Department of Emergency Management and local governments.

Analysis of Effectiveness: The existing coordination mechanisms have been effective in coordinating these countywide facilities.

Problematic Land Uses

Section 163.3177(3)(h)2, FS, states that a local government “shall describe joint processes for collaborative planning and decision making on...siting of facilities with countywide significance, including locally unwanted uses whose nature and identity are established in an agreement.” The following section discusses those locally unwanted land uses using the term problematic land uses.

Problematic land uses are uses that may not be wanted in an area by citizens or businesses due to the real or perceived negative effects associated with these uses. However, in many cases a local government is limited in the way it can restrict the location of these uses. Also, relative to the location of low- and moderate-income housing, restriction is difficult to justify when the use furthers a legitimate public purpose. Problematic land uses often include land uses that are protected by the US Constitution and federal or state law, such as adult entertainment uses, telecommunication facilities (e.g., cellular towers), power transmission lines, low- to moderate-income housing and group living facilities. Many citizens and business owners do not want these uses located nearby, making the local government’s decision to allow or not allow placement in a particular location a very difficult one.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: There are procedures presently in place used to coordinate problematic land uses; however, there is no formal agreement in place. Examples of procedures to address problematic land uses include special task forces, public meetings or hearings, and notification of adjacent jurisdictions.

Analysis of Effectiveness: This mechanism has not been tested in New Port Richey. Therefore, there no additional coordination needs have been identified.

Voluntary Dispute Resolution Processes

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Voluntary Dispute Resolution Process. TBRPC is recognized in Rule 29H-13, FAC, as a mediator and conciliator and, for that reason, has been established to reconcile differences on planning and growth management issues among local governments, regional agencies, port master plans, and private interests.

Existing Coordination Mechanism: TBRPC Voluntary Dispute Resolution Process

Analysis of Effectiveness: No need has arisen that called for the City to use of the dispute resolution process. Therefore, there no additional coordination needs have been identified.

IV. Plan to Address Needs

Based on the analysis in the foregoing, the City's three greatest needs that will require the partnership of various governmental agencies include:

US 19 Traffic, Land Use and Appearance

Obsolete, underutilized and blighted strip commercial development and regional traffic demand will require partnerships between the City, Pasco County, FDOT, the City of Port Richey, the business community and the public to create a vision, strategy and detailed plan for implementing change within this corridor.

Pithlachascotee River Water Quality

Water quality in the Pithlachascotee River is a major concern through the years. The watershed is heavily urbanized, particularly in the tidal reaches of western Pasco County. Recent urbanization has spread to higher reaches in the watershed in the unincorporated area of the County. Improved wastewater treatment, reuse of wastewater effluent, and new standards for stormwater retention and local wetland protection have helped to improve water quality in area waterways; however, spreading urbanization in upstream locations present new sources of urban runoff to downtown stream waterbodies. This watershed is on the State of Florida's Impaired Water Rule's List for Total Maximum Daily Loading development. Continued coordination by the City, Pasco County, and FDEP are called for in developing strategies to improve the health of this valued community feature.

Housing

The City will continue to coordinate with the Pasco County Community Development Department and state and federal agencies, as appropriate, to identify programs to bring home ownership within reach of the City's low to moderate income households.

Public School Concurrency

Coordination between the City, Pasco County and School District of Pasco County will take place in to develop a Public School Facilities Element and associated concurrency provisions in accordance with §163.3180(13)(f), FS.

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V. Goals, Objectives and Policies

Introduction

Pursuant to sections 163.3177(6), Florida Statutes, the following represents the Intergovernmental Coordination Element Goals, Objectives and Policies of the City. These goals, objectives and policies are intended to address the establishment of a long-term directive for promoting coordination between jurisdictions and agencies.

Implementation

GOAL ICE 1

To improve the existing system of interlocal coordination to successfully implement the Comprehensive Plan and to resolve conflicts resulting from the plan, plans of others and development proposals.

Coordination of Plans

Objective ICE 1.1

Coordinate with adjacent local governments, planning agencies and resource agencies in the evaluation and integration of applicable growth and resource management plans and development proposals.

Policies

- ICE 1.1.1 The City shall continue, in concert with the City of Port Richey and Pasco County, to serve as a forum to identify and discuss issues related to implementation of comprehensive plans, proposed development and funding which affect one or more of these jurisdictions in such areas as land use, transportation, coastal management, drainage, conservation and open space planning.
- ICE 1.1.2 The City recognizes that full implementation of the Comprehensive Plan is dependent upon the intergovernmental coordination mechanisms identified in each of the Comprehensive Plan elements.
- ICE 1.1.3 In instances where the resolution of issues requiring intergovernmental concurrence has not been achieved, the City shall initiate informal mediation by filing with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council a written request for mediation assistance, pursuant to Chapter 29H-11, Laws of Florida, and Chapter 186, FS.
- ICE 1.1.4 The City shall continue to communicate and coordinate with the District School Board of Pasco County, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Tampa Bay Water, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization, Municipal Association of Pasco and state and federal agencies, as appropriate, to address issues or proposed actions concerning an agency's jurisdiction or resources or proposals that are multi-jurisdictional in nature.

Level of Service Coordination

Objective ICE 1.2

Ensure coordination in establishing level of service standards for public facilities with state or local government operational and maintenance responsibilities.

Policies

ICE 1.2.1 The City shall work with FDOT and the Pasco County MPO as necessary to attain and assure acceptable continued operational level of service for streets in the City.

ICE 1.2.2 The City shall coordinate with Pasco County to ensure that each jurisdiction's future needs are considered in the acquisition, expansion and design of public service facilities, such as wastewater and potable water treatment facilities.

GOAL ICE 2

To establish means of communication among governmental agencies for the purpose of addressing and resolving issues of mutual interest that arise from the Comprehensive Plan and the plans of others.

Public School Facilities Coordination

Objective ICE 2.1

Coordination between Tthe City and School Board to ensure that the planning activities, services and facilities are consistent between the Comprehensive Plan and the School Board's policies and procedures, and for the purpose of establishing concurrency requirements for public school facilities in accordance with §163.3180(6), Florida Statutes.

Policies

ICE 2.1.1 The City's interlocal agreement with the School District of Pasco County shall include the joint utilization of consistent and coordinated projections.

ICE 2.1.2 The City and School Board shall communicate on major residential project reviews (pursuant to Chapters 163 and 1013, Florida Statutes to consider joint parcel/school dedications to meet future demands.

ICE 2.1.3 The City and School Board shall cooperate in their efforts to study and implement innovative methods, including co-location of park/school sites, and school design that is compatible with the City's urban development pattern.

ICE 2.1.4 The City and School Board shall explore provisions for the consideration of School Board input in the development approval process.

Collaborative Planning

Objective ICE 2.2

Identify joint processes for collaborative planning on population projections, facilities subject to concurrency, annexation, countywide facilities, and problematic land uses.

ICE 2.2.1 The City shall coordinate with the Pasco County Growth Management Department for the development of county population projections that include growth projected in the Comprehensive Plan.

ICE 2.2.2 The City shall continue to coordinate with service providers that have no regulatory authority over the use of land in the City to develop recommendations that address ways to improve coordination of the City's level of service standards and concurrency management methodologies and systems.

ICE 2.2.3 The City shall coordinate with Pasco County, the City of Port Richey and applicable regional and state agencies for the management of Pithlachascotee River estuaries.

ICE 2.2.4 The City shall continue to coordinate with the Pasco County MPO, PCPT and FDOT for the provision of multimodal transportation facilities in the City.

ICE 2.2.5 Recognizing that obsolete, underutilized and blighted strip commercial development and regional traffic demand on US 19 will require partnerships to resolve, the City shall coordinate with Pasco County, the MPO, FDOT, the City of Port Richey, the business community and the public to create a vision, strategy and detailed plan for implementing change within this corridor.

ICE 2.2.6 The City shall forward requests for access or right-of-way use on county or state roadways to Pasco County or FDOT, as appropriate, for review and approval.

ICE 2.2.7 The City shall assist in the development, review, and recommendations for coordinated guidelines for the location of problematic land uses.

ICE 2.2.8 As a means of enhancing the City's code enforcement efforts, the City shall coordinate with Pasco County to encourage code enforcement in the unincorporated area.

ICE 2.2.9 The City shall coordinate with Pasco County to identify joint planning areas for annexations and services provision.