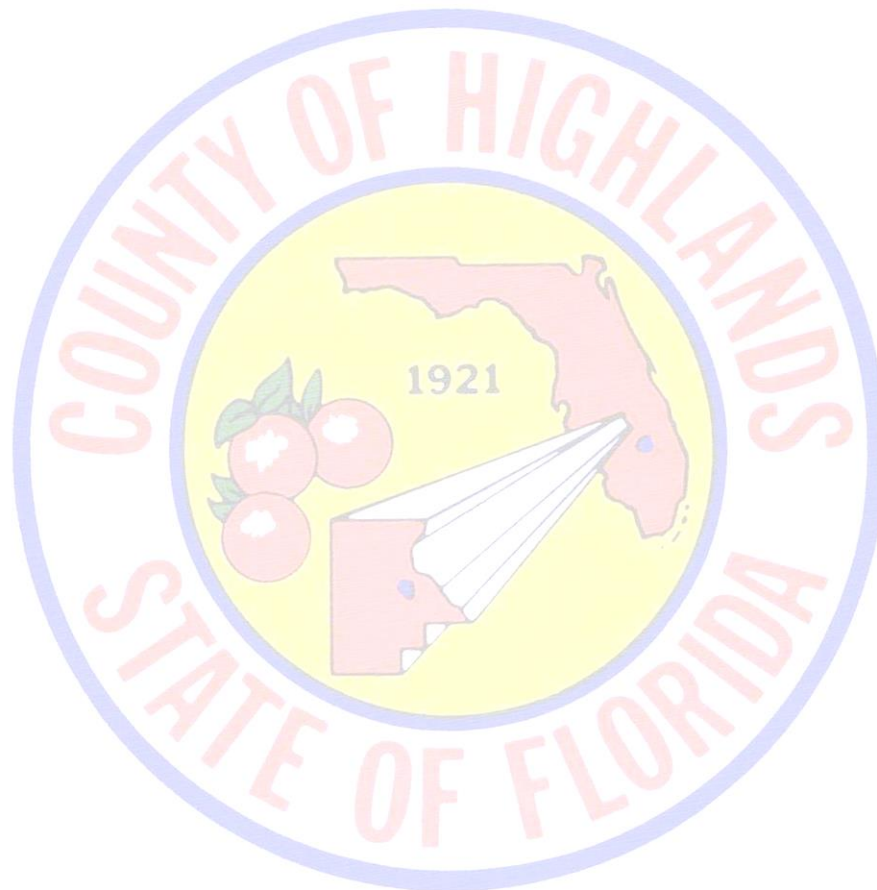


Intergovernmental Coordination Element



Draft Amendments

Highlands County

Intergovernmental Coordination Element

Table of Contents

Overview of Amendments

Draft Amendments

Overview

Intergovernmental Coordination Element

The County alone cannot ensure that all community needs are met and meaningful cooperation with local and state government and other agencies is essential. The Intergovernmental Coordination Element includes guidance for coordination with other governmental entities. This element includes principles and guidelines to be used in that coordination.

Language

The language being amended includes Goals, Objectives, and Policies. The text that is underlined is text to be **added** and text that is shown as ~~strikeout~~ is to be **removed**.

Comments

Comments listed under each proposed change indicate why the Goal, Objective, or Policy is being amended.

Please note that Goals, Objectives, and Policies that include non-substantive changes such as organization name changes and grammatical revisions are shown without comments.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

Amendments

Introduction	Added Introduction to cite the Intergovernmental Coordination Element Requirements.
GOAL	Removed Planning Timeframe as this is an ongoing goal.
Policy 1.1:	Provided clarification to the reference of the US Department of Defense related to the Avon Park Air Force Range.
Policy 1.8:	Added policy to address coordination of the Local Hazard Mitigation Working Group.
Policy 4.8:	Removed policy. The policy is out of date. Developments of Regional Impact are now facilitated through the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review process.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

Text that is underlined is text to be added and text that is shown as ~~strikeout~~ is to be removed.

Comments listed under each proposed change indicate why the Goal, Objective, or Policy is being amended.

OBJECTIVE 1: RECONCILE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ACTIONS WITH OTHER AGENCY PLANS 2

OBJECTIVE 2: LEVEL OF SERVICE..... 4

OBJECTIVE 3: PLANNING INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE 5

OBJECTIVE 4: COORDINATE FACILITY PLANNING 6

OBJECTIVE 5: CONFLICT RESOLUTION STRATEGY 7

OBJECTIVE 6: REGULATORY JURISDICTION 8

OBJECTIVE 7: LOCALLY UNWANTED LAND USES..... 8

OBJECTIVE 8: JOINT PLANNING AREAS 9

OBJECTIVE 9: JOINT PROCESSES FOR SCHOOL SITING 11

OBJECTIVE 10: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE..... 12

OBJECTIVE 11: EFFECTIVE FUTURE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM... 12

OBJECTIVE 12: POPULATION PROJECTION DATA..... 14

OBJECTIVE 13: PARKS AND RECREATION – TRAILS AND PATH 14

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Section 163.3177(6)(h), F.S., the following represents the Intergovernmental Coordination Goals, Objectives, and Policies of Highlands County. These goals, objectives and policies are intended to address the establishment of a long-term vision for promoting coordination between jurisdictions and agencies of plans and policies.

Comment: *New section added to state the purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element.*

GOAL: TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT AND ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICES USING INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION TO MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY IN PROVIDING SERVICES AND FACILITIES, TO REDUCE DUPLICATION OF EFFORT AND TO SOLVE COMMON PROBLEMS ~~WITHIN THE 2010 TO 2030 PLANNING PERIOD.~~

Comment: *Goal updated to continue this policy throughout the planning horizon.*

OBJECTIVE 1: RECONCILE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ACTIONS WITH OTHER AGENCY PLANS

The County shall continue to coordinate its Comprehensive Plan and the impacts of its development with the plans of applicable government agencies, including agencies which provide services to the unincorporated County, but do not have regulatory authority over the use of land.

Policy 1.1: Intergovernmental Coordination Element ~~(ICE)~~ Advisory Committee

The County shall use the Intergovernmental Coordination ~~Element (ICE)~~ Advisory Committee to provide review of the Comprehensive Plan and other intergovernmental coordination issues, as determined by the County. The Intergovernmental Coordination ~~ICE~~ Advisory Committee shall be chaired by the County Administrator, or his/her designee, and shall be comprised, at a minimum, of representatives of the County, School Board, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Public Health Unit, Industrial Development Authority, US Department of Defense (Avon Park Air Force Range), municipalities of Sebring, Avon Park and Lake Placid, independent districts, and other units of local governments and agencies providing services, but having no regulatory authority within the County.

Comment: Clarification added in reference to the US Department of Defense related to the Avon Park Air Force Range. Removed acronym.

Policy 1.2: Conflict Resolution Protocol

Should the ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee identify a conflict between the County and other local governments or agencies listed in ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Element Policy 1.1, which involves the County's Comprehensive Plan or other intergovernmental coordination conflicts, and it cannot be resolved by the ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee, the County shall submit the issue for resolution through the Central Florida Regional Planning Council's mediation process, pursuant to ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Element Policy 5.1 and Section 186.509, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.3: Comment on Developments in Adjacent Jurisdictions

The County shall continue to identify, review and comment upon actions proposed by the region, adjacent counties, state agencies, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District #1, US Department of Defense (Avon Park Air Force Range), and respective Water Management Districts, when the actions are relevant to the County for conformance with the County's Comprehensive Plan's

Goals, Objectives, and Policies, and for possible negative impacts to Highlands County.

Policy 1.4: Rezone Referrals

The County shall continue to include within its Land Development Regulations provisions for consideration of municipal and adjacent County comments, and those of other appropriate intergovernmental review entities prior to any zoning action which might affect that government entity.

The County shall also transmit copies of rezoning applications to appropriate jurisdictions when a development proposal is:

- A. A locally unwanted land use; or
- B. Located within one-half mile of the jurisdiction [and it is formally agreed by both jurisdictions]; or
- C. Within the boundaries of a Joint Planning Area.

Policy 1.5: Plan Amendment Referrals

The County shall continue to transmit copies of all proposals to amend the Future Land Use Map or the Comprehensive Plan text to those municipalities, counties, regional, state and federal agencies having direct purview authority, responsibility and jurisdiction over the subject of the amendment proposal, for review and comment as to the appropriateness and efficacy of the proposed amendment.

The County shall also transmit copies of Plan amendments to the appropriate jurisdictions when a development proposal is:

- A. A locally unwanted land use; or
- B. Located within one-half mile of the jurisdiction and it is formally agreed by both jurisdictions; or
- C. Within the boundaries of a Joint Planning Area.

Policy 1.6: Plan or Development Revisions

The County shall consider approving, approving with conditions or denying all applications for zoning approval, or amending the Comprehensive Plan, based on the review of plans, input, and discussions identified in ~~the~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Element Policies 1.1 through 1.5.

Policy 1.7: Water Management District Coordination

The County will inform future Voluntary Vision Plan, Overlay District, and Selected Area Plan applicants which applicable Water Management District is responsible for reviewing and issuing permits and/or approvals associated with water supply, the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan, and environmental resources for the area in Highlands County where the future Voluntary Vision Plan, Overlay District and Selected Area Plan will be located. Early coordination between the applicant and the applicable Water Management District will help identify potential issues, facilitate permit review, and may identify cost effective solutions early in the planning process. The County shall encourage applicants to coordinate as early as possible with the applicable Water Management District to identify issues potentially affecting permit review and the County's Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.

Policy 1.8: Local Mitigation Strategy

The County shall continue to coordinate the Local Hazard Mitigation Working Group (LMSWG), which facilitates Highlands County's Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) planning process, coordinating efforts between governmental units, commercial enterprises, and other stakeholders to reduce disaster risk.

Comment: Policy added to address coordination of the Local Hazard Mitigation Working Group.

OBJECTIVE 2: LEVEL OF SERVICE

The County shall have a system to coordinate level of service standards with agencies having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities.

Policy 2.1: Intergovernmental Coordination ~~Element (ICE)~~ Advisory Committee Representatives for Level of Service (LOS) Discussions

The County shall include within the Intergovernmental Coordination Element ~~(ICE)~~ Advisory Committee membership an FDOT District #1 representative and a representative of any other agency having operational and maintenance responsibility for a facility which has a level of service (LOS) standard established within the County's Plan. The County shall, when appropriate, invite any adjacent County to participate in the Intergovernmental Coordination ~~Element~~ Advisory Committee when LOS issues arise. The Intergovernmental Coordination Element Advisory Committee shall then make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners to resolve the LOS issues.

Policy 2.2: Protocol for Changing LOS

Prior to any proposed changes in its LOS standards, the County shall provide a letter to all agencies represented on its Intergovernmental Coordination ~~Element~~ ~~(ICE)~~ Advisory Committee of the proposed change, and convene a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the implications of such a LOS standard change. The Board of County Commissioners shall use this input in making final LOS standard changes.

Policy 2.3: Reciprocity Protocol

The County shall, when appropriate, by letter, request all agencies represented on its ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee to inform the County prior to any proposed changes in their LOS standards. When any change is proposed, the County shall convene its ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee.

OBJECTIVE 3: PLANNING INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

Highlands County shall continue to provide relevant planning information to affected agencies and the public.

Policy 3.1: Public Schools

It shall be the policy of the County to establish coordination mechanisms to ensure that the planning activities, services and facilities of the School Board are consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan.

Key coordinating mechanisms shall include:

- A. Providing growth projections and estimates to assist the School Board in its planning functions;
- B. Coordinating major residential project reviews (pursuant to Chapters 163 and 1013.33, Florida Statutes) to consider joint park/school site dedications to meet future demands; and,
- C. Cooperating with the School Board in its efforts to study and implement innovative methods, regarding ways of addressing infrastructure needs associated with the County's growth, including park/school site dedications and contributions; and

- D. Coordinating the location of schools proximate to urban residential areas to the greatest extent possible and co-locating public facilities, such as parks, libraries and community centers, with schools when possible.

OBJECTIVE 4: COORDINATE FACILITY PLANNING

Highlands County shall continue to coordinate the provision of facilities and services inherent in its Comprehensive Plan with other governmental agencies, including those providing services, but not having land use regulatory powers.

Policy 4.1: Interlocal Agreements to Support Growth

The County, in order to implement its system of growth management, shall establish a system to actively work with the following agencies to coordinate the timely provisions of facilities and services to growth areas. Where applicable, the County shall enter into interlocal agreements with the entity providing facilities and services. Where applicable, the interlocal agreements shall define the extent, timing, and size of the extension of central potable water and central wastewater facilities to the County’s commercial areas and/or residential subdivisions.

Municipality/Agency	Coordination Areas
Sebring, Avon Park, Lake Placid	Wastewater, water, drainage, recreation, and transportation
FDOT	Transportation
School Board	Schools
Potential Providers including Private Facilities and Services	

Policy 4.2: Intergovernmental Coordination with Municipalities

The County shall continue meeting with the governing bodies of each municipality to discuss current County planning issues and other matters.

Policy 4.3: Meetings with Agencies

The Board of County Commissioners shall continue to coordinate with the representatives of the following agencies:

Sebring, Avon Park, Lake Placid, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC), Highlands Soil and Water Conservation

District (HSWCD), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) (District #1), ~~FDHRS~~ Florida Department of Health, Independent Districts and Organizations, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) (Highlands Hammock), Highlands County Industrial Authority (HCIA), US Department of Defense ~~DD~~ (Avon Park Air Force Range), School Board of Highlands County ~~HCSB~~.

Comment: *Spelled out acronyms for clarification.*

Policy 4.4: Annexation Protocol

The County shall request the municipalities of Sebring, Avon Park and Lake Placid to inform the County, in a timely manner, of any proposed annexations which the municipalities anticipate.

Policy 4.5: Role for Utilities

The County's ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee will include, when necessary, the electric utility firms providing service to the County.

Policy 4.6: ~~Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Review~~

~~The County shall continue to actively participate in the Central Florida Regional Planning Council's (CFRPC's) Development of Regional Impact "Plans Review Committee". The County shall continue to review and comment on DRIs under F.S. 380 for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and local issues.~~

Comment: *This policy is out of date. DRIs are now facilitated through the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review process.*

OBJECTIVE 5: CONFLICT RESOLUTION STRATEGY

The County shall attempt to resolve conflicts through increased intergovernmental coordination.

Policy 5.1: Conflict Resolution Policy

- A. The County shall attempt to resolve intergovernmental coordination conflict through the ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee. Where a conflict occurs adjacent to a municipality, an independent district, or a bordering county, a representative of the local government unit shall be requested to appoint a representative to the Committee. Where special expertise (i.e., water management, etc.) is the

subject of conflict, the appropriate agency shall be requested to appoint a representative to the committee. The aggrieved entity shall automatically become a member of the committee.

- B. The ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee shall attempt to resolve the conflict. If the conflict is not resolvable by the Committee, a record of the proceedings, with a summary of the complaint, issues and potential solutions discussed by the committee shall be forwarded to the Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC), for inclusion in its mediation process, pursuant to Section 186.509, Florida Statutes.
- C. Highlands County shall respond in writing to any petition or grievance filed to the ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee indicating willingness to participate in the dispute resolution process within fifteen (15) days of receipt of said petition or grievance. The written response shall include the status of the development order and the expected date of issuance of the development order at issue.

Policy 5.2: Annexation Intergovernmental Coordination

The County shall use the ~~ICE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee to resolve any annexation conflicts that might arise. Three subcommittees of the ICE Advisory Committee would thus be formed, one for each municipality. Composition of each subcommittee is to be agreed upon at the time of its formation. The subcommittee so formed shall attempt to resolve any annexation conflicts which arise between the subject municipality and the County.

OBJECTIVE 6: REGULATORY JURISDICTION

Highlands County shall not be required to undertake any regulatory responsibility in, or on behalf of, any other agency of government unless the responsible agency totally relinquishes that responsibility to the County, and unless that undertaking is fully funded by the entity to whom the responsibility is legally assigned.

OBJECTIVE 7: LOCALLY UNWANTED LAND USES

Identify and describe joint processes for collaborative planning on locally unwanted land uses to mitigate or eliminate inter-jurisdictional land use conflicts.

Policy 7.1: Review of Permitted Uses and Location Standards

The County shall continue to conduct a review of its permitted uses and of its location standards to determine whether conflicts exist between its regulations and neighboring jurisdiction regulations, what can be done to resolve any conflicts found, and any improvement in the effectiveness or efficiency to be gained through a county-wide approach that would be more uniform in its application.

Policy 7.2: Use Siting Guidelines

The County shall coordinate, through the ~~HCE~~ Intergovernmental Coordination Advisory Committee, the development, review, and recommendation of efficient guidelines for siting locally unwanted land uses.

Policy 7.3: Identify Unwanted Land Uses with County-Wide Significance

The County shall prepare and maintain a list of potential locally unwanted land uses and establish joint processes for evaluating the impact of those facilities with county-wide significance, such as solid waste disposal facilities.

OBJECTIVE 8: JOINT PLANNING AREAS

As provided under the authority of Section 163.3171, Florida Statutes, Highlands County shall, in conjunction with the municipalities of Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid, establish and implement joint municipal planning areas through inter-local agreements.

Policy 8.1: Municipal Growth and Provision of Services

The County shall continue to coordinate with the municipalities of Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid, and other jurisdictions as appropriate, to implement a joint planning area and process, which includes identifying the delineation, direction and extent of municipal growth to ensure adequate, efficient and equitable provision of needed services.

Policy 8.2: Joint Planning Areas with the Municipalities

Highlands County shall establish joint planning areas with the municipalities of Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid (and shall identify such areas in the County's Future Land Use Map series) and may develop interlocal agreements for planning within these areas.

The inter-local agreements shall provide procedures for annexation consistent with the provisions of Florida Statutes, Chapter 171, Part 1, *Municipal Annexation*

and Contraction, and Part II, *Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements*, and development review, in relation to the existing Comprehensive Plans and Land Development Codes of adjacent jurisdictions; and shall map joint infrastructure service areas.

Policy 8.3: Joint Planning Areas – Minimum Considerations

When establishing boundaries for joint municipal planning areas, Highlands County and the municipalities shall, at a minimum, consider previously established planning area boundaries, municipal and county infrastructure service areas, existing and planned boundaries and local comprehensive plans.

Policy 8.4: Annexed Property – Regulatory Status

Subsequent to establishing an inter-local agreement and as long as it remains in effect, the following provisions shall apply to the unincorporated area located within an established municipal planning area consistent with the provisions of Florida Statutes, Section 171.062, *Effects of Annexation or Contractions*:

- A. An amendment to the applicable municipal comprehensive plan shall be required in order to include such unincorporated areas within the municipal plan.
- B. The Highlands County Comprehensive Plan and implementing Land Development Regulations shall remain in effect for all unincorporated areas. Upon annexation, the applicable local comprehensive plan and land development regulations shall be determined as follows:
 - 1. If Provision A. above has been accomplished, the municipal comprehensive plan and land development regulations shall take effect at the time of voluntary annexation subject to a determination by the Highlands County Local Planning Agency that the requirements contained in the applicable inter-local agreement have been satisfied and subject to the completion of any subsequent final plan amendment action that may be required, or
 - 2. The Highlands County Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations shall remain in effect until the municipality adopts a municipal plan and zoning amendment that includes the annexed area.

Policy 8.5: Environmental Educational Opportunities

Where mutual benefit is achieved, the County shall actively establish partnerships with the School Board of Highlands County, the South Florida State College, and environmental organizations or other private organizations. The County shall continue to support an environmental education program for use by civic groups, schools, and the citizens of the County.

OBJECTIVE 9: JOINT PROCESSES FOR SCHOOL SITING

Highlands County and the School Board shall coordinate the location of new school sites.

Policy 9.1: Consistency with the Highlands County Comprehensive Plan

The County shall annually review the School Board's plans for the siting of public schools within its jurisdiction for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, both at the staff level and through public hearings for specific site plans. This shall include the review of the 5, 10 and 20-year facility plans of the School Board, as well as responding as needed to site specific plans to locate new schools or expand existing schools. The County shall review the School Board's annually updated 5-year School Plant Survey (5-year facility work program), 10 and 20-year facility work programs and coordinate those plans with the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 9.2: Preliminary Site Review Prior to Purchase

As per Chapter 1013.33, F.S., at least 60 days prior to the purchase or leasing of property that may be used for a new or expanded public educational facility and where the proposed site is in or adjacent to the municipalities of Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid, the County School Board shall notify the County of the location of the site. The County shall review the site as it relates to consistency with the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Element, including a preliminary analysis of the potential impacts to the public facilities. The County's review shall be given to the School Board within 45 days after receipt of their initial notification to the County.

Policy 9.3: Keeping Schools Municipal

As per Chapter 1013.33, F.S., the planning for new or expanded educational facilities must consider the effects of the location of public education facilities, including the feasibility of keeping central Municipal facilities viable, in order to encourage central Municipal redevelopment and the efficient use of infrastructure while discouraging urban sprawl. The County shall encourage the collocation of public facilities of any kind, including parks, libraries, recreation

opportunities and schools, when planning and reviewing a proposed site for a new or expanded educational facility.

Policy 9.4: Development Conditions

As per Chapter 1013.33, F.S., if the proposed site for a new or expanded educational facility is consistent with the future land use policies and land use categories of the Comprehensive Plan, the County may not deny an application for such a facility but may impose reasonable development standards and conditions which consider the site plan and its adequacy related to environmental concerns, health, safety and welfare, and the effects on adjacent property.

OBJECTIVE 10: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Highlands County shall recognize the South Florida State College Campus Plan in the development and implementation of the Highlands County Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 10.1: South Florida State College – Changes to Campus Plan

As opportunities arise, Highlands County shall review proposed changes to the South Florida State College Campus Plan for their potential impact on the County's Comprehensive Plan and any other County programs and activities.

OBJECTIVE 11: EFFECTIVE FUTURE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Highlands County, the School Board of Highlands County, and Highlands County's municipalities shall, through the procedures established in the "Highlands County Interlocal Agreement for Coordinated Planning and School Concurrency", maintain a collaborative effort in the joint planning process to effectively implement school concurrency using accurate and agreed upon supporting data and analysis.

Policy 11.1: Implementation of the Interlocal Agreement

The County shall adhere to the "Highlands County Interlocal Agreement for Coordinated Planning and School Concurrency", as required by Section 1013.33, Florida Statutes, which establishes procedures for, among other things, coordination and sharing of information; planning processes; school siting procedures; site design and development plan review; and school concurrency implementation.

Policy 11.2: Joint Meetings

The governing boards of the School District, the County, and the Municipalities shall have a joint workshop meeting once a year at a mutually agreed upon location. The joint sessions shall provide opportunities for representatives of the Board of County Commissioners, the Municipal or Town Councils, and the School Board to hear reports, set direction, discuss issues and policy, and reach understandings concerning issues of mutual concern regarding coordination of land use and school facilities planning, including population and student growth, development trends, school needs, off-site improvements, and joint use opportunities.

Policy 11.3: Joint Staff Meetings

The Highlands County School Planning Technical Advisory Committee (SPTAC), as established by the “Highlands County Interlocal Agreement for Coordinated Planning and School Concurrency” shall be comprised of one representative from each the School Board and Board of County Commissioners, and one representative from each of the three municipalities, along with the Business Operations Director of the School Board of Highlands County. The Committee shall meet at least semi-annually, but more often as necessary, and discuss issues concerning school concurrency.

Policy 11.4: Coordination of Public School Facilities Planning with Land Use Planning

Highlands County, through the execution of its adopted Comprehensive Plan and a collaborative planning effort with the School District, shall notify the School Board of land use applications and development proposals that may affect student enrollment, enrollment projections, or school facilities.

Policy 11.5: School Siting

Staff from the County and the three municipalities shall work with and support the School District staff in the planning and selection of school sites to be brought before the School Board for consideration. Staff must share and coordinate information related to existing and planned school facilities; proposals for development, redevelopment, or additional development; and infrastructure required to support the school facilities, concurrent with proposed development

Policy 11.6: Amendments to Impact Fees

The County shall coordinate with the School Board of Highlands County in its efforts to review and recommend amendments, as necessary, to the school impact fees, consistent with applicable law.

Policy 11.7: Emergency Preparedness

Highlands County and the School Board of Highlands County shall pro-actively coordinate on issues of emergency preparedness which may include:

- A. Design and/or retrofit of public schools as emergency shelters;
- B. Enhancing public awareness of evacuation zones, shelter locations, and evacuation routes; and
- C. Designation of sites other than public schools as long term shelters, to allow schools to resume normal operations following emergency events.

OBJECTIVE 12: POPULATION PROJECTION DATA

Establish a collaborative effort between Highlands County, the municipalities, and the School Board of Highlands County in the collection and distribution of data and decision making regarding population projections.

Policy 12.1: Population Projections and Development Trends

The County shall provide the School District with its Comprehensive Plan and provide updated development data and population projections on an ongoing basis to facilitate development of school enrollment projections. The County shall coordinate its Comprehensive Plan and the Future Land Use Map Series with the School District's long range facilities maps to ensure consistency and compatibility with the provisions of this Element, and ensure that the development of school facilities are concurrent with residential development.

Policy 12.2: Population Projection Methodology

The County shall provide population projections to the School District and municipalities. County staff shall also continue to work with the School District and the municipalities to improve the population projection methodology and enhance coordination among the plans of the School District and municipalities.

OBJECTIVE 13: PARKS AND RECREATION – TRAILS AND PARKS

Highlands County recognizes that continuation, growth and effectiveness of the County's Parks and Recreation system will depend on the ability to focus on a formalized mission and the ability to develop and maintain partnerships with the municipalities, including Avon Park, Sebring and

Lake Placid, the Highlands County School Board and the Water Management Districts.

- Policy 13.1:** Highlands County should work with the School Board to develop a model ‘Mutual Use Agreement’ for the public use of joint school and park facilities.
- Policy 13.2:** Highlands County shall continue to investigate alternative funding sources and relationships to provide for public park facilities, programs, and management.
- Policy 13.3:** Highlands County and the School Board should further work to co-locate sites for new and existing schools and parks where feasible. Highlands County should work with the School Board to identify possible joint opportunities to provide athletic and recreation opportunities for students and citizens. A school/park design prototype should be developed to be used for planning such joint facilities. Highlands County and the School Board should also work to identify existing school sites for possible improvements to better accommodate public recreation usage.
- Policy 13.4:** Highlands County shall continue to coordinate with the County’s municipalities and adjacent counties for the provision of public parks and recreational programming through the use of interlocal agreements.
- Policy 13.5:** Highlands County shall pursue joint agency funding for the purchase, development, and management of public parks, environmental lands, and trails.