

INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COORDINATION

VII

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the coordination process and procedures with adjacent local governments, regional and state agencies.

The area of concern for the City includes the area within the corporate boundaries of the City.

The first section provides a list of all adjacent governments, school boards, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory control over the use of land within the City. Water management districts, regional planning agencies, and state agencies with which the City coordinates are also identified within this Chapter. Also included are regional or state agencies with land use or environmental regulatory authority, and utility electric companies which provide service within the City.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION DATA

ADJACENT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The adjacent local government is Alachua County which is governed by the Board of County Commissioners. They along with a set of constitutional officers of the County form the County government. The County government has jurisdictional responsibility for the unincorporated area as granted within the Constitution of the State of Florida.

Within Alachua County there are nine municipalities including the City of Archer, each having separate control of development occurring within the respective area of jurisdiction. The City of Gainesville is the County seat and major population center, as well as the major commercial and transportation center for the County. The City of High Springs, the City of Alachua, and the Town of Lacrosse are located in the northwest section of the County. The City of Archer, the City of Newberry, and the Town of Micanopy are located in the southwest section of the County. The City of Hawthorne is located in the southeast section of the County. The City of Waldo is located in the northeast section of the County. The location of these local governments can be found in Illustration VII-I.

The City of Archer is located in the Southwest section of Alachua County approximately 17 miles west of the City of Gainesville. Newberry, located 10 miles North of Archer, is the site of the middle school and high school to which students from the Archer are bussed. Bronson, located 9 miles West of Archer, is the county seat of Levy County where some residents of Archer obtain boat and vehicle tags and registrations as well as hunting and fishing licenses and engage in other state required transactions. Williston, 11 miles South of Archer, is also located in Levy County where some residents shop and obtain state required driver's licenses.

The Alachua County School Board is an independent public agency which provides county-wide services. This Board has a limited power of taxation to support public education, but has no regulatory authority over the use of land. This Board operates educational facilities within the County.

Higher educational facilities are available in the City of Gainesville at the University of Florida and Santa Fe Community College.

While there are no educational facilities located within the City of Archer, the City provides water to an elementary school located one-half mile outside the city.

STATE AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, Florida Department of Community Affairs, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Florida Department of Corrections, the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council are the state agencies and regional agencies involved in planning and service related matters of interest to the City of Archer.

In addition, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, the Florida Department of Natural Resources, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Suwannee River Water Management District are state agencies and regional agency with environmental responsibilities in the City of Archer. There are no local offices of these agencies located within the City of Archer.

EXISTING COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Intergovernmental coordination mechanisms are the processes and contractual agreements between local governments and other government agencies. An intergovernmental process may involve a committee or a task force consisting of representatives from one or more local governments or government agencies that meet to create and implement resolutions for the problems and needs of the respective local government. An intergovernmental process may or may not result in a formal agreement known as an "interlocal agreement."

UTILITIES

The following describes the public utilities providing services to the residents in the City of Archer.

ELECTRICITY

Electric utilities are provided to the City by Florida Power Corporation and Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc..

Florida Power Corporation, an investor-owned utility, serves north central Florida and the upper west coast of Florida. Electrical power is supplied to over 30 counties within the state. The district office serving the City is located in Trenton. The existing generating facilities consist of 12 generating plants distributed geographically around its service territory. These plants do not serve a defined area but are tied into a state-wide transmission system to balance varying needs for power and to assure system reliability. The nearest generating plant is the Suwannee River Plant located in Suwannee County. The Crystal River Nuclear Unit has been in operation since 1977. Florida Power Corporation serves residential, commercial and industrial customers within the City.

Clay Electric Cooperative Inc. is a rural electric cooperative serving seven counties in the north central and north eastern sections of the State, with headquarters in Keystone

Heights. Clay Electric does not currently generate their own electricity; rather they purchase it from private or publicly-owned utilities.

Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida for the purpose of providing electric power to its eleven distribution system members. These eleven system members include cooperatives serving 45 different counties throughout the state. The Cooperatives located in the north central Florida region include: Central Florida Electric, Clay Electric, Suwannee Valley Electric and Tri-County Electric.

POTABLE WATER

The City of Archer has a municipal owned and operated potable water system. The City has extended water distribution lines within the unincorporated area adjacent to the City.

Water quality is monitored and regulated by the State of Florida HRS and DER, as well as by Environmental Services and Public Health units of the County of Alachua.

SANITARY SEWER

The City of Archer does not own and operate a sanitary sewer system. Septic tanks are used on residential and small scale commercial properties scattered throughout the City. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, public sanitary sewer systems are not normally justified until population densities reach approximately 2,500 people per square mile.

The existing privately-owned sewer treatment package plant is monitored and regulated by the State of Florida DER and HRS as well as by Environmental Services and Public Health units of the County of Alachua.

TELEPHONE

Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph serves the residents of the City of Archer. Rates and services are regulated by the State of Florida PSC. The City of Archer has a franchise agreement which expires in 1994.

CABLE TELEVISION

Blue Run Cable, a subsidiary of Century Communications serves the residents of the City of Archer. The City of Archer has a franchise agreement which expires November 28, 2002. Their customer load in the City is approximately 300 customers.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The United States Soil Conservation Service which is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture provides a variety of soils information to the City of Archer. In addition, this agency provides information regarding the suitability of soils for septic tank usage.

STATE AGENCIES

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Florida Department of Transportation is responsible for planning, constructing and maintaining the state road system. The central office is located in Tallahassee and the district office for the City of Archer is in Lake City. Given the very close interrelationships and interdependence between land use and transportation, it is important that the coordination of local and state plans be achieved in both areas.

The Florida Department of Transportation regulates access to state roads. Before new development may have access to a state road, the developer must present plans for review to the Department. It also may influence drainage in new developments adjacent to state roads by regulating the amount of storm water runoff which may be allowed to flow into its storm water sewer system or roadside ditches. New developments, which expect to increase the amount of runoff to the drainage system of a state road, must submit a drainage plan for review to the Department.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGETING

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting, located in Tallahassee, is responsible for reviewing all applications for federal domestic assistance where the federal program requires state clearinghouse review. Basically, the purpose of this review is to insure that the proposed project is in conformance with state plans and programs. The ultimate goal of the review process is to provide for intergovernmental coordination between local, state and federal agencies.

In addition, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting is responsible for preparation of the State of Florida Comprehensive Plan which provides state-wide goals and policies for which all Comprehensive regional policy plans and local government comprehensive plans must be consistent.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The Florida Department of Community Affairs is the designated state land planning agency. Located in Tallahassee, the Florida Department of Community Affairs has been assigned the responsibility of reviewing local comprehensive plans to determine if such plans are consistent with Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan and the State Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the City's Comprehensive Plan must be provided for this purpose to the Florida Department of Community Affairs prior to the plan's adoption. This agency has the responsibility to administer Federal monies through the grant process. The City of Archer has successfully obtained two of these grants for neighborhood revitalization within the low-income areas.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation is primarily a permitting organization with respect to environmental quality. The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation plans and manages Florida's air and water quality within the guidelines of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Plans and management strategies for achieving air and water quality goals have been set both at the federal and state levels. Many of these programs strive to maintain or improve air and water quality by regulating the discharge of pollutants into water and air. Dischargers of pollutants must receive permits from the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation.

Regulation of environmental quality at the state and federal levels can have significant impact on development in the City of Archer.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry and Division of Administration Bureau of Soil and Water has responsibility for forest management assistance and provides fire protection and forestry management services for forest and wildlife areas and soils within the City of Archer.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Florida Department of Natural Resources is charged with the administration, supervision, development and conservation of Florida's natural resources, including the management of state owned lands. The City of Archer received a grant to develop the ten acre Archer Recreation Park.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, located in Tallahassee, is responsible for providing programs for children, youth, families and the aging. The district office in Gainesville serves the north central Florida region. The programs include housing for the elderly, disabled and the homeless, energy assistance, food stamps, employment training, day care, children's medical service, and alcohol and drug abuse counseling.

REGIONAL AGENCIES

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

The City is located within the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council region, an 11 county area in north central Florida. The Regional Planning Council provides certain planning and technical assistance functions. The City is a member of this association of local governments. The Regional Planning Council office is located in Gainesville.

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is charged with the preparation of a Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan pursuant to chapter 186, Florida Statutes. The Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan provides regional issues, goals, policies, and standards which further the goals and policy clusters of the State of Florida Comprehensive Plan for the 11 county north central Florida region. The updated local government comprehensive plans must be consistent with the issues, goals, policies, and standards of this Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan.

A multi-county function of the Regional Planning Council is the review of Developments of Regional Impact pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes. This review process applies to "any development which, because of its character, magnitude, or location, would have a substantial effect upon health, safety, or welfare of citizens of more than one county." The Regional Planning Council's primary function is to determine the positive and negative impacts of the proposed development and prepare an advisory report with recommendations to the local governments affected by the development. In addition, the Regional Planning Council is responsible for reviewing all applications for federal domestic assistance where the federal program requires areawide clearinghouse reviews. Basically, the purpose of this review process is to insure that the

proposed project is in conformance with regional and local plans and programs. The ultimate objective of this process is to provide for intergovernmental coordination between local, state, and federal agencies.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Suwannee River Water Management District was established by the Water Resources Act of 1972. This district is governed by a board appointed by the Governor. The District office is located in Live Oak. The Water Management District's responsibilities include water resource planning and permitting for water use, well drilling, surface water storage, and drainage.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

Local governments coordinate the provision of services in certain areas of mutual concern through agreements. Such agreements may be either formal or informal in nature. Under the provisions of the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act, local governments must cooperate with each other to provide services and facilities to meet an area's needs. These contractual agreements specify the cooperative arrangement, outline the organization and administration requirements and provide for the dispersal of funds.

Less formal agreements are often used where funds are not exchanged in the provision of a service or program. These coordination mechanisms can take the form of task forces, committees or resolutions. Representatives periodically meet to discuss areas of mutual concern and make recommendations for actions to be implemented by their respective governing bodies under these informal agreements. Described below is the existing formal coordination mechanism.

Animal Control. The City of Archer has entered into an agreement with Alachua County for stray and untagged animal pick-up. The Office of the County Manager and the City Manager coordinate the provisions of this agreement.

Building Inspection. The City of Archer contracts with the Alachua County for representatives of the County Building and Zoning Department to provide sources for inspection and permitting within the City. The Offices of the County Manager and the City Manager coordinate this agreement.

Fire Protection. The City of Archer has entered into an agreement with Alachua County to provide fire protection services outside the City limits. The Office of the County Manager and the City Manager coordinate the provisions of this agreement. An agreement with the State of Florida Division of Forestry (FDOF) provides a leased vehicle for fighting brush fires with the Archer Voluntary Fire Department assisting FDOF.

Police Protection. The City of Archer has entered into an agreement with the Alachua County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement and police protection services for the City. The Office of the Sheriff and the City Manager coordinate this agreement.

Signal Maintenance. The City of Archer contracts with the City of Gainesville for maintenance of traffic signals and flashing school crossing beacons on City streets. The Office of the City Manager of the City of Gainesville and the City Manager of the City of Archer coordinate this agreement.

Solid Waste. Alachua County owns and operates the only landfill within the county. The solid waste collected by the City of Archer is transported to this landfill for disposal. The

County bills the City for disposal. Representatives of the City of Archer, along with other cities and Alachua County comprise a Solid Waste Task Force and jointly apply for grants and plan recycling programs. The Office of the County Manager and the City Manager coordinate the provisions this agreement.

Emergency (E-911) System

The City of Archer has entered into an agreement with the County of Alachua for the use of the emergency telephone system known as the "E-911 Emergency Number System." The Office of the County Clerk and the City Manager coordinates the provisions of this agreement. The Alachua County Sheriff's Department operates the dispatch system.

INVENTORY OF COORDINATING ENTITIES

The Intergovernmental Matrix of Coordination Entities, Table VII-1, enumerates the state, regional, county and local governmental entities and the area of expertise and authority each agency exhibits in relation to the other comprehensive plan elements. Although the relationship between the entity and the local government may not be categorized as a formal contractual "interlocal agreement", there does exist a coordination mechanism and communication between the local government and the governmental entity for information and technical support.

TABLE VII-1
INTERGOVERNMENTAL MATRIX
COORDINATION ENTITIES

ENTITY ^a	FUTURE LAND USE	TRAFFIC CIRCULATION	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ELEMENTS ^b			RECREATION/ OPEN SPACE	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
			HOUSING	INFRASTRUCTURE	CONSERVATION		
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES	X			X	X	X	
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	X			X	X	X	
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES			X	X			
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		X		X			X
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGETING		X	X	X	X	X	X
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCHOOL BOARD	X					X	X
U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICES	X		X		X		
WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT	X			X	X	X	
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	X				X	X	X

^aState, Regional, County and Local Agencies.

^bComprehensive Plan Elements.

Source: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ANALYSIS

The data portion of this chapter described the coordination process and procedures with adjacent local governments, regional and state agencies. The following analysis of this data further identifies and analyzes the coordination mechanisms which are currently in effect between the City and other units of government and considers the effectiveness of these written and verbal agreements.

As the data identifies the process of intergovernmental coordination, this analysis considers the instruments which are currently in force to implement agreements for services between the City and its governmental counterparts.

This analysis will consider three criteria to determine the effectiveness of the agreement or coordination mechanism, which are summarized as follows:

- (1) The identification of specific problems and needs of the other elements of the data and analysis of the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- (2) The determination of any differences between the growth and development areas proposed in the City's Comprehensive Plan and those identified within Comprehensive Plans of adjacent local governments.
- (3) The determination of any differences between the growth and development areas proposed in the City's Comprehensive Plan and those identified in the Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan.

Intergovernmental coordination mechanisms are the processes and contractual agreements between local governments and other governmental and service agencies. The inter-governmental coordination process may involve a committee or task force representative of one or more local governments or governmental agencies that meet to create and implement resolutions for the problems and needs of the respective local governments.

A formal written "interlocal agreement" may be the result of this process to define the coordination of services. The benefits are mutual for the participants of an inter-governmental coordination agreement and the intended result would be the more effective provision of services or uses of public facilities.

The City of Archer has had representation on a number of Alachua County Advisory Boards and Task Forces established to study various public problems. Among these are recreation, greenbelt, fire services, and solid waste recycling.

Membership in the Alachua County League of Cities provides further representation on other county study groups. Citizens and elected officials are encouraged to serve on the many County Advisory Boards.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

EXISTING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

The following provides a description of each intergovernmental coordination mechanism and a determination of the effectiveness of each which is based upon the three previously stated criteria.

Animal Control

The City has entered into a contractual agreement with the County which provides animal control services within the municipality and the unincorporated area of the County.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing animal control services to the City residents.

Building Inspection

The City has entered into a contractual interlocal agreement with the County which provides for building inspection services within the municipality.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing building inspection services to the City residents.

Fire Protection

The City has entered into a contractual interlocal agreement with the County to provide fire protection services outside the City limits.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing fire protection services to the County residents within the Archer Fire District.

Police Protection

The City has entered into a contractual agreement with the County which provides for police protection services within the City.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing police protection to the City residents.

Signal Maintenance

The City has entered into a contractual agreement with the City of Gainesville which provides for signalization maintenance within the City.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing signal maintenance to the City.

Solid Waste

According to Chapter 17-7 of the Florida Administrative Code, the County and its municipalities are responsible for providing adequate, safe and sanitary resource recovery and management facilities within their respective jurisdictions. The Florida Administrative Code contains rules and regulations administered by various State departments and agencies which implement state law. Agreements exist between the City and the County, whereby the County is responsible for the ownership and operation of a sanitary landfill.

This intergovernmental coordination mechanism is consistent with the established criteria and is an effective mechanism for providing solid waste services to the City residents.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ISSUES WHICH WOULD BENEFIT FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

The elements of the City's Comprehensive Plan have not identified problems or needs which would require improved or additional intergovernmental coordination mechanisms. The mechanisms which currently exist between Federal, State Agencies as identified within Table VII-1 and the interlocal agreements identified within Table VII-2 with the County and other units of local government provide adequate intergovernmental coordination to implement the City's Comprehensive Plan.

COMPARISON OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

The City has been designated as an urban development area by the North Central Florida Comprehensive Regional Policy Plan. This designation will encourage development to be directed to the City which can be accommodated by the service capacities, fiscal abilities and land and water resources in an environmentally acceptable manner.

THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN'S COORDINATION WITH RULES AND PRINCIPLES FOR GUIDING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AREAS OF CRITICAL STATE CONCERN

There are no identified areas of critical state concern located within the City.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this plan element is to establish a goal and planning objectives with corresponding policies for the coordination process and procedures with adjacent local governments, regional and state agencies.

The data collected for this plan element identifies the process of intergovernmental coordination. In addition, the corresponding analysis reviews the effectiveness of the intergovernmental coordination instruments which are in force to implement agreements for services between the City and its governmental counterparts. Although the data and corresponding analysis are not part of this plan element, they serve to provide a basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The following goal, objectives and policies provide a plan which as implemented will provide guidelines for coordination between the City of Archer and adjacent local governments and other governmental and service agencies.

GOAL VII

ESTABLISH PROCESSES AMONG THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES TO ACHIEVE COORDINATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, PROMOTE COMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES AND PROMOTE THE EFFICIENT USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES AMONG GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

OBJECTIVE VII.1

The City of Archer, upon adoption of this comprehensive plan, shall coordinate its comprehensive planning with the Alachua County School Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, adjacent local government comprehensive plans and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of the land.

Policy VII.1.1

The City of Archer shall establish a procedure, as part of the Comprehensive Plan review and amendment process, that all plan amendments proposed within the Comprehensive Plan are coordinated with adjacent local governments, the Alachua County School Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, State and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land.

Policy VII.1.2

The City of Archer shall attempt to resolve intergovernmental issues through direct negotiation with other relevant local units of government.

Policy VII.1.3

The City of Archer will use the services of the NCFRPC and any other available mediator to resolve intergovernmental disputes pertaining to this comprehensive plan.

Policy VII.1.4

The City of Archer will promote interlocal agreements for the provision of services across jurisdictional boundaries.

OBJECTIVE VII.2

The City of Archer, upon adoption of this comprehensive plan, will provide Alachua County government, the Suwannee River Water Management District, the North Florida Regional Planning Council and the Florida Department of Community Affairs the opportunity to comment on Comprehensive Plan amendments, except small scale development amendments.

Policy VII.2.1

The City of Archer shall, as part of the development review process, coordinate proposed development proposals with the existing comprehensive plan of Alachua County.

Policy VII.2.2

The City of Archer shall, as part of the monitoring and evaluation process of the Comprehensive Plan, review the relationships of development provided for in the Comprehensive Plan to the existing comprehensive plan of Alachua County.

OBJECTIVE VII.3

The City of Archer, upon adoption of this comprehensive plan, shall coordinate the establishment and amendment of level of service standards for public facilities with state and local entities having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities prior to the adoption.

Policy VII.3.1

The City of Archer shall, as part of the Comprehensive Plan monitoring and evaluation process, coordinate amendments of any level of service standards with appropriate state regional and local agencies, such as the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, Florida Department of Natural Resources, the Suwannee River Water Management District, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Alachua County government and the Alachua County School Board prior to such amendments.