



Policy 3.6.2 Wherever possible, the natural terrain, drainage, and vegetation of the city should be preserved with superior examples contained within parks or greenbelts.

Policy 3.6.3 To the extent feasible, all development shall minimize alteration of the existing natural topography.

GOAL 4 THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT SHALL FOSTER THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THE CITY BY DIRECTING GROWTH AND REDEVELOPMENT IN A MANNER THAT: USES NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS TO PROVIDE GOODS AND SERVICES TO CITY RESIDENTS; PROTECTS NEIGHBORHOODS; DISTRIBUTES GROWTH AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE CITY IN KEEPING WITH THE DIRECTION OF THIS ELEMENT; PRESERVES QUALITY OPEN SPACE; AND PRESERVES THE TREE CANOPY OF THE CITY. THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT SHALL PROMOTE STATEWIDE GOALS FOR COMPACT DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENT USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE.

Objective 4.1 The City shall establish land use designations that allow sufficient acreage for residential, commercial, mixed-use, office, industrial, education, agricultural, recreation, conservation, public facility, and institutional uses at appropriate locations to meet the needs of the projected population and that allow flexibility for the City to consider unique, innovative, and carefully construed proposals that are in keeping with the surrounding character and environmental conditions of specific sites.

Policy 4.1.1 Land Use Categories on the Future Land Use Map shall be defined as follows:

Single-Family (up to 8 units per acre)

This land use category shall allow single-family detached dwellings at densities up to 8 dwelling units per acre. The Single-Family land use classification identifies those areas within the City that, due to topography, soil conditions, surrounding land uses and development patterns, are appropriate for single-family development. Land development regulations shall determine the performance measures and gradations of density. Land development regulations shall specify criteria for the siting of low-intensity residential facilities to accommodate special need populations and appropriate community-level institutional facilities such as places of religious assembly, public and private schools other than institutions of higher learning, and libraries. Land development regulations shall allow home occupations in conjunction with single-family dwellings under certain limitations.



Residential Low-Density (up to 12 units per acre)

This land use category shall allow dwellings at densities up to 12 units per acre. The Residential Low-Density land use classification identifies those areas within the City that, due to topography, soil conditions, surrounding land uses and development patterns, are appropriate for single-family development, particularly the conservation of existing traditional low density neighborhoods, single-family attached and zero-lot line development, and small-scale multi-family development. Land development regulations shall determine gradations of density, specific uses and performance measures. Land development regulations shall specify criteria for the siting of low-intensity residential facilities to accommodate special need populations and appropriate community level institutional facilities such as places of religious assembly, public and private schools other than institutions of higher learning, and libraries. Land development regulations shall allow home occupations; accessory units in conjunction with single-family dwellings; and bed-and-breakfast establishments within certain limitations.

Residential Medium-Density (8-30 units per acre)

This land use classification shall allow single-family and multi-family development at densities from 8 to 30 dwelling units per acre. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and that are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. The land shown as Residential Medium-Density on the Future Land Use Map identifies those areas within the City that, due to topography, soil conditions, surrounding land uses and development patterns, are appropriate for single-family, and medium-intensity multi-family development. Land development regulations shall determine gradations of density and specific uses. Land development regulations shall specify criteria for the siting of appropriate medium-intensity residential facilities to accommodate special need populations and appropriate community-level institutional facilities such as places of religious assembly, public and private schools other than institutions of higher learning, and libraries. Land development regulations shall allow home occupations within certain limitations.

Residential High-Density (8-100 units per acre)

This category shall allow single-family and multi-family development at densities from 8 to 100 dwelling units per acre. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and that are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. This category shall also allow traditional neighborhoods on sites 16 acres or larger in conformance with the adopted Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance. The land shown as Residential High-Density on the Future Land Use Map identifies those areas within the City that, due to topography, soil conditions, surrounding land uses and development patterns, are appropriate for high-intensity multi-family development, traditional neighborhood development, and secondary retail and office uses scaled to serve the immediate neighborhood. The intensity of secondary retail and office use cannot exceed 25 percent of the residential floor area. Land development regulations shall determine gradations of density, specific uses, percentage of floor area and maximum floor area appropriate for secondary uses. Land development regulations shall specify the criteria for the siting of high-intensity residential facilities to accommodate special need



populations and appropriate community level institutional facilities such as places of religious assembly, public and private schools other than institutions of higher learning, and libraries. Land development regulations shall allow home occupations within certain limitations.

Mixed-Use Residential (up to 75 units per acre)

This residential district provides for a mixture of residential and office uses. Office uses that are complementary to and secondary to the residential character of the district may be allowed. An essential component of the district is orientation of structures to the street and the pedestrian character of the area. Office uses located within this district should be scaled to serve the immediate neighborhood and pedestrians from surrounding neighborhoods and institutions. Land development regulations shall set the district size; appropriate densities (up to 75 dwelling units per acre); the distribution of uses; appropriate floor area ratios; design criteria; landscaping, pedestrian, transit, and bicycle access; and street lighting. Land development regulations shall specify the criteria for the siting of public and private schools, places of religious assembly and community facilities within this category when designed in a manner compatible with the adoption of a Special Area Plan for that area. The intensity of office use cannot exceed 10 percent of the total residential floor area per development.

Mixed-Use Low-Intensity (8-30 units per acre)

This category allows a mixture of residential and non-residential uses such as standard lot single-family houses, small-lot single-family houses, duplex houses, townhouses (attached housing), accessory dwelling units, group homes, multi-family housing (if compatible in scale and character with other dwellings in the proposed neighborhood), offices scaled to serve the surrounding neighborhood, retail scaled to serve the surrounding neighborhood, public and private schools, places of religious assembly and other community civic uses, and traditional neighborhoods on sites 16 acres or larger in conformance with the adopted Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance. Residential development shall be limited to 8 to 30 units per acres. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and that are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. Intensity will be controlled, in part, by adopting land development regulations that establish height limits of 5 stories or less; however, height may be increased to a maximum of 8 stories by special use permit. Land development regulations shall establish the thresholds for the percentage of mixed uses for new development or redevelopment of sites 10 acres or larger. At a minimum, the land development regulations shall encourage that: at least 10 percent of the floor area of new development or redevelopment of such sites be residential; or, that the surrounding area of equal or greater size than the development or redevelopment site, and within 1/4 mile of the site, have a residential density of at least 6 units per acre. Residential use shall not be a required development component for public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, places of religious assembly and other community civic uses. Buildings in this category shall face the street and have modest (or no) front setbacks.

This category shall not be used to extend strip commercial development along a street. Land development regulations shall ensure a compact, pedestrian-friendly environment for these areas, and provide guidelines or standards for the compatibility of permitted uses.



Mixed-Use Medium-Intensity (12-30 units per acre)

This category allows a mixture of residential, office, business and light industrial uses concentrated in mapped areas. This category shall also allow traditional neighborhoods on sites 16 acres or larger in conformance with the adopted Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance. Public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, places of religious assembly and community facilities shall be appropriate in this category. Such development shall function as neighborhood center serving multiple neighborhoods. It is not expected that these areas shall be expanded significantly during this planning period. Land development regulations shall ensure a compact, pedestrian environment for these areas; provide guidelines for the compatibility of permitted uses; and ensure that such areas do not serve overlapping market areas of other designated medium-intensity neighborhood centers. Residential development shall be limited to 12 to 30 units per acre. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and that are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. Intensity will be controlled, in part, by adopting land development regulations that establish height limits of 5 stories or less; however, height may be increased to a maximum of 8 stories by special use permit. Land development regulations shall establish the thresholds for the percentage of mixed uses for new development or redevelopment of sites 10 acres or larger. At a minimum, the land development regulations shall encourage that: at least 10 percent of the floor area of new development or redevelopment of such sites be residential; or, that the surrounding area of equal or greater size than the development or redevelopment site, and within 1/4 mile of the site, have a residential density of at least 6 units per acre. Residential use shall not be a required development component for public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, places of religious assembly and community facilities. Buildings in this land use category shall face the street and have modest (or no) front setbacks.

Mixed-Use High-Intensity (up to 150 units per acre)

This category allows a mixture of residential, office, business uses and light industrial uses concentrated in mapped areas. This category shall also allow traditional neighborhoods on sites 16 acres or larger in conformance with the adopted Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance. Public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, places of religious assembly and community facilities shall be appropriate in this category. Such development shall function as a center serving the urban area. When in accord with all other land use regulations, residential densities up to 150 units per acre shall be permitted. Land development regulations shall be prepared to ensure the compact, pedestrian character of these areas. Land development regulations shall establish the thresholds for the percentage of mixed uses for new development or redevelopment of sites 4 acres or larger. At a minimum, the land development regulations shall encourage that: at least 10 percent of the floor area of new development or redevelopment of such sites be residential. Residential use shall not be a required development component for public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, places of religious assembly and community facilities. Buildings in this category shall face the street and have modest (or no) front setbacks. Floor area ratios in this district shall not exceed 10.00.



Urban Mixed-Use 1 (UMU-1: 8 -75 units per acre; and up to 25 additional units per acre by special use permit)

This category allows a mixture of residential, retail, service and office/research uses. The Urban Mixed-Use districts are distinguished from other mixed-use districts in that they are specifically established to support research and development in the physical, engineering and life sciences in close proximity to the University of Florida main campus. An essential component of the district is orientation of structures to the street and multi-modal character of the area. Retail and office uses located within this district shall be scaled to fit into the character of the area. Residential density shall be limited to 75 units per acre with provisions to add up to 25 additional units per acre by special use permit. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. All new non single-family principal buildings shall have a minimum height of 24 feet. Building height shall be limited to 6 stories. Land development regulations shall set the appropriate densities; the distribution of uses; design criteria; landscaping, and pedestrian/vehicular access.

Urban Mixed-Use 2 (UMU-2: 10 to 100 units per acre; and up to 25 additional units per acre by special use permit)

This category allows a mixture of residential, retail, service and office/ research uses. The Urban Mixed-Use districts are distinguished from other mixed-use districts in that they are specifically established to support research and development in the physical, engineering and life sciences in close proximity to the University of Florida main campus. An essential component of the district is orientation of structures to the street and multi-modal character of the area. Retail and office uses located within this district shall be scaled to fit into the character of the area. Residential density shall be limited to 10 to 100 units per acre with provisions to add up to 25 additional units per acre by special use permit. Lots that existed on November 13, 1991 and that are less than or equal to 0.5 acres in size shall be exempt from minimum density requirements. All new non-single-family principal buildings shall have a minimum height of 24 feet. Building height shall be limited to 6 stories and up to 8 stories by special use permit. Land development regulations shall set the appropriate densities; the distribution of uses; design criteria; landscaping, and pedestrian/vehicular access. Land development regulations shall specify the criteria for the siting of public and private schools, places of religious assembly and community facilities within this category.

Office

The Office land use category identifies areas appropriate for office and residential uses. This category is intended to identify appropriate areas for professional and service uses, hospital and medical uses, compound and residential uses, and appropriate ancillary uses. Office designations shall be applied to compact office development. Residential uses in office districts shall be designed as new in-town development, mixed-use, live-work, compound use or shall accommodate existing residential development within the district. Densities shall not exceed 20 units per acre. Land development regulations shall determine the appropriate scale of uses; and the specific criteria for the siting of private schools and churches. Intensity will be controlled by adopting land development regulations that establish height limits of 5 stories or less, that require



buildings to face the street, and modest build-to lines, instead of a maximum floor area ratio; however, height may be increased to a maximum of 8 stories by special use permit.

Commercial

The Commercial land use category identifies those areas most appropriate for large scale highway-oriented commercial uses. Land development regulations shall determine the appropriate scale of uses. This category is not appropriate for neighborhood centers. Intensity will be controlled by adopting height limits of 5 stories or less, requiring buildings to face the street, and modest build-to lines instead of a maximum floor area ratio; however, height may be increased to a maximum of 8 stories by special use permit.

Business Industrial

This land use category is primarily intended to identify those areas near the Gainesville Regional Airport appropriate for office, business, commercial and industrial uses. This district is distinguished from other industrial and commercial districts in that it is designed specifically to allow only uses that are compatible with the airport. Intensity will be controlled by adopting land development regulations that establish height limits consistent with the Airport Hazard Zoning Regulations. When not located within an airport zone of influence, this category may be used to designate areas for office, business, commercial and industrial uses, with a maximum height of 5 stories, and a maximum floor area ratio of 4.0. Land development regulation(s) shall specify the type and distribution of uses, design criteria, landscaping, pedestrian and vehicular access.

Industrial

The Industrial land use category identifies those areas appropriate for manufacturing, fabricating, distribution, extraction, wholesaling, warehousing, recycling, and other ancillary uses. Other uses may be allowed in this land use category as specified in an adopted ordinance rezoning property to Planned Development District (PD). Land development regulations shall determine the appropriate scale of uses and consider the externalities of such uses. Intensity will be controlled by adopting land development regulations that establish height limits of 5 stories or less.

Education

This category identifies appropriate areas for public and private schools and institutions of higher learning when located outside of neighborhood centers (activity centers). Land development regulations shall address compatibility with surrounding uses and infrastructure needs, except in a special area plan, where there shall be no floor area ratio maximum. The intensity of development on property covered by a special area plan shall be regulated by the Urban Design Standards that include building height, build-to lines, setback requirements and building coverage to determine intensity of use instead of a maximum floor area ratio.



Recreation

This category identifies appropriate areas for public and private leisure activities. Land development regulations shall address the scale, intensity and buffering of structures and outdoor improvements. This category shall meet the appropriate intensities of use as established by the Recreation Element.

Conservation

This category identifies areas environmentally unsuited to urban development, permanent buffers between land uses, areas used for passive recreation and nature parks. Privately held properties within this category shall be allowed to develop at single-family densities of 1 unit per 5 acres. Land development regulations shall determine the appropriate scale of activities, structures and infrastructure that will be allowed.

Agriculture

This category identifies existing lands which are expected to continue in agricultural production and ancillary uses. Land development regulations shall allow single-family densities of 1 unit per 5 acres. It is not expected that lands designated for urban uses will be converted to agricultural production.

Public and Institutional Facilities

This category identifies lands used for: administrative, operational, and utility governmental functions; private utilities; cemeteries; and public-private partnerships or other legal arrangements where the land title is vested in a government and the use(s) serves a public purpose. Maximum lot coverage in this category shall not exceed 80 percent, except in urban core areas where lot coverage is not limited.

Planned Use District

This category is an overlay land use district which may be applied on any specific property in the City. The land use regulations pertaining to this overlay district shall be adopted by ordinance in conjunction with an amendment to the Future Land Use Map of this Comprehensive Plan. The category is created to allow the consideration of unique, innovative or narrowly construed land use proposals that because of the specificity of the land use regulations can be found to be compatible with the character of the surrounding land uses and environmental conditions of the subject land. This district allows a mix of residential and nonresidential uses and/or unique design features which might otherwise not be allowed in the underlying land use category. This category shall allow traditional neighborhoods on sites 16 acres or larger in conformance with the adopted Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) ordinance. Each adopting PUD overlay land use designation shall address density and intensity, permitted uses, access by car, foot, bicycle, and transit, trip generation and trip capture, environmental features and, when necessary, buffering of adjacent uses. Planned Development zoning shall be required to



implement any specific development plan under a PUD. In the event that the overlay district has been applied to a site and no planned development zoning has found approval by action of the City Commission within 18 months of the land use designation, the overlay land use district shall be deemed null and void and the overlay land use category shall be removed from the Future Land Use Map, leaving the original and underlying land use in place.

Policy 4.1.2 Underlying densities and intensities of development within the future land use categories shall be consistent with the policies in the Conservation, Open Space and Groundwater Recharge, and Future Land Use Elements providing standards and criteria established for the protection of environmentally sensitive land and resources.

Policy 4.1.3 The City will review proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map by considering factors such as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan;
2. Compatibility and surrounding land uses;
3. Environmental impacts and constraints;
4. Support for urban infill and/or redevelopment;
5. Impacts on affordable housing;
6. Impacts on the transportation system;
7. An analysis of the availability of facilities and services;
8. Need for the additional acreage in the proposed future land use category;
9. Discouragement of urban sprawl as defined in Section 163.3164, F.S., and consistent with the requirements of Subsection 163.3177(6)(a)9., F.S.;
10. Need for job creation, capital investment, and economic development to strengthen and diversify the City's economy; and
11. Need to modify land use categories and development patterns within antiquated subdivisions as defined in Section 163.3164, F.S.

Policy 4.1.4 The City will consider amending land use designations in the City to discourage strip commercial uses and encourage a mix of residential and non-residential uses.

Objective 4.2 The City shall implement regulations that will protect low-intensity uses from the negative impacts of high-intensity uses and provide for the healthy coexistence and integration of various land uses.

Policy 4.2.1 The City shall adopt land development regulations that provide protection for adjacent residential areas and low intensity uses from the impacts of high intensity uses by separating intense uses from low-intensity uses by transitional uses and by performance measures. Performance measures shall address the buffering of adjacent uses by landscape, building type and site design. Regulation of building type shall insure compatibility of building



Policy 10.4.4

Drive-through facilities shall be defined to include banking facilities, payment windows, restaurant, food and/or beverage sales, dry cleaning, express mail services, and other services that are extended mechanically or personally to customers who do not exit their vehicles. The following uses shall not be considered drive-throughs: auto fuel pumps and depositories that involve no immediate exchange or dispersal to the customer, such as mail boxes, library book depositories, and recycling facilities.

In addition to the review criteria set in the Land Development Code for Special Use Permits, the approval of a drive-through facility shall be based on the following criteria:

- a. maximization of pedestrian and bicycle safety and convenience;
- b. adequate queuing space for vehicles such that there is no back-up of traffic onto adjacent roadways;
- c. provision of a by-pass lane or sufficient driveway area around the drive-through lanes to assist internal vehicular circulation;
- d. minimization of the visual impacts of the drive-through lanes on street frontage areas;
- e. minimization of the total number of drive-through lanes based on site conditions and the operating conditions of the impacted roadway segments;
- f. minimization of the number of access points to roadways;
- g. design of access points and ingress/egress directional flows to minimize impacts on the roadway and non-motorized traffic;
- h. design of internal pedestrian access and safety as related to the position of the drive-through lane(s); and
- i. meeting any additional design criteria established in the Land Development Code.

Policy 10.4.5

Unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by a special area plan, the development of new free-standing drive-through facilities or expansion of or development activity at existing free-standing drive-through facilities not meeting the provisions of Policy 10.4.6 shall be required to obtain a Special Use Permit. These drive-through facilities shall meet the Special Use Permit criteria in the Land Development Code and review criteria shown in Policy 10.4.4. In addition, drive-through facilities not developed under the provisions of Policy 10.4.6 or 10.4.7 shall also meet the following standards: