

## **CHAPTER 10**

### **ST. LUCIE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

#### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT**

Prepared by:

St. Lucie County  
Board of County Commissioners

St. Lucie County  
Department of Growth Management

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**ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT**

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**ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element, as identified by Chapter 163, F.S. and Fla. Admin. Code Rule 9J-5.015, is to "identify and resolve incompatible goals, objectives, and policies, and development proposed in comprehensive plans and to determine and respond to the needs for coordination processes and procedures with adjacent local, regional, and state agencies." St. Lucie County believes that a well-developed communication network among all applicable public and quasi-public entities will enhance the long-range growth and prosperity of the County.

St. Lucie County is governed by an elected Board of five Commissioners with an appointed County Administrator. There are three (3) independent municipalities within the County: Ft. Pierce, Port St. Lucie, and St. Lucie Village. Each of these municipalities has a strong council form of government. The cities of Ft. Pierce and Port St. Lucie include an elected mayoral position in the composition of their council. St. Lucie Village appoints a mayoral position from the elected councilmen (aldermen). The cities of Ft. Pierce and Port St. Lucie each have an appointed City Manager.

Ft. Pierce, the County seat, had a 1990 Census population of 36,830, Port St. Lucie, 55,866, St. Lucie Village, 584 with the remainder of the County at 56,855 for a total County Population of 150,171. Between April 1, 1990 and April 1, 1999, the estimated population of the unincorporated areas of the County increased to 64,640 (Source Bureau of Economic and Business Research) which was an increase of 13.5%. However, the population for the County as a whole increased 24.5% over the 1990 figures during this same period. The primary influence on that growth rate was the City of Port St. Lucie, increasing by over 49% of its 1990 population to a total of 83,254 (April 1, 1999). Ft. Pierce indicated a 4.3% increase to 38,401 and St. Lucie Village a 4.5% decrease, to 610. This rate of rapid growth makes it essential that close cooperation be maintained among the incorporated municipalities and the unincorporated County, as well as with surrounding governments.

**INVENTORY**

There are numerous independent governmental agencies which affect the quality of life in St. Lucie County. Table 10-1 provides an identification of all the public and quasi-public entities with which either the County does, or needs to coordinate. Table 10-1 also indicates a relationship of the various components of the Comprehensive Plan with each appropriate agency.

<b>TABLE 10-1 Existing and Proposed Coordination Links</b>								
<b>Coordinating Entity</b>	<b>Future Land Use</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>Coastal</b>	<b>Conservation</b>	<b>Recreation Open Space</b>	<b>Capital Improvements</b>	<b>Transportation</b>
Ft Pierce	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

**TABLE 10-1  
Existing and Proposed Coordination Links**

Coordinating Entity	Future Land Use	Housing	Infrastructure	Coastal	Conservation	Recreation Open Space	Capital Improvements	Transportation
Port St. Lucie	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
St. Lucie Village	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Indian River	X		X	X	X	X		X
Martin	X		X		X	X		
Okeechobee	X		X	X	X	X		X
TCRPC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SFWMD	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Treasure Coast COG	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SLC School District	X	X	X	X		X		X
SLC Fire District	X		X				X	X
Mosquito Control				X	X		X	
Housing Finance		X						
MPO	X						X	X
FPFWCD	X		X		X			
NSLRWCD	X		X		X			
FDOT	X				X		X	X
DEP	X		X	X	X	X		
DCA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

**TABLE 10-1  
Existing and Proposed Coordination Links**

Coordinating Entity	Future Land Use	Housing	Infrastructure	Coastal	Conservation	Recreation Open Space	Capital Improvements	Transportation
HRS	X	X	X		X			
FF&W				X	X			
BEBR	X		X		X		X	
Historical Resources			X		X			
Forestry	X			X	X	X		
AG & Consumer Services								
EPA	X				X			
ACOE			X		X			
FAA								
FHWA	X							X
UMTA	X							
FPUA	X		X					
PSL	X		X					
FPL	X		X					
Bell South	X		X					
Conservation Alliance				X	X			
Marine Resource				X	X			
Study Group	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

TABLE 10-1 Existing and Proposed Coordination Links								
Coordinating Entity	Future Land Use	Housing	Infrastructure	Coastal	Conservation	Recreation Open Space	Capital Improvements	Transportation
Media	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The following paragraphs provide a brief description of the various agencies, authorities, boards and organizations that St. Lucie County must coordinate with on a frequent or daily basis.

**C. ST. LUCIE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The St. Lucie County School District is an autonomous board established under Chapter 230, Florida Statutes. The district school system is controlled by an elected five (5) member School Board supported by an appointed superintendent. Each School Board member represents the specific district in which they live; however, they are elected through the at-large voting practice.

Traditionally, the School Board and its staff, and the elected county officials and their staff, along with those of the various municipalities, have worked closely in facility and project planning. Examples of these coordinated efforts include the implementation of voluntary school impact assessment for new residential developments in the early 1980's, the location of new school sites in the most rapidly growing areas of the community and the development of a County-wide mandatory School Impact Fee Ordinance (1988).

**B. SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

In 1949, the Florida Legislature created the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District, whose charge, among other activities, was to regulate the problem of seasonal flooding from a regional perspective. In 1976, the Florida Legislature consolidated the various drainage and flood control districts throughout the State into five. St. Lucie County, then a member of the Central and Southern, became a part of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). In addition to the traditional charges given to the District, the District has been given joint responsibility (with the Department of Environmental Protection) for water quality programs affecting all aspects of community development.

Primary coordinating efforts with St. Lucie County are in regard to stormwater management and water quality issues. It is expected that, within the planning period of this Comprehensive Plan, the subject areas of wellfield protection, aquifer recharge and water withdrawals/reserve quantities will become equally as important. The South Florida Water Management District, through the "Save Our Rivers" program, has also been an important funding partner for the County. Through this program, the SFWMD has participated with the county to preserve environmentally sensitive lands in the Savannahs, along the North Fork of the St. Lucie River, and in the western portion of the County.

**C. ST. LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**

The St. Lucie County Fire District was established by special act of the Florida Legislature in 1959. This district provides full-time fire and emergency medical services for

all of St. Lucie County. The Fire District currently operates 15 stations located throughout the County.

The Fire District is governed by a seven (7) member Board, comprised of two members from the Board of County Commissioners, the Ft. Pierce City Commission, and the Port St. Lucie City Council. Since the Fire District is a special taxing district, empowered to levy taxes, there is also one (1) at-large member who is appointed to the Fire Board by the Governor.

In addition to the required coordination for taxing purposes, the Fire Marshal's Office provides fire protection and building inspection related services to the County and municipalities.

**D. ST. LUCIE COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT**

The St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District is an autonomous agency created by the Florida Legislature in 1927. The District is controlled by the Board of County Commissioners acting as the Mosquito Control Board. The District serves the area from the Atlantic Ocean to approximately 10 miles west of the coast.

The function of the St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District is to manage the mosquito population in St. Lucie County. To fulfill this function, the District is funded by a special taxing district and funds from the State.

**E. TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) was created in October, 1976, through an interlocal agreement pursuant to Chapter 186, Florida Statutes. The Council's principal goal is to ensure that future growth within the Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Palm Beach County Region occurs in a manner consistent with state and regional planning objectives and that a high quality of life will be achieved for all the regional citizens. Toward accomplishing this goal, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council maintains a forum for identifying, as well as promoting, public understanding of local and regional issues and problems. To promote the implementation of plans and programs which address regional issues and problems, the Council acts as a regional information clearinghouse and intergovernmental data source, conducts research for the purpose of developing and maintaining regional goals, objectives, and policies, and assists in the implementation of a number of local, state, and federal programs.

**F. ST. LUCIE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

In 1983, a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Interlocal Agreement was executed between St. Lucie County, the cities of Ft. Pierce and Port St. Lucie, and the Florida Department of Transportation. The authority and responsibility of the MPO is for the management of a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process and the programming of transportation improvements for the St. Lucie County urbanized area.

The MPO is composed of ten voting members: four St. Lucie County Commissioners; three Port St. Lucie City Councilmen; two Ft. Pierce City Commissioners and a representative of the Community Transit Agency.

**G. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES**

In addition to the governmental agencies described above, there are City, County, State, and Federal agencies with which the County coordinates and cooperates on matters of mutual interest and concern. Table 10-1 contains listings of the various local, regional, state, and federal agencies interacting with St. Lucie County.

## **HURRICANE EVACUATION**

The Jensen Beach Bridge in Martin County has been an essential part of the traffic circulation system for the southern portion of St. Lucie County's south island. As noted in the BIAS (Bridge Impact Assessment Statement) (Kimley-Horn, 1986), development in this portion of the south island will not be allowed beyond the commencement level without either the construction of the Walton Road Bridge or improvements to structures in Martin County. However, since most of the undeveloped land in this portion of the island can be developed at the commencement level, as defined in Section 3.01.03 AA Hutchinson Island Residential District, and, in fact, is mostly developed to date, greater dependence on the Martin County structures is not anticipated. For a more detailed discussion of Hurricane Evacuation, see the Coastal Management Element.

### **Evacuation Times**

If the northbound Florida Turnpike traffic uses 3 of the 4 lanes out of Southeast Florida and the Treasure Coast Region instead of the normal 2 of 4 lanes, the high evacuation time of 22.5 hours can be reduced to 16.25 hours.

### **Evacuation Network and Critical Links**

Of the 10 critical links identified in the Coastal Management Element, 5 are identified in the County's approved 5-year Traffic Improvement Plan (TIP) or have been improved.

For 2020, all of the critical links have been identified in the needs analysis of the Transportation Element.

## **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

The three adjoining counties have predominantly agriculture uses adjacent to St. Lucie County's agriculture borders, although Okeechobee County has placed a large land fill adjacent to St. Lucie County, and, to the best of our knowledge, they are not proposing any changes along these borders. Land uses along the non-agricultural portions of the common borders are generally consistent with County land uses and do not require amendments to the Future land Use Element or other elements of this plan.

The City of Ft. Pierce is not proposing any changes to their land use and currently their boundaries are adjacent to the more urbanized areas of the unincorporated County. Fort Pierce has a rather aggressive annexation policy.

The City of Port St. Lucie is not proposing any changes in their land use. They have commercial and residential uses adjacent to St. Lucie County's boundaries. These uses are consistent with uses adjacent and within the County.

St. Lucie Village is, for the most part, a residential community, and they are not proposing any changes. Land uses within the Village are consistent with those in the unincorporated County along their borders. While the expansion of the services and/or facilities at the St. Lucie County International Airport, if it should occur, could affect the Village, the County's adopted Business Plan for the Airport has significantly scaled back the proposed expansion.

The St. Lucie County Comprehensive Plan has been written in such a manner that it is compatible with the Treasure Coast Regional Policy Plan. No specific needs for additional coordination with the Council have been identified due to the direction provided for growth and development in the Future Land Use Element or other elements of this Plan.

## **ANALYSIS**

In addition to the matrix representations provided in Table 10-1, an analysis of these local and regional coordinating entities is provided in Appendix A of this element. This analysis examines St. Lucie County's relationship with those entities with which it currently coordinates. The analysis also looks at on which issues or problems the two entities most often coordinate, the method of coordination, the effectiveness of this coordination, and any perceived deficiencies in this system of coordination.

## **COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL POLICY PLAN**

The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's Regional Comprehensive Policy Plan addresses the provision of public services and facilities on topics ranging from "Improving Student Performance" to "Expanding Agricultural Opportunities". The plan focuses on 25 goals as they have been identified in the comprehensive plan for the entire State. The regional plan furthers these goals with 75 policy clusters. The policy clusters identify specific issues within the Treasure Coast Region in relationship to the overall State goal. The Regional Comprehensive Policy Plan:

1. provides background on each issue;
2. lists significant resources applicable to the specific issue that are available within the region;
3. identifies the agencies and organizations that are directly involved; and
4. specifies the regional goal, the corresponding policies, and the measures by which the effectiveness or success of the policy will be evaluated.

The intergovernmental coordination cluster of the Regional Comprehensive Policy Plan seeks to eliminate unnecessary duplication of programs and activities. Significant coordination currently takes place between St. Lucie County and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council in the form of Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) reviews and local comprehensive plan reviews.

## **GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The following Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives, and Policies are modifications of the portions of the Element as adopted in 1990.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

<b>GOAL 10.1</b>	<b>ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE COORDINATION MEASURES AMONG ALL PERTINENT PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC ENTITIES TO BEST MAINTAIN ST. LUCIE COUNTY'S QUALITY OF LIFE AND EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES.</b>
<b>Objective 10.1.1</b>	<b>St. Lucie County shall establish specific means of coordination with adjacent municipalities; with local, state, and federal agencies who have permitting and regulating authority; and with quasi-public entities which provide services but lack regulatory authority in St. Lucie County; with County volunteer groups; and with interested citizen groups who have notified the County of their interest.</b>
Policy 10.1.1.1	Coordinate with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, Martin County, and the cities of Port St. Lucie and Ft. Pierce to complete the ongoing Alternate Land Use Study.
Policy 10.1.1.2	Notify in writing the cities of Ft. Pierce, Port St. Lucie, and St. Lucie Village of all applications for rezoning and land use amendments which are contiguous to their borders or within an area of planned annexation.
Policy 10.1.1.3	Through the development review process, coordinate all development in the unincorporated County with local governments that are adjacent to or will be impacted by the development.
Policy 10.1.1.4	Charge the County Administrator with continuing responsibility for developing and enforcing an effective intergovernmental coordination program for St. Lucie County.
Policy 10.1.1.5	Support the Treasure Coast Council of Governments to provide a regular formal forum in which to deal with issues unique to Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee Counties.
Policy 10.1.1.6	Continue cooperative education programs between the County and regulatory agencies to inform the public and development community about applicable laws and regulations. This could be accomplished by including brief informational pamphlets in utility bills or other means of widespread general circulation.
Policy 10.1.1.7	By January 31 <sup>st</sup> of each calendar year, formally request in writing that Ft. Pierce, Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie Village designate their anticipated future annexation areas, inform the County as to the nature of such plans, and provide further notification in the event there is change to these plans.
Policy 10.1.1.8	Continue to review transportation service volumes and levels of service as they relate to state roads, and coordinate with the FDOT relative to state level of service standards.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

- Policy 10.1.1.9 Coordinate with communities within the unincorporated area as they explore the impacts of incorporation.
- Policy 10.1.1.10 By January 1, 2003, meet with representatives of Ft. Pierce, Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie Village to identify potential joint planning areas. Annexation and joint infrastructure are to be considered and discussed; more specifically, the following areas may be considered:
- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Ft. Pierce        | Areas adjoining Okeechobee Road from Hartman Road to Eleven Mile Road.<br>Area adjoining existing city limits. |
| Port St. Lucie    | Existing enclaves<br>LTC Ranch/Midway Road area<br>I-95/Gatlin Boulevard area                                  |
| St. Lucie Village | No areas identified.   |
- Policy 10.1.1.11 By January 1, 2003, establish procedures to deal with future municipal incorporation proposals.
- Objective 10.1.2 The County shall coordinate the revision of level of service standards for public facilities with any state, regional or local entity having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities; and coordinate on the provision of public facility improvements with the capital facility plans of any other governmental entity providing public facilities within St. Lucie County.**
- Policy 10.1.2.1 Concurrency Management procedures, as outlined in the Capital Improvements Element, will be implemented by August 1, 1990, to ensure that required services will be available when needed.
- Policy 10.1.2.2 Establish a Planning Forum, to meet at least quarterly, to coordinate programs of infrastructure development and improvement between the County, the municipalities, and interested public groups so that adopted levels of service can be maintained throughout the entire County.
- Policy 10.1.2.3 Use the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council for informal mediation when conflicts with other local governments do not appear as if they would be otherwise resolved.
- Objective The Director of Community Development shall continue to be responsible for coordination of County activities with the comprehensive plans of adjacent**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

**10.1.3 municipalities, St. Lucie County, the adjacent counties, and other units of local government such as the School Board providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land.**

Policy  
10.1.3.1 Continue to receive and review copies of all proposed plan or rezoning amendments for areas adjacent to St. Lucie County boundaries.

Policy  
10.1.3.2 Continue to request liaisons regarding proposed plan or rezoning amendments with the St. Lucie County School Board, St. Lucie County Fire District, South Florida Water Management District, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority, Florida Power and Light, and adjacent local governments.

Policy  
10.1.3.3 In conjunction with other affected parties, including interested public groups, continue to evaluate existing interlocal agreements when the Capital Improvements Element is undergoing annual review to determine if current funding is proportional to services rendered.

Policy  
10.1.3.4 Continue to coordinate closely with the School Board on the location of future school locations in relation to the projected population and land use.

Policy  
10.1.3.5 Continue to support joint use agreements between the County and the School District.

**Objective  
10.1.4 By August, 1990, the County, through the County Administrator, shall establish an intergovernmental coordination process to ensure full consideration is given to the impacts of developments proposed in the County Comprehensive Plan on other governmental entities and vice versa.**

Policy  
10.1.4.1 Support the development and adoption of interlocal agreements with the affected municipalities to coordinate the management of the St. Lucie River, Indian River Lagoon (including the Intracoastal Waterway), and Savannas.

Policy  
10.1.4.2 Continue to work with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to identify regional issues and to assist in the periodic updating of the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan.

Policy  
10.1.4.3 Agree to abide by regulations of the municipalities when developing within their corporate limits.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

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**Objective**  
**10.1.5**      **Review port activities in coordination with the Comprehensive Plan of Ft. Pierce.**

Policy  
10.1.5.1      The Board of County Commissioners shall coordinate with the City of Ft. Pierce, other governmental entities, and interested public groups to resolve problems related, but not limited to, transportation, development and land use, natural and man-made hazards and disasters, and protection of natural resources at the port.

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**APPENDIX A**  
**ANALYSIS WORKSHEETS**



## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** City of Ft. Pierce

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
City of Ft. Pierce

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Adjacent Land Uses
- Beach Renourishment
- Extension of Services
- Downtown Redevelopment
- Port Development
- Administration and Collection of Impact Fees
- Beach Access
- Provision of Social Services
- Traffic Flow
- Annexation
- Wellfield Protection

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Three formally authorized forums exist for the review of matters of local concern: the MPO, Treasure Coast Council of Governments and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. The fault with these bodies is that they do not include, as regular members, the entire elected bodies of the two jurisdictions. No other formal mechanism currently exists. At the department level, informal coordination regularly takes place. Interlocal agreements exist between the City and County concerning the MPO, the administration of impact fees, Wellfield Protection and for the provision of recreation facilities. Occasionally, the City and County Commissions hold joint meetings to review and form combined decisions on matters of mutual interest.

Policies for the Port of Ft. Pierce were included in prior St. Lucie County Comprehensive Plans. Since this area is within the corporate limits of Ft. Pierce, all such policies have been removed from this plan. All land use regulation for this area is the responsibility of the City. The County Commission will work with the City in the development of the Port to meet the needs and goals of the City and the citizens of the County.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

Aside from the three formal points of exchange, no duly authorized forum exists that would permit scheduled interaction between the two elected bodies. Informal staff

communication exists for the purpose of informational exchanges as directed.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Differs by issue.

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Generally, staff coordination between the City and County is adequate. However, this measure may differ by issue and office.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

Existing administrative coordination is generally satisfactory. However, a lack of formal meetings or channels of communication can result in occasional conflicting goals and objectives.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FPUA, MPO, TCRPC, Treasure Coast Council of Governments, SLC-FP Fire District, Erosion Control Board, FDOT, and Mosquito Control District.

**Recommendations:**

Closer coordination is needed on all issues between the City and County, especially concerning matters of annexation, utility service, and the Port of Ft. Pierce. Explore the formal inclusion of administrative representatives to the St. Lucie Development Review Committee and establish a system of coordinated input for issues of local concern.

**Policy Reference:**

10.1.1.1; 10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.1.8; 10.1.2.1; 10.1.2.2; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.3.3; 10.1.4.1, 10.1.4.3.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** City of Port St. Lucie

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
City of Port St. Lucie

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Adjacent Land Uses
- Traffic Flow
- Extension of Services
- Provision of Social Services
- Administration and collection of Impact Fees
- Annexation
- Wellfield Protection

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Three formally authorized forums exist for the review of matters of local concern: the MPO, Treasure Coast Council of Governments and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. The fault with these bodies is that they do not include, as regular members, the entire elected bodies of the two jurisdictions. No other formal mechanism currently exists. At the department level, informal coordination regularly takes place. Interlocal agreements exist between the City and County concerning the MPO, the administration of impact fees, Wellfield Protection. Occasionally, the City and County Commissions hold joint meetings to review and form combined decisions on matters of mutual community interest.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

Aside from the three formal points of exchange, no duly authorized forum exists that would permit scheduled interaction between the two elected bodies. Informal staff communication exists for the purpose of informational exchange as directed.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Differs by issue.

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Generally, coordination between the City and County is adequate. However, this measure may differ by issue and office.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

Existing administrative coordination is generally satisfactory. However, a lack of formal meetings or channels of communication can result in occasional conflicting goals and objectives.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Port St. Lucie Utilities, FPUA, FPL, MPO, TCRPC, Treasure Coast Council of Governments, SLC-FP Fire District, FDOT, and Mosquito Control District

**Recommendations:**

Closer coordination is needed on all issues between the City and County, especially concerning matters of annexation, utility service, and roadway improvement. Explore the formal inclusion of administrative representatives to the St. Lucie Development Review Committee and establish a system of coordinated input for issues of local concern.

**Policy Reference:**

10.1.1.1; 10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.1.8; 10.1.2.1; 10.1.2.2; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.3.3; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie Village

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
St. Lucie Village

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Adjacent Land Uses
- Provision of Public Services
- Wellfield Protection
- Administration and Collection of Impact Fees
- Annexation
- Airport Expansion

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Elements(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Extensive coordination is non-existent. Village does not have any full time administrative staff support.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

A very limited relationship exists due to the non-existence of any St. Lucie Village administrative staff. Primary contact with the Village is conducted through the part time Village Attorney. The Village does participate in County-wide impact fee programs.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and County Attorney

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Limited, due to the lack of administrative structure. This hampers addressing joint problems in a timely manner.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

Existing administrative coordination is generally satisfactory given conditions unique to the situation. However, a lack of formal meetings or channels of communication can result in occasional conflicting goals and objectives.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

TCRPC, SLC Fire District

**Recommendations:**

Closer coordination is needed on all issues between the Village and County, especially concerning matters of utility service, and roadway improvement. Explore improved communication for development issues adjacent to the Village and establish a system of coordinated input for issues of mutual concern.

**Policy Reference:**

10.1.1.1; 10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.1.8; 10.1.2.1; 10.1.2.2; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.3.3; 10.1.4.1; 10.1.4.3.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Indian River County

**Participating Entities:**

Indian River County  
St. Lucie County

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Adjacent Land Uses
- Coastal/Environmental Issues
- Transportation
- Solid Waste
- Sanitary Sewer
- Potable Water
- Stormwater

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use  
Coastal Management  
Traffic Circulation

Conservation  
Infrastructure

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Formal forums of coordination include the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and Treasure Coast Council of Governments. Limited administrative coordination, as the issue warrants.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

Limited

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and County Attorney

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Current methods of coordination meet current needs, however, they do not lend themselves to providing effective solutions to common problems facing each community.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

A more formalized method of coordination is needed in order to ensure the compatibility of each County's land use and environmental issues.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

TCRPC and Treasure Coast Council of Governments

**Recommendations:**

Regular and standard lines of communication and coordination need to be established and maintained. An expansion of the Treasure Coast Council of Governments could possibly serve this function.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Martin County

**Participating Entities:**

Martin County  
St. Lucie County

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Transportation
- Adjacent Land Uses
- Coastal/Conservation issues
- Solid Waste
- Stormwater
- Sanitary Sewer
- Potable Water

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use  
Coastal Management  
Transportation

Conservation  
Infrastructure

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Formal forums of coordination include the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and Treasure Coast Council of Governments. There is limited administrative coordination, as the issue warrants. Occasional joint meetings of the County Commissioners take place in order to deal with matters of mutual community concern.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

Limited

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

County Administrator, County Attorney, Department of Community Development, and Department of Public Works

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Current methods of coordination meet current needs; however, they do not lend themselves to providing effective solutions to common problems facing each community.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

A more formalized method of coordination is needed in order to ensure the compatibility of each County's land use and environmental issues.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FDOT, TCRPC, Treasure Coast Council of Governments, and SFWMD

**Recommendations:**

Regular and standard lines of communication and coordination need to be established and maintained. An expansion of the Treasure Coast Council of Governments could possibly serve this function.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Okeechobee County

**Participating Entities:**

Okeechobee County  
St. Lucie County  
Okeechobee Fire Department  
St. Lucie County - Ft. Pierce Fire District  
St. Lucie County Sheriff's Department  
Okeechobee County Sheriff's Department

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Adjacent Land Uses
- Emergency Service Response

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use	Conservation
Traffic Circulation	Solid Waste

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The only formal forum of coordination is the newly established Treasure Coast Council of Governments. However, both the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Department and the Fire District have interlocal agreements with Okeechobee County authorities to provide first response emergency service to the Bluefield Road area in the extreme western portion of the County, due to distance from Ft. Pierce.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The relationship is limited, except for an interlocal agreement between Okeechobee and St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and Fire District.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Sheriff and Fire District (active)  
Department of Community Development, County Attorney, and County Administrator (inactive)

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination is adequate to meet present need, but in the future, coordination on land use, transportation, and conservation issues may become necessary.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

A more formalized method of coordination is needed in order to ensure the compatibility of each County's land use and environmental issues. An expansion of the Treasure Coast Council of Governments could possibly serve this function.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

SFWMD and Treasure Coast Council of Governments

**Recommendations:**

Regular and standard lines of communication and coordination need to be established and maintained. Ex-officio membership to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council may be one avenue open to greater communication.

**Policy References:** 10.1.1.2; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.5; 10.1.3.1; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Marine Resources Council

**Participating Entities:**

Marine Resources Council  
St. Lucie County

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Stormwater
- Indian River Lagoon
- Watershed Action Committees Issues

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Coastal Management	Infrastructure
Conservation	Future Land Use

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The Marine Resource Council is an independent organization that strives to provide coordination among all the municipalities bordering the Indian River Lagoon. The Council provides a forum where individuals, special interest groups, governmental officials and educational entities may discuss, and attempt to address through recommended policy, issues of regional impact to the Lagoon system.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The Council is an advisory forum.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development, County Attorney, and Board of County Commissioners

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

The Council sufficiently fulfills its purpose.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are found in the present system.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

SFWMD

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
City of Ft. Pierce  
City of Port St. Lucie  
St. Lucie Village  
St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District  
Department of Environmental Regulations  
Department of Natural Resources

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Mosquito Control Activities
- Effects of Mosquito Impoundments on the Indian River Lagoon
- Environmentally sensitive land acquisition

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Conservation	Capital Improvements
Coastal Management	Future Land Use

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The Mosquito Control Board is comprised of the five St. Lucie County Commissioners.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The Mosquito Control Board is comprised of the five St. Lucie County Commissioners.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

County Administrator, Community Development and County Attorney

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are noted at the present time.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

None

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.5; 10.1.3.3.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie County Fire District

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
City of Ft. Pierce  
City of Port St. Lucie  
St. Lucie Village

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Maintenance of adequate levels of emergency response service for the community
- Development review

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure	Ports and Aviation
Land Use	Capital Improvements
Traffic Circulation	

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Two County Commissioners are members of the Fire District Board of Directors. A representative of the Fire District is a member of the Development Review Committee. Through this representation, the Fire District is kept apprized of current development and construction activities within the County.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The Fire District is a semi-autonomous authority. The Board is empowered to levy a special tax to support its operations. Membership on the Fire Board by representatives of the County Commission provides budgetary input to the operation of the Department.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

County Administrator and Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

The fire district requires the expansion of infrastructure so as to be able to provide the services to growth areas (i.e., water supply, roads).

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

State Department of Forestry

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.4; 10.1.2.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie County School District

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
St. Lucie County School District  
St. Lucie County Library District

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Multi-use of School Facilities
- Program Funding
- Land Use
- Administration and Collection of applicable School Impact Fees
- School Busing Zones
- Location of New Facilities

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use	Housing
Coastal Management	Infrastructure
Recreation and Open Space	Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Forums for the formal coordination of issues effecting the two political bodies are limited to the Metropolitan Planning Organization - Technical Advisory Committee. Informal lines of communication exist between administrative staffs. Special joint meetings of the County Commission and School Board may be scheduled for issues of mutual community concern. When necessary, specific interlocal agreements may be entered into between the two bodies.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

No formal relationship exists between the two bodies. Contacts between Boards are generally limited with the exception of specific purpose programs.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development, Department of Recreation and Parks, and Library Board

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies or needs have been identified at the present time.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

None

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined to meet current needs.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.4; 10.1.2.1; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.3.4.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
City of Ft. Pierce  
City of Port St. Lucie

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Transportation
- Capital Improvements Programs

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use  
Capital Improvements  
Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

MPO membership jointly determines how federal and state transportation dollars are to be spent locally.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The County has no authority to require that roadway improvements off of the County Road System be made except to recommend changes through their representative members of the MPO.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Through the current system, the County has coordinated all transportation decisions.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

The existing system is found to be generally sufficient.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FDOT, FHWA, and TCRPC

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined to be sufficient

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.9; 10.1.2.1; 10.1.2.2.



County.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

DCA, TCRPC, HUD, and St. Lucie County Housing Finance Authority

**Recommendations:**

Investigate the advantages and disadvantages of having the Housing Authority of Ft. Pierce expand its operation to include unincorporated areas of the County. The County shall establish a housing data base and a county-wide Housing Task Force to investigate the need for affordable housing for various income groups in the County.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.4.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC)

**Participating Entities:**

Palm Beach County (including municipalities)  
Martin County (including municipalities)  
St. Lucie County (including municipalities)  
Indian River County (including municipalities)

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Developments of Regional Impact
- Environmental Issues
- Intergovernmental Coordination Review
- Comprehensive Plans

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):** All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

As a participant with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, two County Commissioners sit as voting members of the Council. Among the duties the Council is charged with are the primary review of all Developments of Regional Impact and the review and monitoring of all local government comprehensive plans for consistency with the goals, objectives, and polices of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The Council also provides mediation services between units of local government when necessary.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council was created in 1976 pursuant to Chapter 186, Florida Statute. Membership on the Council is as stipulated in this Chapter and currently includes one additional representative from St. Lucie County other than the two County Commissioners.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development.

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

The existing level of coordination has been determined to meet current needs.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None noteworthy.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

All municipalities in the above mentioned counties

**Recommendations:**

St. Lucie County should maintain an active role in the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, taking full advantage of the forum it provides for the exchange of information in the resolution of issues of regional concern.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.5; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.2.3; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.4.2; 10.1.4.3.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Treasure Coast Council of Governments

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County (including cities)  
Martin County (including cities)  
Indian River County (including cities)  
Okeechobee County (including cities)

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Transportation
- Land Use
- Solid Waste/Infrastructure
- Economic Development

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Established pursuant to Chapter 163.02, Florida Statutes, this Council provides a forum for the expression and review of issues that are of a more local concern than would otherwise be reviewed at the Regional Planning Council level.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This Council is purely an advisory body. No regulatory authority has been granted to this Council.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

County Administrator and County Attorney

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Limited due to the informality of the Council's meetings and internal structure.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

Limited effectiveness could be overcome through using the Council as the coordinating entity for quad-county/quad-community projects.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

None

**Recommendations:**

The Council could be of even more benefit on a sub-regional basis if it could take the lead in establishing and maintaining regular and standard lines of communication between local governments.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.5; 10.1.1.6.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

**Participating Entities:** (Local Only)

St. Lucie County  
City of Ft. Pierce  
City of Port St. Lucie  
St. Lucie Village

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Drainage and Stormwater Management Permitting
- Implementation of SWIM Bill (and its effect on the Indian River Lagoon/St. Lucie River estuary network)
- Water Quality/Quantity
- Wetland/Upland Protection (including inland isolated wetlands)
- o Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition
- o Taylor Creek
- o Sediment Transport

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure	Future Land Use
Conservation	Capital Improvements
Coastal Management	Recreation and Open Space
Transportation	

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

- Local Government Assistance Program
- Data Documentation Manual
  - Liaison by staff
  - Permitting through District

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

- Participates in the Review of all Developments of Regional Impact
- Reviews/permits stormwater management facilities for any development greater than 10 acres

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and Department of Public Works

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination/communication between the County and SFWMD has been greatly improved since the District has provided a full-time liaison.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Army Corp of Engineers ACOE and Department of Environmental Protection - jurisdictional wetlands

**Recommendations:**

Existing methods of coordination have been determined to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.3.2; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** U.S. Soil Conservation Service

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County  
Soil Conservation Service

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Soil Stabilization
- Agricultural Best Management Practices
- Protection/Erosion Control of St. Lucie River Shoreline

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure	Coastal Management
Conservation	Future Land Use

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The Soil Conservation Service is a federal entity associated with the Department of Agriculture. Coordination with the County is informal and infrequent.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The existing relationship is adequate.

**Office with Primary Responsibility**

Department of Community Development and Agricultural Extension Services

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are noted at present.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

SFWMD, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Department of Environmental Protection, and Drainage Districts

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been found to be sufficient to meet current needs.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Florida Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services (HRS)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Hazardous Waste
- Groundwater Contamination
- Wellfield Protection
- Social Service Issues
- Septic Permits
- Air Quality

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure  
Conservation

Future Land Use  
Housing

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Very informal coordination exists between HRS and St. Lucie County. What coordination does take place is primarily between the County Department of Community Development, and the HRS Environmental Health Unit.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This is an advisory relationship.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Present coordination efforts have been determined to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No clear channels of communication exist between St. Lucie County and HRS.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Department of Environmental Protection

**Recommendations:**

A cooperative education program needs to be undertaken. This should focus on informing the public about household hazardous wastes, proper disposal methods and less environmentally harmful substitutes for these products. In addition, the County should develop methods of coordination for review and comment on social issues requiring special permitting from the Department.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency** Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

### **Participating Entities**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

### **Existing Issues or Problems**

- Protection of Endangered Species
- Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition

### **Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s)**

Coastal Management  
Future Land Use

Conservation  
Transportation

### **Existing Method of Coordination:**

Infrequent, informal staff communications for the purpose of exchanging information.

### **Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The Game and Freshwater Fish Commission conducts a periodic survey to determine endangered or threatened species. However, the County is not actively involved in this.

### **Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

### **Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

The existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient in meeting the present needs.

### **Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are presently found in the methods of coordination.

### **Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Department of Environmental Protection and US Fish & Wildlife

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been determined sufficient to meet present needs.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
Department of Environmental Protection

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Mangrove Protection
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Sewage Disposal
- Wellfield Protection
- Wetlands Encroachments (Tidal & Non-tidal)
- Water Quality (Tidal & Non-tidal)
- Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition
- Dredge & Fill
- Hazardous Waste
- Potable & Nonpotable Water
- Air quality

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Coastal Management	Infrastructure
Future Land Use	Conservation
Ports and Aviation	

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Coordination between the Department of Environmental Protection and St. Lucie County is generally informal, limited to administrative contacts.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This is an advisory relationship, assisting in the implementation of State and local regulations.

Through the State's P2000 program, the Department of Environmental Protection is an important funding partner in the County's efforts to preserve Environmentally Sensitive lands.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and Department of Public Works

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be generally sufficient in meeting present needs.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None noted.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Wildlife Service, EPA, SFWMD, HRS, Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and Department of Environmental Protection

**Recommendations:**

A cooperative education and public relations program informing the public of environmental regulations and programs would be beneficial. In addition, a local government liaison, such as provided by SFWMD, might be beneficial in reducing unnecessary delays.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
Department of Community Affairs

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Update of Comprehensive Plan
- Areas of Critical State Concerns
- Developments of Regional Impact
- Community Development

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The County is required to coordinate its Comprehensive Plan, development regulations, and DRI's with DCA.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

DCA has review and approval authority over the County's Comprehensive Plan and DRI's.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Methods of coordination between the County and DCA need improvement. One problem is the physical distance between the County and Tallahassee which can cause a misunderstanding of local needs and issues.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

There is need for greater understanding of local concerns. DCA needs to be more responsive to the local government structure and issues.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

TCRPC and all adjacent municipalities and counties

**Recommendations:**

DCA should establish a local government liaison using the program piloted by SFWMD as an example.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.



Department of Community Development, Department of Public Works and St. Lucie MPO

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination is found to be lacking at times due to FDOT unresponsiveness to local issues. Coordination is hampered by the lack of a local FDOT planning office.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

The allocation of funds for improvements and the timing of construction is unresponsive to local needs. There is a need for a local FDOT planning office.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

MPO

**Recommendations:**

Improved communication and open a local FDOT planning office.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.1.9; 10.1.4.3.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
City of Ft. Pierce  
Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Expansion of Water and Sewer System

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use  
Infrastructure

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Informal coordination exists between FPUA and St. Lucie County. Existing coordination is primarily between the County Public Works Department and FPUA prior to County construction projects.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

No formal relationship exists between the two entities. Review and permitting procedures handled on project by project basis.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Public Works

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No serious deficiencies are found at the present in coordination between St. Lucie County and FPUA.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

City of Ft. Pierce

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been found to be sufficient. However, consideration needs to be given to the inclusion of the FPUA in the County's Development Review Committee in order to minimize any long term utility/development conflicts.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.3.2.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), University of Florida, Population Program

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board Of County Commissioners  
Bureau of Business & Economic Research

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Population Growth and Projection
- Land Use

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

All Elements

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The County receives publications from BEBR on population projections.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

BEBR publishes official state population figures for Florida. St. Lucie County has been approved by the DCA to use the high population figures in the Comprehensive Plan Update.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are found at the present in coordination between St. Lucie County and BEBR.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

State of Florida

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

No Specific Policy References

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
Environmental Protection Agency

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Land Use
- Environmental

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use Conservation	Coastal Management Transportation
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**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The County complies with all the state environmental regulations which in turn comply with all the federal regulations.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

Regulatory as charged by the Congress of the United States.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are found at the present time in the indirect coordination between St. Lucie County and EPA.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

HRS and Department of Environmental Protection

**Recommendations:**

Existing methods of coordination have been found to meet current needs. Expand as needed.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
US Army Corp of Engineers

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Environmental

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure	Coastal Management
Conservation	Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Informal coordination exists between the ACOE and St. Lucie County. Existing coordination is primarily between the Department of Community Development and the ACOE concerning dredge/fill and dock permits.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority)**

Regulatory as charged by the Congress of the United States.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No deficiencies are found at the present in coordination between St. Lucie County and USACOE.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

Department of Environmental Protection, EPA and SFWMD

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Transportation

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

- Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Administrative/regulatory, through the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This is a regulatory relationship.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and MPO

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None noted.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FDOT, UMTA and St. Lucie County

**Recommendations:**

Maintain existing levels of contact.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Urban Mass Transportation Administration

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Transportation Disadvantaged
- Alternate Transportation Modes
- Transportation

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Administrative/regulatory, through the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This is an advisory/regulatory relationship.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Community Development and MPO

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None noted.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FDOT, FHWA, TCRPC and St. Lucie County

**Recommendations:**

Maintain existing levels of contact.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6.



None

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.3.2.



**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

None

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.3.2.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** St. Lucie County Water and Sewer Authority (SLCW&SA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
St. Lucie County Water and Sewer Authority

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Population Growth
- Providing Services
- Regulation of Utility Companies

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Infrastructure  
Future Land Use

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

The Water and Sewer Authority is a body charged with reviewing and approving the rates that may be charged by non-public utility operations. The Board of County Commissioners acts as an appeal Board to the authority in matters that need further review.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

The authority is a semi-autonomous body, with appointment to it made by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

County Administrator and County Attorney

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

HRS and Department of Environmental Protection

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

No Specific Policy References



**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

SFWMD and North St. Lucie River Water Control District

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.4.1.



**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

SFWMD and Ft. Pierce Farms Water Control District

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.4.1.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Port St. Lucie Utilities

**Participating Entities:**

Port St. Lucie Utilities  
St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners  
City of Port St. Lucie

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

- Expansion of Water and Sewer System

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Future Land Use  
Infrastructure

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Informal coordination exists between Port St. Lucie Utilities and St. Lucie County. Existing coordination is primarily between the County Public Works Department and Port St. Lucie Utilities prior to County construction projects.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

No formal relationship exists between the two entities. Review and permitting procedures handled on project by project basis.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Department of Public Works

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Coordination efforts are found to be sufficient at the present time.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

No serious deficiencies are found at the present in coordination between St. Lucie County and Port St. Lucie Utilities.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Water & Sewer Authority

**Recommendations:**

Existing levels of coordination have been found to be sufficient. However, consideration need be given to the inclusion of the Port St. Lucie Utilities in the County's Development Review Committee in order to minimize any long term utility/development conflicts

**Policy References:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.7; 10.1.3.2.

## ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

**Coordinating Agency:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

**Participating Entities:**

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners

**Existing Issues or Problems:**

Airport Operations

**Affected Comprehensive Plan Element(s):**

Transportation

**Existing Method of Coordination:**

Formal coordination exists between the FAA and the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners.

**Nature of Relationship (i.e. Authority):**

This is a formal relationship with the FAA supervising airport operations.

**Office with Primary Responsibility:**

Airport

**Effectiveness of Coordination Mechanisms:**

Existing methods of coordination are found to be sufficient.

**Deficiencies and Needs:**

None noted.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

FDOT

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy References:**

10.1.4.3.



None.

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy Reference:**

10.1.1.3; 10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.



None noted.

**Additional Coordinating Entities:**

City of Ft. Pierce and the City of Port St. Lucie

**Recommendations:**

Existing coordination is found to be sufficient.

**Policy Reference:**

10.1.1.4; 10.1.1.6; 10.1.1.7.

Through the State's P2000 program, the Department of Environmental Protection is an important funding partner in the County's efforts to preserve Environmentally Sensitive lands.

