

**RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, LAND DEVELOPMENT  
REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES  
ASSOCIATED WITH COASTAL FLOODING AND SLR.**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROPOSED REVISIONS  
COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT**

**Goal: Increase the City’s resiliency to climate change and rising sea levels.**

**Objective:** The City will designate areas that experience coastal flooding due to extreme high tides and storm surge, and that are vulnerable to related impacts of rising sea levels, as Adaptation Action Areas (AAAs) for the purpose of prioritizing funding for infrastructure and adaptation planning.

Policy: Within AAAs, the City shall consider options that may include, but not be limited to: a. Protection b. Accommodation c. Managed retreat d. Avoidance

Policy: Consideration of areas appropriate for AAA designation may include, but not be limited to:

- a. Areas which experience tidal flooding, storm surge, or both
- b. Areas which have an hydrological connection to coastal waters
- c. Locations which are within areas designated as evacuation zones for storm surge
- d. Other areas impacted by stormwater/flood control issues such as repetitive flood properties

Policy: The City will develop adaptation strategies for areas vulnerable to coastal flooding, tidal events, storm surge, flash floods, stormwater runoff, salt water intrusion and other impacts related to climate change or exacerbated by sea level rise, with the intent to increase the City’s comprehensive adaptability and resiliency capacities.

Policy: The City will collaborate and coordinate with appropriate local, regional and state governmental agencies, to the extent possible, toward the implementation of adaptation strategies.

Policy: The City will provide educational materials regarding energy efficiency, sustainable design, and climate change that encourage community residents and business owners to invest in energy-efficiency improvements through community outreach efforts, such as the City’s Website.

Policy: The City will coordinate transportation-related adaptation policies with other affected agencies and across jurisdictional boundaries to ensure consistency among broader planning and plan implementation efforts. Specifically, strategies for preparing for sea level rise, such as increasing road surface elevation standards, subsurface stabilization, stormwater management and drainage, and adjustment of bridge heights to allow for navigation, will be collaboratively assessed.

Policy: The City will continue to maintain analysis and mapping capabilities for identifying areas of the City vulnerable to sea level rise, tidal flooding, and other impacts of climate change through the acquisition of Light Detection And Ranging (LiDAR) data, or other state-of-the-art elevation data, and

other necessary modeling data and programs every 5 years to update the Priority Planning and improve available information needed to make informed decisions regarding adapting to the impacts of climate change.

**Objective:** The City will employ adaptive strategies in the AAA.

Policy: The City will support mixed land uses which promote resilient, walkable mixed use development designs and projects by providing flexibility in development review for these projects, revising the zoning and land development codes to support such projects, and promoting the adoption of specific goals in local Comprehensive Plans to support and establish sustainable development patterns, especially in areas at reduced risk to sea level rise

Policy: The City shall not amend the Future Land Use Map or zoning code to increase allowable maximum density limits within the AAA.

Policy: The City of Apalachicola shall develop a Development Impact Tool or criteria to assess how proposed development and redevelopment project features including location, site design, land use types, density and intensity of uses, landscaping, and building design, will help mitigate climate impacts or may exacerbate climate related hazards. The tool would also assess each development's projected level of risk of exposure to climate change impacts, such as inland flooding.

Policy: The City shall prohibit fill within areas of special flood hazard without a prepared plan that incorporates appropriate standards for regulating stormwater management on the property.

**Objective:** The City will increase resiliency to the impacts of climate change and rising sea levels by developing and implementing adaptation strategies for public infrastructure within the City.

Policy: The City shall identify public investments and infrastructure at risk to sea level rise and other climate related impacts. Assess the vulnerability to public facilities and services, including but not limited to water and wastewater facilities, stormwater systems, roads, bridges, governmental buildings, hospitals, transit infrastructure and other assets for sea level rise and other climate related impacts.

Policy: The City shall consider SLR impacts in all future decisions regarding the design, location, and development of infrastructure and public facilities in the City.

Policy: The City shall consider pursue funding opportunities to improve the resiliency of infrastructure within the AAA.

## **RULES OF PROCEDURE RECOMMENDED ADDITION**

For all agenda items brought to the Board that relate to the planning, design and/or construction of City infrastructure projects, including but not limited to, City installation of mechanical and electrical systems, City infrastructure modifications and City infrastructure renovations, the Mayor or Mayor's designee shall include a statement in the item that the impact of sea level rise has been considered in the project.