Intergovernmental Coordination Element
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

GOAL 1: To proactively coordinate planning and development plans and activities with local, state, and regional governmental units, districts, boards, and agencies, when relevant. The County shall coordinate the adopted comprehensive plan with the plans of adjacent municipalities, and adjacent counties.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: COORDINATION OF PLAN INTERACTION

Hendry County will coordinate the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan amendments as it relates to Hendry County with other governmental entities and will direct all points of interaction between and among these entities.

Policy 1.1.1: Hendry County will continue to be an active participant and observer in the feasibility study being conducted by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in the Restudy of the Caloosahatchee River to ensure that Hendry County's water use/reuse supply remains adequate for its future population.

Policy 1.1.2: In order to keep other governmental entities informed, copies of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will be sent to adjacent governmental and jurisdictional entities and other appropriate agencies for their review and comments during the adoption process.

Policy 1.1.3: Hendry County will continue to coordinate with Lee County on the Hendry-Lee County sanitary landfill.

Policy 1.1.4: Hendry County will furnish copies of proposed rezoning of major developments or improvements proposed adjacent to the boundary of the Cities of Clewiston and LaBelle, and adjacent counties.

Policy 1.1.5: Hendry County will coordinate public service delivery with the Cities of LaBelle and Clewiston.

1. Annexation/de-annexation request will include:

   a. Identifying the municipal service area;

   b. Identifying an unincorporated service area;

   c. Identifying the local government responsible for delivery and funding of the following services within the municipal service area and the unincorporated service area:

      i. Public safety

      ii. Fire, and emergency medical;
iii. Water and wastewater utilities;

iv. Road ownership, construction and maintenance;

v. Conservation, parks, and recreation; and

vi. Storm water management and drainage.

d. Addressing the provision of any services and infrastructure not currently provided by an electrical utility or natural gas transmission company;

e. Establishing a process and schedule for annexation of areas within the designated municipal service area consistent with State law;

f. Establishing a process for land use decisions consistent with the requirements of state law including, but not limited to establishing procedures for preparing and adopting comprehensive plan amendments; administering land development regulations and issuing development authorizations; and providing that the County Comprehensive Plan shall control until and unless the City annexes the property and amends it Comprehensive Plan accordingly;

g. Addressing any other issues associated with service delivery including, but not limited to the transfer of services, infrastructure and fiscal compensation between the County and City;

h. Addressing the joint use of facilities and the co-location of services; and

i. Providing for a report to the County of the City’s planned service delivery as provided by statute or the Interlocal Agreement.

2. Within 30 days after annexation or subtraction of territory, the County will apply for any modifications to permits from the South Florida Water Management District or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection which are necessary to reflect changes to the entity that is responsible for managing such permits.

**Policy 1.1.6:** Coordinate with the South Florida Water Management District concerning wetland mapping, permitting in wetland areas, protection of groundwater aquifer recharge areas and; cones of influence, the locations of well-fields for public portable water supplies, water use/reuse, and the water quality of the Caloosahatchee River and Lake Okeechobee.

**Policy 1.1.7:** Hendry County shall request that the School Board submit for review information on renovations, additions, and proposed expansions to property

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owned by the School Board to ensure the availability of public facilities and
land use consistency, as the proposal relates to future planned
improvements.

Policy 1.1.8: Hendry County shall include a representative of the Hendry County School
Board as a voting member of the Local Planning Agency, in an effort to
advise the School Board of all Plan amendments, rezoning, and proposed
developments that may affect the location of new schools and proposed
improvements.

Policy 1.1.9: During pre-development program planning and site selection activities, the
County, as service provider, will coordinate with the Hendry County Public
School system to consider all reasonable opportunities to collocate new
libraries, parks, and other facilities with public schools, where compatible,
and to determine whether the potential exists to created logical focal points
for community activity. Early review and coordination activities will be
modified as necessary to timely consider these potentials.

Policy 1.1.10: The County will maintain, as particular area of attention in its planning
program, a systematic review of the aesthetics, physical conditions, financial
feasibility, and use of technology between unincorporated areas and
adjacent counties and cities in an effort to improve the appearance of these
areas and the compatibility and transition between the adjoining
communities. Joint planning area agreements will be implemented as
appropriate.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: RESOLUTION OF ISSUES

The County shall use negotiations to help resolve any conflicts that may arise in
intergovernmental coordination.

Policy 1.2.1: Hendry resolution process when necessary to mediate the resolution of
conflicts with other local governments and regional agencies. The county
may use alternative procedures whenever appropriate form the matter of
imminent dispute, including agreements authorized by State law, or other
non-litigation approaches. County shall use the Southwest Florida Regional
Planning Council’s dispute

OBJECTIVE 1.3:

The County will use intergovernmental partnerships with municipal and other local jurisdictions
in addition to coordinating with agencies and organizations such as Enterprise Florida, Florida
Department of Transportation, Florida Freshwater Frontier (FFF), Florida Department of
Economic Opportunity (FDEO), Hendry County Tourist Development Council (HCTDC),
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) and Workforce Florida, Inc. in order
Policy 1.3.1: When it is advantageous, the County will join other governmental entities, in securing grant assistance for economic development.

OBJECTIVE 1.4: INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS/COORDINATION

To further the planning process and discourage intergovernmental conflicts, the County has established interlocal agreements and/or coordination policies between the School Board, municipalities, and adjacent jurisdictions.

Policy 1.4.1: Interlocal Agreements and/or coordination policies with the School Board and the cities of LaBelle and Clewiston, as well as adjacent counties or special districts, as applicable, shall be established by the County to ensure joint collaboration and coordination for the planning of high quality public school facilities that meet the needs of the County’s and cities’ existing and future population.

Policy 1.4.2: The Interlocal Agreement and/or coordination policies shall include the provisions that are designed to advise the School Board, adjacent counties, special taxing districts and municipalities of proposed developments that could impact their jurisdiction.

Policy 1.4.3: Through informal meetings, Hendry County shall notify adjacent local governments of land use changes that may have a regional impact. Furthermore, the County shall request the assistance of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council to disseminate proposed land use changes that will affect more than one local government.

Policy 1.4.4: The County, although not currently impacted, shall coordinate with the State of Florida University System or the Hendry County School Board regarding campus master plans.

OBJECTIVE 1.5:

The County, the cities, and the School Board shall strive to maintain and enhance joint planning processes and procedures for coordination of public education facilities for planning and decision-making.

Policy 1.5.1: On an ongoing basis, the County and cities shall establish new and review existing coordination mechanisms that will evaluate and address comprehensive plans and programs and their effects on the comprehensive plans developed for the adjacent local governments, School Board, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over use of land and the State, by an annual county-wide forum, joint meetings or other types of forums with other agencies. Assistance for
Policy 1.5.2: On an annual basis, after the update of the Five-Year Work Program, the School Board shall provide information from their five-year Capital Facilities Plan to determine the need for additional school facilities. The School Board shall provide to the County and the cities, each year, a general education facilities report. The educational facilities report shall contain information detailing existing facilities and their locations and projected needs. The report shall also contain the School Board’s Capital Improvement Plan, including planned facilities with funding representing the district’s unmet needs.

Policy 1.5.3: In order to coordinate the effective and efficient provision and siting of public educational facilities with associated infrastructure and services within Hendry County, the Board of County Commissioners, the City of LaBelle, the City of Clewiston and the School Board shall meet jointly to develop mechanisms for coordination as provided in the Interlocal Agreement. Such efforts may include:

1. Coordinated submittal and review of the annual capital improvements program of the County, the annual capital improvements program of each City, and the School Board’s Annual Five-Year Work Program update, any annual educational facilities report, and the Five-Year School Plant Survey when updated or modified;

2. Coordinated review and assessment of the associated costs and expenditures of siting and developing schools with needed public infrastructure;

3. Coordinated review of residential planned developments or mixed-use planned developments involving residential developments;

4. Use of a unified data base including population (forecasts of student population), land use and facilities;

5. Use of the planning staff from the County, the cities and the School Board, to review coordinated siting of schools with parks for multifunctional use. Directives resulting from the joint meeting shall be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Regulations, and other appropriate mechanisms as deemed necessary.

Policy 1.5.4: The County shall include a representative of the school district, appointed by the School Board, as a voting member of the local planning agency, as required by Section 163.3174, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.5.5: The County shall coordinate with the School Board regarding annual review of school enrollment projections, and procedures for annual update and
Policy 1.5.6: Hendry County will continue to coordinate with the School Board to assure that proposed public school facility sites are consistent with the land use categories and policies of the County Comprehensive Plan, pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement.

Policy 1.5.7: Hendry County shall allow schools in the Agriculture, Public, Low Density Residential, Medium Density Residential, High Density Residential, and Special Density land use categories, consistent with the following criteria.

1. Schools shall be located in a coordinated manner ensuring that the planning, construction, and opening of educational facilities are coordinated in timing and location, concurrent with both need and necessary services and infrastructure, and to ensure compatibility with the Comprehensive Plan.
2. The proposed location is compatible with present and projected uses of adjacent property.
3. The proposed location is well drained and soils are suitable for development or are adaptable for development and outdoor educational purposes with drainage improvements.
4. The proposed location is not within a velocity flood zone or floodway.
5. Proposed school sites should be located away from industrial uses, railroads, airports, and similar land uses to avoid noise, odor, dust, and traffic impacts and hazards.
6. Disrupting influences caused by school yard noises and traffic shall be buffered to ensure sufficient distances from hospitals, adult communities, and nursing homes.
7. In the planning, siting, land acquisition and development of the facility, evaluation shall include consideration of the student population density of the area and public safety.
8. There are no significant environmental constraints that would preclude development of a public educational facility on the site.
9. Hendry County shall advise the School Board of all Plan amendments that may affect the location of new schools and proposed improvements.

Policy 1.5.8: The County will coordinate with the Heartland Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Long Range Transportation Plans to ensure funding for safe access to schools including: development of sidewalk inventories and list of priority projects coordinated with the School Board.

Policy 1.5.9: The County, cities, as applicable, and School Board will jointly determine the need for and timing of on-site and off-site improvements including...
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Policy 1.5.10: The County, cities, and School Board will work to find opportunities to collaborate on transit and bus routes to better serve citizens and students.

Policy 1.5.11: The County will coordinate with the School Board to continue to permit the shared-use and co-location of school sites with County and or city facilities with similar facility needs, according to the Interlocal Agreement, as it may be amended. The County will coordinate in the location, phasing, and design of future school sites to enhance the potential of schools as recreation areas.

Policy 1.5.12: The County will continue to work with the School Board to coordinate efforts to build new school facilities, and facility rehabilitation and expansions, to be designed to serve as and provide emergency shelters as required by Section 163.3177, Florida Statutes. The County will coordinate with the School Board to fulfill the requirements of Section 1013.372, Florida Statutes, such that as appropriate new educational facilities will serve as public shelters for emergency management purposes and shall coordinate with the School Board regarding emergency preparedness issues and plans.

Policy 1.5.13: The County will coordinate anticipated students growth based on future land use map projections of housing units with the School Board’s long range facilities needs over the 5-year, 10-year and 20-year periods.

Policy 1.5.14: The County and the School Board will coordinate during updates or amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and updates or amendments to long-range plans for School Board facilities.