



Future of Hillsborough Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Hillsborough County Florida

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

As Amended by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners June 5, 2008 (Ordinance 08-13)

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Hillsborough County Intergovernmental Coordination

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Sections IV. and V. have been adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as required by Part II, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes. The remainder of the element contains background information.

I. Introduction

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element is to:

identify and resolve incompatible goals, objectives and policies and development proposed in local government comprehensive plans and to determine and respond to the needs for coordination processes and procedures with adjacent local governments, and regional and state agencies. (Section 163.3177(6)(h), FS; Rule 9J-5.015, FAC)

This Element provides the management basis for the entire comprehensive plan. This document coordinates governments, agencies and departments. It also establishes committees and policies that place responsibility and authority where they are needed to accomplish tasks. The Element does not "plan" as much as it "manages".

Intergovernmental coordination is not a new topic - legislation covering the topic dates from 1969. The State Constitution, in Article VII, Section 10(d), provides for governments and agencies, using their taxing powers individually or together, which may own or finance the construction of electric power plants or transmission facilities with another association, corporation, partnership or person. Two ideas are at work here. One is interlocal cooperation. The other is joint public/private ventures. Both are useful concepts for achieving objectives and goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

Chapter 163, FS is entitled "Intergovernmental Programs." The first section is known as the "Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969." The purpose of the Act is to:

permit local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with other localities on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord best with geographic, economic, population, and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities.

The opportunities presented by this statement are efficient and effective service provision and mutually advantageous (equitable) cooperation among governments or agencies. The law also allows for state agencies at the state and federal levels to cooperate with each other, too. Of greatest importance is the legal requirement for governments and agencies to formally contract with each other in order to jointly exercise power. Current examples of this include reciprocal firefighting agreements,

spraying treated county wastewater on sports authority land and joint use of resource recovery plants.

The title of the Element refers to one government or agency coordinating its plans for growth and development with other governments or agencies. According to *Webster's Dictionary*, coordination has two perspectives: first, "to put in the same order or rank"; second, "harmonious functioning of parts for the most effective results". Once again, the ideas expressed are of mutual advantage and effective results. Efficiency, quoted in the Interlocal Cooperation Act, is defined by mutual advantage and by the geographic, economic and political factors surrounding each issue. Therefore, intergovernmental coordination requires a need that must be met to the efficient benefit of each party. Contracts, providing terms, time, organization and dispute resolution, establish equitable (fair) relationships under which staffs and elected officials can provide services to citizens.

Throughout this Element, many terms will be used. Their definitions will originate from several sources. One source is Chapter 9J-5 (FAC) which contains a set of comprehensive planning definitions. Another is the definitions used in the other plan elements. *Webster's Dictionary* provides the balance of definitions. The reason for using Chapter 9J-5, FAC and the other Elements' wordings is to assure consistency and ease of reading and understanding this Element.

The "Future of Hillsborough County" Comprehensive Plan Intergovernmental Coordination Element contains measurable objectives written to support the entire plan (e.g., land use, conservation, transportation). The policies provide for specific actions that will achieve the objectives. The "Future" Plan fixes responsibility and provides the means to implement portions of the other elements.

The Element is organized into six sections. They are:

- I Introduction
- II Inventory and Analysis
- III Future Needs and Alternatives
- IV Goals, Objectives and Policies
- V Plan Implementation
- VI Selected Definitions

There are also appendices provided to help the reader understand how the Plan conforms to law, what type of research methods were used, and what assumptions were made by the author. Finally, there is a list of definitions specific to the Element.

II. INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

PURPOSE

The purpose of the inventory and analysis is to survey available data and information. This is done by interviews, literature searches, attendance at public meetings, review of individual Elements of the Comprehensive Plan, and review of existing statutes, laws and ordinances.

METHODOLOGY

A major data source used to gather information for the original development of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element includes department and agency interviews at the state and local levels. During these interviews, ordinances or statutes were referenced, as necessary, to determine how work was done compared to legal requirements.

Sources for the interviews included the cities of Plant City, Temple Terrace, and Tampa; and the County Environmental Protection Commission, County departments of water, wastewater, solid waste, roads and stormwater management. Also interviewed were the Southwest Florida Water Management District; the Tampa Electric Company, the Hillsborough County School Board; the West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority; the Florida Department of Transportation; Port Manatee; Polk, Pasco, Pinellas and Manatee counties; and the planning staffs of the cities of Lakeland and Oldsmar. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council staff, including the Agency on Bay Management and staff responsible for mediation services, were also invited.

The conversations and interviews started with a list of assumptions prepared by the Planning Commission staff; this is printed below for review.

1. Communication is the foundation of coordination and cooperation.
2. Existing interlocal agreements cover obvious, physical, measurable needs, such as sharing a resource recovery plant, or reciprocal firefighting agreements.
3. Other issues are more subtle, requiring time to establish relationships and to coordinate data analysis and use for annual reporting. Examples include capital programs and priorities for several governments; urban reserve areas.
4. There is a need for a regional viewpoint - between counties and within a county.
5. Issues should be spotted and managed before they become controversial positions. It is easier to discuss a desired outcome than to argue over an established position.
6. Technical (staff) coordination of issues, with proposed resolutions, is better than open confrontation. Anticipation is better than reaction.

7. There are many staffs covering many technical, occasionally overlapping, issues.
8. The Planning Commission is a multi-jurisdictional agency with a vital and legally mandated role to play in area planning.
9. The planning process, with its emphasis on reviews of adjacent governments' plans and the doctrine of standing provides the impetus for coordination. The alternatives, lawsuits and injunctions, are costly, time-consuming and counter-productive to growth, planning and development.
10. In addition, to interviews, data on existing interlocal agreements and other coordination mechanisms were solicited from all Hillsborough County departments. Each Element of the Comprehensive Plan was also reviewed to determine intergovernmental coordination needs and problems and the corresponding means for resolution.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND STANDARDS

Intergovernmental Coordination for unincorporated Hillsborough County involves many jurisdictions. A listing is as follows:

- Hillsborough County
 - Tampa
 - Plant City
 - Temple Terrace
- Manatee County
- Pasco County
- Polk County
 - Lakeland
- Pinellas County
 - Oldsmar
 - St. Petersburg (bay boundary)
 - Clearwater (bay boundary)
- Hardee County.

Table 1 shows the known formal and informal interlocal agreements under which Hillsborough County operates; this table has been updated to reflect the compilation of interlocal agreements prepared by Hillsborough County for the Department of Community Affairs in 2004 in response to changes in the State Growth Management Legislation. The interlocal agreements represent a means for solving problems. The agreements aim for efficient use of resources, accountability and responsibility for their use and maintenance. The agreements attempt to effectively distribute the benefits to the intended users. Where agreements are unwritten, or informal, they should be

reviewed for their effect on levels of service, efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and responsibility. These same criteria of efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, responsibility and responsiveness should be contained in future interlocal efforts. *Table 1 can be found in the PDF version of this section of the Element.*

III. FUTURE NEEDS AND ALTERNATIVES

The purpose of this chapter is to set the direction of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element.

METHOD

The development of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element was based upon several research techniques as well as many assumptions.

Research included field interviews with agency or department heads or planners in and out of the county. Discussion generally followed the Intergovernmental Coordination Element outlined in Chapter 9J-5.015. Questions were designed to elicit response about existing coordination mechanisms and problems, and suggested means of resolving those problems. Another method used was scanning the literature, including current news articles, as they related to intergovernmental coordination. A third approach was attendance at public meetings. Finally, a method that is still being used is the review of other plan elements. For a more detailed review of these approaches, please see Appendix B of this Element.

ASSUMPTIONS

Assumptions about the value and use of this Element in developing a view of future needs are many. They include the list below.

1. Existing interlocal agreements cover needs which are physical and require immediate, defined reaction. Examples are: Reciprocal fire response, county jail operation in the City of Tampa.
2. Some intergovernmental agreements address only the immediate issue. 'Secondary' issues can actually be of equal importance. An example is the urban reserve area. It provides for responsibility for utility services, but offers the provider (usually a city) little control over the development of these fringe areas.
3. There are scattered informal, technical level relationships already in place. However, accountability and responsiveness are not required by these alliances.
4. There is a need for formal, joint technical consideration of issues between and among governments.
5. Anticipating issues and events is better than reacting to them.
6. The Comprehensive Plan will be governed primarily by land use.
7. Many issues (traffic, environment) are regional in scope and require an outward view by each government of its actions on another.

8. The Planning Commission has a vital, legal role to play in coordinating the growth and development actions of governments through information programs, emphasis on cooperative review of plan amendments. The Commission has a unique, multi-jurisdictional perspective from which it can review levels of service, standards, transportation and land use issues.

FUTURE CONDITIONS, STANDARDS AND NEEDS

The substantive basis for the goal, objectives and policies in Section Four are the assumptions listed above based on field interviews, and updated based on subsequent Evaluation and Appraisal Reports. The direction provided leads to recognition of the need for cooperation among departments and consistency in their growth management plans. Because of limited time and personnel, the use of existing staff and organizations was a paramount concern. Other criteria besides efficiency were accountability, equity and responsiveness. If a committee was recommended to be formed, it was with two precepts. One, that it be comprised of existing staff. Two, that the committee assignment be required by the comprehensive plan regulations and/or sound management practices. While not always quantifiable, the needs highlighted in this Element are for management, appraisal and review of goals, objectives and policies. The Intergovernmental Coordination Element proposes productive means of achieving those standards.

There are other alternatives. One is business as usual: lurching from one narrowly defined problem and partly conceived solution to another; formally or informally coordinating and managing issues which usually generate more heat than light. The other path is to go to a regional level of plan problem solving. Too many competing interests are likely to cancel opportunities to work together. This is because there is no mandate that can be imposed on all governments to work together. The local issues, in spite of their regional or interlocal content, are not likely to be easily surrendered to the decisions of a large, regional forum.

The objectives and policies herein are aimed at local, technical cooperation to solve county and regional problems. The Planning Commission, with its specific state mandate to facilitate growth management, will play a unique role in helping Hillsborough County negotiate its way into a well-managed future. The Council of Governments of Hillsborough County will provide a unique forum for introducing and reviewing issues. The committees recommended by this Element are based on the requirements to coordinate actions among all governments in or adjacent to Hillsborough County. They are created to avoid conflict by jointly studying and agreeing on recommended technical issues of

levels of service, capital improvement projects and suggested priorities, land uses and urban reserve areas.

IV. Goal, Objectives and Policies

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is the result of compiling a variety of information. Details of the work that led to this section are found in the Background Report.

The issues are:

1. Coordinating and regularly reviewing capital improvements, plans and programs.
2. Developing, establishing, maintaining and evaluating levels of service.
3. Establishing joint planning areas.
4. Establishing a means to monitor, evaluate and review land use and environmental issues.
5. Developing a comprehensive, coordinated regional road review and evaluation program.
6. Establishing the role of The Planning Commission for Hillsborough County.
7. Instituting an orderly local and regional method of conflict resolution.
8. Developing and maintaining a cooperative data base for unified planning and information services to all governments.
9. Coordinating public services and provision of social services.

PURPOSE

The goal, objectives and policies play a very important role in planning and managing growth. They provide measurable direction. Therefore, they instill accountability. Objectives outline the ways of attacking an issue, without being so specific as to preclude other ways of solving problems. This leaves room for the criteria of equity and responsiveness. These policy statements will be efficient in that they require minimal added staff time and effort to implement. The people already doing most of the work are the people charged with implementing this Element.

In conclusion, the goal, objectives and policies are designed to provide for the efficient, effective operation of a complex planning and management process.

GOAL

To establish and maintain an efficient, effective and convenient *Program* to address multi-jurisdictional, comprehensive planning issues for the *purpose* of:

- achieving the goals and objectives of the Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan;
- resolving any incompatibility of goals, objectives, policies and development in the Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan with those of the plans of the Hillsborough County School Board and/or other units of the local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land with the comprehensive plans of the incorporated municipalities of Tampa, Temple Terrace Plant City, the adjacent counties of Pasco, Polk, Pinellas and Manatee and with the plans of regional, state and federal agencies.
- Furthering the goals supporting the achievement of the *Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan* of the Tampa Bay Region and the State Comprehensive Plan.

Coordination of Comprehensive Plans

OBJECTIVE 1: On an ongoing basis, Hillsborough County shall establish new and review existing coordination mechanisms that will evaluate and address its comprehensive plan and programs and their effects on the comprehensive plans developed for the adjacent local governments, school board, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over use of land and the State.

Policy 1.1:

Hillsborough County shall continue to coordinate with representatives from the local, regional and federal agencies and departments to ensure best practices and most current techniques and policies are utilized. Specifically, these efforts should address issues relating to: transportation, environment, schools, affordable housing and social services.

Policy 1.2:

A number of techniques including joint meetings, forums and interjurisdiction/departments meetings may be utilized to identify issues among jurisdictions and agencies and provide a structural framework for discussion of appropriate subjects. Recommendations from resulting from these efforts may be used to develop possible amendments to the Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan. The BOCC and affected agencies shall be apprised of the recommendations.

Policy 1.3:

Reserved

Policy 1.4:

Hillsborough County will continuously develop new means of cooperatively using, exchanging and combining data and information so that it is of practical benefit to local governments, the agencies represented and citizens.

Policy 1.5:

Hillsborough County shall work with the Planning Commission, other jurisdictions and utility companies in the County to develop a unified forecasting effort for population, socio-economic data, financial planning, transportation modeling and capital planning, which shall include the reservation of appropriate rights-of-way. Pertinent forecasting reports, data and information produced or obtained by any of these groups shall be shared as they become available to ensure coordinated efforts in planning.

Policy 1.6:

On an annual basis, Hillsborough County shall ask the School Board to provide information from their Five Year Facilities Master Plan to determine the need for additional school facilities. The School Board shall provide to the county, each year, a general education facilities report. The educational facilities report shall contain information detailing existing facilities and their locations and projected needs. The report shall also contain the School Board's capital improvement plan, including planned facilities with funding representing the district's unmet needs. In accordance with the interlocal agreement adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and the School Board, the coordination of school siting shall be conducted.

Policy 1.7:

The county will identify and recognize the campus master plans of all post secondary institutions that are located within its jurisdiction. A review of the establishment of a new campus master plan or update of an existing master plan shall be conducted by the Planning Commission to ensure coordination with the County's Comprehensive Plan. Comments and recommendations shall be provided to the appropriate jurisdiction and Board of Education Authority.

Coordination on Development

OBJECTIVE 2: Hillsborough County shall continue to address through coordination mechanisms, the impacts of development proposed in the local Comprehensive Plan upon development in adjacent jurisdictions, the region and the state.

Policy 2.1:

Hillsborough County shall continue to cooperate with Temple Terrace, Plant City, Tampa and adjacent county governments for planning review of selected types of development proposals within their jurisdiction within one mile of their respective borders or any development which will impact another jurisdiction. The staff shall cooperate at the technical and administrative levels to review the relationship of proposed development to the existing comprehensive plans, address impacts of development and to achieve compatibility with the comprehensive plans of the respective jurisdictions in plan amendments, areas of rezonings, land development regulations, and infrastructure management. Interlocal agreements may be negotiated to formalize these review procedures.

Policy 2.2:

The County shall work with the staff's of the jurisdictions and external agencies to develop additional measures to ensure full review and coordination regarding economic development activities, development applications and growth trends. Measures to be considered could include the creation of a multi-jurisdictional task force or staff committee or utilization of the Council of Governments to coordinate on these issues.

Policy 2.3:

The capital budgeting and development plans and priorities of the adjacent county and city governments shall be evaluated and reported on annually by the Planning Commission as part of the input to the local planning agency annual report on the status of implementation of the comprehensive plans of Hillsborough County jurisdictions, their various categories of levels of service and evaluation of future improvements.

Policy 2.4:

The appropriate fiscal and planning staffs will provide reviews and recommendations, consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan, to all plan amendments approved for study by the local planning agency.

Policy 2.5:

Hillsborough County will review all annexation requests by municipalities of area of unincorporated county. The county will strive to negotiate interlocal agreements with the incorporated municipalities to resolve planning and infrastructure issues relating to lands planned for annexation.

Policy 2.6:

By 2009, the County and its municipalities shall open discussion to establish an annexation policy to direct, in a timely manner, the process of annexing unincorporated land adjacent to the municipalities.

Policy 2.7:

Hillsborough County, in conjunction with the three municipalities within its boundaries, will identify and implement joint planning areas as needed by 2009. Joint planning areas will allow for further coordination of the land use planning and infrastructure provision for areas of possible annexation surrounding the municipalities. An interlocal agreement will be executed with each applicable local government to outline the coordination procedures as well as provide a map of the joint planning area boundaries.

Coordination on Environment and Infrastructure

OBJECTIVE 3: On an ongoing basis, Hillsborough County shall continue to coordinate with representatives from local, regional and federal agencies and departments, units of local government and adjacent municipalities and counties to ensure coordinated and efficient provision of infrastructure and utilization and protection of natural resources.

Policy 3.1:

Hillsborough County will coordinate with the cities of Plant City, Temple Terrace and Tampa as well as appropriate agencies to ensure an efficient provision of infrastructure including but not limited to: transportation, water and sewer, transit, parks, public safety and schools.

Policy 3.2:

Hillsborough County will coordinate the establishment of level of service standards for public facilities with any state, regional or local entity having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities.

Policy 3.3:

Hillsborough County shall continue to coordinate with the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County and representatives from local, regional and federal agencies and departments to ensure coordinated actions relative to bay management, ecosystems management and protection, designation of dredge and spoil sites, water quality and quantity and other aspects of our natural heritage

Policy 3.4:

As the lead organization on emergency management for Hillsborough County, the County will coordinate with public and non-public agencies and organizations on emergency management plans to ensure that the County and its citizens are prepared for natural and man-made disasters. In particular, the County will coordinate on the provision of infrastructure such as evacuation routes and shelter capacity, on the preparedness of target populations such as those who are economically disadvantaged or have mobility issues, and on post disaster recovery.

Policy 3.5:

Reserved

Policy 3.6

The county shall maintain membership on, and respectively participate in, the planning process of the Tampa Port Authority, the entity responsible of dredge spoil sites, to ensure intergovernmental coordination in the designation of new dredge spoil disposal sites.

Policy 3.7

Through its membership on the Tampa Port Authority, the county shall promote the involvement of the appropriate state and federal agencies and the public in providing for or identifying dredge spoil disposal sites.

Policy 3.8

Through its membership on the Tampa Port Authority, the county shall pursue the resolution of conflicts through the Coastal Resources Interagency Management Committees dispute resolution process, where appropriate.

Policy 3.9

Hillsborough County shall coordinate with the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Tampa Bay Water, the Cities of Tampa, Plant City and Temple Terrace and the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission to assure consistency of water supply and demand projections and population data.

Policy 3.10

The County will encourage the participation of all sectors of the community in the development and update of its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.

Policy 3.11

Coordinate with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to assure consistency between the Future of Hillsborough: A Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Hillsborough County and SWFWMD's Regional Water Supply Plan. The 10 Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan shall be updated every five years and within 18 months of the update of the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Regional Water Supply Plan.

Policy 3.12:

When siting facilities of county-wide significance, Hillsborough County will notify and coordinate with the cities of Tampa, Plant City and Temple Terrace to provide for opportunities for collaboration on the siting of those facilities.

Metropolitan Transportation Planning

OBJECTIVE 4: The County shall assure the integration of all forms of metropolitan transportation planning into the comprehensive planning process, to include planning in other jurisdictions.

Policy 4.1:

Hillsborough County shall regularly attend and participate in Metropolitan Planning Organization meetings.

Policy 4.2:

Reserved

Policy 4.3:

The local planning agency shall negotiate and draft a Memorandum of Understanding with Florida Department of Transportation which shall guide the local planning agency, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Florida Department of Transportation and the County in comprehensive planning in at least the following areas:

1. Coordinate with Florida Department of Transportation regarding corridor access management planning and signalization of state roads used as a part of a regional network and as it relates to the County traffic circulation system.
2. Require timely Florida Department of Transportation review of rezoning and sub-development of regional impact requests forwarded by County Planning and Zoning and Development Review staffs for comment.
3. Require existing staffs to review and recommend changes to procedures to ensure the minimum time is taken for access permits and stormwater management, setback and infrastructure reviews.

Policy 4.4:

Hillsborough County shall coordinate with Metropolitan Planning Organization Board members to:

1. Cooperatively implement development criteria compatible with the establishment of regional transit services in their comprehensive plans.
2. Evaluate and determine the level of public expenditures that subsidize development permitted in coastal high-hazard areas or reduce hurricane evacuation times.
3. Integrate all updated authority master plans needs within the Transportation Improvement Program and the Long Range Transportation Plan.
4. Evaluate surface transportation access plans for the airport and port with the mapped and built mass transit and traffic circulation system.

Policy 4.5:

Hillsborough County, through the Metropolitan Planning Organization, shall establish formal working relationships with the mass transit planning and operations of all adjacent counties.

Policy 4.6:

Reserved

Policy 4.7:

Hillsborough County, shall coordinate with other jurisdictions and FDOT for the purpose of using common methodologies among local concurrency management systems for measuring impacts on transportation facilities and adopting compatible level of service standards on inter-jurisdictional arterial and collector roadways.

The Planning Commission

OBJECTIVE 5: On an ongoing basis, the Planning Commission shall evaluate the comprehensive plan with the master facilities plans of school boards, other authorities and plans of other units of government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land, such as Florida Department of Transportation, housing authorities and with the comprehensive plans of adjacent municipalities and adjacent counties in an effort to ensure consistency with the comprehensive plan.

Policy 5.1:

Hillsborough County shall utilize the Planning Commission and staff as the intergovernmental coordination and review agency, in addition to the already established duties of the agency. Duties shall include, among others, the provision of information and services, such as economic research; population data analysis and reporting; socio-economic reporting; land use amendment review, analysis and recommendation; authority plans review; and land development regulation review of any of the governments in Hillsborough County.

Policy 5.2:

Mechanisms shall be established for Planning Commission review of long-range plans and master plans and amendments thereto of boards and authorities, pursuant to Section 7(2) of 75-390, Laws of Florida, as amended. For such review, recommendations pertaining to the consistency of such proposals with the Comprehensive Plan shall be made to the affected board or authority.

Policy 5.3:

The Planning Commission shall be the source of cooperatively developed data and information related to the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and shall encourage the participation of other governments in the County in this cooperative effort.

Policy 5.4:

When necessary, formalized coordination and cooperation mechanisms required by the comprehensive plan shall be accomplished through contracts, memoranda of understanding, formal resolutions, interlocal agreements, or other means.

Policy 5.5:

All coordination mechanisms that effectively and efficiently resolve coordination issues shall be maintained.

Policy 5.6:

If any existing or new agreement fails to effectively address intergovernmental issues that are significant to Hillsborough County, the mechanism shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and a recommendation provided towards implementation within one year of its documented ineffectiveness.

Policy 5.7:

If the agreement revision is not agreed to by the jurisdiction or if the recommended solution is not accepted by both parties, then Hillsborough County may conform to the requirements of Section 164.101 (FS). If taking no further action does not adversely affect the planning and implementation process in Hillsborough County, then the County may take no further action. The dispute resolution services of Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council may be used to arrive at an acceptable solution.

Policy 5.8:

The Planning Commission will review and make recommendations to amend comprehensive plans(s) in accordance with state law and local policy for consistency with revised interlocal agreements.

Policy 5.9:

The Future of Hillsborough Comprehensive Plan shall be the primary planning guide for unincorporated Hillsborough County, and the

Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission shall advise the Board of County Commissioners on interpretations of the plan in a consistent and timely manner.

The Council of Governments

OBJECTIVE 6: The County shall cooperate with other governments and jurisdictions to maximize its value to all local governments in the County, and regional and state agencies. The Council of Government should be used to identify planning issues, inform effected entities, and present alternative viewpoints. The Council of Governments shall remain as a permanent mechanism for effective coordination of infrastructure, facilities and services.

Policy 6.1:

The Council of Governments shall study issues including, but not limited to, matters affecting health, safety, welfare, education, economic conditions, area development and growth management, bay and environmental management and local, regional and state comprehensive plans.

Policy 6.2:

The Council of Governments shall recommend cooperative agreements and arrangements to coordinate action among its members and facilitate communication among jurisdictions in order to minimize and interlocal conflict.

Coordination and Planning for Social Services and for the Economically Disadvantaged

OBJECTIVE 7: Hillsborough County shall continue to explore alternate methods to share information and coordinate activities regarding the needs of the economically disadvantaged and provision of social services among state, local and regional human service agencies in order to properly assess and coordinate services and activities offered to economically disadvantaged and minority groups.

Policy 7.1:

Hillsborough County will foster cooperation and coordination between health and social service providers within the County in order to establish a clear direction which minimizes duplication of effort and maximizes all community resources.

Policy 7.2:

The County, by resolution with governments within Hillsborough County, shall encourage those governments to participate in this effort.

Policy 7.3:

The Planning Commission shall continue to be responsible for the integration of recommendations for policy changes regarding economically disadvantaged groups within the Comprehensive Plan for Hillsborough County.

Policy 7.4:

Any amendments proposed to the Comprehensive Plan, including land use amendments, shall consider the effect of their changes on identified economically disadvantaged groups and other social impacts of the proposed change. There shall be clear reference to this issue in the evaluation of a proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment and its effect on these identified populations.

Policy 7.5:

Hillsborough County will coordinate with public, private and non-profit social service providers and utilize capacity building strategies to ensure effective and efficient delivery of social services and programs to the economically disadvantaged population of Hillsborough County. Such uses are encouraged to be located in close proximity to these target populations.

Coordination of Public Services

Objective 8: The County will coordinate between internal county agencies and with external agencies providing services to the citizens of Hillsborough County to ensure that effective and accessible services are provided throughout the County.

Policy 8.1:

The County will evaluate existing and future county service centers, including locations, targeted population, accessibility and frequency of use, to ensure that they are effectively serving the public. Efforts will be made to more effectively provide services through collocation of multiple public and non-public services at service centers and other shared facilities.

Policy 8.2:

The County will implement means to improve the convenience of countywide services. Consideration should be given to the expansion of service center hours and location of service centers where the population concentrations are highest.

Policy 8.3:

The County will explore creative alternatives to the delivery of countywide services; these might include utilization of new technologies, mobile units, improved interactive delivery of services and provision of services at existing county facilities such as libraries and recreation centers.

Conflict Resolution Process

OBJECTIVE 9: Hillsborough County shall adopt a conflict resolution process for guidance in the resolution of disputes or issues, and shall encourage other jurisdictions in the County to do so, as well.

Policy 9.1:

Hillsborough County shall utilize the conflict resolution process to resolve intergovernmental conflicts, including but not limited to, the siting of locally unpopular public and private land uses and facilities.

Policy 9.2:

Ad hoc committees of the local jurisdictions, at the technical staff level of the various jurisdictions, may be convoked to discuss the problem and to resolve it. These committees shall be formed upon the request of one of the local jurisdictions and by mutual agreement of the participating jurisdictions.

Policy 9.3:

If no resolution of the issue is attained, then voluntary coordination meetings at the highest technical level, such as the department or agency director level, shall discuss the issue and attempt to resolve the differences between the jurisdictions.

Policy 9.4:

If no resolution is reached, the problem will surface to the next level, the policy level, for resolution, i.e., the Chief Executive Officer and elected officials.

Policy 9.5:

If no decision is reached at the policy level, then by mutual agreement and as a voluntary option, the parties may call for arbitration or mediation from Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, the University System or a State Agency.

Policy 9.6:

If this solution is not acceptable to the jurisdictions involved, then they may pursue a binding resolution through the courts, after invoking the Florida Governmental Cooperation Act of 1987, Florida Statutes, Chapter 164. This is now required before one governing body of a county or municipality may file suit against another county or municipality.

V. SELECTED DEFINITIONS

Accountability - The degree of formal arrangement providing for regular services involving establishment and maintenance of a relationship.

Agency on Bay Management - An alliance of agencies, organizations and interest groups for the management of Tampa Bay. The Agency is an arm of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council which provides staff and funding to the Agency.

Annexation - The legal method of attaching an area into an area controlled by another form of government.

Arbitration - A process whereby a neutral third party or panel listens to the facts and arguments presented by the parties and renders a decision which may be binding or non-binding. (per Section 44.301, Florida Statutes, 1987).

Capital Budget - The portion of each local government's budget which reflects capital improvements scheduled for a fiscal year.

Capital Improvement - Physical assets constructed or purchased to provide, improve or replace a public facility and which are large scale and high in cost. The cost of capital improvement is generally nonrecurring and may require multi-year financing. For the purposes of this element, physical assets which have been identified as existing or projected needs in the individual comprehensive plan elements shall be considered capital improvements.

Capital Improvements Element - The element of the comprehensive plan that provides the evaluation of the need for public facilities, their costs, the capability of the government to finance and construct improvements and the scheduling of those improvements.

Committee - Ordinary committees are of two types - standing committees (which have a continuous existence) and special committees (which go out of existence as soon as they have completed a specified task). A special (select, or ad hoc) committee is a committee appointed, as the need arises, to carry out a specific task, at the completion of which - that is, on presentation of its final report to the assembly - it automatically ceases to exist. *The Scott, Foresman Robert's Rules of Order: Newly Revised.* pp. 407, 409. 1984.

Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan - The long-range plan of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. This plan is designated to provide guidance for the physical, economic and social development of the Tampa Bay region.

Concurrency - The legal requirement that specified public facilities (potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, stormwater management, traffic circulation) be provided for by an entity in a publicly approved budgeted, prioritized manner.

Consistency - The regulatory requirement that local comprehensive plans not conflict with state or regional plans, and that the local plan act towards the goals and policies of the state and regional plans.

Coordinating Mechanism - A document, formally adopted, that proposes or implements action by two or more governments or agencies.

Council of Governments - A not-for-profit corporation of local public officials of counties, municipalities or other governmental subdivision formed by resolutions of the participants for the study, coordination, review and recommendation of actions to members and other public service agencies.

Effectiveness - The ability to produce a decided or desired result.

Efficiency - The descriptive measurement of the comparison of production with cost.

Goal - The long-term end toward which programs or activities are ultimately directed.

Infrastructure - Those man-made structures which serve the common needs of the population, such as: sewage disposal systems; potable water systems; potable water wells serving a system; solid waste disposal sites or retention areas; stormwater systems; utilities; piers; docks; wharves; breakwaters; bulkheads; seawalls; bulwarks; revetments; causeways, marinas; navigation channels; bridges; and roadways.

Intergovernmental Agreement - Arrangement between or among governments to undertake a course of action guided by written, legal documents.

Intergovernmental Coordination - The act of bringing plans, governments or policies into a common condition or action.

Level of Service (LOS) - An indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by a facility based on and related to the operational characteristics of the facility. Level of service shall indicate the capacity per unit of demand for each public facility.

Local Planning Agency (LPA) - The agency legally designated to prepare the comprehensive plan as required by Chapter 163, Florida Statutes (as amended). For all of Hillsborough County, this agency is the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission (The Planning Commission).

Mechanism - A process or technique for achieving a result.

Mediation - A process whereby a neutral third party acts to encourage and facilitate the resolution of a dispute without prescribing what it should be. It is an informal and non-adversarial process with the objective of helping the disputing parties reach a mutually acceptable agreement (per Section 44.301, Florida Statutes, 1987).

Nature of Relationship - The equity or responsiveness produced or required by one party in its relationship to another as a result of an agreement.

Objective- A specific, measurable, intermediate end that is achievable and marks progress toward a goal.

Policy - The way in which programs and activities are conducted to achieve and identified goal.

Regional Water Supply Authority - A legal body formed to under Florida Statutes by Interlocal Agreement to develop safe public water supply facilities and operate them in an environmentally safe manner.

Reserve Area - Unincorporated County land between a municipal border and a defined reserve area boundary. Within the reserve area, the County and municipality coordinate activities to foster compatibility in land development regulations, procedures, the planning of infrastructure, and delivery of services.

Responsiveness - A measure of the reaction to a problem.

Special Legislation - Legal action by a legislature designed to regulate or influence the activities of a unique group or area.

State Comprehensive Plan - The document containing goals and policies, as adopted by the State of Florida for use in determining planning and management priorities of agencies, departments and governments throughout the State.

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) - A Florida association of local governments covering a designated four county area that works with the Department of Community Affairs and local governments to resolve contemporary planning problems and issues.

Transportation Systems Management (TSM) - A process for planning and operating a unitary system of urban transportation. This views automobiles, public transportation, taxis, pedestrians, and bicycles as element of one single urban transportation system. The key objective of TSM is to coordinate these individual elements through operating, regulatory and service policies so as to achieve maximum efficiency and productivity for the system as a whole.