

EVALUATING SPECIAL TOPICS

Coordination of Land Use Planning and School Planning [163.3191(2)(k)]

The adoption of the Public Schools Facility Element formally linked the City, the County and the School Board in a structured environment for the planning of school capacity based on changes to Future Land Use and other major development activities. The three (3) entities actively engage through monthly meetings in coordinating proposed Future Land Use changes with school planning. These meetings serve as a focused forum for tracking capacity and development trends in concert to anticipate potential issues and opportunities ensuring that the result of development is stronger communities.

This EAR is to include the coordination of the comprehensive plan with existing public schools and those identified in the applicable educational facilities plan adopted pursuant to s. 1013.35. Pursuant to 163.3191(2)(k) F.S., the assessment must address, where relevant, the success or failure of the coordination of the future land use map and associated planned residential development with public schools and their capacities, as well as the joint decision-making processes engaged in by the local government and the school board in regard to establishing appropriate population projections and the planning and siting of public school facilities. However, the timeframe associated with adopted element and the implementation of school concurrency in 2009 is very short and no major residential development was proposed within the City during this period. At this time the City continues to participate in regularly scheduled meetings with the County and the School Board regarding implementation of concurrency.

Exemption From School Concurrency [163.3191(2)(k) and 163.31777(7)]

In accordance with Chapter 163.3191(2)(k), the City of Punta Gorda adopted a Public School Facilities Element and the City of Punta Gorda is not exempt from school concurrency as identified Chapter 163.3177(12). Therefore, no assessment of such exemption, as required by Chapter 163.31777(7), is necessary.

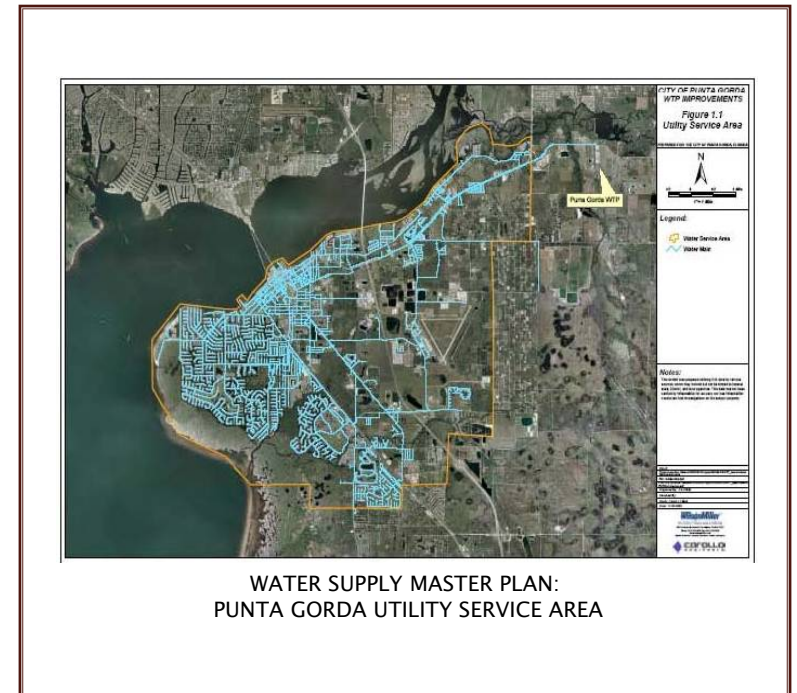
Implementation of the 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan [163.3191(2)(I)]

Recognizing the importance of an adequate water supply to Florida's future, the Legislature has established a process for water supply planning through Florida's Growth Management Act (Chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes) and the Water Protection and Sustainability Program (Chapter 373, Florida Statutes). Under this system, the state's five water management districts must periodically evaluate whether adequate water supplies exist to meet the needs of their areas. The Southwest Florida Water Management District will be completing their regional water supply plans for their basin, which includes the City, which will identify how water supply needs may be met for the next 20 years.

The City's 10-year Water Supply Plan, updated in 2009, ensures that adequate water supplies are available to meet future demands through 2027. The City continues to put conservation programs and initiatives into practice and will update the 2009 Plan within 18 months of the completion of the SWFWMD Regional Plan. Any changes in alternative water supplies, water reuse and conservation programs will be incorporated into the City's comprehensive plan.

The City Utilities Department provides water and wastewater services to approximately 35,800 and 26,000 residents, respectively, within the City's utility service area. The City initiates planning studies to assist in developing the most reliable, cost-effective strategy for supplying potable water and sewer service to its customers. Since its conception in 1965, the City's water utility has taken a proactive approach to water supply planning, design, and construction.

The City considers conservation a beneficial method to reduce total water demand. Although the City currently meets the water demand goal of the



Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA), additional conservation measures could further decrease potable demand. Previous conservation efforts by the City have decreased from 145 gallons per capita per day (gcpd) in 1990 to 129, and 113 gpcd in 2007 and 2009, respectively. These values do not include treatment losses or losses accrued in the Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR) system, in which water is treated, injected into the aquifer and not fully recovered.

State legislation mandates local governments ensure that public utilities are available at the time of new development. The City's concurrency management system, outlined in Chapter 26 of the City Code of Ordinances, ensures that the impact of new development will not reduce the City's utility services below the established levels of service. The Potable Water & Sanitary Sewer Section contains a 10-year plan, which addresses future capital improvements necessary to meet the established level of service (LOS) standards.

Senate Bills 360 and 444 and most recently House Bill 7203 contained significant modifications with regard to water supply. This legislation further strengthened the statutory linkage between the regional water supply plans prepared by the water management districts and the local government's comprehensive plans. Under the new legislation, local governments subject to a regional water supply plan must identify alternative water supply projects necessary to meet existing and future development needs.

As a result of these legislative changes, five water supply rules have been adopted within the past three years that affect local government comprehensive planning programs. These requirements relate to water supply concurrency, ensuring intergovernmental coordination with regional water supply authorities and that the local government's future land use plan (Future Land Use Element and Future Land Use Map) is based upon the availability of adequate water supplies, and inclusion of selected alternative water supply projects in the local comprehensive plan. Comprehensive plan evaluation and appraisal reports (EARs) are required to include a review of progress made in implementing the alternative water supply projects selected by the local government.

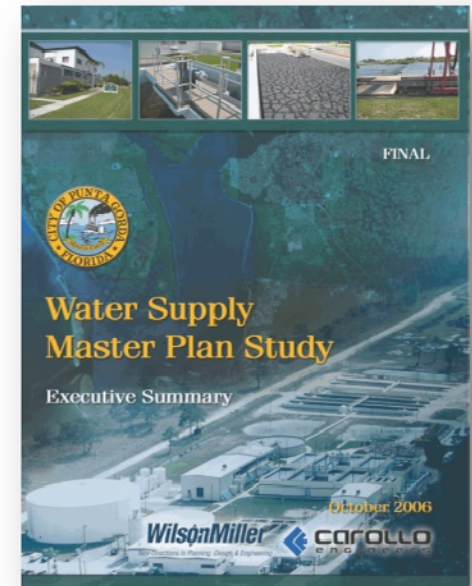
The City works with the jurisdictional agencies to provide the adopted level of service standards to its customers. Levels of service (LOS) standards are used to determine capacity needs necessary to meet existing and future development. The City's most recent Comprehensive Plan update evaluated historical data to determine average per capita factors needed to update the City's LOS value. One of the City's policies as a result of that Comprehensive Plan update was to modify the City's LOS standard ordinance from which to base future development decisions. The updated LOS values were adopted into the City's Code of Ordinances, and the City is planning for facility expansions to meet projected future build-out conditions.

The City also initiates planning studies to assist in developing water system master planning based on the most reliable, cost-effective strategy for supplying potable water to its customers. The City's most recent efforts for water supply planning are described below.

Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) and Update (WSMPU)

In October 2006, the City completed a Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP), which addressed the potable water needs of the City through the year 2050. The WSMP met the following objectives:

- Compiled water demand projections through 2050.
- Investigated and defined a proactive strategy for influencing the development of minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for Shell Creek.
- Identified evaluation criteria for preliminary assessment of potential water supply projects and screened potential projects according to those criteria.
- Investigated the feasibility, advantages, and disadvantages of the most promising water supply projects based on sustainability, capital and lifecycle costs, and potential capacity.
- Provided planning scenarios for the City to meet projected future water demands through 2050, while considering both self-sufficient supply and regional issues.
- Prepared and submitted the City's water use permit renewal application.



The City completed an update to this Plan in 2009. The WSMP Update (WSMPU) addresses changes in regional water supply issues, grant funding opportunities, and proposed minimum flow level regulations. Because circumstances surrounding water supply are continually changing, the City will continue to update the WSMPU in the future to maintain the most cost effective and reliable approach for the City's water supply.

Reuse Feasibility Study

The City completed a Reuse Feasibility Study in 2008 to investigate the feasibility of implementing a reuse system to deliver reclaimed water for beneficial reuse as landscape irrigation. Due to the City's coastal location most private irrigation wells are prohibited, therefore most irrigation systems use a potable water source. A reuse water system would help to optimize the management of water resources by offsetting a portion of potable water demand, thereby increasing the sustainability of the current potable water system.

Water System Master Plan

The City also completed a Water System Master Plan and hydraulic water distribution system model in 2008. The project's primary goal was to provide hydraulic modeling analyses to determine pipeline infrastructure requirements for areas without water service and to serve new development. The Water System Master Plan also documented conditions to improve system efficiency and eliminate hydraulic bottle necks.

The City's overall master planning efforts for both water supply and water distribution will allow the City to coordinate, plan and meet the needs of future development in a cost effective and sustainable manner.

Coastal High-Hazard Areas [163.3191(2)(m)]

Chapter 163.3191(2)(m) requires if any of the jurisdiction of a local government is located within the coastal high-hazard area, an evaluation of whether any past reduction in land use density impairs the property rights of current residents when

redevelopment occurs, including, but not limited to, redevelopment following a natural disaster. As there has been no reduction in land use density within the City during this planning timeframe, the property rights of property owners have not been impaired by any governmental action.

Land Use Compatibility Near Military Installations [163.3191(2)(n)]

As required by 163.3191(2)(n) F.S., the following statement summarizes the City of Punta Gorda's assessment of military installation compatibility with adjacent land uses. According to the DCA website listing of military installations, there are no military bases located in the City of Punta Gorda or in Unincorporated Charlotte County. Therefore, this section is not applicable in our community.

Evaluation of Concurrency Exception Areas [163.3191(2)(o)]

The City acknowledges the statutory requirements to analyze the effectiveness of alternative concurrency areas. Currently, the City does not have any defined Concurrency Exception Areas, Concurrency Management Areas, Multi-Modal Transportation Districts, or Transportation Concurrency Exception Areas (TCEA). However, the City has previously addressed these designations in the last revision to the comprehensive plan. The City is actively exploring the steps necessary to establish a TCEA. Establishment of such an area fits within the City's desire for continued infill and redevelopment, as traditional concurrency trends to incentivize Greenfield development and suburban sprawl. The future development of a mobility plan will be necessary to appropriately direct funding for transportation improvements under a TCEA.

Evaluation of Long-Term Concurrency Management Systems [163.3180(9)(d)]

The City of Punta Gorda does not currently have a long term concurrency management system. There are no transportation system deficiencies noted in the current management program for the City. Within deficiencies or backlogs of deficiencies there is no projected need for a long term concurrency management system.

Evaluation of Roadway Impact Methodology [163.3191(2)(p)]

Currently, the City of Punta Gorda coordinates with Charlotte County mainly through the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The City also meets with the County to discuss transportation and concurrency related issues. The topic of land use decision making is frequently integrated into discussions at these meetings. Further coordination may be required based on the analysis for a TCEA which may recommend the extents of a TCEA which encompasses some unincorporated areas of Charlotte County. If the analysis illustrates a need for a multi-jurisdictional TCEA then the City and Charlotte County will need to work closely together during the drafting of a Mobility Plan and the establishment of a TCEA. Intergovernmental Coordination efforts between all agencies should continue

Evaluation of Urban Infill and Redevelopment Areas [163.2517(6)]

The City of Punta Gorda does not have an established Urban Infill and Redevelopment Area under the statute and therefore, will not need to address this section.

Comprehensive Planning Certification Program [163.3246(12)]

At this time the City has not opted to participate in the Comprehensive Certification Program as outlined in the statute.