

FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT

GOAL: TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INVESTMENT BY ENCOURAGING THE EFFICIENT USE OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES; ASSURE THE ORDERLY, EFFICIENT GROWTH OF THE CITY BY ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT IN THOSE AREAS WHICH ARE BEST SERVED BY INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES; PROMOTE NEW LAND USES WHICH CREATE THE LEAST POSSIBLE DISRUPTION TO EXISTING USES; CREATE A STRATEGY WHICH ANTICIPATES FUTURE COMMUNITY NEEDS BY ACQUIRING AND ASSEMBLING PLATTED LANDS; AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, CONSISTENT WITH PUBLIC NEEDS.

OBJECTIVE 1: Managing Future Growth and Development: The City of Cape Coral will manage future growth and land development by adopting, implementing, and enforcing new regulatory vehicles. All land development regulations called for in this Plan shall be adopted and implemented in accordance with the provisions of S. 163.3202, Florida Statutes. The short-term planning timeframe shall be established as up to the year 2028, while the long-term planning horizon shall be the year 2050.

Policy 1.1: The City will consider the impacts of climate change and sea level rise when determining the appropriate future land use map classification for property within the City of Cape Coral.

Policy 1.2: The City will regulate the use of land and water to protect State-owned preservation lands, the City's system of fresh and salt-water canals, and the outlying waters of the Caloosahatchee River and Charlotte Harbor.

Policy 1.3: The City will adopt measures to regulate areas subject to seasonal and periodic flooding and will provide for drainage and stormwater management.

Policy 1.4: The City will continue to protect potable water wellfields through the placement of the wellheads in a manner which uses street rights-of-way as buffers. The wellheads will continue to be protected from physical damage by using construction techniques appropriate for their location, such as locating future wellheads adjacent to street rights-of-way. However, due to population densities, it may be necessary to place wellheads in the median in isolated circumstances. Buffering for such locations will be evaluated on an individual site basis to prevent contamination via the wellhead itself.

Policy 1.5: The City will continue to regulate signage to prevent visual blight.

Policy 1.6: The City will continue to promote healthy communities and a diverse housing stock so that all persons may have an opportunity to reside in this community. To accomplish this goal, the City supports efforts to balance single-family and multi-family residential stock.

Policy 1.7: The City has identified a shortfall of multi-family residential housing stock in the community. To provide better guidance in identifying properties which are appropriate for multi-family residential development, to reduce this shortfall, locational guidelines have been developed. The following locational guidelines are as follows:

1.) Proximity to major roadways.

To prevent the establishment of multi-family residential development far in the middle of predominantly single-family neighborhoods, an appropriate location for multi-family residential development is adjacent to or within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of major roadways such as arterial and collector roadways, as identified by *Figure 7 City Roadway Classifications*.

2.) Proximity to non-residential land uses.

An important consideration for siting multi-family residential development is the need for multi-family residential uses to be in proximity to major employment centers. Providing housing near commercial uses can result in shorter trips, lessened traffic generation by workers, and providing multiple transportation mode options (walking, bicycling, automobile, bus) for employees.

An appropriate location for multi-family residential development is adjacent to or within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of non-residential land uses such as the Commercial/Professional, Light Industrial, Mixed Use, Downtown Mixed, Pine Island Road District, or Commercial Activity Center future land use classifications.

3.) Transitioning from commercial uses to less intense uses.

Multi-family residential uses have traditionally provided a role in buffering single-family uses or neighborhoods from nearby commercial development. Multi-family residential development is often self-contained with parking lots which provide a physical barrier visually separating commercial uses, particularly the lighting and loading areas, from single-family residential uses, which is a benefit to the community.

Therefore, an appropriate location for multi-family residential development is physically between single-family development and non-residential land uses such as the Commercial/Professional, Light Industrial, Mixed Use, Downtown Mixed, Pine Island Road District, or Commercial Activity Center future land use classifications.

4.) Assemblage opportunities and adjacency to existing multi-family residential.

Single, isolated pre-platted parcels provide little opportunity for larger-scale multi-family residential development, and contribute to the same ills that strip center commercial developments offer; a proliferation of driveways onto major roadways.

Therefore, an appropriate location for multi-family residential development is a collection of properties of 3-acres or greater which provide multi-family assemblage opportunities, or for properties which alone are 3-acres or greater in size. Furthermore, consideration will be

given to logical extensions from existing multi-family residential designated properties.

Policy 1.8: The City will maintain regulations ensuring safe and convenient on-site traffic flow and vehicle parking needs for all developed lands.

Policy 1.9: The City will issue no development orders or construction permits, which result in a reduction in the level of service for any affected public facility below the level of service standard adopted in this comprehensive plan.

Policy 1.10: The City will periodically develop a buildout analysis to assist long-range planning activities. This analysis shall be conducted no less than once per five years and will be available to the public on the City website.

Policy 1.11: The City will continue to conduct studies to ascertain the feasibility of implementing alternative mechanisms to aid and encourage the de-platting of platted lands, and to encourage the acquisition and assembly of land for public uses.

Policy 1.12: The City will continue to conduct commercial land needs studies to identify potential areas of the City, which could accommodate commercially designated land, and then amend the Future Land Use Map, consistent with the studies, findings, recommendations, and other provisions of the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 1.13: In establishing commercial siting guidelines, it is the intent of the City of Cape Coral to discourage new “strip commercial” development. Strip commercial development, for the purpose of this policy, is often, but not always, linear in orientation, typically generates high volumes of traffic that is often associated with separate vehicular entrances and exits for each property on the primary street, may have poor or undefined pedestrian path systems that create conflicts between pedestrian and vehicular movements, and generally lacks sufficient onsite space to accommodate normal parking and loading activities. In discouraging new strip commercial development, the City shall also seek to limit or reduce traffic conflict points along arterial and collector roadways, to promote pedestrian-friendly development, and to create synergistic, compact patterns of commercial development.

To achieve this intent, the City will utilize commercial siting guidelines as a basis for considering the appropriateness of placing the Commercial/Professional Mixed Use, Commercial Activity Center future land use classifications at various locations. “Commercial siting guidelines,” in the sense used herein, refers to guidelines for evaluating potential locations for non-residential (except industrial) development within the above-referenced future land use classifications. The City will also complement its consideration of potential commercial lands; by utilizing the policies contained in Future Land Use Objectives 2 and 3 and Policies 1.12 and 1.14 of this comprehensive plan. Finally, the City of Cape Coral’s commercial siting guidelines shall be based on the ideal concept of a commercial node.

Commercial nodes may be defined as a compact concentration of commercial land within a relatively small area. Ideally, such nodes are located around or in the vicinity of intersections of major city roadways (typically, 4 or more lane divided parkways and boulevards). The City recognizes that commercial areas may periodically develop distant

from a major intersection, as some intersections may have insufficient undeveloped property in the vicinity of the intersection to allow for development of larger commercial centers. Such outlying commercial development can be useful in providing neighborhood commercial centers, professional buildings or office parks to serve a variety of local needs.

Preferably, however, commercial nodes should begin as a concentration of commercial properties adjacent to a major intersection. Once the node is established, it is difficult to define how far from the intersection subsequent commercial expansion should reach. It is also difficult to define the types of future land uses that should exist between nodes. The application of hard and fast rules is not appropriate as each area of the City is unique and has specific conditions and limitations that must be addressed.

The ideal commercial node development pattern thus would consist of commercial land located at the intersection of arterial and/or collector streets in a relatively compact manner. For purposes of this policy, “compact,” relates to the form and interrelatedness of the commercial land uses within the commercial node. The commercial node should not only extend along the roadway but should also incorporate property to the rear of the road frontage. Such a pattern is referred to as “depth.” The ideal pattern can be characterized by a 1:1 ratio of width to depth of the parcels (e.g., 100 feet of width per 100 feet of depth). Thus, the shape of the node can increase or decrease the potential for interrelatedness of uses. Increased depth also enables the development to accommodate adequate parking, buffering, retention, and open area for commercial development. Ideal commercial nodes provide limited access to the arterial roadway while providing interconnections between the various commercial uses within the node.

Policy 1.14: The City of Cape Coral’s commercial siting guidelines are based upon comparison of the locational characteristics of a property proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use classification with the ideal commercial node concept, as described in Policy 1.13, above. The guidelines are also based upon the need to maintain compatibility between commercial development and adjacent or nearby residential future land use classifications. Additional guidance for consideration of such properties is contained in Future Land Use Objectives 2 and 3 and Policy 1.12 of this comprehensive plan. Within this broad, general context, consideration of properties proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use shall be based upon the following commercial siting guidelines:

Commercial Siting Guidelines

Major Intersection

Preferred locations for commercial properties are in the vicinity of major intersections (i.e., intersections of two or more arterial and/or collector roadways). Development of a commercial node at such an intersection may involve multiple parcels and, sometimes, multiple quadrants of the intersection. The benefits derived by having commercial properties located in the vicinity of the intersection diminish with distance, but the distance at which a property ceases to derive benefit from proximity to the intersection varies, based upon whether the subject property would represent a new, separate commercial property or an expansion of an existing commercial area. New commercial properties should

preferably be located adjacent to the intersection, while commercial properties that clearly represent an expansion of an existing commercial area can be any distance from the intersection, provided that such properties are integrated with existing properties.

Adequate Depth

Ideally, a commercial property should extend not only along the adjacent collector or arterial roadway, but also should extend inward with adequate depth to accommodate the necessary parking, buffering, retention, and open area for the future commercial development. In Cape Coral, most City blocks are rows of back-to-back lots approximately 250 feet deep. Therefore, adequate depth is achieved if any number of contiguous properties, occupy the entire 250 feet of depth.

Compactness

Compactness measures the ability of a property proposed for a commercial future land use to take advantage of economies of scale. The shape of an ideal compact commercial property approaches that of a square or rectangle. This quality allows for an orderly arrangement of development on the subject property and acts to reduce adverse visual, noise or aesthetic impacts to neighboring properties.

Integration

Integration, for the purposes of these guidelines, refers to the interrelatedness of development within a commercial node or area. The presence of features, such as internal access roads, shared parking, courtyards, walkways, or other features, binds the various commercial properties within the node together. This pattern of development reduces the traffic impacts associated with commercial development and often promotes a pedestrian-friendly environment. Integration of neighboring commercial properties should always be encouraged. Therefore, properties proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use should be evaluated for the likelihood that such properties would or could be integrated with adjacent existing commercial properties.

Assembly

For commercial areas to provide the most benefit to the surrounding community, they must be of relatively large size. The majority of buildable lots within the City of Cape Coral are approximately 10,000 square feet (0.23 acre) in size. These lots were designed primarily for single-family residential development and do not typically have adequate width or depth for larger commercial developments that might serve the City as shopping or employment centers. Therefore, it is important for the City to encourage commercial applicants to assemble relatively large parcels (properties comprising 3 acres or more). Assembly of pre-platted parcels into tracts of 3 acres or more will promote the development of commercial properties that do not express the indicators of strip commercial development. Assembly of larger parcels also allows the developer to provide a greater variety of commercial land uses, and to provide architectural and landscape features that result in a more attractive end-product.

Properties proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use, where such properties would represent an expansion of an existing commercial area may be considered “assembled,” for the purposes of these guidelines if the proposed expansion properties are either owned by the landowner of one or more adjacent commercial properties, or if the expansion property is likely to be integrated with (see above) adjacent commercial properties.

Intrusion

“Intrusion,” as defined for the purpose of these guidelines, is a measure of the objectionable qualities of the proposed commercial development. This guideline applies primarily to new commercial property (a property proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use in an area where it would not abut existing commercial properties). Intrusion evaluates the potential adverse impacts on surrounding properties that could be caused by converting a property from its existing future land use to a commercial use. There are no hard and fast guidelines for determining when a proposed commercial use would be intrusive to surrounding development. However, expansions of existing commercial areas are generally considered less intrusive than the establishment of new commercial areas. Commercial areas may be considered less intrusive to adjacent multi-family development than to adjacent single-family development. Commercial development that is separated from a residential area by a street, canal, a vegetative buffer, or other geographic features, may be considered less intrusive than commercial development that directly abuts a residential area. The degree of compactness (see above) of a commercial property can also reduce or increase its intrusion upon adjacent or nearby properties.

Typically, new commercial properties (properties proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use classification, which do not abut existing commercial properties) are less likely to be considered intrusive if the surrounding or adjacent residential areas are sparsely developed. While intrusion is subjective and depends on many factors, a rule of thumb is that the proposed commercial property would not likely be intrusive if adjacent residential areas are 25% or less developed. The area analyzed to determine the percentage of adjacent residential development may vary from 300 feet to 1,000 feet from the subject property, depending upon the degree to which streets, canals, landscaping or other geographic features separate the subject property from nearby residential areas.

Access

In the City of Cape Coral there are two ideal access provisions for a commercial property. If a subject property would meet the requirements for one or more of these provisions, the creation of a commercial future land use at the proposed location should be encouraged. These provisions are as follows:

- a) Access via a platted City parking area. The City of Cape Coral contains a number of dedicated commercial parking areas; some created by plat, and some deeded to the City by landowners. The Comprehensive Plan and City Land Development Code refer to these as “dedicated City parking areas.” These parking areas are often surrounded by smaller platted lots originally intended for commercial development with access to these lots only, or primarily, from the dedicated City parking area. In

implementing this provision, it may sometimes be in the City's interest to promote conversion of a dedicated City parking area to a fully functional commercial development (i.e., a portion of the dedicated parking area would become a commercial building site) in return for the applicant's agreement to own and manage the site.

- b) Direct access onto an arterial or collector roadway having an adopted City access management plan. The City has adopted access management plans for certain arterial and collector roadways. Access management plans serve to facilitate mobility of the traveling public; therefore, such roadways more readily accommodate the impacts of commercial development than roadways without such access management plans.

Ownership Pattern

An ideal commercial node is a cohesive, compact, interrelated network of commercial properties. Properties proposed for conversion to a commercial future land use, which properties consist of multiple parcels, or groups of parcels, under multiple ownership are unlikely to develop as a true "commercial node." Instead, these properties are more likely to develop as separate, small commercial developments with multiple access points, leading to adverse, unsafe traffic conditions. Each small development may also have its own stormwater management pond, dumpster, and an appearance and/or landscaping design that is inconsistent with surrounding development. This pattern is a characteristic of strip commercial development. Therefore, the City of Cape Coral encourages land owners and developers to assemble the properties involved in a commercial future land use request under common ownership. Multiple, small properties under separate ownership, even if such properties are included in a single future land use amendment request, may not be appropriate for the full array of commercial uses.

APPLICATION OF GUIDELINES:

Dual purpose

The dual purpose of the above guidelines is to direct commercial development to appropriate locations (commercial nodes) and to prevent the propagation of new strip commercial centers. The development of new strip commercial centers and the expansion of existing strip commercial centers should be discouraged.

Comparison to Ideal Commercial Node

In utilizing the above guidelines to evaluate a proposed commercial property, the City is, in effect, comparing each proposed commercial future land use location to the concept of an ideal "commercial node." While one of the above guidelines may sometimes be the primary factor in evaluating a potential commercial location, it is in most instances the combination of various factors that is important. It is the evaluation of this combination of factors, in order to develop an overall assessment of the subject property, which will enable Staff, the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council to determine whether or not the siting of a proposed commercial future land use on the subject property is consistent with the intent of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

In context with the remainder of the Comprehensive Plan

It is also important to note that consideration of the commercial siting guidelines is in addition to all other analyses required by Florida Statutes and the Florida Administrative Code for future land use map amendments. In addition to evaluating a property's consistency with the above guidelines, the City will continue to provide, or request applicants to provide, environmental and protected species analysis, transportation impact analysis and public facility capacity (concurrency) review for all future land use map amendments.

The commercial siting guidelines should be considered in light of all other factors typically evaluated within a future land use amendment request. Thus, a request, which results in an unfavorable evaluation of the commercial siting guidelines, may receive a favorable recommendation from staff, based upon other factors not considered by the guidelines. Likewise, staff may recommend denial of a project that receives a favorable evaluation of the guidelines, if other factors (again, not considered by the guidelines) appear not to be favorable.

Policy 1.15: Land development regulations adopted to implement this comprehensive plan will be based on, and will be consistent with, the standards for uses and densities/intensities as described in the following future land use classifications. Table 1 shows the zoning districts which are consistent with and implement the respective future land use map classifications. In no case shall maximum densities allowable by the following classifications conflict with Policy 4.3.3 of the Conservation and Coastal Management Element regulating density of development within the Coastal High Hazard Area.

Table 1:

Future Land Use	Consistent Zoning Districts
Single-Family (SF)	R-1, RE
Single-Family and Multi-Family (SM)	A (E/O), R-1, RML, RMM, RE,
Multi-Family (MF)	RML, RMM
Low Density Residential (LDR)	A (E/O), RE,
Commercial/Professional (CP)	C, P, NC, BSOD
Mixed Use (MX)	ALL except MXB
Downtown Mixed (DM)	RML (E/O), SC, MXB
Pine Island Road District (PIRD)	CC
Commercial Activity Center (CAC)	NC, BSOD
Light Industrial (I)	I
Natural Resources/Preservation (PRES)	PV
Public Facilities (PF)	ALL except A
Parks and Recreation (PK)	ALL except MX7 and MXB
Open Space (OS)	ALL except A
Burnt Store Road District (BURST)	BSC
Mixed Use Ten (MUX)	Planned Unit Development (PUD)-only

*(E/O): Existing Only, no new rezones to zoning district permitted

Planned Unit Developments are considered to be consistent in all future land use map classifications except Natural Resources/Preservation and Open Space.

- a. Single-Family Residential: Densities not to exceed 4.4 units per acre, except for micro-cottage communities should such a program be implemented in Cape Coral. Densities in micro-cottage communities are restricted to 8.8 units per acre, for sites with a minimum of 3 acres.

The Single Family (R-1) District is proposed to permit a variety of single-family residential products and ancillary uses.

- b. Multi-Family Residential: Densities up to 25 units per acre are permitted in this future land use map classification. Densities shall be calculated as a product of the size of the property divided by 43,560, multiplied by 16, rounded down. Development of multi-family projects in the Urban Services Reserve Area is also subject to the terms of Policies 7.7 and 7.8, below.

The Residential Multi-Family Low (RML) District is designed to permit multi-family residential development. Single-family attached projects (three or more units only), single-family residences, and duplexes are also permitted in this zoning district.

The Residential Multi-Family Medium (RMM) District is designed to permit higher-density multi-family residential development. Lower-density, multi-family residential projects such as duplexes or single-family residences are not permitted in this zoning district.

- c. Commercial/Professional: Intensities of use in the Commercial/Professional (CP) land use classification shall not exceed a floor to lot area ratio (FAR) of 1.0. Zoning districts compatible with this classification may also be used in conjunction with the Mixed Use (MX) future land use classification. When used in conjunction with the MX Classification, densities, intensities and other parameters, as described for these districts may differ from those described for the CP Classification. Permitted uses will ultimately depend upon the zoning district of the subject parcel. Generally, two zoning districts are consistent with the Commercial/Professional future land use classification, identified below. However, the City may develop additional zoning districts, compatible with the CP future land use classification, in the future.

The Professional (P) District is designed to provide professional office and other compatible development in areas that are suitable for such activities. The P District is appropriate for development of both small-scale and large-scale office or professional development projects, or projects containing uses compatible with such development. The intensity of development within this district is based upon the size (including width, depth, and compactness) and location of the property, as well as on compatibility with adjacent future land use classifications and zoning districts.

The Commercial (C) District is designed to facilitate a broad variety of large or small commercial uses. Uses allowed in the C District range from a variety of small or neighborhood-based commercial uses to larger retail or service uses, which may

serve a relatively large trade area and, which may be developed as major shopping facilities. As many commercial uses have the potential to generate relatively high levels of vehicular trips from customers and sometimes delivery vehicles, preferred locations for the C District have direct access onto arterial or collector roads and adequate depth (a minimum of 250 feet) for larger- scale development.

In certain locations, fragmented ownership of relatively small properties, or other factors, may preclude the creation of larger properties with access onto a collector or arterial roadway. Under such circumstances, it may be appropriate for the C Zoning District to place additional limits on the intensities of commercial development on these properties. It may also be appropriate, under certain circumstances to place restrictions on some commercial uses, such as those with high trip generation rates, adverse aesthetic attributes, and generation of disturbing noises or odors. Factors to consider when establishing such limits on intensities or uses include the following: the depth of the property, whether the property is adjacent to a waterway, whether the property is adjacent to or proximate to future land use classifications or zoning districts that allow residential uses, or the functional classification of street(s) available for street access. The placement of limitations upon the types and intensities of uses allowed within the C Zoning District, in accordance with the factors described above, is intended to reduce conflicts between the C District and adjacent or nearby residential zoning districts.

Lastly, the City has adopted the Neighborhood Commercial (NC) zoning district as consistent with the Commercial/Professional Land Use Classification. The purpose of this zoning district is to facilitate mixed-use development within the commercial corridor, particularly for well-established corridors such as Del Prado and Santa Barbara Boulevards.

Development standards in accordance with the Neighborhood Commercial zoning district and the Commercial/Professional future land use map classification are as follows:

Neighborhood Commercial Development Parameters for CP		
	Land Area of Development Project	
	1 acre – 19.99 acres	20 acres or greater
Free-standing Commercial Development Area Maximum FAR	0%-100% 1.0	0%-100% 1.0
Mixed-Use Development Area Minimum Density Maximum Density Maximum FAR	0-100% 12 d.u./acre or 50 units 16 d.u./acre 2.0	0-100% 12 d.u./acre or 75 units 16 d.u./acre 2.0
Build-to / Front Setback	10 ft.	10 ft.
Minimum Side Setback	0 or 6	0 or 6
Min. Rear Setback	6	6

Minimum development size within the NC zoning district in the Commercial/Professional future land use map classification is one acre.

- d. Light Industrial: Shall not exceed a floor to lot area ratio of 1.0.
- e. Mixed-Use: The mixed-use designation is intended to encourage the development of planned projects that include more than one type of use. The maximum permitted densities/intensities of various uses within the mixed-use designation will be 25 dwelling units per acre for a residential component and 1.0 FAR (Floor Area Ratio) for nonresidential uses. For example, a project combining multi-family and commercial uses would be subject to Policies 1.15.b. or 7.7 for the multi-family portion, and Policy 1.15.c. for the commercial portion.

The following will control the mix of uses allowed in the Mixed-Use Land Use category.

Properties less than one (1) acre: The designation of smaller properties as Mixed-Use is desired to encourage the accumulation of land into large properties. However, in some cases assemblage is difficult due to existing development. In these situations, a property with a Mixed-Use future land use classification may be developed with one use, which is also consistent with its underlying zoning district.

Properties one (1) acre and greater: Larger properties are prime candidates for mixed use developments. These properties shall include more than one type of use. The mix of uses may include residential, retail, office, services, light industrial, or public facilities. Such uses may be mixed horizontally on a site or may be within a compound use building, (i.e., differing uses within one building or structure) consisting of residential and retail, office, or services. For Mixed-Use developments adopted after October 23, 2010, retail, office, services, light industrial, or public

facilities uses may be developed up to 100% of building floor area within a Mixed-Use property; this will have the intended effect of not requiring a mix of non-residential uses for properties one (1) acre or greater in size. Stand-alone residential uses may comprise up to 20% of site area of a Mixed-Use property one (1) acre or greater in size. Compound use residences are permitted.

Notwithstanding any provisions that may be interpreted to the contrary, Mixed-Use developments approved prior to October 23, 2010 may continue to abide by the development requests granted within their respective adopted development orders or approved site plans. Furthermore, Mixed-Use properties located in the Urban Services Reserve Area require three (3) acres in order to develop a mixed-use project. Mixed Use designated property in the Urban Reserve Services Area less than three acres is limited to a single use that does not generate an estimated flow of more than 880 gallons of sewage per acre per day. Estimated flows shall be based on 64E-6.008 Florida Administrative Code, as may be amended.

- f. Single-Family and Multi-Family: The maximum densities and intensities of use for this category, which is exclusively within the Urban Services Reserve Area, are 4.4 dwelling units per acre for single-family residential uses, 6 units per acre for multi-family residential uses on sites less than 3 acres. Multi-family residential uses for properties between 3 and 19.99 acres have a maximum density of 16 units per acre. Multi-family residential uses for properties greater or equal to 20 acres have a density of 25 dwelling units per acre.
- g. Natural Resources/Preservation: The areas designated on the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map for Natural Resources/Preservation primarily consist of State-owned or regulated land. Development in these areas is limited to activities to make them accessible to the public for research or recreational purposes. Such activities would include accessways, nature trails, informational signs or displays, restroom facilities, picnic tables/shelters, beaches and boat ramps.

Privately-owned properties with this future land use map classification may develop at a density of one dwelling unit per 20 acres.
- h. Public Facilities: The majority of the public facilities category consists of schools, public safety buildings, and religious establishments. Government offices must conform to the Commercial/Professional densities/intensities of use.
- i. Parks & Recreation: The densities/intensities of use for various parks and recreational facilities are those established in the Recreation and Open Space Element of this Comprehensive Plan, under the Section entitled "The Plan for Recreation and Open Space in Cape Coral" and the Parks Master Plan.

Uses permitted within the Parks and Recreation future land use map classification include, but are not limited to, NRPA activities listed in Policy 1.2 of the Recreation and Open Space Element, picnic facilities, and public boat ramps.

- j. Historical Resources: As noted in the Comprehensive Plan, most identified historic resources are located within the Natural Resources/ Preservation land use

designation and are therefore subject to the densities/intensities of use specified in Future Land Use Element Policy 1.13g.

- k. Downtown Mixed: Intended primarily for the Downtown Community Redevelopment Area, to provide, a vibrant, walkable, mixed-use district in the historical heart of Cape Coral, mixed-use projects containing commercial and professional uses in conjunction with multi-family housing opportunities where practical and feasible are encouraged. To this end, commercial/professional uses may develop at a maximum Floor Area ratio of four (4) with an average area-wide FAR of two and twenty-three one hundredths (2.23) with commercial/professional uses developed at a ratio of sixty-five (65) percent commercial and thirty-five (35) percent professional, on an area-wide basis. Residential development may develop at a density of one hundred twenty-five (125) dwelling units per acre, not to exceed an aggregate of eleven thousand one hundred forty-six (11,146) dwelling units. In order to maintain these development limits, the City shall track residential and non-residential development within this future land use map classification.

No further residential development will be permitted in this future land use classification should dwelling unit limits be reached. If the average area-wide FAR of two and twenty-three hundredths (2.23) is reached, the City will permit only that nonresidential development with a FAR of 2.23 or below. Development at these intensities and densities are contingent on the availability of centralized city utility services and transportation network at sufficient capacities to accommodate the development at the appropriate level of service, the availability of sufficient and convenient parking to service the project, the availability of multimodal transportation opportunities, and compatibility with adjacent existing and future land use. Special zoning designations may be established to implement this future land use classification, designed to result in a compact urban form.

Zoning districts consistent with the Downtown Mixed future land use map classification are the South Cape Downtown District and the Mixed-Use Bimini Basin zoning district.

- l. Pine Island Road District: This Land Use designation will encourage mixed-use development at key intersections with major North-South streets along Pine Island Road.

Corridor: Includes such uses as retail, office, office/warehouse, light manufacturing, institutional (schools, colleges), multi-family residential, larger scale commercial retail (big box stores over 50,000 square-feet) and government uses such as parks and public facilities. Multi-family residential uses may be developed at a density of twenty-five units per acre, for sites of four acres or more. Multi-family residential uses may consist of no less than fifty units or have a density no less than ten or more units per acre. Multi-family residential dwelling units are permitted up to the development cap of 8,615 dwelling units. No single-family residences and duplexes are permitted. Commercial and light manufacturing uses shall not exceed a floor to lot area ratio (FAR) of 1.25 in accordance with City design standards. Public facilities shall be subject to Policy

1.15.h., of the Future Land Use Element and parks and recreation shall be subject to Policy 1.15.i. of the Future Land Use Element.

The maximum number of residential dwelling units in the Pine Island Road District is 8,615 units for the entire future land use map classification.

Statutorily-authorized affordable multi-family rental units per F.S. 166.04151 as amended, shall not count toward the residential development limitation provided above.

Pre-Existing Single-Family Residences Allowed

It is the desire of the City of Cape Coral to protect the rights of owners of single-family homes located within the Pine Island Road District, which homes had either:

- a) Been lawfully constructed or had applied for or received a building permit at their current locations prior to the designation of the subject as part of a PIRD future land use classification; or,
- b) Been lawfully constructed or had applied for or received a building permit at their current locations under a former PIRD future land use classification.

In this classification single family residences that meet the criteria stated above may continue to be maintained, remodeled, expanded, or rebuilt, and that the owners of such properties may continue to enjoy all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of home ownership, including the ability to sell or rent their homes to other parties.

- m. Commercial Activity Center (CAC): The purpose of this future land use classification is to promote non-residential and mixed-use development at key locations, within close proximity to major corridors throughout the City of Cape Coral in areas where a mix of uses may be developed. The Commercial Activity Center classification is a mixed-use classification designed to minimize the need for vehicle trips through the development of both residential and non-residential uses in a single project. Furthermore, the purpose of the Commercial Activity Center is to integrate all uses through landscape, site, and architectural design standards. In addition, the Commercial Activity Center land use classification is intended to provide locations that offer employment opportunities and daily goods and services to the local community and, in some instances, attract patrons from the region. Commercial Activity Centers are intended to be pedestrian friendly and interconnected with adjacent projects – whether residential or non-residential.

Pre-Existing Single-Family Residences Allowed

It is the desire of the City of Cape Coral to protect the rights of owners of single-family homes located within a Commercial Activity Center (CAC), which homes had either:

- a) Been lawfully constructed or had applied for or received a building permit at their current locations prior to the designation of the subject as part of a CAC future land use classification; or,
- b) Been lawfully constructed or had applied for or received a building permit at their current locations under a former CAC future land use classification.

In this classification single family residences that meet the criteria stated above may continue to be maintained, remodeled, expanded, or rebuilt, and that the owners of such properties may continue to enjoy all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of home ownership, including the ability to sell or rent their homes to other parties. In and of themselves, pre-existing single-family residences do not necessarily constitute **Free-Standing Residential** development, unless they otherwise meet the criteria for such development, as discussed under **Use Area Allocations**, below. If pre-existing single-family residences, as defined in this section, are included as part of a larger approved development project, the pre-existing status of the residences is lost, and such residences become subject to the City Land Development Code regarding non-conforming structures.

The City has adopted the Neighborhood Commercial (NC) zoning district as consistent with the Commercial Activity Center Future Land Use Classification. Development standards in accordance with the Neighborhood Commercial zoning district are as follows:

Neighborhood Commercial Development Parameters			
	Land Area of Development Project		
	1 acre or less	1 acre – 19.99 acres	20 acres or greater
Free-standing Commercial Development Area Maximum FAR	0-100% 1.0	15%-100% 1.0	20%-75% 1.0
Free-standing Residential Development Area Minimum Density Maximum Density	N/A N/A N/A	15%-85% 12 d.u./acre or 50 units 16 d.u./acre	25%-80% 12 d.u./acre or 75 units 16 d.u./acre
Mixed-Use Development Area Minimum Density Maximum Density Maximum FAR	0-100% 3 d.u./acre 12 du/acre 1.0	0-100% 12 d.u./acre or 50 units 16 d.u./acre 2.0	0-100% 12 d.u./acre or 75 units 16 d.u./acre 2.0
Build-to / Front Setback	6 ft. – 10ft.	10 ft.	10 ft.
Minimum Side Setback	0 or 6	0 or 6	0 or 6
Min. Rear Setback	6	6	6

Additional zoning districts may be developed in the future to implement this land use

initiative.

- n. Low Density Residential: This land use classification allows for a maximum density of one (1) dwelling unit per 40,000 square feet, excluding right-of-way.
- o. OPEN SPACE (OS): The Open Space Future Land Use Classification is designed to designate, with the consent of the property owner, areas for purposes or activities having no dwelling units, non-residential floor area or demand for public facilities. Areas suitable for designation under this classification include, but are not limited to, the following: lakes or other waterways not platted as rights-of-way, which may be used for recreational purposes; stormwater treatment facilities; buffer areas; preserves or conservation areas; or recreation areas having no access except by owners, guests or employees of the surrounding development project. Areas included within this future land use classification used for recreation may have amenities, including, but not limited to, boat ramps, piers, docks, open-sided picnic shelters, gazebos or pavilions. Floor areas of any such structures shall not be considered as non-residential floor area and may not be used to support the sale or rental of any items; nor may such structures be used for office or administrative purposes. No commercial use shall be made for any recreational facilities within the Open Space Future Land Use Classification.

Paving of areas within this future land use classification shall be limited to the construction of foot paths and floors for open-sided shelters or pavilions, basketball, tennis, or other recreational courts (however, no such courts shall have associated spectator seating or administrative/maintenance structures), as well as paving associated with minimal parking areas, boat ramps, piers, docks, open-sided picnic shelters, gazebos, or pavilions. Lands or areas within this future land use classification shall not be used as parking for residential, commercial, or industrial areas although minimal onsite parking, including an access drive, may be allowed to facilitate recreational use of lands under this future land use classification, or to serve as parking for nearby properties that are within the Natural Resources/Preservation Future Land Use Classification.

All zoning districts are considered compatible with this future land use classification. However, this future land use classification allows only those activities that are consistent with this classification, as delineated above, and, which have no associated density, intensity, or demand for public facilities.

- p. Sub-Districts: In addition to the regulations listed above, the City of Cape Coral also has sub-districts, as a means to efficiently regulate development in particular areas of interest. These sub-districts include:

Tyson Shores Sub-District

Within the Tyson Shores Sub-District, development shall be limited to a maximum of 115 dwelling units. All property within the Tyson Shores Sub-District shall be entitled to a proportional share of the 115 dwelling units; however, the development rights may be transferred among any properties within the Tyson Shores Sub-District through mutual agreement of the affected property owners, as long as the

density is consistent with all Land Development Code and other provisions of this Plan. This limitation may be amended when central water and sewer service is available to serve the site.

Judd Creek Sub-District

Within the Judd Creek Sub-District, development shall not exceed 16 dwelling units per acre and the number of residential dwelling units cannot exceed 1,170 units. Non-residential intensity on lands with a future land use map designation of Pine Island Road District shall not exceed 250,000 square feet of gross leasable floor area. All lands within the Judd Creek Sub-District with a future land use map designation of Pine Island Road District shall be entitled to a proportional share of the 250,000 square feet of gross leasable floor area; however, the development rights may be transferred among any properties within the Judd Creek Sub-District with a future land use map designation of Pine Island Road District through mutual agreement of the affected property owners, as long as the intensity is consistent with all Land Development Code and other provisions of this Plan.

Seven Islands Sub-District

Within the Seven Islands Sub-District, development shall be limited to a maximum of 995 dwelling units and 110,000 square feet of non-residential development. A hotel of no more than 240 rooms is also permitted in addition to the aforementioned non-residential square footage. Development rights within the Sub-District may be transferred among any properties within the Seven Islands Sub-District through mutual agreement of the property owners.

This Sub-District shall be placed within the Mixed-Use future land use map classification but is not subject to Mixed-Use future land use map classification baseline densities and intensities found within Policy 1.15.e and Policy 1.23. Mixed use development is required within the Seven Islands Sub-District. Development within the Seven Islands Sub-District shall not require a PDP.

The location of the Sub-District is legally described as:

Parcels of land lying in Sections 12 and 13, Section 44 South, Range 22 East, Lee County, Florida; and being more particularly described as follows:

All of Lots 12 through 17, Block 6400;
All of Tract "G" and all of Lots 1 through 5, Block 6401;
All of Tract "F" and all of Lots 1 through 7, Block 6402;
All of Tract "E" and all of Lots 1 through 4, Block 6403;
All of Tract "D" and all of Lots 1 through 3, Block 6404;
All of Tract "C" and all of Lots 1 and 2, Block 6405;
All of Tract "B" and all of Lots 1 through 7, Block 6406;
All of Tract "A" and all of Lots 1 through 8, Block 6407;
All of Tract "I" and all of Lots 1 through 4, Block 6408;

All as shown on the Plat of Cape Coral, Unit 76, The Islands, recorded in Plat Book 35 at Pages 121 through 129 of the Public Records of Lee County, Florida. Subject to Easements, Reservations, and Restrictions of record.

q. Council-adopted Vision Plans

Exemptions to the development requirements are permitted for master plan or vision planning efforts that meet the following criteria:

1. The master or vision planning effort must be adopted by resolution or ordinance by the City Council.

2. Property in question is city-owned at the time of the master or vision planning effort. Transfers of property or public-private partnerships occurring after the planning effort must contain a clause requiring the future property owner(s) or developer(s) to abide by the adopted master or vision planning effort.

3. The master or vision planning effort must have had no fewer than two (2) public hearings discussing the provisions of the plan. Residents living within 500 feet of a property considered for a master or vision planning effort shall receive notice of these public hearings in the same manner as a rezoning for future land use map amendment.

4. The minimum size of the area subject to the master or vision planning effort is twenty (20) acres.

5. At a minimum, the master or vision planning effort must address the following impacts of the planning effort on the property and surrounding area.

- a.) Transportation Impacts
- b.) Environmental Impacts
- c.) Utility Capacity Availability
- d.) Public Safety Availability

6. Development options approved by Council through a master or vision planning effort may result in densities and intensities greater than those permitted elsewhere in Policy 1.15. In such instances, staff will establish a Sub-District on the Future Land Use Map and depict specific development limits for the site in the Future Land Use Element.

7. Changes to the adopted master or vision planning effort shall occur through a public hearing process identical to s.166.041(3)(c)2, F.S.

r. Burnt Store Road District (BURST): This land use designation will encourage mixed-use development that would support the growing population of NW Cape Coral.

Uses permitted within the Burnt Store Road District include retail, office, office/warehouse, light manufacturing, institutional, multi-family residential, single-

family residential attached uses (3+ units), larger scale commercial retail, and government uses such as parks and public facilities.

New residential uses permitted in the Burnt Store Road District may only be developed within a mixed-use building.

Single-family detached residences, single-family semi-detached residences, duplexes, and all other stand-alone residential uses are prohibited in the Burnt Store Road District.

Single-family residential uses, single-family semi-detached residences, and duplexes existing prior to the effective date of this future land use map classification are permitted as conforming uses in the Burnt Store Road District. Residences that had been lawfully constructed or had received or applied for a building permit at their current locations prior to the designation of the subject property as part of a Burnt Store Road District future land use classification are considered conforming uses, and may continue to enjoy all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of home ownership.

Residential developments within the Burnt Store Road District have a maximum density of 25 dwelling units per acre, but no minimum density.

Stand-alone outdoor storage uses are prohibited in the Burnt Store Road District.

Non-residential uses shall not exceed a floor area ratio (FAR) of 1.0. Public facilities shall be subject to Policy 1.15.h., of the Future Land Use Element and parks and recreation facilities shall be subject to Policy 1.15.i. of the Future Land Use Element.

- s. Mixed Use Ten. This mixed-use designation's purpose is to encourage planned unit developments that include more than one type of use. The maximum permitted densities/intensities of various uses within the mixed-use designation will be 50 dwelling units per acre for residential components and 3.0 FAR (Floor Area Ratio) for non-residential components. Development within the Mixed Use Ten is permitted only through the Planned Unit Development (PUD) process. Given the intensities and densities permitted within this classification, Master Concept Plans are required as part of the PUD submittal within the Mixed Use Ten future land use map classification.

Given the intense development permitted in the Mixed Use Ten, this future land use map classification may only be designated in areas served by centralized sanitary sewer, irrigation, and potable water services, areas identified as receiving centralized utilities through the City's Utility Expansion Program in the next three (3) years, or areas subject to a utility agreement to provide centralized utilities between the developer and the City.

The minimum development size within the Mixed Use Ten future land use map classification is 10 acres, and PUDs within the MUX also have a minimum size of 10 acres.

In the pursuit of encouraging more than one type of use, the mix of uses permitted

may include residential, retail, office, services, industrial, or public facilities uses. Such uses may be mixed horizontally on a site or may be within a mixed-use building, as defined by the Land Development Code.

The mix of uses may include a development consisting of 100% non-residential uses. Stand-alone residential uses may comprise up to 50% of a development, as measured by acreage set aside for the component of the development.

Policy 1.16: Land development regulations, whether adopted or revised subsequent to the adoption of this plan, will address the location and extent of both residential and non-residential land uses in accordance with the Future Land Use Map and the policies and description of types, sizes, densities, and intensities of land use contained in the "Future Land Use Map" section of this Element.

Policy 1.17: Land development regulations, whether adopted or revised subsequent to the adoption of this plan, will address buffering and open space requirements, and will protect existing residential land uses from incompatible land uses.

Policy 1.18: Vested Rights. In circumstances in which constitutionally protected property rights or valid development expectations conflict with the City of Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan and judicially defined principles of equitable estoppel may override otherwise valid limitations imposed by the Plan, such property rights or expectations may be recognized by the Cape Coral City Council, acting by resolution after review and recommendation by the Cape Coral Planning & Zoning Commission/Local Planning Agency, on a case-by-case basis.

Such development expectations are exclusive to the following:

1. A development order issued prior to adoption of the Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan including Planned Unit Development, Planned Development Project, special exception, and site plan approvals which have been expressly approved by the City Council in writing and where construction has been or is being diligently pursued pursuant to such approval.
2. A development or project that has been issued a valid building permit prior to adoption of the Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan (February 13, 1989) which has commenced construction and is continuing in good faith.

Nothing in the Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan shall limit or modify the rights of any person to complete any development that has been authorized as a Development of Regional Impact pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes.

Policy 1.19: The City will adopt urban corridor design guidelines and special land use regulations along the City's roadways, which serve as entry points to the City. These guidelines and regulations will identify specific signage and setback requirements, and other regulations, which will serve to prevent visual and physical blight along specified roadways. The City has adopted guidelines within the Community Redevelopment Area,

which may serve as an example for future corridor design guidelines.

Policy 1.20: The City will promote the development of identifiable residential neighborhoods and commercial districts through the encouragement of more compact development patterns, the use of shared design and landscaping characteristics, and the development of landmarks and gateways.

Policy 1.21: The need for additional educational facilities and programs in the City of Cape Coral will be met through cooperation between the City and the Lee County School Board. Prospective sites shall first be evaluated on projections of residential growth in the area, the ability to serve the current school age population, and transportation needs for use of the site. The City of Cape Coral will then coordinate with the Lee County School Board to evaluate the list of prospective sites to avoid impacts on unique or regionally significant natural systems, to avoid the placement of new public facilities within the Coastal High-Hazard Area, and to ensure compatibility with adjacent land uses and concurrency with other necessary urban services.

Policy 1.22: The City of Cape Coral shall continue to coordinate land use policies with hazard mitigation reports generated in the aftermath of a natural or manmade disaster. Furthermore, the City will continue to coordinate with other local agencies in the placement of public buildings, such as schools, in order to ensure that such buildings are not placed within the Coastal High-Hazard Area. Finally, the City may also consider measures designed to reduce potential hazards to life and property within the Coastal High-Hazard Area. Such measures may include reduction of densities in the Coastal High-Hazard Area, public acquisition of land, increased building requirements, or any other appropriate policies recommended in future hazard mitigation reports, or otherwise determined by the City Council to be warranted.

Policy 1.23: Based upon increased awareness of the difficulties associated with pesticides, herbicides, water quality, and habitat loss, the City has determined that all new golf courses should be developed in a manner that is sensitive to environmental and ecological quality. New golf courses throughout the City will be developed as Planned Unit Developments in accordance with the City of Cape Coral Land Development Code. Additionally, new golf courses will be developed following the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Best Management Practices for the Enhancement of Environmental Quality on Florida Golf Courses, January 2007, and be designed, constructed, certified, and then managed in accordance with the Audubon International Signature Program. Exempted from these regulations are former and existing golf course facilities in Cape Coral, otherwise known as the Coral Oaks Golf Course, Executive Golf Course, and the Palmetto Pine Golf Course. The term “golf course facilities” refers to all properties used in the operation and maintenance of golf courses, including, but not limited to, fairways, greens, bunkers, driving ranges, pathways, parking lots, clubhouses, and pro shops. The foregoing exemption from Policy 1.24 shall apply in perpetuity and run with the land.

To further ensure a high standard of golf course development in Cape Coral, natural waterways shall be left in a natural, unaltered condition and shall not be channelized, provided:

- i. If a crossing for a natural waterway, water body, or flow way is proposed, it must be designed, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize the removal of trees and other shading vegetation;
- ii. Golf cart crossings must be designed to be permeable, be no wider than eight feet, and placed on pilings from edge of floodplain to edge of floodplain;
- iii. Created or restored flow ways and water bodies may be crossed by bridges or culverts, or a combination thereof, if approved by the South Florida Water Management District;
- iv. An existing natural waterway may not be excavated for new lakes or ponds;
- v. Upland ponds must not expose stream channels to an increase in either the rate or duration of floodwater, unless otherwise required by the South Florida Water Management District in order to further regional water management objectives.

All fairways, greens, and tees are elevated above the 25-year flood level, and all greens must utilize underdrains. The effluent from these underdrains must be pre-treated prior to discharge into the balance of the development's water management system.

Further, to ensure water conservation, golf course irrigation systems must utilize computerized irrigation programs based on weather station information and moisture sensing systems to determine existing soil moisture and evapotranspiration rates so as to provide water efficient zone control. Where re-use water is available, new golf courses will, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize such re-use water for irrigation purposes.

Design of new golf courses will protect wildlife by: 1.) maintaining natural wildlife habitat in at least 50% of all minimally used portions of the property; 2.) connect natural areas as much as possible to improve wildlife movement throughout the golf course and from the course to neighboring natural areas; 3.) maintain a water source for wildlife with aquatic plants and shrubbery or native landscaping along the shoreline; 4.) naturalize at least 50% of out-of-play shorelines with emergent aquatic and shoreline plants; and 5.) maintain nesting boxes or other structures, when appropriate, to enhance nesting sites for birds or bats.

A Construction Management Plan will be required prior to new golf course development in accordance with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Best Management Practices for the Enhancement of Environmental Quality on Florida Golf Courses.

New golf courses shall be monitored annually in the following areas:

- a. Surface and groundwater monitoring requirements
- b. Construction monitoring: Annual reports detailing construction activities, permitting, compliance with Audubon International Signature Standards and percent of project completed.
- c. Land management activities: Including those used on the golf course, as well as natural and preserve areas.
- d. Wildlife monitoring: An inventory of wildlife, wildlife activity, and wildlife management activities.

- e. Irrigation monitoring: A summary of the monthly irrigation withdrawal and irrigation sources.
- f. Mitigation/vegetation monitoring: Status reports on the viability of any mitigation or landscaping conducted on-site and an inventory of all fertilizers used for golf course and non-golf course areas maintained during the year.
- g. Integrated pest management monitoring: Provide a discussion on the pest management techniques, and any pest problems that have occurred on the project.
- h. If surface and/or groundwater monitoring shows degradation of water quality the City will notify the property owner that a plan, to correct the identified problem(s), must be submitted. The property owner must submit a plan of action within 30 days after receipt of written notice from the City. The plan must identify actions that will correct the problem(s) within the shortest possible time frame. This plan will be reviewed and must be found to be acceptable by the City. If the plan is not submitted as required, or is found to be unacceptable by the City, the City will require that all activities on the property cease until a plan is submitted and approved. The approved plan must be implemented by the property owner. If the City determines that the approved plan is not being implemented properly, the City can require that all activities on the property cease until the property owner comes back into compliance.

OBJECTIVE 2: Location of New Commercial Development: New commercial development shall be so located to provide minimal vehicle trip lengths, at or near transportation nodes, and compatible with neighboring residential uses.

Policy 2.1: The City shall encourage commercial development where it can efficiently use infrastructure, where their adverse impacts on adjacent uses are minimized and where they will effectively provide the community with desired products, services and employment opportunities.

OBJECTIVE 3: Development of Quality Commercial Centers: The City encourages development of quality commercial (retail, office, or services) centers on property that meets the recommended land configuration for such commercial centers and that is located proximate to an adequate trade area, relative to the size and character of the center, and necessary to ensure economic viability.

Policy 3.1: The City of Cape Coral will encourage the development of future commercial (retail, office, or services) areas at or near transportation nodes by assigning appropriate future land use designations.

Policy 3.2: The size, location, and function of commercial areas shall be related and central to the population, market area, and the transportation network system. The distribution and size of commercial areas shall be spatially located to meet neighborhood, community and regional needs and to reduce vehicle trip lengths.

Policy 3.3: The City shall initiate and/or consider privately initiated future land use map

amendments necessary to provide an adequate supply of lands designated for retail, office, and services uses in quantities and locations appropriate for such uses.

Policy 3.4: Commercial development shall include bicycle parking areas, and when appropriate, bus bays and bus shelters in order to encourage alternative transportation modes.

Policy 3.5: The City will adhere to the Pine Island Road Corridor Master Plan to provide guidance, standards, and to direct growth and development along the Pine Island Road Corridor.

Policy 3.6: The City may consider the vacation of rights-of-way to facilitate land assembly and the development of a unified, contiguous commercial project.

Policy 3.7: The City of Cape Coral may develop other zoning districts that are compatible with the Commercial/Professional future land use classification.

OBJECTIVE 4: Location of Future Development: Future private development requiring public water and wastewater will be directed into the Urban Services Infill Area and the Urban Services Transition Area illustrated on the Future Land Use Map, unless specifically accepted by the provisions of this plan.

Policy 4.1: Future development requiring access or connection to public water and sewer facilities will be located within either the Urban Services Infill or Transition areas.

Policy 4.2: Exemption from the provisions of Policy 4.1 will be made only in extraordinary cases where the physical size, potentially disruptive nature, or geographic needs of the project would make strict adherence unreasonable. These projects include developments of regional impact, utilities plants, airports, public schools, technical schools, community colleges, parks and other government facilities.

Policy 4.3: The City will continue to periodically review its Economic Development Master Plan to identify emerging trends and encourage large-scale commercial, professional, and industrial types of development within the City.

Policy 4.4: Completed and city-accepted private initiatives to utility service, such as developer-extended utilities, shall be considered as extensions to the Urban Services Transition Area.

OBJECTIVE 5: Extension of Infrastructure and Services in the Urban Services Infill Area: Infrastructure and community services will be extended to serve 100 percent of the anticipated functional population of the Urban Services Infill Area.

Policy 5.1: Land use regulations, whether adopted or revised pursuant to this plan, shall provide incentives to encourage infill of residential, commercial, and other appropriate uses within the Urban Services Infill Area and Transition Area.

Policy 5.2: The City will amend the Future Land Use Map using the plan amendment process, to annex Urban Services Transition Area lands into the Urban Services Infill Area as soon as those lands are found to be served with the adopted level of infrastructure

and community services.

Policy 5.3: New commercial development shall meet all of the requirements for adequate facilities based on the level of service standards adopted for roads, potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, storm water facilities, and other services in this plan.

Policy 5.4: In addition to the facilities for which level of service standards are adopted as part of the concurrency management system of this plan; other services that should be considered to serve new commercial and mixed-use development include fire, police and emergency medical protection.

OBJECTIVE 6: Extension of Infrastructure and Services in the Urban Services Transition Area: Infrastructure and community services will be extended to serve 100 percent of the anticipated functional population of the Urban Services Transition Area at the same level of service standards available within the Urban Services Infill Area.

Policy 6.1: Future extension of utilities will be located and timed to attain a reasonable balance between the following factors:

Protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

Protection of the environment from contamination.

Protection of potable water aquifers from excessive withdrawal or saline-water intrusion.

Projected population increases.

Enhancement of economic development resulting from the provision of services.

Continuity with the future plans for utilities within the extension area and adjacent areas.

Collection and distribution facilities will only be extended with consideration given to the capacities of the aquifers, water wells, treatment plants, or disposal facilities capacities to provide the adopted levels of service.

Property value and financial impacts on property owners.

Financial feasibility of the utility expansion.

Policy 6.2: The City will continue to identify a portion of the Urban Services Transition Area for future land banking opportunities.

OBJECTIVE 7: Development in the Urban Services Reserve Area: The City will discourage premature "leap-frog" development within the Urban Services Reserve Area.

Policy 7.1: The City will amend the Future Land Use Map through the plan amendment process to annex Urban Services Reserve Area lands into the Urban Services Transition Area as a prerequisite to the extension of infrastructure and community services. Amendments of this type may take place only after the Urban Services Infill and Transition Areas are

reevaluated as a whole and the City determines that the additional land is appropriate in size and location to meet the needs of the projected population. Per Policy 2.3.3 of the Infrastructure Element, extension of centralized potable water and wastewater infrastructure services beyond the Urban Services Infill and Transition Areas may be undertaken if such services are provided by a developer, independent utility franchise, or through the developer-financed extension of City utilities.

Policy 7.2: The City will concentrate its long-range land acquisition and assembly efforts within the Urban Services Reserve Area.

Policy 7.3: The City will provide incentives to individual property owners, builders, and developers to assemble parcels of land for future private uses, and will encourage the use of zero lot line (ZLL) and cluster type of development to improve lot layout, drainage, and stormwater retention.

Policy 7.4: Developers of land within the Urban Services Reserve Area, shall bear the costs of extending water and wastewater infrastructure if onsite systems are impracticable.

Policy 7.5: Reserved.

Policy 7.6: Notwithstanding any provisions in this element which may be interpreted to the contrary, the right to a development order to build one (1) single family dwelling unit in the Urban Services Reserve Area on a property of 10,000 square feet or more, or to build no more than 4.4 single family dwelling units per developable acre, shall be permitted for privately-owned lands if classified as Park and Recreation Facilities or Public Facilities on the Future Land Use Map.

Policy 7.7: As an incentive to the assembly, holding, and development of sizable tracts of land in the Urban Services Reserve Area, tracts of the following sizes may be developed at the following residential densities, subject to (i) adopted performance standards capable of allowing residential development at such densities; (ii) any applicable concurrency requirements; (iii) applicable standards of other governmental agencies; and (iv) any other applicable goals, objectives and policies in the Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan:

ACREAGE	DU/ACRE
3-4.99	8
5-9.99	10
10-14.99	12
15-19.99	14
20	16

Policy 7.8: Platted lots in the Urban Services Reserve Area zoned for Commercial or Professional use prior to the February 13, 1989 Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan that are now designated for Residential use, if they (i) are below the minimum size for Residential use, and (ii) adjoin City-owned property, may be conveyed to the City for an impact fee credit that may be lawfully granted by the City equal to their fair market value at the time of conveyance, based on their Commercial or Professional zoning prior to the

adoption of the February 13, 1989 Cape Coral Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 7.9: Development of properties or projects that have access to city utilities and are divided by or adjacent to the Urban Services boundary may be developed, at the density or intensity of land use as designated on the Future Land Use Map. Such development must proceed as one compact and unified development and shall be governed by the rules for development in the Urban Services Infill and Transition Areas and be subject to the intensities and densities of policy 1.16.

Policy 7.10: The City shall discourage illogical and inefficient leapfrog development, by encouraging and directing development to areas adjacent to section of the City served by existing centralized utilities, and that the extension of centralized utilities will abide by Policy 1.1.6 of the Infrastructure Element.

OBJECTIVE 8: Restrictions upon Incompatible Land Uses: The City will prohibit land uses which are incompatible or inconsistent with the Future Land Use Map.

Policy 8.1: The City will prohibit the expansion or replacement of land uses which are inconsistent with the Future Land Use Element.

Policy 8.2: Land development regulations, adopted pursuant to s.163.3202, F.S., will require the buffering of incompatible land uses.

Policy 8.3: Commercial developments shall be designed to minimize negative impacts on surrounding residential uses and the land development regulations shall provide for adequate buffering between commercial and residential uses. The design should ensure adequate screening of unsightly views of commercial developments (such as loading docks, rooftop equipment, service entrances, trash containers, parking areas, and exterior storage) through the extensive use of landscaping, berms, fencing, concealment, architectural features, open space, setbacks, and building orientation. Ensure that the placement of any noise generating activities such as ingress/egress, parking, deliveries, air conditioning equipment, and dumpster collections are designed to minimize any adverse noise effects. Traffic and parking should not adversely affect neighborhood quality. Noise, safety, and overall maintenance of commercial properties should be carefully monitored.

Policy 8.4: The City shall encourage transitions from commercial uses to less intensive land uses and site design that considers the following preferred characteristics to attain compatibility with adjacent residential uses:

- a. Site Orientation
 - i. Vehicular access should be from a collector, arterial, access street, or an alley if the subject uses are located within the Downtown Community Redevelopment Area.
 - ii. Pedestrian access should be designed to provide internal and external circulation from adjacent neighborhoods.
 - iii. Streets should be designed with elements to provide visual or physical

buffering may serve as boundaries between different intensities of land uses.

- iv. Site improvements within commercial areas such as lighting, signs, and landscaping should be designed and coordinated in order to create a positive identity and visual image throughout the development area.
- b. Site design should promote the preservation and integration of mature trees, natural vegetation, and natural and environmentally sensitive areas whenever feasible.
- c. Screening and landscaping
 - i. Creative and extensive use of landscaping and berming techniques for natural transitions between differing intensities of land uses is encouraged.
 - ii. Fences should not be used as a sole method of providing screening and buffering between differing intensities of land uses.
 - iii. The City shall review and revise landscaping and signage standards for commercial development to enhance the visual and physical environment to foster its integration of other land uses.
- d. Lighting used to illuminate parking areas, signs, or structures should be placed and designed to deflect light away from adjoining property or public streets through fixture type, height, orientation and location.

Policy 8.5: The City encourages the use of multi-family residential, compound buildings, professional offices, and parks as transitional uses between commercial development and low-density residential neighborhood. Such development should include:

- a. Design elements such as: height and scale compatible with the surrounding residential uses; _
- b. Site design that is compatible with surrounding residential neighborhoods with consideration given to extensive screening, architectural features, building and parking orientation, and preservation of natural features; and
- c. Primary site access provided from arterials, collectors, or access streets in order to discourage traffic from directly entering residential areas.

Policy 8.6: Commercial developments and compound buildings shall be encouraged to preserve substantial areas of natural vegetation.

OBJECTIVE 9: Coastal Development: The City will coordinate coastal area population densities with the Southwest Florida Comprehensive Hurricane Evacuation Plan.

Policy 9.1: The City will encourage the development of infrastructure in the northeastern portion of the community to take advantage of high elevations and opportunities for rapid evacuation.

Policy 9.2: The City will utilize the 2017 Climate Change Resiliency Strategy and other

strategies, as updated, for the placement of public infrastructure in order to better prepare for sea level rise.

OBJECTIVE 10: Charlotte Harbor Management Plan: The City will coordinate its planning efforts with the provisions of the Charlotte Harbor Management Plan.

Policy 10.1: Requests for development orders and building permits will be coordinated with governmental agencies including, but not necessarily limited to, Lee County, Charlotte County, the Regional Planning Council, the South Florida Water Management District, and other State and Federal agencies.

OBJECTIVE 11: Protection of Marine, Estuarine, and Upland Environments: Cape Coral will continue to protect marine and estuarine communities and will continue its protection to include the ownership and maintenance of a significant example of an upland ecological community.

Policy 11.1: The City will own and maintain a minimum of 200-acre tract of upland for use as a major park emphasizing passive recreation and nature study.

Policy 11.2: The City will continue to use inland sites for dredge spoil to protect marine and estuarine communities. The identification of subsequent spoil sites will begin within two years of the existing site reaching capacity.

OBJECTIVE 12: Protection of Historic Resources: The City will continue to identify all historic resources within the City jurisdiction and will adopt regulations to preserve and protect those resources for future enjoyment.

Policy 12.1: The Development Services Department will be the designated body responsible for preserving the City's historic resources and the identification of historic homes and structures within the City jurisdictional boundaries.

Policy 12.2: Cape Coral will continue to cooperate with State and Federal agencies to protect identified historical and archaeological resources from vandalism and desecration and will preserve these resources in a manner which promotes an understanding of historic peoples and their times.

OBJECTIVE 13: Renewal of Blighted Areas: The City will pursue the redevelopment and renewal of blighted areas in the downtown area consistent with the provisions of the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) plan.

Policy 13.1: The City will continue the redevelopment of the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) in downtown Cape Coral according to the schedule of the CRA plan as adopted by Council.

Policy 13.2: The City will, as part of its CRA planning process, investigate innovative market opportunities to property owners in blighted areas to remodel, rebuild, and replat their buildings and properties.

Policy 13.3: In order to encourage and facilitate development and redevelopment and the

provision of housing, employment, service and shopping opportunities in a compact area currently served by public facilities, mixed-use development shall be allowed in the Downtown Community Redevelopment Area. Such mixed-use development shall conform to the Community Redevelopment Area Plan, as same may be amended, and shall be reviewed in accordance with the City Land Development Code.

Objective 14: In order to promote the economic viability of Downtown Cape Coral, the City of Cape Coral shall establish the Downtown Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (Downtown TCEA). Establishment of the TCEA will enhance the ability of the City to undertake the following activities:

Urban redevelopment;

Urban infill development;

Increasing retail and commercial services, as well as employment opportunities within the downtown area, thereby reducing the City's reliance on travel across bridges to reach such land uses;

Providing residents of, and visitors to, the downtown area with a variety of transportation choices and opportunities including automotive, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit;

The creation and implementation of desirable urban design and form in the downtown area;

The creation of a broader mix of residential and non-residential uses in the downtown area;

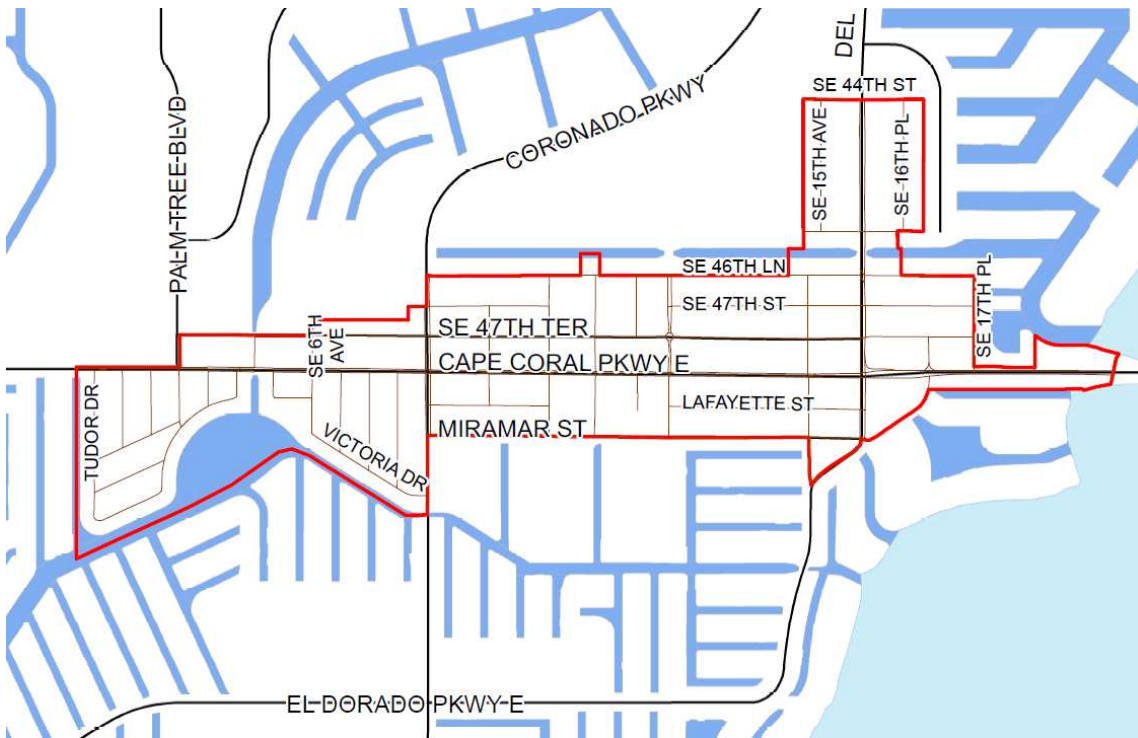
Implementing streetscaping and landscaping improvements in the downtown area; and

Increasing comfort, safety and convenience for pedestrian, bicycle, and transit users in the downtown area.

Policy 14.1: The City of Cape Coral hereby establishes the Downtown CRA Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (Downtown TCEA) to aid in the revitalization and redevelopment of the properties within the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) area. The purpose of the TCEA shall be to provide incentives for revitalization, infill development and redevelopment by eliminating or minimizing transportation concurrency requirements, in exchange for the implementation of sound land use and transportation planning techniques, which enhance mobility within the downtown area.

Policy 14.2: The City of Cape Coral Downtown CRA TCEA shall have boundaries as depicted on the Future Land Use Map. The general boundaries of the area are as follows: SE 44th Street and SE 46th Lane on the North, SE 17th Place, Waikiki Avenue, and the Caloosahatchee River on the East, Miramar Street, Bimini Basin Canal, and Norfolk Canal on the South, and Tudor Canal, Palm Tree Boulevard, Coronado Parkway and the

alley in Block 396 on the West, as depicted below.



Policy 14.3: New development, redevelopment and infill development projects located within the City of Cape Coral Downtown Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (Downtown TCEA) may elect to be exempt from transportation concurrency requirements through implementation of the mitigation strategies described in Policy 14.5 of this Element. New development, redevelopment, and infill development projects that do not choose to mitigate transportation concurrency impacts in such manner shall be subject to all applicable transportation concurrency requirements. Whether or not a project elects to mitigate its transportation impacts through the strategies identified in Future Land Use Policy 14.5, or elects to be subject to standard transportation concurrency requirements, all projects shall be subject to concurrency review for the purpose of assessing the transportation impacts of the proposed development.

Policy 14.4: The City of Cape Coral and the Cape Coral Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) will work with Lee County Transit (LeeTran), or other local transit provider, and the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to expand and/or otherwise improve the public transportation system within the Downtown TCEA in an effort to reduce the demand on the existing transportation network by reducing the number of trips on the roadways within the Downtown TCEA.

Policy 14.5: In order to be exempt from link specific concurrency and to support mobility enhancement within the Downtown TCEA, all new development, redevelopment, or infill development projects may opt to incorporate any five of the following provisions:

Preferential parking for carpools, vanpools, or multiple occupancy vehicles with the object of increasing the average vehicle occupancy for trips generated by the development.

Parking price structures favoring carpools, vanpools, or multiple occupancy vehicles, with the object of increasing either the average vehicle occupancy for trips generated by the development, or increasing transit ridership.

Flexible work schedules for employees of the development, with the object of decreasing peak hour automobile trips generated by the development.

Payment of a subsidy to LeeTran to support an increased level of transit service within the TCEA.

Payment into one or more funds, to be established by the City or the CRA. Monies collected by such fund(s) shall be used to support programs or capital projects designed to provide additional parking and/or to enhance bicycle, pedestrian, and transit mobility within the TCEA.

The provision of transit shelters, built to City of Cape Coral specifications, within the development.

The provision of a safe and convenient internal pedestrian and bicycle circulation system within the development, including the placement of bicycle racks or bike lockers.

The provision of transit turn out lanes on heavily traveled roadways.

The provision of structured parking for use by residents, patrons, and employees of the development.

Clustering buildings within the development, or otherwise designing the development to achieve maximum residential density or non-residential intensity at the development site in a manner, which preserves open space, enhances multi-modal opportunities, and provides transit-oriented densities or intensities.

Where feasible, the construction of new roadway or alleyway facilities to reduce congestion on major roadways and to provide alternate access to the development.

Any other innovative transportation related modifications or standards submitted by the developer and acceptable to and approved by the City of Cape Coral.

Objective 15: Downtown TCEA Administration: The City shall develop and implement strategies and programs designed to achieve the purposes of the City of Cape Coral Downtown CRA Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (TCEA).

Policy 15.1: The Community Redevelopment Plan for the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) provides information regarding funding of redevelopment within the CRA. As provided for by Florida's Community Redevelopment Act, the principal source of funding for the Community Redevelopment Agency will be through the Tax Increment Trust Fund. Other sources of funding may include the sale or lease of acquired property, Enterprise Fund

Revenue Bonds, one or more funds for mobility enhancement, as described in Policy 14.5, above, and Federal, State and Regional Grants.

Policy 15.2: In order to promote new development, redevelopment and infill development within the Downtown TCEA, funding for multimodal transportation modifications and identified improvements (not otherwise provided by the developer, as per Policy 14.5, above) will be provided to the maximum extent feasible by the City, the CRA, Lee County, state and/or federal governments, developers, and other outside sources such as grant funds.

Policy 15.3: Within the Downtown TCEA, the City of Cape Coral and the Community Redevelopment Agency will continuously work to improve other forms of mobility such as pedestrian, bicycle and transit service and to implement connectivity between all modes so as to promote lower vehicular traffic.

Policy 15.4: The City of Cape Coral and the Community Redevelopment Agency will implement sidewalk, or other pedestrian, and bicycle improvements to increase the Level of Service of these facilities within the downtown area. Pedestrian projects designed to increase the pedestrian level of service may include but shall not be limited to:

Construction of new or expanded sidewalk facilities to service streets or portions of streets not currently served by sidewalks;

A reduction in the number of physical obstructions within the sidewalk network;

Improvements to pedestrian crosswalk signalization;

The designation of one or more local streets as pedestrian only areas; and/or

The provision of shading, sitting areas and other streetscape amenities.

Policy 15.5: The City and the CRA will cooperate with Lee County Transit (LeeTran) to maintain/improve the transit facilities and transit level of service within the Downtown TCEA. In addition to developer-implemented strategies, as described in Policy 14.5 of this Element, strategies that may be implemented include, but may not necessarily be limited to, improving the density, intensity, and mix of development in the downtown area, improving route headways, improving service time spans, and reducing the interval distance between stops.

Objective 16: The Cape Coral Downtown CRA Transportation Concurrency Exception Area (Downtown TCEA) will be administered in a manner that supports the Community Redevelopment Agency's goals concerning urban design, the preservation of open spaces, streetscaping, and the removal of blighting factors.

Policy 16.1: With regard to open space and street layout within the Community Redevelopment Area, the intent of the City, in implementing the Downtown TCEA, is to create a high-intensity, yet pedestrian friendly, urban area that is served by multi-modal circulation systems, which are designed to ensure that visitors, employees, and residents can easily find their way, park, and enjoy their walk to their destinations.

Policy 16.2: Within the Downtown TCEA, the City shall utilize regulatory controls and incentives to provide appropriate limitations on the type, size, height, and use of buildings in order to stimulate and attract private investment in real property and property improvements in the redevelopment area. Such investment and improvements will be directed toward the elimination of blighting factors, the improvement of the economic health of the City and the County, increasing employment opportunities within the downtown area, providing better services to residents, businesses, and tourists, and improving the tax base.

Policy 16.3: In regulating residential development (including, but not necessarily limited to, affordable housing) within the Downtown TCEA, the City will continuously seek to increase the number of people that both live and work downtown in order to promote the creation of pedestrian-friendly shopping areas, provide employment opportunities for downtown residents, and decrease automobile use in the downtown area.

Policy 16.4: In order to enhance the visual characteristics of roadways within the Downtown TCEA, and to create an appealing environment that supports multi-modal transit opportunities, the City and the CRA will develop streetscaping guidelines or plans for roadways within the downtown area.

Policy 16.5: The City will include right of way and median landscaping as part of any major roadway modification program carried out within the Downtown TCEA.

Policy 16.6: The City of Cape Coral shall coordinate with the CRA, Lee County, and the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization to balance the need for and design of roadway improvements within the Downtown TCEA with the CRA's need for quality urban design concepts for all revitalization, redevelopment, and infill development.

Policy 16.7: Land use intensities and densities within the Downtown TCEA shall be consistent with the goals objectives and policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan. In particular, Policy 1.15 (k) of this Element, describing the Downtown Mixed Future Land Use Classification, defines the allowable intensities and densities within the Downtown TCEA.

Objective 17: Downtown TCEA Network Connectivity: In implementing various mobility strategies and infrastructure projects within the Downtown TCEA, the City of Cape Coral, and the Community Redevelopment Agency will seek to establish network connectivity within and between all modes of transportation within the downtown area.

Policy 17.1: In reviewing requests for vacation of streets within the downtown area, the City of Cape Coral shall consider the following:

Whether the loss of the street will adversely impact current or future bicycle/pedestrian mobility;

Whether the loss of the street will prevent access to adjacent land uses or transit stops; and,

Whether the loss of the street is necessary for the construction of high density,

mixed use projects containing both residential and non-residential uses or projects that permit residential and non-residential uses to be constructed in close proximity to each other.

Policy 17.2: Within the Downtown TCEA, development plans for the placement of new parking structures or surface parking lots as a principal or accessory use shall:

Minimize conflicts between pedestrian, motor vehicle, and bicycle travel routes;
and,

Utilize locations and designs, which discourage commercial vehicle access through residential streets.