Proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Based Amendments for the 2010 Comprehensive Plan Adoption Round

Ordinance 2009-791

Every seven years, state law requires the City of Jacksonville to review and evaluate its Comprehensive Plan. This is called the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR). The purpose of this planning process is to update the 2010 Comprehensive Plan and to assess our progress in implementing the Plan. The EAR identifies major issues of concern to the citizenry, how well the Plan addresses these issues, identifies where the plan functions well and identifies where resources and objectives may need to be added and/or redirected. The September 2007 EAR was approved by the City Council per Resolution 2007-920-A and found in compliance by the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) on December 3, 2007. Upon completion of this process, the City has 18 months to submit and adopt amendments to the Plan reflecting recommendations of the EAR. The City was granted a six-month extension to complete this process due, in part, to the considerable number of recommendations identified in the EAR.

EAR-based amendments addressing the EAR recommendations were approved for transmittal to DCA pursuant to Ordinance 2008-248-E. Ordinance 2009-791 contains revisions to the text transmitted earlier this year in response to input provided by the State Department of Community Affairs.

There are in excess of 250 recommendations in the EAR, which are primarily implemented through text amendments to the various elements of the Plan. All ten of the Comprehensive Plan Elements are subject to EAR-based amendments. These elements include the Future Land Use, Recreation and Open Space, Infrastructure, Transportation, Housing, Capital Improvements, Intergovernmental Coordination, Conservation/Coastal Management, Historic Preservation and Public Schools and Facilities Elements. Changes to the Historic Preservation and the Public Schools and Facilities Elements are limited to amending all references from the 2010 Comprehensive Plan to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

Proposed changes are documented by strikethrough and underline formatting. An EAR recommendation tracking chart has been created listing all recommendations in the EAR and identifying how each recommendation is addressed through responses or through cross referencing revised goals, objectives and policies.

Key EAR recommendations include a needed change in the approach to the Future

Land Use Map, including plan category descriptions recognizing the intensity and mix of uses, and a need to create a consensus based vision plan for the City. The Planning and Development Department's goal is to have the remaining three vision plans* adopted around the same time as adoption of the EAR-based amendments. An objective and policy have been added to the Future Land Use Element indicating the City will, within one year after completing the remaining three vision plans, draft a revised Future Land Use Map and associated text amendments. The update shall be based upon recommendations outlined in the EAR and, unless determined otherwise, a revised Future Land Use Map and associated text amendments will be submitted to the DCA.

Text changes since the first round of public hearings as Ordinance 2008-248-E include:

- Extending the planning time frame of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan to 2030 and renaming the Plan the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The Public Schools and Facilities and the Historic Preservation Elements have been added to the elements subject to EAR-based amendments for the sole purpose of changing all references from the 2010 Comprehensive Plan to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan;
- Amending text regarding water supply planning, identifying existing and future water supplies and needs, and coordination with the St. Johns River Water Management District;
- 3. Amending the Coastal High Hazard definitions in the various elements to consistently reflect the definition in accordance with Chapter 163, F.S.;
- 4. Adding a new goal, with underlying objectives and policies, addressing preservation and protection of recreational and working waterfronts;
- 5. Revising Conservation/Coastal Management Element Objective 4.1 and underlying policies regarding the protection and preservation of wetlands. Language pertaining to performance standards and permitted uses was repetitious, comprising nearly 23 pages, and was therefore consolidated into three shorter policies relating to the three wetland categories. Buffering requirements adjacent to wetlands and waterways have also been added along with consideration for developing additional wetland mitigation banks within the City.

The Planning and Development Department recommends **approval** of the proposed EAR-based amendments, as identified in Exhibits 1 - 10.

* The City is divided into six (6) planning districts, Urban Core District - 1, Greater Arlington/Beaches District - 2, Southeast District - 3, Southwest District - 4 Northwest District - 5, North District - 6. Vision Plans have been completed for Districts 4, 5 and 6 and are in process for Districts 1, 2 and 3.