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# INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element, as identified by Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, F.S. is to identify relationships and procedures with local, regional and state agencies to implement the goals, objectives, and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. Port St. Lucie strongly believes that a well-developed communication network among applicable public and quasi-public entities will enhance the long-range growth and prosperity of the City. The effective implementation of federal, state, regional and local planning policies requires:

1. The identification of all agencies with which the local government must coordinate;
2. A thorough understanding of the roles of each agency; and
3. The creation of adequate intergovernmental coordination mechanisms to carry out policies.

This element seeks to accomplish these objectives through a systematic identification and analysis of current and future intergovernmental coordination issues. Each analysis addresses deficiencies and determines actions to improve coordination. Ultimately the refinement of this process should allow Port St. Lucie to coordinate comprehensive planning with other entities, assuring compatible development and adequate public services across jurisdictional boundaries. The coordination process is continuous and should provide for effective monitoring systems.

## JOINT PLANNING AREAS

### Comparison with Regional Policy Plan

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Treasure Coast Region (1995) has been reviewed and considered during the process of revising this Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan conforms to the Regional Policy Plan.

## SPECIFIC COORDINATION ISSUES IN EACH ELEMENT

The following is a summary of the interagency coordination needs associated with each element of this Comprehensive Plan.

### Future Land Use

Significant issues include coordination of future City annexations with the County. The City and County have a current agreement on notification of upcoming annexations and site plan review. The City and County would like to pursue additional coordination on future annexations to ensure compatibility of economic development and land use goals.

### Transportation

The City works with St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce, the St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization, Martin County and the Florida Department of Transportation to coordinate the implementation of the 2035 Long Range Regional Transportation Plan, and transit planning including the Regional Transit Development Plan for the Port St. Lucie Urbanized Area. The City also participates in the St. Lucie TPO Advisory Committee to improve coordination of multimodal transportation improvements with St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce, FDOT, and USDOT. Interagency coordination with FDOT is also required for the development of FDOT's annual Work Program. The City also coordinates with the Council of Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. on existing and future transit routes.

## **Housing**

The City coordinates with U.S. Housing and Urban Development to coordinate Community Development Block Grants and administration of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The City also works with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation on SHIP funding (when available). Other coordination issues include communication with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority.

## **Infrastructure**

The Infrastructure Element provides for potable water, sewer, drainage, and solid waste facilities to meet the needs of existing and future development. The City continues to coordinate with the South Florida Water Management District and potable water providers on implementation of the 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan and development of alternate water supplies. Coordination will continue with the South Florida Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection on stormwater management and water quality.

## **Parks and Recreation**

Needs within this element include the ongoing work with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and its oversight of Savannas Preserve State Park located within the City.

## **Conservation and Coastal Management**

The City shall continue to coordinate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to protect wetlands and native habitats. Coastal concerns and emergency management shall continue to be coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), Florida Division of Emergency Management and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

## **Capital Improvements**

The City continues to coordinate with the entities that provide and monitor public facilities affecting concurrency such as the St. Lucie West Services Department, The Reserve, Florida Department of Transportation, the St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization, St. Lucie County, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the South Florida Water Management District.

## **Economic Development**

Economic development is a high priority in the City and the City works continuously with St. Lucie County, the Economic Development Council, and Enterprise Florida on attracting new businesses and encouraging the expansion of new businesses in Port St. Lucie.

## **Public School Facilities Element**

The City continues to coordinate with the St. Lucie School Board on school concurrency through implementation of the interlocal agreement.

## EXISTING DATA AND CONDITIONS

Port St. Lucie currently has either formal or informal coordination agreements, or interacts through standard operating procedures under statutory authority, with the following agencies or jurisdictions:

The following abbreviations are used in Table 8-1.

AE - Advise and Encourage

CA - County Agency

FN - Formal Notice

OA - Outside Agencies

TA - Technical Assistance

AP - Approval, Permit

FA - Formal Agreement

IN - Informal Notice

PM - Periodic Meetings to Coordinate Programs

**Table 8-1 Intergovernmental Coordination Inventory**

Agency	Subject Coordination	Nature of Relations	Existing and Anticipated Coordination Mechanisms	Effectiveness of Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Port St. Lucie Office with Primary Responsibility For Coordination
<b>MUNICIPALITIES:</b>					
City of Fort Pierce	Port of Fort Pierce Transportation	PM	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, City Manager
<b>COUNTY:</b>					
Martin County	Comprehensive Planning, Regional Transportation Plan, St. Lucie River, Utility Services	PM	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, <del>Engineering, Public Works, and Utility Services Systems</del>
St. Lucie County	Comprehensive Planning, Economic Development, Impact Fees, Disaster Preparation, Annexation, Utility Services, Transportation, Recordings, (plat, liens, etc.) Adjacent land uses, <del>Solid Waste</del>	AE	Informal Coordination Formal Coordination (annexation)	Effective	Planning and Zoning, <del>Engineering, Public Works, Utilities Department Utility Systems; Neighborhood Services</del>
<b>COUNTY AGENCIES:</b>					
St. Lucie County Fire District	Fire Rescue Services, Development Review	FA	Interlocal Agreement	Effective	City Manager, Site Plan Review Committee
St. Lucie County Property Appraiser	GIS Data Tax Revenues	CA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, Finance
St. Lucie County Supervisor of	Elections	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager

Elections					
St. Lucie County Tax Collector	Revenue	CA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Finance
<b>SCHOOLS:</b>					
St Lucie County School Board	Comprehensive Planning, Development Review, Joint Facilities, Economic Development, Public Education, Transportation	OA	Interlocal Agreement and Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, Site Plan Review Committee, Planning and Zoning Board
<b>OTHER:</b>					
Bureau of Economic and Business Research (University of Florida)	Population Projections	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning
Council of Aging of St. Lucie, Inc.	Transit	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering</del> , Planning and Zoning, <u>Public Works</u>
Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County	Economic Development	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager
Fort Pierce Housing Authority	Housing Program	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Community Neighborhood</del> Services
Enterprise Florida	Economic Development	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager
St. Lucie Chamber of Commerce	Economic Development	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager
St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)	Transportation	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, <del>Engineering</del> <u>Public Works</u>
Treasure Coast Education, Research and Development Authority	Economic Development	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council	Comprehensive Planning, Developments of Regional Impact, Intergovernmental Coordination	OA	Formal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, <del>Engineering</del> <u>Public Works</u>
<b>FLORIDA DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES:</b>					
Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry	Forest fires	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	City Manager, <u>Communication</u>
Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Development	Comprehensive planning Developments of Regional	AP, TA	Oversight of Comprehensive Plan, EAR, Regulation of Land	Effective	Planning and Zoning

	Impact		Development Code		
Governor's Office, Division of Emergency Management	Mutual Aid Agreement	OA, TA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Police
Department of Children and Family Services	Group homes, foster care facilities	FN, OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Community Neighborhood Services</del>
Department of Environmental Protection	Hazardous Waste, Parks, Water Management, Water Quality, Air Quality, Wetland Protection, Solid Waste, Septic Tanks, Water Facility Development, Water Use Permits, Wastewater Management, Comprehensive Plan Review	AP	Permitting, Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, Public Works, Utility Systems, Parks and Recreation, <del>Engineering</del>
Department of Health	Septic Tanks	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Public Works</del> Utility Systems
Department of Revenue	Tax Administration	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Finance
Division Of Historic Resources	Historic lands and buildings	TA, AE	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning
Department of Transportation	Transportation Planning, Comprehensive Plan Review, Highway Construction, Right Of Way, Alignments, Access Management, Transit	AE, TA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering, Public</del> Public Works Planning and Zoning
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Comprehensive Plan Review, Conservation Issues, Endangered species	AE, TA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning
South Florida Water Management District	Comprehensive Plan Review, Dredge and fill permits, stormwater management, wetlands mitigation, water quality, and water supply	TA, AE, AP	Permitting, Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, <del>Engineering, Public</del> Public Works, Utility Systems
<b>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES:</b>					
Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Soil Stabilization St. Lucie River Shoreline	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering</del> Public Works
Army Corps of Engineers	Dredge and Fill Permitting, Wetland Mitigation, Navigable	TA, AP	Permitting, Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering Department,</del> Public Works

	Waterways				Utility Systems
Commerce, Census Bureau	Decennial Census	TA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning
Environmental Protection Agency	Wetland Mitigation/impacts	TA, AP	Permitting, Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering Department,</del> Public Works, Utility Systems
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Community Rating for Floodplain Management Disaster Assistance	TA	Formal Coordination	Effective	<del>Public Works, Building,</del> Communications
Housing and Urban Development	Community Development Block Grants	OA	Formal Coordination	Effective	<del>Community- Neighborhood</del> Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Habitat /wildlife conservation	TA, AP	Permitting, Informal Coordination	Effective	GIS Division
U.S. Postal Service	Address development, mail delivery	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Planning and Zoning, Building
Transportation	Transportation planning	TA	Informal Coordination	Effective	<del>Engineering,</del> Planning and Zoning, Public Works
<b>REGULATED UTILITIES:</b>					
AT&T	Telephone service	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Public Works, Engineering
Hometown Cable	Cable services, underground utilities	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Public Works, Engineering
Florida Power & Light	Underground utilities	OA	Informal Coordination	Effective	Public Works, Engineering

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## GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

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### **GOAL 6.1: ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE COORDINATION MEASURES AMONG PERTINENT PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC ENTITIES TO BEST MAINTAIN PORT ST. LUCIE'S QUALITY OF LIFE AND EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES.**

*Objective 6.1.1: Establish formal, specific means of coordination with adjacent municipalities, state, and federal agencies who have permitting and regulating authority, and quasi-public entities that provide services but lack regulatory authority in Port St. Lucie.*

Policy 6.1.1.1: Notify St. Lucie and Martin counties in writing (distribution of agendas of the Planning and Zoning Board) of all applications for comprehensive plan land use amendments that are near their borders.

Policy 6.1.1.2: The City shall establish liaisons between State regulatory agencies and the City.

Policy 6.1.1.3: The City Manager shall be responsible for assuring an effective intergovernmental coordination program for Port St. Lucie.

Policy 6.1.1.4: Continue participation in the Treasure Coast Council of Governments which provides a regular formal forum in which to deal with issues unique to Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, and Indian River counties, and the municipalities therein.

Policy 6.1.1.5: Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) shall play an active role on issues between the City and St. Lucie County, and between federal and state agencies.

Policy 6.1.1.6: The City shall notify appropriate agencies for their assistance and/or inclusion regarding decisions which involve their agencies.

Policy 6.1.1.7: The City shall continue coordination of future annexations with St. Lucie County in accordance with the Joint Planning Agreement.

Policy 6.1.1.8: The City should review the need to adopt interlocal agreements or formal agreements within one year of adoption of the amended intergovernmental coordination element to address joint processes.

Policy 6.1.1.9: The City should continue to coordinate with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Community Block Development Grants and Neighborhood Stabilization Programs to protect and maintain Port St. Lucie neighborhoods.

Policy 6.1.1.10: The City should continue to coordinate the impacts of development and management of the St. Lucie River, Indian River Lagoon, Savannas Preserve State Park, and other natural resources with the South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and other relevant agencies.

Policy 6.1.1.11: The City should continue to coordinate with the South Florida Water Management District on implementation of the St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Plan, Indian River Lagoon Surface Water Improvement Program (IRL SWIM) Plan and Comprehensive Everglades Restoration (CERP)/IRL South Plan.

Policy 6.1.1.12: The City should cooperate with and assist the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Commission in the implementation of protective and recovery programs for listed species.



Policy 6.1.1.13: The City should continue to coordinate bicycle, pedestrian and transit planning with St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce, the Florida Department of Transportation, St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization, Martin County and the Martin Metropolitan Planning Organization on the 2035 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan and the Regional Transit Development Plan for the Port St. Lucie Urbanized Area.

Policy 6.1.1.14: The City should continue to participate on the St. Lucie County TPO Advisory Committee to improve coordination of multimodal transportation improvements with St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce, FDOT, USDOT and other relevant agencies.

Policy 6.1.1.15: The City should continue to support the activities of the Economic Development Council, the St. Lucie Chamber of Commerce, and the Florida Research Coast in economic development activities and implementation of economic development programs.

Policy 6.1.1.16: The City should continue to coordinate with the St. Lucie County's Tourist Development Council (TDC) to promote tourism including eco-tourism in Port St. Lucie.

Policy 6.1.1.17: The City should establish joint processes for siting facilities of County-wide significance including locally unwanted land uses.

*Objective 6.1.2: Establish the means of coordinating all levels of service standards for public facilities with state, regional, county, and municipal governments having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities.*

Policy 6.1.2.1: Establish planning forums to coordinate programs on infrastructure development and improvement to maintain adopted levels of service standards.

Policy 6.1.2.2: Through the concurrency management system coordinate the timing, location, and capacity of public facilities to assure that required services will be available when needed and designate needed improvements within the Capital Improvements Element of this plan.

Policy 6.1.2.3: Consider using the TCRPC in informal mediation when level of service issues and other intergovernmental issue problems arise between the City and County.

Policy 6.1.2.4: The City should coordinate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), local municipalities and other appropriate agencies regarding water conservation, water supply planning and alternative water supply planning efforts.

Policy 6.1.2.5: The City should continue to review transportation service volumes and levels of service as they relate to State roads, and coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation relative to State level of service standards.

Policy 6.1.2.6: The City should coordinate with the public facility providers on population and the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency.

*Objective 6.1.3: Ensure coordination of all Planning and Zoning related activities with the comprehensive plans of adjacent municipalities, the County, adjacent counties, and other units of local government, such as the School Board, providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land.*

Policy 6.1.3.1: The City should continue to coordinate with St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce and Martin County to receive and review copies of all proposed comprehensive plans or plan amendments or other development proposals that are adjacent to the City's boundaries.



Policy 6.1.3.2: Request in writing, as needed, that St. Lucie County School Board, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC), and Florida Power and Light (FPL) provide expertise from their various disciplines into Planning and Zoning related activities.

Policy 6.1.3.3: In conjunction with other affected parties, evaluate existing interlocal agreements when the Capital Improvements Element is undergoing annual review to determine if current funding is proportional to services rendered.

*Objective 6.1.4: The City should continue an intergovernmental coordination process to assure full consideration is given to the impacts of developments proposed in the City Comprehensive Plan on other governmental entities.*

Policy 6.1.4.1: Through the adoption of interlocal agreements, with the affected municipalities and agencies, coordinate the management of the St. Lucie River, Intracoastal Waterway, Indian River Lagoon, and The Savannas.

Policy 6.1.4.2: The City shall through informal or formal meetings continue to work with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to identify regional issues and to assist in the periodic updating of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

*Objective 6.1.5: The City should ensure coordination for the purpose of maintaining concurrency for public school facilities.*

Policy 6.1.5.1: The City shall in conjunction with the St. Lucie County School Board implement the Public School Facilities Element and interlocal agreement for public schools facility planning.

Policy 6.1.5.2: The Public School Facilities Element and the interlocal agreement should state principles and guidelines to ensure coordination of the City's Comprehensive Plan with the plans of the School Board and describe the joint processes for collaborative planning and decision making, including population projections, school siting, and the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency.