

CHAPTER 10

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Florida statutory law requires public participation in the comprehensive planning process. Florida Statutes Chapter 163.3181 mandates that local planning agencies and local governmental units are directed to adopt procedures designed to provide effective public participation in the comprehensive planning process and to provide real property owners with notice of all official actions which will regulate the use of their property. The provisions provided herein are set out as the minimum requirements towards this end.

Public Participation Policies

The Brooksville City Council adopts the following procedures to provide for and encourage public participation in the planning process:

- a. All plan and plan amendment preparation, modification, and adoption shall be advertised in accordance with Florida Statutes Chapter 163, Part II.
- b. The City shall update the Comprehensive Plan or parts thereof as often as is deemed necessary by the City Council and in accordance with Florida Statutes Chapter 163, Part II.
- c. The City shall utilize its Planning and Zoning Commission as a public forum for citizen participation and to keep the general public informed.
- d. Written comments from the public regarding planning issues shall be encouraged and entered into the public record.
- e. The City shall provide written responses to said citizen inquiries upon request.

Summaries of the city's Comprehensive Plan are available from the Community Development Department at City Hall.

Given that Brooksville's adopted plan dates back to 1989, the plan has been formally reviewed as required by state law. It is the purpose of this section to ensure the continuation of evaluation and appraisal efforts, and to set forth those actions that will be adopted as a part of this plan that will measure future and ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

Monitoring and Evaluation Policies

The Brooksville City Council adopts the following policies for comprehensive plan monitoring:

- f. **Citizen Participation:** Each year, both the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council shall conduct one or more public hearings on the comprehensive plan. Each such hearing shall be advertised as was described in the preceding section on Public Participation Policies.
- g. **Updating Baseline Data and Measurable Objectives:** The Community Development Director shall, with assistance from City Staff, prepare updated baseline data and measurable objectives as needed. The data will then be provided to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which shall provide its recommendation to the City Council.
- h. **Accomplishments in the Initial Planning Period:** The Community Development Director will, with the assistance from the City Staff, develop a Comprehensive Plan Assessment Report (draft), which at a minimum will assess the degree to which selected goals, objectives and policies from each element have been reached.
- i. **Obstacles or Problems:** As a part of the above referenced report, the Community Development Director will identify obstacles or problems [including changed conditions] that resulted in any underachievement.
- j. **New or Modified Goals, Objectives or Policies:** The Planning and Zoning Commission will, with the assistance of the Community Development Director and with referral to the Assessment Report or subsequent Evaluation and Appraisal Report, recommend new or revised goals, objectives or policies needed in response to discovered problems.
- k. **Assured, Continued Monitoring and Evaluation:** The yearly public hearings, the annual updating of the Capital Improvements Element, and the involvement of the Community Development Director are some methods by which the City has assured that monitoring and evaluation will be continuous. In addition, it is the adopted policy of the City of Brooksville to assign to the Planning and Zoning Commission the responsibility for ongoing and future monitoring and evaluation of this comprehensive plan.