

SECTION I - PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

(1) Purpose

The purpose of this Comprehensive Plan is to ~~utilize and strengthen the existing role, processes and power of the city of Mexico Beach in the establishment and implementation of comprehensive planning programs to maintain present advantages as well as guide and control future development~~ guide the future growth and development of the built environment, protect natural resources, and provide a fiscal plan for expansion of levels of service to the City's infrastructure.

(2) It is the City's Intent to:

(a) ~~It is the intent of this Comprehensive Plan that its adoption is necessary so that the city of Mexico Beach can preserve and enhance present advantages; encourage the most appropriate use of land, water, and resources, consistent with the public interest; overcome present handicaps; and deal effectively with future problems that may result from the use and development of land within its jurisdictions. Through the process of comprehensive planning, it is intended that the City of Mexico Beach can preserve, promote, protect, and improve the public health, safety, comfort, good order, appearance, convenience, law enforcement and fire prevention, and general welfare; prevent the overcrowding of land and avoid undue concentration of population; facilitate the adequate and efficient provision of transportation, water, sewerage, parks, recreational facilities, housing, and other requirements and services; and conserve, develop, utilize, and protect natural resources within its jurisdiction.~~ Maintain the current town development pattern and historical appearance of its coastal architecture.

(b) ~~The provisions of this Comprehensive Plan in their interpretation and application are declared to be the minimum requirements necessary to accomplish the stated intent, purposes, and objectives of this act; to protect human, environmental, social, and economic resources; and to maintain, through orderly growth and development, the character and stability of present and future land use and development in the City of Mexico Beach.~~ Encourage and support areas for tourist-related activities while accommodating long-term and permanent residents.

(c) ~~Coordination and consistency of the plan elements is a major objective of the Comprehensive Plan. The several elements of this plan are intended to be consistent and, economically and environmentally feasible. The plan elements are further intended to promote coordination between the plans of Bay County, Gulf county, and other governmental agencies.~~ Provide land use strategies that allow and

encourage new development to provide live and work spaces within close proximity to each other.

(d) This Comprehensive Plan is further intended to provide long range policy guidance for the orderly social, economic and physical growth of the City, and shall be construed broadly to accomplish its stated purposes and objectives. Provide adequate public services facilities for new development as related to future population projections.

Mexico Beach shall manage growth and protect local natural resources in a manner that is consistent with the City's ability to:

- a) Promote the general welfare
- b) Prevent congestion and overcrowding
- c) Maintain pleasing area aesthetics
- d) Maintain public safety
- e) Retain property values
- f) Ensure property rights consistent with the general welfare
- g) Provide the circumstances and conditions necessary to maintain an adequate supply of safe, affordable housing
- h) Provide the infrastructure necessary to maintain the current levels of services and provide additional infrastructure as required by future growth
- i) Protect coastal resources
- j) Provide for the conservation and protection of natural resources
- k) Provide increase recreational opportunities, recreation sites, and open space
- l) Protect the City's dedicated beach areas and insure beach access.