

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

GOAL:

The City of Cape Coral shall strive to achieve maximum coordination with other governmental jurisdictions, agencies, and entities.

Objective 1:

The City of Cape Coral shall coordinate planning activities mandated by the Comprehensive Plan with the plans of the Lee County School Board and adjacent local governments using existing formal and informal coordination mechanisms, or by establishing new formal mechanisms to ensure coordination. As the plans are amended and growth occurs, coordination methods may be subject to change. However, these methods are expected to include, but not necessarily be limited to, staff interaction, interlocal agreements, written communications and public meetings.

Policy 1.1:

Cape Coral will coordinate planning activities mandated by the Comprehensive Plan with other affected local governments and the school board. Coordination activities may include, but not necessarily be limited to, interlocal agreements, public meetings, staff interaction, written notifications, and joint committees.

Policy 1.2:

The City of Cape Coral shall utilize the mandatory dispute resolution process with other governments and agencies, as described in s. 186.509, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.3:

Development proposed in the comprehensive plan will be reviewed for impacts on the comprehensive plans of other appropriate local governments, regional agencies, and the State of Florida. This will be accomplished in part through the DRI, PDP and Plan amendment processes, and interlocal agreements (Policy 2.4).

Policy 1.4:

The management of bays, estuaries, and harbors that cross Cape Coral's borders will be coordinated with other jurisdictions, including, but not necessarily limited to, Lee County, Fort Myers, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, and DEP. Coordination may include, but not necessarily be limited to, notification of development activities and future land use changes affecting those bays, estuaries and harbors, and withholding inspections until permits are obtained from the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction.

Policy 1.5:

The City of Cape Coral will continue to:

- Utilize the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for all matters of coordination in transportation planning and implementation;

- Utilize the MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in matters requiring communication, cooperation, and coordination between Cape Coral and other jurisdictions.

Policy 1.6:

City staff will continue to coordinate school and related facility siting and development processes with staff of the Lee County School Board.

Policy 1.7:

City staff will be made available as needed to participate in intergovernmental coordination activities with other governmental, public and private entities.

Policy 1.8:

The City will coordinate the designation of any future dredge spoil sites with neighboring jurisdictions with dredge spoil disposal responsibilities, in accordance with Policy 12.2 of the Future Land Use Element of this Plan.

Objective 2:

EFFECTS OF NEW DEVELOPMENT

The City will coordinate the impacts of planned development on neighboring jurisdictions, regional agencies, and the State of Florida using existing formal or informal coordination mechanisms, or establishing new mechanisms as needed to ensure coordination. These mechanisms may include, but are not necessarily limited to, interlocal agreements, public meetings, staff interaction, written notifications, and joint committees.

Policy 2.1:

Cape Coral will coordinate planning activities mandated by the Comprehensive Plan with other local governments, regional agencies, and the State of Florida, including, but not necessarily limited to, Lee County, Charlotte County, the City of Fort Myers, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Policy 2.2:

Development proposed within the City of Cape Coral will be reviewed for impacts on the comprehensive plans of adjacent local governments, regional agencies, and the State of Florida. This may be accomplished in part through the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) and Comprehensive Plan amendment processes, and interlocal agreements.

Policy 2.3:

The City of Cape Coral may enter into interlocal agreements with adjacent local governments for the notification and exchange of information regarding changes of future land use and/or zoning within one (1) mile of its corporate limits.

Policy 2.4:

The City of Cape Coral will communicate with Lee County to discuss the effects of new development upon major roadways, such as County roads, that serve both communities.

Objective 3:

LEVEL-OF-SERVICE STANDARDS

Ensure that the Level-of-Service (LOS) standards specified in the Comprehensive Plan are consistent with the LOS standards for public facilities of other governmental entities having operational and maintenance responsibility for those facilities.

Policy 3.1:

The City of Cape Coral will coordinate planning activities mandated by the Comprehensive Plan with other local entities, regional agencies, and the State of Florida, with particular attention to ensuring consistency of level-of-service standards.

Policy 3.2:

Development proposed within the City of Cape Coral will be reviewed for its impact on the level of service standards of adjacent local government. This will be accomplished in part through the DRI and plan amendment processes, the PDP process, the MPO, and through interlocal agreements.

Policy 3.3:

The City of Cape Coral will ensure coordination of level-of-service standards by entering into interlocal agreements, serving on MPO committees, reviewing activities, and actively participating in interagency policy-making and goal-setting activities.

Objective 4:

The City of Cape Coral shall support voluntary annexation of unincorporated lands adjacent to City boundaries for the purpose of maintaining cost-effective delivery of public services, eliminating enclaves, preserving natural resources, increasing the City's supply of commercial space, and increasing affordable housing opportunities within the City.

Policy 4.1:

The City shall seek to implement a joint planning area (or areas) with Lee County, in order to resolve issues regarding proposed annexations.

Policy 4.2:

In the event that the City of Cape Coral and Lee County are unable to resolve issues of concern relative to the proposed voluntary annexation area(s) the City shall first seek informal mediation.

Policy 4.3:

The City will prioritize voluntary annexation requests that involve properties meeting the criteria for 'enclaves', as defined in Chapter 171, Florida Statutes.