

**EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CITY OF FELLSMERE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
CHAPTER THREE – SUCCESSES & SHORTCOMINGS OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT**

The Intergovernmental Coordination Element (ICE) contains six objectives under two goal statements. The objectives address all seven of the major issues facing the community: Maintaining the Historic Character of the City, Complete Streets, Enhance Transit Service, Codes to Meet Vision, Implement Central Sewer System, Capitalize on Conservation Areas, and Economic Development. A review of each objective is provided below including an assessment as to whether the plan objectives as they relate to major issues have been achieved. In addition, the review of each objective will identify, as appropriate, any unforeseen or unanticipated changes in circumstances that have occurred resulting in problems or opportunities with respect to the major issues and the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the issue.

***OBJECTIVE ICE A-1: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES.*** *The City shall continue to improve coordination activities with:*

- 1) Government agencies having planning and impact assessment duties affecting the City;*
- 2) Local government agencies and units providing services, but not having regulatory authority over the use of land;*
- 3) Indian River County School Board; and*
- 4) Comprehensive Plans of Indian River County, Sebastian, Vero Beach, and other local governments.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

Objective A-1, as written, is an ongoing affair and its achievement is relative. The objective can generally be considered to be achieved. However, opportunities for greater coordination may always exist. The policies of this objective are generally ongoing policies implemented on a continuing basis. Certain task specific policies are either completed or are working towards completion. The policies address a full spectrum of issues from joint planning to public facilities. As such, they address most of the major issues facing the community. Continued intergovernmental coordination as directed by this objective and its underlying policies is needed to ensure achievement of the major issues.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

During the planning timeframe, there were a number of intergovernmental coordination efforts being undertaken that have addressed problems as they have arisen or simply sought to take advantage of coordination synergies. A summary of intergovernmental coordination activities conducted by Fellsmere during the evaluation period is provided as Appendix H.

**Required Actions for Objective ICE A-1:**

- None.

***OBJECTIVE ICE A-2: MANAGE AND COORDINATE FUTURE LAND USE DECISIONS.***

*Within one year from the effective date of the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Fellsmere shall enforce land development regulations that ensure that land development activities, resource conservation, and infrastructure issues, which transcend jurisdictional boundaries, are managed in a manner that includes timely coordination with County, regional, and State agencies having jurisdictional authority. Management of land and physical improvements identified on the FLUM will be regulated in order to protect and/or conserve natural systems, including locally significant plant species, soil conditions, vegetative communities, natural habitats, and water bodies. Land*

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*use shall also be predicated on availability of man-made infrastructure and service systems required to support respective land use activities.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

Similar to Objective A-1, this objective is also an ongoing affair and its achievement is relative. The objective can generally be considered to be achieved. However, opportunities for greater coordination may always exist. The policies of this objective are generally ongoing policies implemented on a continuing basis. Certain task specific policies are either completed or are working towards completion. The policies address a full spectrum of issues from joint planning, to public facilities, to schools. As such, they address each of the major issues facing the community. Continued intergovernmental coordination as directed by this objective and its underlying policies is needed to ensure achievement of the major issues.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

See response to Objective A-1.

**Required Actions for Objective ICE A-2:**

- None.

**OBJECTIVE ICE A-3: CONFLICT RESOLUTION.** *The City shall participate on the Indian River County Technical Coordinating Committee. The City shall use this Committee as an informal forum for resolving conflicts among Indian River County, municipalities within the County, the School Board, and other special purpose districts or entities which provide services but do not have regulatory authority over the use of land.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

The City utilized both formal and informal coordination methods to address intergovernmental conflicts. During the evaluation period, the primary conflict that arose related to the voluntary annexations approved by the City. To resolve this conflict, the City of Sebastian invoked the conflict resolution process of Florida Statute 164. This is an ongoing objective that is achieved as conflicts arise and are resolved. It does not address any of the major issues facing the community.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

The voluntary annexations approved by the City during the evaluation period resulted in both problems and opportunities. The final judgment emanating from the Florida Statute Chapter 164 conflict resolution process provided the planning clarity sought by all parties. With the Stipulated Settlement Agreement that has been agreed to in relation to the Village of Fellsmere (DCA #09-01), conflicts related to the annexations have been addressed.

**Required Actions for Objective ICE A-3:**

- None.

**OBJECTIVE ICE A-4: INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS AND LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS.** *Within one year from the effective date of the Comprehensive Plan, the City shall have adopted a revised concurrency management program (refer to Objective 9-1.5). The revised concurrency management program shall require specific issues surrounding level of*

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*service standards for existing and proposed public facilities within the City and adjacent areas, and shall be coordinated with all State, regional, or local agencies or private entities having responsibility for the operation and maintenance of such facilities. This objective shall be measured through the implementation of the following policies.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

Objective A-4 addresses intergovernmental coordination activities related to public facility provisions, and its achievement is an ongoing affair. Each year at conclusion of the annual capital improvement process, the objective can generally be considered to be achieved. The underlying policies of this objective have been implemented or are implemented on a continuing basis. The policies generally support the objective. Implementing these policies and achieving the objective will generally help to address three of the major issues facing the community - Complete Streets, Economic Development, and Provision of Central Sewer System. Since the objective is ongoing, it can be used to assist in the development of a central sewer system, especially since the County is primary sewer provider in the City. Also, sound infrastructure with adequate capacity is a requirement for robust economic development. Finally, since the transportation system also has key components that are regulated by the County, this objective will help to obtain a complete street network.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

None.

**Required Actions for Objective ICE A-4:**

- None.

***OBJECTIVE ICE A-5: MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.*** *As a minimum standard, the City shall coordinate twice annually with the Indian River County Technical Coordinating Committee and/or other similar organization established by the County to ensure consistent and coordinated management of multi-jurisdictional environmental issues. The City shall similarly coordinate with the Fellsmere and Vero Lakes Water Control Districts and St. John's River Water Management District on matters surrounding preservation of the Indian River Lagoon, water quality, and other development issues impacting stormwater management.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

Objective A-5 is similar to Objectives ICE A-1 and A-2 in that it addresses general coordination tasks of the City in relation to agencies with permitting authority. The slight difference in this objective is the focus on environmental issues. In general, the objective can be considered to be achieved. Implementing the underlying policies and achieving the objective will help to address two of the major issues facing the community - capitalizing on conservation opportunities and obtaining economic development.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

The annexation of lands into the City during the evaluation period has brought the City limits into contact with a number of major regional conservation areas. The City desires to capitalize on the conservation opportunities in the area. Since the City now has direct relation to substantial conservation areas, much opportunity may now exist.

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**Required Actions for Objective ICE A-5:**

- None.

**OBJECTIVE ICE B-1: PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION.** *The comprehensive planning process is continuous and dynamic in nature. Maintaining the effectiveness of the plan requires its periodic review. This program, required under 9J-5.005(7) FAC, provides orderly procedures for monitoring, updating, and evaluation of the plan and attendant Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) (§163.3191, FS). For the purpose of monitoring, evaluating, and appraising the implementation of the comprehensive plan a seven-year program for monitoring, updating and evaluation shall be followed. The following are general procedures to be followed.*

**Has the plan objective, as it relates to the major issues, been achieved?**

The objective and its implementing policies seek to set forth an evaluation process of the effectiveness of the Plan. Since this is the topic of Chapter 9 of the Plan, this objective can be deleted and its supportive policies relocated to Chapter 9 as appropriate.

**Has there been any unforeseen or unanticipated changes resulting in problems or opportunities?**

None.

**Required Actions for Objective ICE B-1:**

- Delete objective and address monitoring and evaluation in Chapter 9 of the Plan.