

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS

Prepared By

The City of Tarpon Springs

Planning & Zoning Division

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Intergovernmental Coordination Element (ICE) recognizes and resolves conflicting goals, objectives and land development activities between the comp plan of Tarpon Springs and adjacent governments and regional and state agencies. The ICE also promotes communication and cooperation between neighboring jurisdictions. The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element is to identify and resolve incompatible goals, objectives, 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. The City's ICE was most recently updated in March of 2001 and is still substantially up to date.

Tarpon Springs is located in the northern most part of Pinellas County and is part of the larger Tampa Bay region. The City also has Pasco and Hillsborough Counties as neighbors to the north and east. All are competitors for primary employers. Many residents, workers, tourists, and business customers travel back and forth between the municipalities of Pinellas County every day. This creates an inter-reliant regional economy. As the City of Tarpon Springs has evolved, and as Pinellas County nears buildout, intergovernmental cooperation is a challenge that is central to success of development and redevelopment for the City.

The ICE identifies all governmental and quasi-governmental entities with which the City coordinates, some routinely, others infrequently. The adopted element consists of the goals, objectives and policies. This data and analysis is a supporting document, generally consisting of an inventory listing all the entities that are subject to coordination with the City of Tarpon Spring. These are broken down into types, including adjacent local governments, county agencies, regional agencies, state agencies, independent special districts, and public/private utilities. For each inventoried entity the following items of information will be provided: Legislative Authority – cities the legislation or law that effects and/or governs the entity. General Role – a brief overview of what the entity is responsible for. Coordinative Function – the nature of the coordination between the entity and the City. Office with Primary Responsibility – lists the various City departments that coordinate with the particular entity. Coordination Mechanism – includes documents, committees or processes established by law or formally adopted by two or more governments or agencies. Routine interaction on less formalized basis is also noted herein.

The following matrix was established as a quick reference/evaluation of the effectiveness of the coordination with these various entities. Broad descriptions of these agencies may be found within the ICE. A rating system has been created in order to rate the effectiveness of the coordination with each entity. The ratings serve as indicators of where improvement is needed and to assist in formulation of objectives and policies. The rating system consists of five (5) levels to measure effectiveness of coordination. They are as follows:

1. Ineffective at solving problem or need. No coordinating mechanisms or processes exist. Problems or needs are unclear. No resolution is identified.

2. Somewhat effective at solving problem or need. Coordination mechanisms or processes exist on an ad hoc basis or not at all. Problems or needs vaguely identified. No clear resolution point.

3. Generally effective at solving problem or need. Informal coordination mechanisms or processes exist Problems and needs have been identified. Resolution points may be identified

4. Effective at solving problem or need. Formal coordination mechanisms or processes exist. Problems and needs have been identified. Resolution point(s) have been identified.

5. Very effective at solving problem or need. Formal and ongoing coordination mechanisms and processes exist. Problems and needs are identified early. Resolution points have been reached.

The following Effectiveness Matrix shows each entity along with its corresponding effectiveness rating:

EFFECTIVENESS MATRIX

<u>COORDINATING ENTITY</u>	<u>COORDINATION EFFECTIVENESS RATING</u>				
	1	2	3	4	5
Board of County Commissioners				X	
Pinellas County Clerk of the Court				X	
Code Enforcement				X	
Construction licensing Board				X	
Emergency Management					X
Environmental Management				X	
Fire Protection Authority				X	
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Agency (MPO)				X	
Planning Department				X	
Property Appraiser				X	
Public Works Department			X		
Pinellas County School Board				X	
Sheriff's Department			X		
Water and Navigation Board				X	
Economic Development Agency			X		
Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board			X		
Pinellas Planning Council					X
South West Florida Water Management District				X	
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council				X	
Tampa Bay Water		X			
Department of State				X	
Executive Office of the Governor			X		
Florida Department of Commerce			X		
Florida Department of Community Affairs					X
Florida Department of Education		X			
Florida Department of Environmental Protection			X		
Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services			X		
Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles			X		
Florida Department of Transportation		X		X	
Board of Juvenile Welfare for Pinellas County				X	
East Lake Fire District			X		
Palm Harbor Special Fire Control District			X		
Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority					X
Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority		X			

Clearwater Gas Service			X		
Progress Energy			X		
Bright House Networks (Formerly TC I Cablevision of Pinellas County, Inc)			X		
Waste Management				X	

Source: Tarpon Springs Planning & Zoning

II. INVENTORY ADJACENT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

A. PINELLAS COUNTY

Legislative Authority

Chapter 125, F.S., Chapter 163.3171, F.S.

General Role

The Board of County Commissioners serves as the local governing body for adjacent unincorporated areas including Palm Harbor, Ozona, Crystal Beach, Anclote Village, Innisbrook and East Lake.

Coordinative Functions

Adoption and amendment of the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan, amendments to the Pinellas County Land Development Code, issuance of development orders pursuant to Chapter 380.06, issuance of development permits (except variances), approval of development agreements and interlocal planning agreements.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Planning Agreement (through 9/30/00), comprehensive plan elements, Planners Advisory Committee, public hearing process and informational exchange.

B. PASCO COUNTY

Legislative Authority

Chapter 125, F.S., Chapter 163.3171, F.S.

General Role

The Board of County Commissioners serves as the local governing body for adjacent unincorporated places including Holiday, Elfers, Seven Springs and Trinity.

Coordinative Functions

Adoption and amendment of the Pasco County Comprehensive Plan, amendments to the Pasco County Land Development Code, issuance of development orders pursuant to Chapter 380.06, issuance of development permits, approval of development agreements and interlocal agreements.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreement to Insure Compatible Development Activities (through 9/30/00), comprehensive plan elements, public hearing process and informational exchange.

C. PINELLAS COUNTY

In addition to Pinellas County's role as an adjacent local government, the City also coordinates with many county agencies. These include service providers and regulatory agencies.

1. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Legislative Authority

Chapter 163 F.S., Chapter 125, F.S., Chapter 73-594 Laws of Florida, County Charter. (Infrastructure Sales Tax Ord. 89-42, Trans. Impact Fee Ord. 86-47, Ord. 88-50).

General Role

The Board of County Commissioners, consisting of 5 members elected at large and representing one of five districts, sets budgetary and policy direction for a multitude of administrative agencies that affect service delivery revenues and capital improvements within Tarpon Springs.

Coordinative Functions

Tarpon Springs is located in Commission District 3. The BOCC serves as the Countywide Planning Authority (CPA). City amendments to the Countywide Land Use Plan are required to be approved by the CPA. An Interlocal Agreement, dated **October 10, 1989**, for joint exercise of planning authority coordinates planning issues in and around the City's municipal area and contiguous unincorporated Pinellas County areas.

Office with Primary Responsibility

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners have primary responsibility in coordinating with BOCC. The City Manager has primary responsibility in coordinating with the County Administrator.

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreements concerning Planning Area, Potable Water Large User, Infrastructure and Reclaimed Water standing committees, comprehensive plan coordination, informational exchange.

2. CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD

Legislative Authority

The Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board was created by Chapter 75-489, Laws of Florida, to regulate the construction industry in Pinellas County. It is codified at Sec. 26-106, et. seq. of the Pinellas County Code. Because the Board was created by an Act of the Legislature it operates as a separate and autonomous policy-making body.

General Role

The Construction Licensing Board is responsible for licensing construction and home improvement contractors, registering contractors otherwise licensed by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to ensure establishment and maintenance of proper insurance, adopting and amending the family of building codes for application and enforcement countywide and interpreting the codes to provide safe, economic, and sound buildings and structures throughout Pinellas County.

Coordinative Functions

The Licensing Board is a valuable resource to the City's Building Division, providing periodic reports on the status of businesses and licenses. A member of the Building Department serves on their board.

Office with Primary Responsibility
Building Division.

Coordination Mechanism
Regulatory authority, Countywide Boards of Adjustment and Appeals

3. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Legislative Authority
Article IV, County Charter.

General Role
Permitting and regulatory authority for development related issues within unincorporated areas of the county.

Coordinative Functions
The County regularly submits pending land use and zoning cases to municipalities for review.

Office with Primary Responsibility
Planning and Zoning Division

Coordination Mechanisms
Committee participation, informational exchange.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Legislative Authority
Chapter 159, F.S., Ord. 97-101.

General Role
The St. Petersburg/Clearwater Economic Development Council is composed of 9 members appointed by the BOCC. Five members are local elected officials, including one from Tarpon Springs. The Council is charged with making recommendations to the BOCC for programs and policies that promote economic development.

Coordinative Functions
Provides funding along with the City and Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce for local Business Assistance Specialist. Promotes programs and policies, which encourage business retention, relocation and expansion.

Office with Primary Responsibility
City Manager.

Coordination Mechanism
Committee participation, information exchange.

5. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Legislative Authority
Chapter 252.38, F.S.; Section 34-63, Pinellas County Code

General Role

Planning and Coordinating Agency for disasters and major emergency incidents. Prepares hurricane evacuation maps and promotes preparedness and mitigation. Administers and funds countywide Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Coordinative Functions

Emergency Management orders mandatory evacuations, particularly during hurricanes or other countywide emergencies. Orders the opening of shelters and start up of local emergency operations centers. EMS is playing a lead role in the

preparation of the Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy designed to advance programs and policies, which will reduce the loss of life and property during catastrophe. The Countywide HazMat Team provides back up to the Tarpon Springs Fire Department first response in cases of hazardous material spills.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Fire Department.

Coordination Mechanism

Interlocal Agreement, Charter authority, committee participation, informational exchange.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Legislative Authority

Chapter 58, Pinellas County Code.

General Role

The enforcement of regulations regarding code violations, environmental issues, air and water pollution and protection of wildlife and wildlife habitats.

Coordinative Functions

As necessary regarding code violations and environmental issues which transcend jurisdictional boundaries.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Division, Building Division, Planning and Zoning Division and Police Department.

Coordination Mechanism

Regulatory authority, information exchange

7. FIRE PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Legislative Authority

Pinellas County Home Rule Charter, Chapter 62, Article II of the Pinellas County Code.

General Role

The Authority, which is a municipal service taxing unit, was created for the purpose of establishing and implementing a permanent plan of fire protection for the surrounding unincorporated areas of Pinellas County.

Coordinative Functions

The Authority directs the appropriate fire department to provide fire protection to the unincorporated area within a fire district and to compensate the fire department for such service.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Fire Department.

Coordination Mechanism

Fire Protection Services Agreement between Pinellas County Fire Protection

Authority and City of Tarpon Springs, Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement, by and between Pinellas County and the City of Tarpon Springs.

8. PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Legislative Authority

Section 134, Pinellas County Code

General Role

The Pinellas County Planning Department serves as the Local Planning Agency for the unincorporated portions of Pinellas County. The department initiates and processes amendments to the comprehensive plan and land development regulations. They serve as the advisor to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Coordinative Functions

The Pinellas County Planning Department coordinates population projections, concurrency management and transportation impact fee implementation between various local governments on a countywide basis. The City coordinates with the Department on various matters which include land use, coastal management, conservation, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, Lake Tarpon SWIM implementation.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Planning Agreement, comprehensive plan elements, committees and informational exchange.

9. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Legislative Authority

Chapter 170, Pinellas County Code

General Role

The Pinellas County Department of Public Works constructs and maintains county roads and traffic control devices. They also review site plans and grant right-of-way utilization -permits.

Coordinative Functions

Right-of-way utility licenses must be obtained for development along County roadways. Public Works maintains County roadways. Under agreement, maintain certain traffic signals. The City often enters into joint construction projects and piggybacks on County purchasing contracts.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Parks Maintenance, Building Division, Engineering Division,, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanism

Interlocal Agreements for Signal Maintenance, Jasmine Avenue Reconstruction. Permitting/Regulatory authority, informational exchange.

10. WATER AND NAVIGATION BOARD

Legislative Authority

Ch. 31182 (1955), Laws of Florida, Section 166-241et seq., Pinellas County Code.

General Role

The Water and Navigation Authority is a branch of the Department of Environmental Management. Their mission is to protect and manage waters of the county, a defined term.

Coordinative Functions

Require and issue permits for the placement of seawalls and the construction of commercial and private docks.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Building Division, .

Coordination Mechanism

Permitting/regulatory, information exchange.

11. PINELLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

Legislative Authority

Chap. 125.01, F.S.; Section 54, Pinellas County Code.

General Role

The Board of County Commissioners serves as the EMS Authority. Their jurisdiction extends over all of Pinellas County and they have ad valorem taxing authority of up to 1.5 mills. EMS operates a network of emergency rescue vehicles, communications and trained paramedics as necessary for rescue capability. May provide these functions through contract.

Coordinative Function

The Fire Department is first responder, followed by SunStar ambulance, a provider contracted through EMS. EMS provides central dispatch and record keeping and adopts minimum standards for ambulances and crews.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Fire Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreement, regulatory, information exchange.

12. PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Legislative Authority

The 1974 Federal Aid Highway Act, Chapter 339.175 F.S., Chapter 163.01 F.S., Chapter 120 F.A.C.

General Role

Coordinates urban transportation planning activities among the various local jurisdictions within Pinellas County. The MPO is made up of elected officials with the Florida Department of Transportation serving as a non-voting member. The County, cities to be represented and FDOT enter into an interlocal agreement forming the MPO. The cities of Tarpon Springs, Safety Harbor and Oldsmar share a single representative on a rotating term basis.

Coordinative Functions

The MPO prepares the Pinellas Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which is a prerequisite of certain Federal construction assistance. The TIP provides a staged, multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional listing of transportation improvements in Pinellas County. The MPO establishes the 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan. They provide transportation modeling services on a countywide / regional basis and otherwise coordinate transportation planning within the County.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division,

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreement, Technical Coordinating Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee, Transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan, information exchange.

13. PINELLAS COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

Legislative Authority

Article VIII, Section 1(d), Florida Constitution, Chapter 193, F.S., Chapter 195, F.S.

General Role

Appraisal and taxing of real property within Pinellas County, Florida. Maintenance of the Mapping Database of Digitized map files.

Coordinative Functions

Coordination of updating of map and data files; i.e., new subdivisions, annexations, roadways, right-of-way and easement dedications and address changes. Notification of new building construction for appraisal purposes.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Building Division, Planning and Zoning Division

Coordination Mechanisms

Contract for computer terminal, information exchange.

14. PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Legislative Authority

Article IX, Sec. 4, Florida Constitution, Chapters 228, 230, 232, 235, Florida

Statutes

General Role

The 7 member School Board, elected on a countywide basis, establishes the budget and policy for all elementary, middle and high school facilities, educational programs and personnel in the Pinellas County district school system. The School Board levies an ad valorem tax up to a 10 mill cap.

Coordinative Functions

Pupil placement, new facilities construction, program development and implementation, joint use of facilities and extension of infrastructure.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Board of Commissioners, Parks and Recreation Divisions

Coordination Mechanisms

Statutory authority, facilities lease agreements, comprehensive plan consistency, information exchange.

15. PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Legislative Authority

Article VIII, Section 1(d), Florida Constitution, Chapter 30, F.S. General Role
Law enforcement in the unincorporated portion of Pinellas County and through contract within other municipalities. The Sheriffs Office contains specialized units and operates the county detention centers.

Coordinative Functions

Mutual aid for police protection in times of extraordinary need.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Police Department.

Coordination mechanisms

Mutual aid agreement, information exchange.

III. REGIONAL AGENCIES

A. PINELLAS - ANCLOTE RIVER BASIN BOARD

Legislative Authority

Chapter 373.0693, Florida Statutes, Rule 62-40, F.A.C. Members of the basin board are appointed by the Governor.

General Role

The Southwest Florida Water Management District's jurisdictional area encompasses 16 counties. Within that 16 county area there are 8 basin boards delineated along watershed boundaries. The Pinellas-Anclote River Basin includes all of Pinellas County and a small portion of southwest Pasco County. The general role of the Basin Board is to identify resource issues and problems, manage and protect water resources. The basin has ad valorem tax authority to levy up to 0.5 mills (0.401, 1998).

Coordinative Functions

Preparation of Basin Plan; cooperative funding assistance for new water initiatives, reuse, water conservation, surface water management, and public education; comprehensive planning review.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division, Public Services Department

Coordination Mechanisms

Five - Year Basin Plan, Cooperative Funding Program, District Water Management Plan, public awareness, informational exchange.

B. PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL

Legislative Authority

Chapter 73-594, Laws of Florida as amended, Chapter 88-458, Laws of Florida the Home Rule Charter for Pinellas County

General Role

The Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) is composed of 13 members representing the municipalities of Pinellas County, the Board of County Commissioners and the School Board. The Council employs a technical support staff with offices in Clearwater. The PPC maintains a Countywide Future Land Use Plan, which serves as the principal coordinating mechanism for all local planning within the county.

Coordinative Functions

All local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations must be consistent with the Countywide Plan. The Council also processes amendments to the Countywide Plan and reviews proposed annexations of 10 or more acres to determine if the municipality has the ability to serve the annexed property with municipal facilities and services. The PPC also serves as the land/planning agency for some governments in Pinellas County on a contractual basis. They provide land use mapping services for Tarpon Springs and other municipalities and offer general technical assistance. In cooperation with USF, neighborhood residents and a steering committee, and City staff the PPC assisted in the preparation of the Union Academy Neighborhood sector plan.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Board of Commissioners, Planning and Zoning Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Regulatory authority, Planners' Advisory Committee, contract for mapping services, information exchange.

C. SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Legislative Authority

Chapter 373, F.S., Rule 40-D, F.A.C.

General Role

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD or "Swift Mud") covers all or parts of 16 counties along west central Florida. A Governing board determines overall policies, carries out regulatory responsibilities and functions, enters into contracts and authorizes a tax levy for administration of the district SWFWMD is responsible for the development of a state-mandated water use plan, administration of a permitting system for consumptive

water use and other water related activities, the regulation of wells, and the management and storage of surface waters. SWFWMD is charged to effect the maximum beneficial utilization, development, and conservation of the water resources of the district in the best interests of its people and to prevent the waste, depletion, deterioration, and unreasonable use of resources.

Coordinative Functions

Permit public utility wellfields and river sources and establish maximum withdrawals. Establish jurisdictional limits of wetlands and establish mitigation ratio for dredge and fill projects. Issue surface water management permits, consolidated as the environmental resources permit, for drainage improvements. Conduct comprehensive plan and DRI review. Purchase of prime watershed and aquifer recharge areas. Technical and/or financial assistance to local governments and public education programs on water use and conservation.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Public Services Department, Engineering Division, Planning & Zoning Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Regulatory and permitting authority, comprehensive plan review, Lake Tarpon Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) study, Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP), Pinellas County Integrated Plan, technical assistance series, information exchange.

D. TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Legislative Authority

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) functions as the official regional planning agency as defined in Chapters 163, 186 and 380, F.S. TBRPC is one of 11 regional planning councils in the State of Florida and covers Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties.

General Role

The Council exercises the powers, duties, functions and responsibilities for conducting planning and coordinating review and assistance activities and functions that are enumerated by legislative and declarations of Chapter 186 and 380 of the Florida Statutes, and other applicable federal, state and local laws. As the state designated regional clearinghouse review agency, the TBRPC is responsible for review of all state and federal grant applications, dredge and fill permit applications and developments of regional impact that pertain to the city, as well as to ensure that the city's plan is consistent with the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan. The Council also serves as the Area Agency on Aging for District VII. The TBRPC also provides a forum for informal mediation to resolve conflicts or inconsistencies arising from development or growth among the cities and counties in the region.

Coordinative Functions

Preparation and update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan which focuses on significant regional resources and facilities; conduct reviews of local plan amendment compliance with the regional plan; conduct D.R.I. review pursuant to Chapter 380.06, F.S.; accept and receive grants and services from the Federal Government pursuant to the Older Americans Act; acts in an advisory or contractual capacity for constituent local governments in matters of local and regional

planning; conducts studies of regional resources; conducts a voluntary negotiation process between local governments to resolve interlocal disputes.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning and Zoning Division,

Coordination Mechanisms

Comprehensive Planning - The Strategic Regional Policy Plan, "Future of the Region", Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan, hurricane evacuation mapping, local plan amendment review; regulatory - DRI review and coordination; Mediation - resolution of multi-jurisdictional disputes; information exchange -Regional Planners Advisory Committee, technical assistance.

E. TAMPA BAY WATER

Legislative Authority

Article VIII, Florida Constitution; Chapters 163.01 and 373.1962, F.S. General Rule Tampa Bay Water (formerly known as West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority) is a regional agency created by interlocal agreement among its member governments. Tampa Bay has the ability to issue revenue bonds, exercise the power of eminent domain and assess ad valorem tax of up to 0.5 mill. There is a nine-member Board of Directors made up of representatives from the three counties and three cities they serve (Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties and the cities of New Port Richey, St. Petersburg and Tampa). Tampa Bay Water is the wholesale supplier of raw water to the region's utilities. They are charged with meeting the area's present and future needs in an economically and environmentally sound manner.

Coordinative Functions

Tampa Bay Water owns and operates 12 regional groundwater facilities and two water treatment plants, supplying potable water to several government entities. In a 1998 agreement with SWFWMD, Tampa Bay Water is committed to a staged reduction in groundwater withdrawals and a corresponding increase in new water sources. These will be constructed during the period 2000 - 2007 and include a 25 MGD desalinization plant, surface water withdrawal from the Hillsborough and Alafia Rivers, and a reservoir.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager, Utilities Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Contractual - establish terms and rates for potable water.

IV. STATE AGENCIES

A. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Legislative Authority

Article IV, Section 4, Florida Constitution, Chapters 15, 20, 120, 267, 607, 617 and 620, Florida Statutes General Role The Secretary of State is a

constitutional officer and serves on the Florida Cabinet. Directly elected by the people of Florida until a 1998 Constitutional amendment, the Secretary of State has become an appointed position. The Department of State has responsibility for Official State records, registration of corporations doing business in the State of Florida, Statewide elections and historical resources. Coordinative Functions Through the Division of Historical Resources, maintenance of the master site files for historic and archaeological resources. Promulgates rules for public record keeping and Government in the Sunshine Law.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Clerk, Cultural Affairs Department, Planning and Zoning Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Vertical relationship - rules regarding public records; contractual - grants from the Trust for Historic Preservation for restoration of historic properties and the Florida Communities Trust for land acquisition; agreement - Certified Local Government; informational exchange

B. EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Legislative Authority

Article IV, Section 1, Florida Constitution; Chapter 14, Florida Statutes. General Role The functions of the EOG include preparation of the annual budget, establishing a legislative agenda for the session and veto power over legislation. Another major responsibility is the preparation, development and revision of the State Comprehensive Plan.

Coordinative Function

The EOG is directed by an Administrative Commission composed of the Governor and the Cabinet. The office coordinates planning among federal, state, regional and local levels of government and those of other states. The Office also coordinates all state agency planning and programming activities, serves as the state planning and development clearinghouse, and designates regional and area clearinghouse review agencies. The EOG also serves as liaison between the state and federal officials, agencies, and members of Congress.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager, Board of Commissioners.

Coordination Mechanisms

Vertical relationship - declaration of state of emergency; Regulatory - Chairman of Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, Administration Commission; informational exchange.

C. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Legislative Authority

Created from Health and Rehabilitative Services by the 1996 Legislative Powers as set forth in Chapters 20.19, 381, and 394 F.S. The Department of Health was also a part of HRS.

Coordinative Function

The services provided by this agency are given through 11 statewide

service districts. Tarpon Springs is located in District V.

General Role

The mission of the Department of Children and Family Services is to work in partnership with local communities to help people be self-sufficient and live in stable families and communities. The purpose of the Department is to deliver, or provide for the delivery of, all family services offered by the state through the department to its citizens. Some of these services include cooperating with other state and local agencies in integrating the delivery of all family and health services offered by the state to those citizens in need of assistance.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager's Office, Police Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Permitting/Regulatory - licensing of childcare centers, congregate living facilities and nursing homes. Vertical relationship - crisis intervention after notification by City agencies.

D. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Legislative Authority

The Department of Commerce was created by the Government Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to section 20.17, Florida Statutes.

General Role

The Department of Commerce is responsible for the guidance, stimulation, and promotion of economic development within the state, as it relates to industry, marketing and international development. The Department also provides state leadership in the development and promotion of the tourist industry.

Coordinative Function

Through its five field offices the Department assists regional and local governments in economic planning activities and in applying for funds in support of economic development programs. The Department also serves as liaison between the state and Florida businesses, and between the state and the Caribbean, South America and Central American concerns. The Division of Tourism coordinates national and international ad campaigns, and assists municipalities, chambers of commerce and other tourist oriented entities in formulating cooperative promotional programs.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager.

Coordination Mechanisms

Economic development grants assistance, technical assistance, and information exchange.

E. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Legislative Authority

The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) was created by the

Government Reorganization Act of 1969, pursuant to Section 20.18, Florida Statutes. The Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulations Act, Chapter 163, F.S. establishes the DCA's role in the planning process. The Department has divisions under the authority of an appointed Secretary.

General Role

The Division of Community Planning serves as the State Land Planning Agency, reviewing local government comprehensive plans and plan amendments for Florida's 11 Regional Planning Councils. Local Planning also reviews development agreements. DCA is also responsible for assisting local communities and other units of local government in defining and responding to problems in the area of housing, community development and building codes and standards.

The Division of Emergency Management coordinates emergency response for the State of Florida. This division is also playing a key role in the development of Local Mitigation Strategies which are county-wide efforts to take proactive measures to lessen the damage to life and property caused by hurricanes, wildfires, sinkholes, droughts and man-made disasters. They are also a funding source for structural improvements and demonstration projects designed to make residential, commercial and public buildings less susceptible to storm and tidal flood damage.

The Housing and Community Development Division is responsible for implementing Florida's Small Cities Program. Non-entitlement cities (less than 50,000 population) are eligible to compete for CDBG money in a variety of categories including housing, neighborhood revitalization and commercial redevelopment. The Florida Housing Finance Agency funds a variety of housing assistance programs including State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP), Home Investment Partnership (HOME) and the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program.

Coordinative Functions

Review local government Comprehensive Plan elements and amendments for consistency with minimum technical standards (Rule 9J-5) and the State Plan. Review of Developments of Regional Impact development orders for compliance with Chapter 383, F.S. and administrative rules (9J-2). Review of development agreements. Ability to enter challenges to local land development regulations or development permits directly or on behalf of citizen complainants.

DCA is also responsible for determining the consistency of local Emergency Management Plans with Regional Plans through the Agency's Division of Emergency Management. The FMAP program provides a 75% match for building owners desiring to raise, move or otherwise flood proof the structure.

The SHIP and HOME programs are administered by Pinellas County under contract with DCA. Construction loans for apartment developments with a minimum 20% set aside for low and moderate income residents are available on a competitive basis.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Planning & Zoning Division, Cultural Affairs Department, Building Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Vertical relationship - DCA reviews this Comprehensive Plan and

subsequent amendments, D.R.I. development orders, development agreements and the periodic Evaluation and Appraisal Report; contractual - DCA has provided planning grants, mitigation grant funding, and Community Development Block Grant funding through Pinellas County technical assistance and information exchange.

F. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Legislative Authority

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was created in 1989 and consolidates the functions of the former Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Environmental Regulation (DER). Legislative authority is set forth in Chapters 373 and 403, F.S.

General Role

DEP is the principal agency for the implementation of state environmental policies and law. The Department established standards for the protection of natural systems through the permitting process of activities that may impact the environment, including permitting and monitoring potential sources of pollution and discharges for compliance with state standards. In the event of non-compliance or violation, the DEP can take enforcement action.

The DEP manages eight environmental regulatory programs: Water Quality, Water Quantity, Drinking Water, Solid Waste, Air Quality, Noise Control, Coastal Zone Planning, and Power Plant Siting.

Coordinative Function

DEP programs are administered mainly through field offices located throughout the state however, the Water Quantity Program is managed through the five regional water management districts. The functions of the DEP and its districts are coordinated through using joint application procedures. DEP permitting programs require coordination with the Florida Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. DEP permits the operation of the City's wastewater treatment plant and licenses plant operators. Extensions of the sewage collection system require permits. On site disposal systems (septic tanks) are permitted through DEP's Pinellas County Public Health Unit. Another DEP permitting program involves the lease of State-owned submerged lands and preservation areas.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager, Public Services Department, Engineering Division.

Coordination Mechanisms

Regulatory - permits and licenses for sewer plant operations, system expansion, OSDS and package plants, review of comprehensive plan amendments; contractual - the City leases State lands, both submerged and uplands.

G. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Legislative Authority

Created from Health and Rehabilitative Services by the 1996 Legislative Powers as set forth in Chapters 20.43, 381, and 394 F.S. The Department of Children and Families was also a part of this former department.

General Role

The Department administers programs in the area of health, mental health, retardation, youth services, children's medical services, social and economic services, vocational rehabilitation, and aging and adult services.

More specifically, programs include prevention of communicable diseases, regulating of health providers, providing health care and early intervention to persons who are at risk for disabling conditions or have chronic illnesses, and regulating onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (septic tanks), regulating construction, modification and operation of public and private water systems.

Coordinative Function

All of the Department's health, social and rehabilitative services are provided through 11 statewide service districts. Departmental services are coordinated with those of other public and private agencies in each district through advisory councils.

The Department also contains the state Health Planning and Development Agency, which is charged with the planning of Florida's Health System Agencies and establishing state health policy.

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager.

Coordination Mechanisms

Vertical relationship - health codes and licensing programs.

H. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY & MOTOR VEHICLES

Legislative Authority

The powers and organization of the Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles are legislatively articulated at Chapter 320 of the Florida State Statutes.

General Role

The Department is responsible for maintenance of licensing and registration for motor vehicles and trailers.

Coordinative Function

The City receives funds collected by the state through mobile home licenses.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Police Department, Finance Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Regulatory - establishes motor vehicle and driver licensing programs; revenue sharing program; information exchange.

I. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Legislative Authority

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was created by the Governmental Reorganization Act of 1969 and it operates under the authority of Chapters 334-339 and 341, Florida Statutes.

General Role

FDOT is responsible for coordinating the planning of all modes of transportation on land, sea and air; and for constructing and maintaining the state highway system.

Coordinative Functions

FDOT coordinates project development in the eight districts throughout Florida. The District Engineers manage and administer the Department's work program and systems maintenance. Urban Transportation System plans are developed jointly by FDOT and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's), created under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act (ISTEA) and continued under Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA21) and SAFETEA LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users. Technical and administrative dealings among these legally designated planning agencies are established to conform to federal regulations and have been formalized through interlocal transportation planning agreements.

Tarpon Springs is located in District VII headquartered in Tampa. The district maintains a Six Year Work Program which is updated annually. FDOT also maintains various plans for different Federal funding categories such as CMAQ and STP. The agency's long range strategic plan is set forth in the Florida Transportation Plan.

Roads under FDOT jurisdiction in the city of Tarpon Springs are Tarpon Avenue (SR 582) between Alternate 19 and U.S. 19, U.S. Highway 19 and Alternate U.S. 19 (Pinellas Avenue).

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Division, Planning & Zoning Division, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Agreements - the City has entered into Joint Participation Agreements with FDOT wherein the road contractor performs utility relocations needed for road widening; regulatory - permits are required for driveway connections, overhead banners, tree planting and similar improvements within State roads; comprehensive planning - FDOT publishes a level of service manual for use by local government on the Florida Intrastate Highway System, reviews elements and amendments thereto particularly the Transportation element reviews DRI development orders; technical assistance; informational exchange.

J. FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Legislative Authority

On November 3, 1998 the voters of Florida approved a constitutional revision creating this commission effective July 1, 1999. The Game and Freshwater Fish Commission and the Marine Fisheries Commission functions were transferred into this new agency.

General Role

The Commission oversees the protection and harvesting of Florida's

land and marine natural resources.

Coordinative Functions

Licensure of saltwater product producers and processors, including spongers. Sport fishermen and hunters as well as individuals owning exotic animals for personal use must possess a license from the Commission.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Police Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Regulatory - licensing program; information exchange - conservation education.

V. INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS

A. JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

Legislative Authority

Established by Special Act of the Florida Legislature in 1945, this is the first such board in the nation. The Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) has nine members including gubernatorial appointees, 2 Juvenile Court judges, County Commissioner and the Superintendent of Pinellas County Schools

General Role

JWB plans, coordinates and delivers child and family services throughout Pinellas County.

Coordinative Functions

Programs include the Boys and Girls Clubs of Suncoast, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Girls, Inc. Healthy Families and the Upper Pinellas Association of Retarded Citizens (UPARC).

Office with Primary Responsibility

City Manager.

Coordination Mechanisms

The JWB does not interact directly with city government but they aid several important Tarpon Springs' organizations including the Citizens' Alliance for Progress (CAP), UPARC and the boys and Girls Club.

B. EAST LAKE FIRE DISTRICT

Legislative Authority

Fire Protection Services Agreement between Pinellas County Fire Protection Authority and the City of Tarpon Springs.

General Role

The East Lake Fire District is generally bounded by Pasco County on the north, Hillsborough County on the east, Oldsmar Fire District on the south, and the Tarpon Fire District on the west. East Lake is one of the fire districts participating in the Fire Protection Services Agreement between Pinellas County Fire Protection Authority and the

City of Tarpon Springs.

Coordinative Functions

Through the Agreement the Authority directs the appropriate fire department to provide back-up fire protection in cases where the primary responding units are occupied.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Fire Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreement (Fire Protection Services Renewal Agreement).

C. PALM HARBOR SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Legislative Authority

Fire Protection Services Agreement between Pinellas County Fire Protection Authority and the City of Tarpon Springs. The District has an elected policy-making Board and levies ad valorem taxes within its boundaries.

General Role

The Palm Harbor Fire District is generally bounded by the Tarpon Fire District on the north; Lake Tarpon on the east; Curlew Road on the south; and the Gulf of Mexico on the west. Palm Harbor is one of the fire districts participating in the Fire Protection Services Agreement between Pinellas County Fire Protection Authority and the City of Tarpon Springs.

Coordinative Function

Through the Agreement the Authority directs the appropriate fire department to provide back up fire protection in cases where the primary responding units are occupied.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Fire Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Interlocal Agreement (Fire Protection Services Renewal Agreement)..

D. PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Legislative Authority

The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) was created pursuant to Chapter 70 - 907, Laws of Florida.

General Role

PSTA owns and operates the public bus system within Pinellas County. Nineteen cities and the unincorporated area are members. PSTA policy is set by an 11 member board consisting of 9 elected officials, 1 representative from the City of St. Petersburg and 1 Board of County Commissioner's appointee. The Cities of Tarpon Springs, Oldsmar and Safety Harbor have appointed one Commissioner to represent the 3 cities on a rotating basis.

Coordinative Function

PSTA works within the MPO framework to plan and deliver bus service throughout Pinellas County.

Office with Primary Responsibility
City Manager.

Coordination Mechanisms

Agreement - Tarpon Springs is a member city and levies an ad valorem tax to support, in part, PSTA's operations; committees - many funding programs are sent before the MPO's Technical Coordinating Committee on which Tarpon Springs has a representative. There is also a County-wide Transit Advisory Committee.

VI. PUBLIC /PRIVATE UTILITIES

COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC / PRIVATE UTILITIES

Public and private utilities include the electric, phone, cable and gas companies serving the City. The City of Tarpon Springs has entered into franchise agreements with these entities to secure services for its citizens. The City Charter prohibits entering into a franchise agreement for a period longer than five years without approval of a majority of the electorate.

1. CLEARWATER GAS SERVICE

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement dated December 14, 1983, between the City of Tarpon Springs and Clearwater Gas Service to provide natural gas service to the residents and businesses of the City. The agreement expires in 2013.

General Role

Clearwater Gas Service provides natural gas service to the residents and businesses of the City.

Coordinative Function

Clearwater Gas Service gas mains are located alongside of City water and sewer mains, drainage pipes and telephone, electric and CAN where underground.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Department, Public Services, Finance Department.

Coordination Mechanisms Information exchange; City requires Clearwater Gas Service approval prior to vacation of easement or right of way.

2. PROGRESS ENERGY

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement between the City of Tarpon Springs and Progress Energy, dated April 29, 1981, to provide electricity for residential and commercial uses in the City. The agreement expires in 2011.

General Role

Progress Energy provides electricity for residential and commercial uses within Tarpon Springs. The City also contracts with PEF for street lighting in multiple locations throughout the City.

Coordinative Function

Review of proposed construction drawings delineating location of proposed and existing utilities. Coordination of construction to eliminate conflicts. Coordination and identification of street lighting.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Division, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Information exchange; City requires approval from all utilities prior to vacation of easement or right of way.

3. VERIZON

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement between the City of Tarpon Springs and General Telephone, dated December 12, 1989, to provide telephone service to the City. The agreement expires in 2019.

General Role

Provides local telephone service in the City of Tarpon Springs. Verizon is also a long distance carrier.

Coordinative Function

Verizon reviews submittal of proposed construction drawings delineating location of proposed and existing utilities as well as coordinates construction to eliminate conflicts.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering ~~Department~~ Division, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Information exchange; City requires approval from all approval prior to vacation of easement or right of way.

4. BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement between the City of Tarpon Springs and, Inc., dated September 20, 2003 to provide cable television service within the City. The agreement expires September 20, 2018.

General Role

Provides cable television within the City of Tarpon Springs, Bright House Networks undertook the installation of a fiber optic cable network prior to the start of service.

Coordinative Function

GTE reviews proposed construction drawings delineating location of proposed and existing utilities as well as coordinates construction to eliminate conflicts.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Division, Finance Department, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Information exchange; City requires approval from all utilities approval prior to vacation of easement or right of way.

5. KNOLOGY BROADBAND OF FLORIDA INC.

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement between the City of Tarpon Springs and Knology of Florida, Inc., to provide cable television service within the City. The agreement expires in 2013

General Role

Provides cable television service to the City of Tarpon Springs. They also locate and determine possible conflict of existing and proposed utilities.

Coordinative Function

Knology reviews submittal of proposed construction drawings delineating location of proposed and existing utilities as well as coordinates construction to eliminate conflicts.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Engineering Division, Finance Department, Public Services Department.

Coordination Mechanisms

Information exchange; City requires approval from all utilities approval prior to vacation of easement or right of way.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Legislative Authority

Franchise agreement between the City of Tarpon Springs and Waste Management, Inc., dated July 23, 1996, to provide collection of residential and commercial solid waste to the City. The agreement expires on September 30, 2012.

General Role

Provides residential and commercial solid waste collection to the City of Tarpon Springs. Waste Management provides curbside recycling of newspaper, glass, aluminum, steel and plastics. The City also runs a yard waste facility.

Coordinative Function

The City and Waste Management work together in order to establish optimum dumpster locations, maintain vehicle access during construction, and ensure pick up at the adopted service level.

Office with Primary Responsibility

Solid Waste Coordinator, City Manager.

Coordination Mechanisms

Agreement - 5 year franchise, Information exchange.

VII. CAMPUS MASTER PLANS

There are no state universities within the City limits, however there is a branch of the St. Petersburg College (SPC) that lies within the municipal boundary. offers associate and bachelors degrees, and technical training. The City and SPJC coordinate on many issues including the extension of Belcher Road and Klosterman Road, the construction of a museum for the Leepa-Rattner collection, mass transit routing and campus expansion. The City reviews the SPC Educational Plant Survey.

VIII. COLLABORATIVE PLANNING ISSUES

A. ANNEXATION

Procedurally

The annexation process is authorized pursuant to Chapter 171, Florida Statutes. The City of Tarpon Springs will continue to annex appropriate parcels into the incorporated City limits. The standards for annexation include that the parcel is compact and contiguous to the City's existing boundaries; that it not create a municipal or county enclave; and that the City can provide municipal services to the property. The procedures and standards for annexations are set forth in Chapter 171, F.S. and the City between the property owner and the City, annexations are subject to approval by the electorate. For parcels of 10 or more acres, the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) conducts a determination of the City's ability to serve the property with facilities and services.

The 1998 Legislature adopted Chap. 98-484, Laws of Florida, which provides for the annexation of certain enclaves in Pinellas County without referendum. These are limited to "Type A" enclaves of less than one acre within an exclusive planning area. There are financial incentives afforded to the property owner in this process. The law sunsets on June 30, 2001.

The PPC is continuing to review their role in this process and may propose a more comprehensive approach to annexation. A major concern is the enclave or isolated parcel of land that creates a problem with efficient delivery of services. The PPC will present a map of annexation areas. The involvement of the PPC may lengthen the time required for annexation however, they are contemplating the annexation of noncontiguous parcels located within these defined annexation areas. The annexation areas may be defined around the Planning Areas.

B. PLANNING AREA AND THE INTERLOCAL PLANNING AGREEMENT

On October 10, 1989 the City of Tarpon Springs and Pinellas County entered into an Interlocal Agreement pursuant to Chapter 163.3171, F.S. The Agreement provides for the creation of the Tarpon Springs Planning Area, generally described as follows: Bounded on the West by the Gulf of Mexico; on the North by Pasco County; on the East by the Centerlines of Lake Tarpon and Salt Lake; on the South by Klosterman Road and SPJC.

The County retains authority for comprehensive planning within the unincorporated portions of the described Planning Area. The City, in preparing and adopting its Comprehensive Plan, includes the Planning Area. The Agreement provides for the application of the

City's Plan upon annexation if there is no increase in density or intensity vis-à-vis the County's Plan, as determined by their LPA. The Agreement runs through September 30, 2010.

C. FIRE DISTRICT

The City of Tarpon Springs Fire District is one and the same with the local planning area. The Tarpon Springs Fire Department, through the Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement, provides service to other districts as needed. Through the Agreement the Authority directs the appropriate fire department to provide back up fire protection in cases where the primary responding units are occupied.

D. WATER AND SEWER SERVICE AREA

Both the water and sewer service areas of Tarpon Springs encompass the entire Local Planning Area, with the exception of two small areas excluded from the waterservice area. The excluded areas are: south of Tookes Road and east of U.S. 19 (Anderson Park), and the other is a triangle bounded by Pasco County on the north, Anclote Road on the west and by Meyers Cove Drive on the east side (historic Anclote Village). This service area also includes some unincorporated parts of the county. Coordination to provide these services is handled by the Public Works Department of the City (see Public Works Department section of this element).

Water Service Area

The City of Tarpon Springs has entered into an agreement dated December 1, 1992, with Pinellas County, to allow for the purchase of up to 4.0 MGD (million gallons per day) of potable water from Pinellas County. The agreement came up for renewal recently and is now in the process of being renegotiated to provide for an increase to 5.0 MGD.

Sewer Service Area

The City has also entered into an agreement dated August 8, 1978, with Pinellas County, for Sewer Service. The agreement provides for identification of the "treatment area" and the "retail sewer service area". The term "treatment area" means the boundary within which all raw sewage that is collected will be treated at a designated treatment plant. A treatment area of a governmental entity shall have no relationship to the areas for which that government provides retail sewer service. The term "retail sewer service area" means areas from which the City collects sewage on a lot-by-lot basis for transport to a sewage treatment plant, which may or may not be operated by the same governmental entity. Pinellas County agrees to give Tarpon Springs exclusive rights to provide the sewer service to the area and pays a fee to the City for the pumping of sewage from the unincorporated areas (of the "retail sewage service area") into the City's treatment plant.

E. POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The City of Tarpon Springs obtains annual population estimates from the University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), pursuant to a contractual agreement between the University and the State of Florida. These annual estimates represent the permanent population as of April 1s' of each year and are integral to the planning process for estimating the level of service for various facilities provided by the City to the citizens of Tarpon

Springs. The population projections developed for the 1997 E.A.R. and incorporated into this Comprehensive Plan utilize the Pinellas County Planning Department's double exponential model. The City and County projections within the Tarpon Springs Planning Area are consistent with one another. The City is also working closely with Pinellas County in the Census 2000 Workgroup which has reviewed municipal boundaries and address listings in cooperation with the Bureau of the Census.

F. SCHOOL SITING

Chapter 235, F.S. provides that public educational facilities are not required to obtain building permits from local governments. This section also requires school boards to coordinate site acquisition with the comprehensive plans of local governments and establishes a procedure for the board to follow. In 1996, the Florida Legislature amended Chapter 163.3177(6), Florida Statutes, requiring local governments to include sufficient land proximate to residential development to meet the projected need for public schools. In 1998, the Legislature further amended Chapter 163.3177(6) to require the co-location, to the extent possible, of public facilities such as parks and libraries with public schools. The City complied with the 1996 requirements via Ordinance 96-18, which provides for educational facilities in all residential categories. The 1998 requirements are met through the policies of the Recreation and Open Space and this Element. The City and Pinellas County School Board have historically cooperated in sharing recreational facilities, emergency shelter space, swapping land and otherwise working together to serve the residents.

The public school system in Pinellas County is based on a countywide district, encompassing all of the municipalities within the County and the unincorporated area.

In 2005, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 360, mandating that concurrency be established for public school facilities not granted an exemption. School concurrency requires that a community's adopted level of service standard for public schools is met, or a developer executes a legally binding commitment to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand created by the proposed development, before development orders are issued. The Florida Statutes require that local governments that have exceeded a certain minimum level of growth over the past five years, develop and adopt a Public School Facilities Element (PSFE), which forms the basis for implementing school concurrency and other subjects addressed in the updated Public Schools Interlocal Agreement that was entered into between the School Board, twelve municipalities, and Pinellas County.

In response to this mandate, Pinellas County, together with the School District and all municipalities served by the Pinellas County School District that are required to implement school concurrency, began the process of creating a PSFE. A School Planning Workgroup was formed in January 2006 to address this new requirement, and included staff from each affected local government, the School District, and the Pinellas Planning Council. The Pinellas Schools Collaborative was formed from the 1906 Committee that prepared the original Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, which was executed in April 2003. The Collaborative consists of elected officials from Pinellas County, twelve municipalities, and the School Board. Together, the Workgroup and the Collaborative developed the updated Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, agreeing to create one PSFE that each local government would be able to adopt. This use of a single PSFE would ensure that there was consistency throughout the local governments and that development could be tracked countywide, further ensuring that public school facilities would not be adversely affected by additional development and redevelopment. The Workgroup and the Collaborative met numerous times to develop the updated Interlocal Agreement, and later the Element itself.

G. VOLUNTARY DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESSES

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) is responsible for administering the Voluntary Dispute Resolution process when conflicts arise between municipalities or other entities. The TBRPC acts as mediator and conciliator, more specifically detailed in Chapter 164, F.S. and Rule 29H-13, F.A.C. This process is designed to resolve disputes between units of local government by mandating procedures and providing incentives to settle a dispute out of court.

H. COMPARISON WITH STRATEGIC POLICY PLAN

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Tampa Bay Region (SRPP) is an interlocal, long-range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of the Tampa Bay region through identified goals and policies (pursuant to Chapter 186, F.S. and Rule 27E-5, F.A.C).

The purpose of this section is to make a comparison of this Comprehensive Plan's Goals, Objectives and Policies with those of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, Future of the Region in order to evaluate the need for additional planning coordination. This element is the second EAR-based amendment to the Tarpon Springs Comprehensive Plan, adopted in October, 1989. The Recreation and Open Space Element was amended pursuant to Ord. 98-20 and published on 4/18/99; This section will be based largely on the summary and recommendations of the EAR which was adopted pursuant to Ord. 96-29 and found sufficient on 6/16/97.

Regional Goal 1

Affordable Housing: Affordable housing will be addressed in Housing and Future Land Use Elements. Use of Shimberg Center data will be incorporated.

Regional Goal 2

Economic Development: Economic Development will be addressed in Recreation and Open Space, Future Land Use and Historic Resources Elements. Promotion of tourism and public/private partnerships encouraged. Development of employment base factored in land use decision making.

Regional Goal 3

Emergency Preparedness: Implementation of Revised Evacuation Map, Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan, and Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy will be incorporated into the Future Land Use and Coastal Management Elements. Shared use of suitable public and private structures as emergency shelters will be explored.

Regional Goal 4

Natural Resources: The Coastal Management/Conservation and Future Land Use Elements will incorporate data from SWFWMD and FDEP and provide policies to protect water resources, groundwater, environmentally sensitive habitats and estuarine resources. The Transportation Element will incorporate policies to improve air quality.

Regional Goal 5

Transportation: The Future Land Use and Transportation Elements will incorporate policies which coordinate transportation and land use, and protect and enhance multi-modal transportation corridors.

Regional Goal 6

Education: The Future Land Use Element will provide land for elementary, middle and high schools proximate to residential development. The entire plan will articulate a vision of the partnership between schools and community in the life of the City.

Regional Goal 7

Human Resources: The Future Land Use and Housing Elements will continue to provide policies that permit the location of community residential facilities in the least restrictive environment.

Regional Goal 8

Public Safety: The Coastal Management Element addresses public safety during emergency situations, in particular hurricanes and other natural disasters.

IX. AREAS OF CRITICAL STATE CONCERN

The Environmental Land and Water Management Act of 1972 established "areas of critical state concern". Florida Statutes identify three types of such areas: The first is an area containing, or having a significant impact upon environmental or natural resources of regional or statewide importance... the uncontrolled private or public development of which would cause substantial deterioration of such resources. The second is an area containing, or having a significant impact upon, historical or archeological resources, sites, or having a significant impact upon, historical or archeological districts, the private or public development of which would cause substantial deterioration or complete loss of such resources, sites or districts. The third such area is an area having a significant impact upon, or being significantly impacted by, an existing or proposed major public facility or other area of major public investment including but not limited to, highways, ports, airports, energy facilities, and water management projects. There are no Areas of Critical State Concern existing or proposed within the City of Tarpon Springs, therefore this section is not applicable.

X. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL 1.0

IMPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATION TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANS AND RESOLVE INTERLOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE DISPUTES IN A FAIR AND EXPEDITIOUS MANNER.

COORDINATE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Objective 1.1 To coordinate the implementation of the Tarpon Springs Comprehensive Plan with the Countywide Plan, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, the plans of adjacent local governments, the school board, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Regional Water Supply Plan, Tampa Bay Water's Master Water Plan, Pinellas County's 10-Year Water Supply

Plan and special districts.

Policy 1.1.1 The City will ensure that this Comprehensive Plan and any future amendments hereto, are consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan of the TBRPC, *Tampa Bay: Future of the Region*, the SWFWMD Regional Water Supply Plan, Pinellas County's 10-Year Water Supply Plan and Tampa Bay Water's Master Water Plan.

Policy 1.1.2 Through coordination with the Pinellas Planning Council, the City shall maintain the consistency of its Comprehensive Plan designations and density/intensity standards with the Countywide Future Land Use Plan. The City shall continue its participation of elected official and administrative personnel in the Council and the Planning Advisory Council.

Policy 1.1.3 Utilize the annual map adjustment process of the Pinellas Planning Council to finalize the distribution of jurisdictional wetlands subsequent to the issuance of an Environmental Resources Management Permit.

Policy 1.1.4 Forward all proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments north of the Anclote River to Pasco County in advance of the adoption hearing. Consider the compatibility of future land uses and public facilities vis-à-vis the land use distribution of the Pasco County Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.1.5 Coordinate water resource planning with SWFWMD's Regional Water Supply Plan, Tampa Bay Water's Master Water Plan and Pinellas County's 10-Year Water Supply Plan in particular during the EAR-based amendments to the Potable Water, Coastal Management, and Drainage Elements of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.1.6 The City will continue to review changes to the St. Petersburg College Campus Master Plan to facilitate its implementation.

Policy 1.1.7 Coordinate transportation planning with FDOT's Florida Transportation Plan, in particular during EAR-based amendments to the Transportation Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.1.8 The city will ensure that this Comprehensive Plan and any future amendments hereto, are consistent with the State Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 187, F.S.

Policy 1.1.9 Forward all proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments to the Pinellas County Local Planning Agency in advance of the adoption hearing. Consider the extra-jurisdictional impact of local planning decisions in such areas as land use, transportation, coastal management, recreation and utilities.

Policy 1.1.10 Coordinate the City's future transportation network with the Pinellas County MPO's 2025_ Long Range Transportation Plan.

JOINT PLANNING AREA

Objective 1.2 Coordinate with Pinellas County regarding annexation and service delivery within the Tarpon Springs Planning Area

Policy 1.2.1 Extend the term of the City of Tarpon Springs Interlocal Planning Agreement between Pinellas County and the City of Tarpon Springs prior to its expiration on 9/30/00.

Policy 1.2.2 The City will coordinate with the Pinellas Planning Council during the annexation process in accordance with the Countywide Plan Rules as same may be amended from time to time.

Policy 1.2.3 City staff will coordinate on an ongoing basis with Pinellas County, TBW and SWFWMD for the purpose of determining needs for water, wastewater and recreation within the entire planning area.

Policy 1.2.4 All annexations shall be of consistent density or intensity with the Countywide Future Land Use Plan as of their effective date.

Policy 1.2.5 The City's Planning Area and Service Area boundaries shall be identified by interlocal agreement with Pinellas County and other appropriate governmental units.

Policy 1.2.6 Post-annexation development proposals that are higher in density or intensity than that identified in the County's Future Land Use Plan shall be coordinated within the Planning Area through the amendment process set forth in Chapter 163, F.S. in order to allow for comments, requests for information and resolution of issues.

ADDRESS IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT

Objective 1.3 Establish coordination mechanisms between the city and adjacent local governments, Pinellas County, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the state which address the impact of development.

Policy 1.3.1 The City shall coordinate and mitigate development and service impacts with Pasco and Pinellas County government through written notification prior to the adoption of development permits and formal consideration of comments received on the proposed development activity.

Policy 1.3.2 The City shall maintain its involvement with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council through membership of elected officials, participation of staff and attendance at meetings and workshops.

Policy 1.3.3 The City shall maintain, through advisory boards, public notice and the dissemination of information, an ongoing program to ensure citizen involvement.

LEVELS OF SERVICE

Objective 1.4 Establish coordinated level of service standards for public facilities with county, state and regional entities having jurisdiction.

Policy 1.4.1 Coordinate levels of service for the City with those of FDOT, as outlined in their Level of Service Manual, for roadways that are part of the Florida Intrastate Highway System.

Policy 1.4.2 Coordinate levels of service for City roadways with the most

recent version of the MPO Transportation Level of Service Report, produced annually by the Pinellas County MPO staff.

Policy 1.4.3 Maintain consistency between the Future Transportation Map of this plan and the Pinellas County Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Policy 1.4.4 Designate constrained facilities and LTCMS areas, as applicable, in coordination with FDOT and the MPO.

Policy 1.4.5 Implement storm water quality considerations into land use planning and development activities, per the NPDES Permit Conditions. This includes requiring proper storm water management and erosion & sediment controls during construction to reduce pollutants from areas of development and redevelopment.

Policy 1.4.6 All extensions of the water distribution and wastewater collection system shall require prior approval from the Pinellas County Public Health Unit and FDEP, respectively.

Policy 1.4.7 The City will coordinate with service providers that have no regulatory authority over the use of land in the city, to develop recommendations that address ways to improve coordination of the City's concurrency management methodologies & systems, and levels of service.

Policy 1.4.8 The City shall work with the Pinellas County Emergency Management Department, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the State of Florida in the coordination and furthering of local emergency management plans and dissemination of information.

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

Objective 1.5 Coordinate joint procedures and standards for collaborative planning on population projections, school siting and facilities subject to concurrency.

Policy 1.5.1 The City will maintain consistency with the Pinellas County Planning Department for the purpose of developing population projections that include expected growth in the Planning Area and Traffic Analysis Zones.

Policy 1.5.2 The City will work with the School Board to include the joint utilization of consistent and coordinated population projections.

Policy 1.5.3 The City will 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 will 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.

Policy 1.5.4 The City will utilize the countywide planning process as a means of notifying the School Board, which has one member on the PPC, and School Board staff, which has one member on the Planners

Advisory Committee, of proposed land use plan amendments.

Policy 1.5.5 The City will enter into an interlocal agreement with Pinellas County for joint projects identified in the City's stormwater management plan and the County's Stormwater Management Plan.

COORDINATED WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT

Objective 1.6 Provide for adequate dredge disposal sites and the coordinated management of water bodies and harbors falling under the jurisdiction of multiple governmental units.

Policy 1.6.1 Periodically review development regulations within the Anclote River Harbor to maintain reasonable consistency between the City and Pinellas County.

Policy 1.6.2 Coordinate with all appropriate agencies (federal, state, regional and local), jurisdictions, and the public during the designation of new dredge spoil disposal sites.

Policy 1.6.3 The City shall continue to be involved with the Lake Tarpon SWIM plan development and shall review development regulations and cost-effective capital improvements to implement its recommendations.

INVOLUNTARY DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Objective 1.7 Bring intergovernmental disputes to closure in a timely and cost-effective manner through the use of voluntary dispute resolution processes.

Policy 1.7.1 Prior to initiating litigation, the City shall explore the use of the Voluntary Dispute Resolution Process as administered by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to resolve disputes between units of local government.

Policy 1.7.2 The city will utilize the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's role as mediator and conciliator as outlined in Rule 29H-13, FAC, to reconcile differences on planning and growth management issues as outlined in the Rule.

PINELLAS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Objective 1.8 The City of Tarpon Springs shall continue to coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with plans of the School Board of Pinellas County and other local governments through participation in joint planning processes and procedures.

Policy 1.8.1 The City of Tarpon Springs shall implement the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement in coordination with the School District and the other local governments that are signatories to the Agreement (the partner local governments).

Policy 1.8.2 In fulfillment of Section 8 of the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, the City of Tarpon Springs shall continue its participation on the Pinellas Schools Collaborative, which shall meet at least once a year to evaluate implementation of the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement and school concurrency, and propose amendments for improvement if deemed necessary.

Policy 1.8.3 The City of Tarpon Springs, the School District, and the partner local governments shall coordinate annually in preparing a staff report on the effectiveness of school concurrency that will be presented at the annual meeting of the Pinellas Schools Collaborative, with the annual *School Capacity and Level of Service Report* forming the basis for the staff report.

Policy 1.8.4 The City of Tarpon Springs, the School District, and the partner local governments shall coordinate in amending the Public School Facilities Element according to the procedures in Section 10 of the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, to ensure that the Public School Facilities Element within the local government comprehensive plans remains coordinated and consistent with one another and with the plans of the School Board.

Policy 1.8.5 The City of Tarpon Springs, through the implementation of its concurrency management system and the Public Schools Interlocal Agreement, shall coordinate and share information with the School District and the Pinellas County Planning Department to determine whether there is available public school capacity to support the anticipated students from residential site plans and final residential subdivision approvals.

Policy 1.8.6 The City of Tarpon Springs, its partner local governments, and the School District shall cooperate in establishing a procedural manual for implementation of school concurrency. This manual and any subsequent changes to the manual will be developed by the School Planning Workgroup and approved by the Pinellas Schools Collaborative.

Policy 1.8.7 The City of Tarpon Springs shall coordinate with the School Board of Pinellas County to implement the public educational facilities siting requirements of Chapter 163 and Chapter 1013, F.S., as stipulated in the 2007 Public Schools Interlocal Agreement

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Objective 1.9 To coordinate transportation planning with the FDOT 5-Year Work Program, the Pinellas County MPO 5-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Pasco County Public Transportation Transit Development Plan (TDP) and the PSTA Transit Development Plan (TDP) to ensure that existing and proposed development intensity, housing and employment patterns are consistent with the transportation facilities which serve those areas.

Policy 1.9.1. The City shall review future versions of the FDOT and MPO short and long range transportation plans and the PCPT TDP and PSTA TDP in order to update this element as needed.

Policy 1.9.2 The City shall review the transportation plans of neighboring jurisdictions for consistency with this element.

Policy 1.9.3 The City shall coordinate with Pinellas County and FDOT to correct existing and future deficiencies on County and State roadways within local boundaries.

Policy 1.9.4 The City shall coordinate with the Pinellas County MPO and FDOT to ensure that the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Phase 3 improvements are fully funded for U.S. Alternate 19/S.R. 595 and Tarpon Avenue/S.R. 582.

Policy 1.9.5 The City shall coordinate with any planning efforts related to the Pinellas Mobility Initiative (PMI) or Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA), and assist with data sharing, provide review comments and coordinate its planning activities, as appropriate.

Policy 1.9.6 The City shall participate in MPO sponsored corridor studies to examine potential opportunities to encourage mass transit ridership and other alternative modes of transportation that reduce demand on the Strategic Intermodal System and other regionally significant roadways.

Policy 1.9.7 The City shall continue to coordinate roadway, transit and other transportation mode improvements through active participation on the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).

Policy 1.9.8 The Transportation Element shall be coordinated with the goals, objectives and policies of the Future Land Use Element to efficiently guide residential and non-residential development patterns.

Policy 1.9.9 The City shall encourage partnering opportunities with PCPT and PSTA to expand the installation of bus shelters in the City.

Policy 1.9.10 The City shall coordinate with Pinellas County and FDOT during the design phase of construction, reconstruction and resurfacing projects to ensure that bicycle and pedestrian-friendly provisions are included on County and State roads.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT (MMTD)

Objective 1.10 To establish acceptable level of service standards for transportation facilities within the corporate limits of the City of Tarpon Springs and ensure that adequate facilities are constructed to mitigate the impacts of development and re-development.

Policy 1.10.1 The adopted level of service (LOS) standard on all local roads, excluding congestion containment, constrained and long term concurrency management facilities, and roadways located within the MMTD, is LOS D peak hour.

Policy 1.10.2 The adopted level of service (LOS) standard on county and state roads, excluding congestion containment, constrained and long term concurrency management facilities, and roadways located within the MMTD is LOS C average daily/LOS D peak hour.

Policy 1.10.3 The existing Level of Service (LOS) standard for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities is based on the measured existing conditions in the MMTD and shall serve as a baseline to achieve future LOS targets. Adopted LOS standards are based on the maximum achievable LOS grade given implementation of multimodal improvements within the MMTD and pedestrian-oriented urban design

within the district. Establishing interim LOS standards reflects the long-term implementation of multimodal improvements and urban design standards.

The existing and adopted LOS standards in the MMTD are as follows:

	<u>BICYCLE LOS</u>	<u>PEDESTRIAN</u>	<u>TRANSIT LOS</u>
	<u>STANDARD</u>	<u>LOS STANDARD</u>	<u>STANDARD</u>
<u>Existing Condition</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Adopted (2007)</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Adopted (2015)</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>E</u>
<u>Adopted (2025)</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>D</u>

Policy 1.10.4 By December 31, 2009, the City shall evaluate the feasibility of transit circulator within the MMTD, identifying a funding source(s) and strategies, ridership projections, implementation priorities, operating hours and frequencies, and recommendations for route alignments, shelters, and transit stop amenities.

Policy 1.10.5 The City shall review all proposed development or redevelopment applications for consistency with this element and potential impacts upon the adopted level of service standards. Development approvals and permits shall only be issued when it is documented that such development is consistent with the LOS standards and will not degrade the LOS standard for the affected facilities or the City approves a Transportation Management Plan to offset the facility impact.

Policy 1.10.6 The adopted LOS standard for public transit outside of the MMTD is to ensure transit access to all major traffic generators and attractors with at least a 30-minute headway in the peak hour and no greater than a 60-minute headway in the off-peak hour.

Policy 1.10.7 The City shall minimize the impacts of development on constrained and backlogged corridors by placing an emphasis on increasing mobility through strategies that do not involve road expansion. Examples of these strategies include small-scale physical operational improvements, demand management strategies (e.g., ridesharing and vanpooling), the encouragement of alternative modes of travel (e.g., bicycle, transit) and others that are identified in the Comprehensive Zoning and Land Development Code.

Policy 1.10.8 The City shall apply the Proportionate Fair-Share Program to mitigate the impacts of development despite a lack of adequate capacity on the impacted transportation facility. The applicant must contribute their fair-share towards the construction of facilities, including pedestrian, bicycle, transit facilities.

Policy 1.10.9 Within the MMTD, the City shall also apply the Proportionate Fair Share Program to fund operating and capital costs associated with improving transit service and the bicycle and pedestrian environment to meet the target level of service standards defined in Policy 1.4.4. The City shall determine a developer's fair share based on the proportion of net external trips generated by the proposed

development relative to the total number of trips generated at build-out by redevelopment within the MMTD. The city shall reevaluate its estimated costs and build-out projections as part of the biannual monitoring report.