

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & POLICIES

**GOAL IC-1: WALTON COUNTY ~~WILL~~ SHALL EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE WITH ADJACENT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, REGULATORY AGENCIES, SERVICE AND FACILITY PROVIDERS TO ENSURE A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO PLANNING.**

**Objective IC-1.1: The County ~~will~~ shall maintain coordination mechanisms with the school board, water supply providers, municipalities, adjacent counties, the water management district, and the regional planning council providing for evaluation of proposed future land use map amendments and development proposals with cross-jurisdictional impacts.**

The coordination mechanisms shall include, as appropriate, interlocal agreements, written and verbal communications, participation on technical advisory committees, utilization of mediation processes, and joint meetings with appropriate other local, regional, state and federal governing bodies and agencies.

**Policy IC-1.1.1:** Interlocal agreements with the school board, adjacent counties, special taxing districts, water supply providers, and municipalities ~~will~~ shall continue to provide methods for these entities to receive information concerning proposed developments or proposed plan amendments that may impact their jurisdiction, including:

1. Walton County ~~will~~ shall provide governing bodies copies of newly received applications pertinent to their jurisdiction.
2. The interlocal agreements ~~will~~ shall continue to provide for a feedback process and information exchange so the above entities can inform Walton County of any potential adverse impact(s) from proposed developments or planning activities that conflict with their comprehensive plans.

**Objective IC-1.2:—Comprehensive Planning Forum**  
**Walton County shall coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with the plans of adjacent local governments, the School Board, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land through a regular comprehensive planning forum.**

**Policy IC-1.2.1:** The Comprehensive Planning Forum shall include representation from the Walton County Planning Department, Public Works Department, the South Walton Tourist Development Council, the Walton County School Board; the Cities of DeFuniak Springs, Paxton and Freeport; the Counties of Okaloosa, Holmes, Washington, Bay, Covington County, AL, and Geneva County, AL; the Walton County Local Planning Commission; the Florida Department of Community Affairs Economic Opportunity; the West Florida Regional Planning Council, and any additional interested parties.

**Policy IC-1.2.2:** The Comprehensive Planning Forum will shall be hosted by Walton County and staffed by the Walton County Planning Department.

**Policy IC-1.2.3:** The Comprehensive Planning Forum shall identify issues concerning comprehensive planning among jurisdictions and provide a structural framework for the discussion and recommendation of mechanisms for intragovernmental and intergovernmental coordination.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Objective IC-1.2 and Policies were relocated from Objective IC-1.6 due to the relationship with coordination mechanisms in Objective IC-1.1. Added the full name of the Forum for clarity and replaced State DCA with DEO.*

**Objective IC-1.32: Water Supply Coordination**

**To ensure consistency in development review, the County shall coordinate with the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWMD) regarding all development proposals with the potential for impacting the water resources of the County.**

**Policy IC-1.32.1:** Walton County ~~will~~ shall ensure that the development review process coordinates all development proposals within the watershed of any designated Surface Water Management and Improvement Act priority water body with the NFWMD.

**Policy IC-1.32.2:** Walton County ~~will shall adopt,~~ implement and maintain ~~a the~~ Water Supply Work Plan consistent with the Regional Water Supply Plan. The County ~~will shall~~ coordinate the provision of public facilities by entering into interlocal agreements for the extension of potable water and sanitary sewer service into designated unincorporated areas, entering into joint grant applications for funds to construct needed public facilities, and exchanging respective comprehensive plans.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: The Water Supply Work Plan was adopted in 2010 per Ordinance 2010-13.*

**Policy IC-1.32.3:** Walton County shall coordinate with utility providers for the extension and increase in capacity of central water facilities to meet future needs within the Utility Service Areas. The term “facilities” shall include wells, intakes, water storage tanks, treatment facilities, pumping facilities and distribution mains.

**Objective IC-1.54: Review of Development Proposals**

**The County will shall continue to coordinate intergovernmental review of development which impacts municipalities and affected adjacent counties and other units of local government by providing a copy of the adopted plan and development proposals to each governing body of agency that may be affected for review and comment.**

**~~Objective IC-1.3: The County shall ensure that the impacts of development proposed in the plan are coordinated with development in municipalities within the County, adjacent counties, and agencies within the region by providing a~~**

~~copy of the adopted plan to each governing body or agency for review and comment.~~

**Policy IC-1.43.1:** In order to keep public entities informed of proposed future development, copies of future plan amendments shall also be provided to these governing bodies and agencies prior to adoption of the plan amendments.

**Policy IC-1.43.2:** Walton County shall establish interlocal agreements with all the municipalities, the School District, and all other units of local government that provide public services for collaborative planning and decision making on population projections, public school siting, and the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency. These interlocal agreements shall be consistent with and implement the provisions of this Intergovernmental Coordination Element.

**Policy IC-1.4.13:** ~~The County will shall afford follow these general procedures whereby the affected municipalities and affected counties will be afforded the opportunity to review development proposals that affect the Choctawhatchee Bay or that affect development proposed in their Comprehensive Plans:~~

1. The Walton County Planning Department shall continue to identify new or continuing planning issues and provide a structural framework for discussion of these issues with affected parties.
2. The issues will shall be developed by the Walton County Planning Department from reviews of development proposals and the Comprehensive Plan of each affected municipality or district.
3. Each affected municipality or district will shall be given the opportunity to address issues identified by the Walton County Planning Department and/or to identify their own issues to be addressed by the Planning Department.

**Policy IC-1.4.24:** Mandated planning activities shall be coordinated with other local governments, school boards, and other units of local government providing service through a monthly, or as needed, exchange of information concerning planning activities. Conflicts over planning activities and/or planning related issues shall be resolved through the West Florida Regional Planning Council's informal mediation process whenever possible.

**Policy IC-1.4.35:** The West Florida Regional Planning Council's (WFRPC) informal mediation process will shall be used for resolving annexation issues within Walton County provided that: (1) The WFRPC has determined that use of this process is appropriate; and (2) All parties to the dispute must agree to be bound by the WFRPC decision.

**Policy IC-1.4.46:** Walton County will shall coordinate with DeFuniak Springs in adopting policies governing allowable land uses and other mitigation efforts for areas impacted by the DeFuniak Springs Airport.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Objective IC-1.5 and IC-1.3 were very similar. The*

*objectives were merged together in Objective IC-1.4 and the associated policies were also moved. Added "or as needed" to the exchange of information in new Policy IC-1.4.4 since a monthly exchange of information may be too frequent.*

**Objective 1C-1.54: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Coordination of Fire Districts**  
**~~Walton County and the local fire districts will~~ shall maintain a communications agreement.**

**Policy IC-1.54.1:** The County ~~will~~ shall coordinate fire protection service communications county-wide.

**Policy IC-1.54.2:** Representatives of the various fire districts ~~will~~ shall continue to participate on the technical review committee to ensure that proposed projects meet the requirements of the Florida Life Safety Code.

**Objective IC-1.5: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Review of Development Proposals**  
**~~The County will continue to coordinate intergovernmental review of development which impacts municipalities and affected adjacent counties and other units of local government.~~**

**Policy IC-1.5.1: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~** ~~The County will follow these general procedures whereby the affected municipalities and affected counties will be afforded the opportunity to review development proposals that affect the Choctawhatchee Bay or that affect development proposed in their Comprehensive Plans:~~

- ~~1. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ The Walton County Planning Department shall continue to identify new or continuing planning issues and provide a structural framework for discussion of these issues with affected parties.~~
- ~~2. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ The issues will be developed by the Walton County Planning Department from reviews of development proposals and the Comprehensive Plan of each affected municipality or district.~~
- ~~3. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Each affected municipality or district will be given the opportunity to address issues identified by the Walton County Planning Department and/or to identify their own issues to be addressed by the Planning Department.~~

**Policy IC-1.5.2: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~** ~~Mandated planning activities shall be coordinated with other local governments, school boards, and other units of local government providing service through a monthly exchange of information concerning planning activities. Conflicts over planning activities and/or planning related issues shall be resolved through the West Florida Regional Planning Council's informal mediation process whenever possible.~~

**Policy IC-1.5.3: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~** ~~The West Florida Regional Planning Council's (WFRPC) informal mediation process will be used for resolving annexation issues within Walton County provided that: (1) The WFRPC has determined that use of this process is appropriate; and (2) All parties to the dispute must agree to be bound by the WFRPC decision.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.5.4:** — Walton County will coordinate with DeFuniak Springs in adopting policies governing allowable land uses and other mitigation efforts for areas impacted by the DeFuniak Springs Airport.~~

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Objective IC-1.5 and IC-1.3 were very similar. The objectives were merged together in Objective IC-1.4 and the associated Policies were also moved.*

~~**Objective IC-1.6:** — **Comprehensive Planning Forum**  
Walton County shall coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with the plans of adjacent local governments, the School Board, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land through a regular comprehensive planning forum.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.61:** — The Forum shall include representation from the Walton County Planning Department, Public Works Department, the South Walton Tourist Development Council, the Walton County School Board; the Cities of DeFuniak Springs, Paxton and Freeport; the Counties of Okaloosa, Holmes, Washington, Bay, Covington County, AL, and Geneva County, AL; the Walton County Local Planning Commission; the Florida Department of Community Affairs; the West Florida Regional Planning Council, and any additional interested parties.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.6.2:** — The Comprehensive Planning Forum will be hosted by Walton County and staffed by the Walton County Planning Department.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.6.3:** — The Comprehensive Planning Forum shall identify issues concerning comprehensive planning among jurisdictions and provide a structural framework for the discussion and recommendation of mechanisms for intragovernmental and intergovernmental coordination.~~

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Objective IC-1.6 and corresponding Policies were moved to Objective IC-1.2 due to the relationship with the coordination mechanisms in Objective IC-1.1.*

~~**Objective IC-1.67: Setting Level of Service Standards**  
Walton County shall coordinate the planning and provision of services with its ~~three (3)~~ municipalities, adjacent counties, various agencies and districts within the County. Walton County shall also coordinate the establishment or revision of level of service standards for public facilities with any state, regional, or local entity having responsibility for such facilities.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.67.1:** Notify and request written comments from the cities of Freeport, DeFuniak Springs, and Paxton concerning all applications for land use amendments that are contiguous to their borders or within an area of planned annexation.~~

~~**Policy IC-1.67.2:** The comprehensive planning forum established in Objective IC-1.5 ~~3~~ will ~~shall~~ coordinate programs of infrastructure development and improvement between the County, the municipalities, and local service providers so the adopted~~

levels of service can be maintained throughout the entire County.

**Policy IC-1.67.3:** The County ~~will~~ shall request written comments from the state Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Northwest Florida Water Management District, as appropriate, concerning any proposed revision to the adopted level of service standards for roads, water, sewer, solid waste, recreation and open space, and drainage.

~~**Policy IC-1.7.4:** Walton County shall adopt a Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan), that will assess existing and projected water sources and needs for at least a 10-year planning period considering the Regional Water Supply Plan of the Northwest Florida Water Management District. The Work Plan shall identify traditional and alternative water supply sources that the County may use to meet existing and projected water demands. The alternative water supply project in the Work Plan will be selected from the Water Management District's Regional Water Supply Plan or otherwise proposed by the County.~~

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Policy is deleted since the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan was adopted per Ordinance 2010-13.*

**Policy IC-1.67.45:** Walton County shall coordinate with the Northwest Florida Water Management District during updates to their Regional Water Supply Plan, to identify potentially feasible alternative water supply projects in Walton County. The County shall update its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan every five years, within 18 months of the adoption of the NFWMD Regional Water Supply Plan.

~~**Policy IC-2.2.41.6.5:** The County shall coordinate, through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the West Florida Regional Planning Council, the transportation needs of the County with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).~~

*Matrix Analysis Comment: New Policy IC-1.6.5 relocated from Policy IC-2.2.4 since it was not germane to educational facilities.*

**Objective IC-1.78: ~~Hazard Mitigation Coordination~~**

~~Walton County shall participate in the Florida Department of Community Affairs Hazard Mitigation program to develop mitigation strategies and redevelopment plans in coordination with adjacent local governments, utility companies and other units providing services in order to provide effective mitigation as an opportunity to save lives and protect economic and environmental resources from future disasters.~~

**Policy IC-1.78.1:** Walton County shall coordinate and compile its Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) plan with the LMS working group composed of local governments and organizations, the school board, and utility providers.

**Policy IC-1.78.2:** Walton County ~~will~~ shall ~~adopt,~~ implement and maintain a LMS Plan which identifies existing intergovernmental agreements supporting mitigation, inventories of coordinating agencies, and developed procedures to resolve

conflicts.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: There is no longer a state hazard mitigation program only a mitigation grant program. A LMS plan was completed in 2015.*

**Policy IC-1.78.3:** Walton County shall coordinate with the LMS Working Group to develop guiding principles including reduction in the loss of life and property, protection of public assets, enhanced cooperation and responsible growth.

**Policy IC-1.78.4:** Walton County ~~will~~ shall identify hazards and describe and display the various types of hazards (including maps of hurricane and tropical storm wind fields, storm surge areas, FEMA Flood Zones, historic tornado locations, and areas susceptible to wildfires) facing Walton County.

**Policy IC-1.78.5:** Walton County shall identify locations of critical and non-critical facilities, repetitive loss properties, and historic flooding locations which are vulnerable to future natural disasters.

**Policy IC-1.78.6:** Walton County shall prioritize mitigation initiatives and list projects, addressing potential funding sources and local coordination procedures for each project.

**GOAL IC-2: COLLABORATE AND COORDINATE WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WALTON COUNTY (SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD) TO ENSURE HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES WHICH MEET THE NEEDS OF WALTON COUNTY'S EXISTING AND FUTURE POPULATION.**

**Objective IC-2.1: ~~School Interlocal Agreement~~**

**The County ~~will~~ shall amend and implement the interlocal agreement with the Walton County School District school bBoard, municipalities and adjacent counties providing for close coordination and evaluation of development proposals.**

**Policy IC-2.1.1:** General types of provisions that ~~will~~ shall be included in the interlocal agreement in order to advise the ~~s~~School ~~District b~~District ~~b~~Board, adjacent counties, special taxing districts and municipalities of proposed developments that would impact their jurisdiction include:

1. Transmission of a monthly memo from the Walton County Planning Department and or Planning Districts to the above entities and others on the Comprehensive Plan mailing list describing proposed developments and planning activities.
2. Provision for a feedback process/information exchange so the above entities can inform the Planning Department of any potential adverse impact(s) from proposed developments and/or conflicting planning activities through the Citizen Advisory Committees and the Local Planning Agency as well as through public meetings with notices published in the weekly paper.

**Objective IC-2.2: ~~Intergovernmental Coordination~~**

**Walton County shall strive to maintain and enhance joint planning processes and**

**procedures for coordination of public education facilities for planning and decision-making.**

**Policy IC-2.2.1:** On an ongoing basis, Walton County shall establish new and review existing coordination mechanisms that will evaluate and address its comprehensive plan and programs and their effects on the comprehensive plans developed for the adjacent local governments, Walton County sSchool District~~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 this effort shall be requested from regional and state agencies, as needed.

**Policy IC-2.2.2:** On an annual basis, Walton County shall ask the Walton County School District Board to 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, 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 IC-2.2.3:** In order to coordinate the effective and efficient provision and siting of public educational facilities with associated infrastructure and services within Walton County, the Walton County Board of County Commissioners, the Walton County School District Board, and the City of DeFuniak Springs, City of Freeport and Town of Paxton shall meet jointly to develop mechanisms for coordination. Such efforts may include:

1. Coordinated submittal and review of the annual capital improvement program of Walton County, the annual educational facilities report and Five-yYear School Plant Survey of the Walton County School District~~Board~~.
2. Coordinated review and assessment of the associated costs and expenditures of siting and developing schools with needed public infrastructure, and the cost benefit of these facilities for mutually beneficial joint multiuse.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Assessment of costs and expenditures for local public facilities and schools should consider the cost benefit of joint multiuse facilities.*

3. Coordinated review of residential planned developments or mixed use planned developments involving residential development.
4. Use of a unified data base including population (forecasts of student population), land use and facilities of the Parks/Schools Planning Group (with representatives from each of the entities) to review coordinated siting of schools with parks for multi-functional use. Directives resulting from the joint meeting shall be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, Land



Development Regulations, and other appropriate mechanisms as deemed necessary.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Clarified Walton County School District Board in Goal IC-2 and corresponding Objectives and Policies.*

**Policy IC-2.2.4:** ~~The County will coordinate, through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the West Florida Regional Planning Council, the transportation needs of the County with the needs of the remainder of the county and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).~~

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Relocated Policy IC-2.2.4 to Policy IC-1.6.5 since it was not germane to educational facilities.*

**GOAL IC-3: COLLABORATE AND COORDINATE WITH EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED COMPATIBILITY OF THE LAND USES IN WALTON COUNTY WITH THE MISSIONS AND TRAINING OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE AIR FORCE.**

**Objective IC-3.1: Coordination of Land Uses with Eglin Air Force Base Walton County will shall seek to implement the recommendations of the 2009 Eglin Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Draft Report, 2008 (JLUS), and any subsequent updates final report, in an effort to minimize encroachment on the Reservation and provide needed support services and housing for Eglin Air Force Base.**

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Updated the JLUS reference.*

**Policy IC-3.1.1:** Walton County ~~will shall include~~ invite a representative of Eglin Air Force Base to participate as a non-voting member of the Planning Commission.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Walton County cannot mandate participation on the Planning Commission by Eglin AFB. The Planning Commission does not currently contain a representative from Eglin AFB.*

**Policy IC-3.1.2:** Copies of all development proposals and requests for map amendments within the Military Influence Area ~~will shall~~ be provided to Eglin AFB upon submittal for their review and comment.

**Policy IC-3.1.3:** Walton County ~~will shall~~ cooperate with representative of Eglin AFB in developing and implementing comprehensive plan and land development code provisions to implement the Joint Land Use Study recommendations.

**GOAL IC-4: ESTABLISH A REGULAR MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AMONG OFFICIALS OF TWO OR MORE POLITICAL OR OTHER JURISDICTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING AND RESOLVING ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST THAT ARISE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND**

## PLANS OF OTHERS.

### **Objective 1C-4.1: ~~Conflict Resolution~~**

The County shall coordinate with ~~and all~~ local governments will to develop an informal conflict resolution process.

*Matrix Analysis Comment: Walton County cannot mandate that local governments develop a conflict resolution process. Policy revised for Walton County to coordinate with local governments to develop a conflict resolution process.*

**Policy IC-4.1.1:** The informal conflict resolution committee ~~will~~ shall function as the initial agency to mediate comprehensive planning conflicts.

**Policy IC-4.1.2:** The County ~~will~~ shall utilize the WFRPC role as a mediator and conciliator as outlined in Rule 29H-13, FAC, to reconcile differences on planning and growth management issues as outlined in the Rule.

### **Objective IC-4.2: ~~Disputes~~**

The County shall work to bring intergovernmental disputes to closure in a timely manner through the use of voluntary dispute resolution processes.

**Policy IC-4.2.1:** The County ~~will~~ shall pursue the resolution of conflicts that may arise from the coordination of these intergovernmental coordination goals, objectives, and policies using the appropriate voluntary dispute resolution processes.

**Policy IC-4.2.2:** The County ~~will~~ shall utilize the existing countywide planning process, as appropriate, to resolve local government future land use plan disputes, as well as other planning related intergovernmental disputes.