

September 30, 2004



Acknowledgements

Boca Grande Community Planning Panel

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Lee County and Charlotte County

The Community Planning Panel wishes to acknowledge in particular the cooperation of the Lee County Commissioners and the Charlotte County Commissioners and the work of Jim Mudd, Principal Planner, Lee County Division of Planning, Donna Marie Collins, Esquire, Assistant County Attorney, and Tom Smith, Charlotte County senior zoning official, in connection with the Community Planning efforts.

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Boca Grande Community Profile

Boca Grande is one of the last vestiges of a "small town" environment and economy left in Florida and, as such, its preservation is of immense importance. For that reason, tax and regulatory policies that promote and encourage the preservation of these unique qualities and the conservation of open land and green space should be implemented. Boca Grande is the type of *village community* that "New Urbanism" and "Smart Growth" advocates are seeking to create in more developed areas. Boca Grande's strong sense of community derives from the stewardship of its residents over many generations, the contributions of its many community organizations and its locally based economy. It should be a priority to both Lee County and Charlotte County to help preserve and protect this unique place not only for what it is, but also for the example it can be for other communities. It is for this reason that the residents and property owners of the Boca Grande community have created a Community Plan, and desire that in addition to Gasparilla Island it also include Cole Island, the Gasparilla Island Bridge lands and causeway islands, and the surrounding islands, waterways, submerged lands, tidal lands, overflow lands and tidal ponds as described in the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (GICDA). The GICDA is an important Special Act of the State of Florida (Ch. 80-473 as amended by Ch. 83-385 and Ch. 86-341) which contains provisions limiting the number of dwelling units per acre, the maximum height of structures and exterior signage which are required to be enforced by Lee and Charlotte Counties. The Act is referred to frequently in the Community Plan and is described in more detail in Element I –Future Land Use.

Boca Grande is designated in a variety of future land use categories ranging from Urban Community and Low Density Residential, to Preservation and Public Facilities. The maximum density is restricted to three dwelling units per acre in Lee County and 3.5 dwelling units per acre in Charlotte County. The population of Boca Grande is highly seasonal with peak population residency occurring during the months of November through May. With land vacancy of less than 15%, Boca Grande has virtually no capacity for additional new development. But, as in many maturing communities, compatible redevelopment is a major concern for the future; further, Gasparilla Island is surrounded by and can only be accessed through extremely high growth areas. This situation necessitates that particular actions be undertaken to promote sound environmental policy, preserve the character and history of the community, safeguard the water supply and ensure that residents have adequate access, law enforcement, and emergency and utility services, and guarantee that the island's limited infrastructure is not overwhelmed.

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Gasparilla Island is approximately seven miles long and one half mile wide. The Lee County portion is designated as a Bird Sanctuary and Wildlife Refuge by Lee County Ordinance (Ord. No. 83-16) and the area provides critical habitat for many endangered and threatened species. The capacity of Gasparilla Island to accommodate large numbers of visitors is limited. The State Parks are small in size and contain vitally important habitat for nesting, endangered sea turtles, birds and other wildlife. The parks have limited facilities and limited parking. For these reasons, overuse and overcrowding should not be encouraged as the infrastructure and facilities are not sufficient to accommodate large numbers of visitors. The conservation and protection of both land and marine plant and animal life should and must have a higher priority than high impact, commercial tourist activities.

Projected population growth in the adjacent areas of Charlotte and Sarasota Counties is expected to create increasing numbers of day visitors with concomitantly great stress on the community infrastructure, traffic control, health and emergency services, water resources, and evacuation procedures, as well as on the fragile natural resources of Boca Grande. Vigilant and consistent enforcement of traffic, parking, zoning and other regulations and the addition of new regulations when applicable will be necessary to prevent degradation of the environment and quality of life on Boca Grande.

The residents of Boca Grande have always been active stewards of the island and are dedicated not only to preserving its environment, but also to preserving its historic character, scale and traditions, and the tranquility of its residential neighborhoods. This activism is demonstrated through the numerous civic and service volunteer organizations and churches which are active in the Boca Grande community. These include the Boca Grande Community Planning Panel and the eight Subcommittees whose members drafted the Vision Statement and Goals, Objectives and Policies contained in this Community Plan, and the Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association, which contributed a \$25,000 grant toward the community planning effort. The Land Preservation Committee of the Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association raised funds to purchase over 200 acres of open space (see Open Space Inventory in Element V). It also maintains three parks, a 35 acre landscaped bike and jogging path, the Town park, the Sam Murphy pocket park in the Historic District, and a nature trail on Tract B (see Open Space Inventory). It is the residents' and property owners' desire that the community will look substantially the same in 2020 as it does today, including its unique mix of vital small businesses, without fast food franchises, formula and intense retail or intense commercial tourist activities, other than the historic Gasparilla Inn.

Boca Grande, an unincorporated village, is the core of the community and is designated as an Historic District. This Lee County community is unusual in having no direct road access to the rest of Lee County, all automobile access being through Charlotte County. Other access is by boat or small seaplane. The village of Boca Grande has the unique architectural heritage of a "Railroad Town" with an historic inn of both architectural and economic significance. The character and scale of the village are remarkable because much of it was developed when the only links to the mainland were by rail or boat. Consequently, Boca Grande is a very walkable community, small in scale, with a compact commercial district centered around the historic railroad station. In order to preserve this historic character and scale, local oversight is needed, and consistent interpretation and application of zoning regulations is essential. It is important for both Charlotte and Lee Counties to provide Boca Grande residents with adequate notice of any development or redevelopment that may impact the quality of life, particularly issues such as traffic and parking. Orderly development of remaining lands and redevelopment in existing neighborhoods should be compatible both in scale and design with existing structures. The implementation of a Document Clearing House, timely notice of variance requests and increased local oversight will assist in ensuring that new projects are compatible with the existing community.

Island businesses are locally owned and fulfill many vital community needs. It is the community's desire to preserve its diversity and to support and enhance the vitality of our economic base and to prevent high intensity, large-scale commercial enterprises from displacing local businesses. Tax policies should create incentives for the preservation of the community's small businesses so that they are not forced to close or sell, leaving Boca Grande without essential services and the basis for continuing economic health.

Our local fishing guides are also a vital part of Boca Grande's history and economy and the protection of the tarpon fishery and our game fishing industry is a high priority. Sound fishery management and protection policies are urgently needed to preserve this important resource for future generations. The protection of the Charlotte Harbor aquatic environment and its water quality is also essential to this effort.

For generations, because Boca Grande was so isolated, its residents from all walks of life have worked together in creating a wide variety of volunteer organizations which contribute significantly to the enhancement of community life and the

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preservation of our environment and traditions. Their contributions to and knowledge of community needs and issues should be recognized and supported.

The local community should have a greater voice in how our tax dollars are spent. A continuing review of taxes paid versus local expenditures made should be undertaken. A more equitable allocation of our tax dollars, sufficient to fund the goals of our Community Plan and to maintain high standards of public services, including police, fire, EMS, utilities, sanitation, and library services, as well as hurricane evacuation and post disaster recovery, is a necessity.

The preservation and conservation of the unique character and scale of the community, its Historic District, and its traditions as well as the conservation and preservation of the natural environment, including recreation and open space areas, and the residents' right to their continued quiet enjoyment of these are the highest priorities to the community. The mitigation of the stresses to the environment and infrastructure because of rapid off island growth must take precedence in planning for Boca Grande's future.

Boca Grande Community Planning Panel

The Community Planning Panel was fully formed on January 5, 2004 and held its first public meeting on January 8, 2004, charged with the task of completing a plan for Boca Grande for the purpose of proposed amendments to the Lee County and Charlotte County Comprehensive Plans. The members of the Panel were appointed by the Boca Grande Community Planning Association, Inc., a not-forprofit corporation created to receive grant monies from Lee County, Charlotte County and the Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association, Inc. The Panel drafted and adopted a Mission Statement and created eight subcommittees to draft the Vision Statement, and Goals, Objectives and Policies for each of seven areas of interest.

This Community Plan truly comes from the community as the many volunteers who participated in the Panel and its Subcommittees drafted the Vision Statement, and the Goals, Objectives and Policies found within.

Funding for the Community Plan

The panel received \$70,000 in grants to prepare the Community Plan. \$25,000 was received from the Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Associative (GICIA) under a grant agreement between the GICIA and Boca

Grande Community Planning Association, Inc.; \$25,000 was received from Lee County under a Community Planning Agreement entered into between the County and Boca Grande Community Planning Associates, Inc. pursuant to Lee County Administrative Code 13-3; and the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners approved a grant of \$20,000 for the Community Planning effort on June 22, 2004.

Community Planning Panel Mission Statement

The Boca Grande Community Planning Panel will prepare a comprehensive Community Plan for Gasparilla Island and the community of Boca Grande. This Community Plan will propose goals, objectives and policies applicable to Boca Grande and will be presented to the Lee County Commissioners which, with their approval, will be incorporated in the Lee County Comprehensive Plan and become Law. The Community Plan will also be presented to the Charlotte County Commissioners for their approval and for incorporation into the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan.

The Community Plan will be drafted by a diverse nine-member panel after a number of open public meetings in which the vision for Boca Grande's future will be carefully formulated. In creating this vision, members of our community will assess the effectiveness and impact of the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, will analyze the impact of substantial projected off-island growth and examine the potential for mitigation of this external growth, will identify the unique characteristics of our community which must be preserved and protected, and will articulate the goals, objectives and policies to be incorporated into the Plan.

Public Information Resources

The Boca Grande Community Planning Panel has a website <u>www.bocagrandeplanning.com</u>, which has eight sections as described below. All interested parties are encouraged to review the website.

Section I of the website provides information with respect to Boca Grande Community Planning Association, Inc., the not-for-profit corporation which appointed the panel and which receives and distributes the grant funds. Section I includes the GICIA grant agreement and the agreement between the corporation and Morris-Depew Associates, Inc., the planning firm retained to assist with the preparation of the Community Plan.

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Section II of the website provides information about the Community Planning Panel and includes the minutes of the 18 panel meetings held between January 8, 2004 and September 9, 2004.

Section III of the website provides information about the eight subcommittees of the panel and includes the work product of the subcommittees.

Section IV of the website contains drafts of the vision statement and the goals, objectives, and policies to be included in the Community Plan as prepared by Morris-Depew Associates, Inc. based on the work product of the panel subcommittees. The section includes comments on the drafts given to Morris-Depew Associates, Inc. by panel members and members of the Boca Grande Community.

Section V of the website contains a draft of the full Community Plan which was discussed at the final panel meeting held on September 9, 2004 as well as the final Community Plan as submitted to Lee and Charlotte Counties.

Section VI of the website contains important documents relating to the Community Plan including the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, the Community Planning proposals made to Lee and Charlotte County, the Lee County Community Planning Agreement and the Interlocal Agreement between Lee and Charlotte County.

Section VII of the website contains an important Community Survey mailed to members of the Boca Grande Community and information with respect to the results of the survey. The survey and the results appear in the community plan.

Section VIII of the website includes information with respect to the public records and public meetings of the Community Planning Panel. The records of the Community Planning effort are public records open to inspection under the Florida Government in the Sunshine Law. The Public records are located at the offices of Boca Grande Real Estate, Inc. 430 West Fourth Street, Boca Grande, Florida (next to the United States Post Office). The index to the Public Records file is included in Section VII.

Meetings of the Community Planning Panel and the Panel subcommittees were publicly noticed and held in accordance with the Florida Government in the Sunshine Law and Lee County Administrative Code 13-3. The meetings were publicly noticed in advance of each meeting in the Friday weekly edition of the

Boca Beacon and in the Thursday weekly edition of the Gasparilla Gazette. Members of the Boca Grande Community were encouraged to attend the meeting and many did so. Recordings were made of the meetings and are included in the public records file.

Boca Grande Community Planning Panel Members

Bayne Stevenson, Chairman William Heisel, Vice Chairman Linda Aley, Secretary Lynne Seibert, Treasurer Rosemary Bowler Edward Hoopes David McHugh Andy Nagle Mark Spurgeon

Ruth Sargent, Panel Recording Secretary

Project Consulting Firm

Morris-Depew Associates, Inc., Fort Myers, Florida David Depew, AICP, President Daniel Folke, AICP, Project Manager

Subcommittees

Vision Statement Subcommittee

Rosemary Bowler, Panel Member Leader Doris Bishop Ed Coale Bob Geniesse Joan Hall Robert Marmet Bill Munsell Don Pais Lynne Seibert Peter Sholley Victoria Winterer

Land Use/Zoning Subcommittee

Lynne Seibert, Panel Member Leader Ed Coale Joan Hall Kim Honey John Subak Jerry Taylor Victoria Winterer

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Transportation/Parking Subcommittee

Bayne Stevenson, Panel Member Leader Jim Cooper Kim Honey Cici Ives Judi Richardson Don Pais Darrell Polk Peter Sholley Lucy Stanton

Conservation, Coastal Management and Environment Subcommittee

Linda Aley, Panel Member Leader Anna Bowditch Elsie Bracken Alastair Campbell Edie Gardner Bob Geniesse Walter Meanwell Bill Munsell Skip Perry Nancy Sholley Jim Siefert John Subak

Community Facilities and Services/Intergovernmental Coordination Subcommittee Mark Spurgeon, Panel Member

Leader Jan Busby Jim Cooper Dave Edmonds Robert Marmet JeJe Pierce Bonnie Pringle

Recreation, Open Space and Beautification Subcommittee

Bill Heisel, Panel Member Leader Bill Caldwell Dewey Henson Cici Ives Skip Perry Kathleen Rohrer Jim Seifert Vicky Winterer

Historic Preservation Subcommittee

Andy Nagle, Panel Member Leader Doris Bishop Bob Geniesse Don Joseph Victoria Kittridge Jack McGovern Jane Pasman Jim Pasman Tom Shaffer

Economic Element Subcommittee

Dave McHugh, Panel Member Leader Jim Grace Craig Lutz Brian Meeker Bob Melvin Patty Seidensticker Carol Stewart

Community Service and Volunteer Organizations and Churches

In addition to the many people who contributed to this Community Plan by serving on the Panel or one of the Subcommittees, the Boca Grande Community has many varied and active organizations which contribute to the quality of life on Boca Grande in many ways. An effort has been made to provide a list of these groups as follows:

Service and Volunteer Organizations

Barrier Island Parks Society Boca Cares Boca Grande Art Alliance Boca Grande Child Care Center Boca Grande Historical Society Boca Grande Health Clinic Boca Grande Men's Club Boca Grande Women's Club Friends of the Boca Grande Community Center Gasparilla Island Conservation & Improvement Association (GICIA) Gasparilla Island Maritime Museum Johann Fust Community Library Louise B. Crowninshield Communiity House Royal Palm Players

Churches

First Baptist Church Our Lady of Mercy Church St. Andrew's Episcopal Church United Methodist Church of Boca Grande

Lee County Comprehensive Plan

Lee County's Comprehensive Plan has a 2020 Vision Statement for Boca Grande as well as specific Goals, Objectives and Policies. The Lee Plan recognizes the unique qualities of the Boca Grande community and seeks to preserve Boca Grande's community character. The Lee Plan seeks to protect historic and natural resources, coordinate services with Charlotte County, and recognizes and applies the provisions of the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, adopted by the Florida Legislature. It is the desire of the Community Panel that the Lee County Board of County Commissioners will adopt the Vision Statement and Goals, Objectives and Policies found in this Community Plan and replace or supplement the existing language as appropriate.

Vision Statement

2. Boca Grande – This community includes the portions of Gasparilla Island within Lee County and the surrounding smaller islands. The smaller islands in this

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community have minimal if any development. The core of this community is the unincorporated town of Boca Grande. This community is unique in that it has no direct road access to the rest of Lee County. All access to Boca Grande is via Charlotte County or by boat. The Boca Community is designated as Urban Community, Outer Islands, and Public Facilities; however, the Urban Community category is restricted to 3 units per acre within this community. The population of Boca Grande is expected to increase from 888 people in 1996 to 1,201 in 2020. The seasonal influx will remain high in this community with an expected seasonal population in 2020 of 2,834. Currently, less than 15% of Boca Grande is vacant. By the year 2020, this community is expected to build out. The community of Boca Grande is dedicated to preserving its historic character and the community will look largely the same in 2020 as it does today.

There are no sub-communities within the Boca Grande Community. (Added by Ordinance No. 99-15)

GOAL 15: GASPARILLA ISLAND. To provide the necessary facilities and regulations so that the remaining unbuilt portions of the island can be developed consistent with its unique character and hurricane vulnerability. For the purposes of this plan, the boundaries of Gasparilla Island are indicated on the Future Land Use Map.

OBJECTIVE 15.1: COMMUNITY FACILITIES. Lee County will continue to ensure the provision of solid waste and ambulance service to the Lee County portion of Gasparilla Island through the ongoing enforcement of interlocal agreements with Charlotte County. (Amended by Ordinance No. 94-30, 00-22) OBJECTIVE 15.2: HISTORIC RESOURCES. Lee County will continue to recognize Boca Grande as an historic district pursuant to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. (Amended by Ordinance No. 94-30, 00-22)

OBJECTIVE 15.3: NATURAL RESOURCES. The county will protect natural and marine resources from potential oil spills at Port Boca Grande. (Amended by Ordinance No. 94-30, 00 22)

POLICY 15.3.1: The county will continue to maintain a Marine Emergency Response Team to protect natural and marine resources at Port Boca Grande and elsewhere in the county. (Amended by Ordinance No. 94-30)

OBJECTIVE 15.4: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION. Due to the unique bi-county location of Gasparilla Island, Lee County will commit to working with Charlotte County and the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council to propose and resolve intergovernmental concerns. (Amended by Ordinance No. 00-22)

POLICY 15.4.1: All land development on Gasparilla Island will be subject to the Special Act of the Florida Legislature known as the

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Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (SA 80-473 as amended by 83-385 and 86-341). The provisions of the Act will apply in addition to those of the Lee Plan. Lee Plan policies may be more restrictive but will be consistent with the provisions of the Act. (Amended by Ordinance No. 00-22)

OBJECTIVE 15.5: PORT FACILITY. The Water Dependent Overlay for South Boca Grande is limited to the Port Facility south of Belcher Road. (Added by Ordinance No. 02-03)

POLICY 15.5.1: The commercial and industrial uses permitted in the Port District (excluding those specific uses approved pursuant to resolutions Z-86-166, Z-93-009, and Z-99-054 such as a tennis club with food service and consumption on premises, pro shop, maintenance and shop facilities, health clubs, day care centers, etc....) are not permitted within that portion of the boundaries of the Boca Bay Community with the zoning designation of Port District. (Added by Ordinance No. 02-03)

Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan

While Charlotte County's Comprehensive Plan has many policies which apply to Boca Grande and other portions of the county, there is not a section which addresses the issues identified for the Boca Grande community. It is the desire of the Community Panel that the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners adopt the Vision Statement and Goals, Objectives and Policies found in this Community Plan into the Comprehensive Plan.

Boca Grande Population Trends

Boca Grande has experienced substantial growth in the last 20 years. The population has risen nearly 47% in the last 20 years. During peak winter season, the population rises to nearly 2,300 people. Along with the rising population, the number of households on the island has risen at an almost equal rate, just below 48%, from 1980 to 2000.

	1980	1990	2000	2005 Forecast
Population	664	871	975	1059
Households	280	366	414	455
Housing Units		877	998	1096

Figure 1. Boca Grande Population, Households and Housing Units

Source: Boca Grande Chamber of Commerce

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With a projected 1,096 housing units on Boca Grande by 2005, the island continues to grow despite its small area of approximately 2.5 square miles. The Lee County Comprehensive Plan has predicted build out by 2020, but also states the community should look similar to how it does today. Present build out is estimated at more than 85%.





Source: Boca Grande Chamber of Commerce

Survey Methodology

The Boca Grande Community Panel prepared a community survey to collect information from the people of Boca Grande to identify which issues are important to them. Questions ranged from specific proposals, such as restricting fast food and formula restaurants and rules to ensure new construction is consistent in scale and design to the existing community, to more general questions about the satisfaction with the level of enforcement in relation to traffic safety, parking, public safety, zoning, building and environmental codes. The survey included 35 questions from topics such as land use, the environment, level of services, quality of life issues and community character. Respondents were asked to measure their feelings within a range from 'Strongly Agree' to 'Strongly Disagree'. An introductory letter from the Community Panel explaining the origin and purpose was sent with each survey.

Approximately 1200 surveys were mailed to persons with P.O. Box numbers listed in the Boca Grande 2004 four digit Phone Book. From the initial mailing, approximately 200 were returned undelivered, for a net total of approximately 1000 mailed. As of June 9, 2004, the panel had received responses from 948 individuals. Households with more than one resident were permitted to mark multiple responses. 630 surveys were returned of which 318 were marked with responses by two residents. Without follow up reminders or financial incentives, mail surveys often have low response rates. However, mail surveys also provide several advantages to one-on-one interviews. Utilizing mail surveys eliminates interviewer bias, allows the respondents to research and consider their responses at their leisure, and they are inexpensive to administer.

Figure 3. Boca Grande Community Survey Response Rates

1000	Response Rate
630	63%
948	Response Rate
2300	41%
	630

Source: Population Estimates from Boca Grande Chamber of Commerce

When considering the seasonal population of 2300, the 41% response rate is excellent. When comparing the number of responses to the year round population of 975, the response rate is extraordinary. Furthermore, the 63% response rate in relation to the number of surveys distributed, demonstrates the importance of the

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issues to the residents of Boca Grande. These high return rates validate the legitimacy of the survey findings.

Survey Findings

Completed surveys had to be signed and returned to the Community Planning Returned surveys were numbered and responses were tabulated and Panel. prioritized. A list of the names of the respondents and the corresponding survey number was also completed. This work was done electronically by Teresa Foster of Angel Works and volunteers Kathleen Rohrer and Alastair Campbell. The Top 10 priorities are summarized in Figure 4. Response totals for each question are shown in the bar charts in Figure 5. The responses to each question are also compiled in Figure 6. In order to determine community priorities, 'Strongly Agree' and 'Agree' responses were combined, as were 'Strongly Disagree' and 'Disagree' responses. These findings are presented in Figure 7. The Community Panel determined issues with an 'Agree' rate above 70%, or a very significant difference between the 'Agree' and 'Disagree' rate, to be of high priority and these issues have been addressed in the Goals, Objectives and Policies. Question 36 asked "What one major improvement would you like to see made in Boca Grande in the immediate future?" Preliminary responses as of May 18, 2004 are summarized in Figure 8.

Issue	Community Support
1. Improved Radio Dispatch	93%
2. Regulate Fast Food and Formula Restaurants	89%
3. Limit Vehicle Access for Beach Clean-Up Only	89%
4. Zoning Notification of Surrounding Property Owners	88%
5. Fund Emergency Beach Clean-Up	88%
6. Monitor development within 1 mile of Causeway	88%
7. No new Boat Ramps on Gasparilla Island	88%
8. Regulate/Prohibit Tour Operators in Residential Areas	86%
9. Acquire FP&L Property for Preservation	86%
10. Compatibility of Scale/Design of New Construction	85%

Figure 5. Boca Grande Community Survey Response Bar Charts



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Figure 6. Boca Grande Community Survey Response Table

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q1. I would prefer to receive mail at my post office box rather than home delivery if home delivery ever became available.	409	199	94	100	146
Q2. I would support additional landscaping in the Village area.	151	335	242	137	83
Q3. I would support the acquisition of existing vacant land for conversion into vehicle/golf cart parking in the Village.	152	260	161	193	182
Q4. I believe parking in the median on Gilchrist Street should be restricted to only Church functions.	236	201	119	189	203
Q5. I believe that one of the four lanes on Gilchrist should be used as a bike/golf cart path.	106	195	152	258	237
Q6. I believe the 5th Street median (mahogany trees) should be a no parking area.	296	305	191	97	59
Q7. I would support time-controlled parking in the Village. Q8. I would support the use of "back alleys" for truck deliveries to the extent possible.	77	130	91	203	447
Q8. I would support the use of "back alleys" for truck deliveries to the extent possible.	358	429	95	37	29
Q9. I would favor a parking ordinance restricting overnight parking in the public right-of-ways.	322	301	148	98	79
Q10. I would support design changes in traffic flow and pedestrian walkways in the Village to increase pedestrian and vehicular safety.	96	253	247	186	166
Q11. I would support the widening and landscaping of the walking/bike path south of the Village on Gulf Boulevard.	220	371	188	101	68
Q12. I would support any effort to improve radio dispatch communications with local police, fire and Emergency Medical Services.	649	229	57	7	6
Q13. The current level of enforcement is adequate for:					
Traffic/Automobile Safety:	99	416	179	160	94
Crime:	54	388	193	193	120
Building Codes:	55	287	289	201	116
Zoning Regulations:	54	264	293	215	122
Environmental Regulations:	51	297	382	156	62
Parking:	67	341	273	186	81
Golf Carts: Q14. The speed limit on Gasparilla Road south of the Boca	<u>49</u> 89	<u>172</u> 116	<u>134</u> 90	273 227	<u> </u>
Grande Club to South of 18th Street should be 35 MPH. It is currently 45 MPH.	09	110	90	221	420
Q15. I believe Gasparilla Road and Gulf Boulevard should be double striped to prevent passing.	192	198	92	256	210
Q16. I believe a golf cart/bike path for Cole Island Bridge should be built now before the bridge is replaced.	132	230	190	194	202
Q17. I favor the removal of exotic pest plants from county ights of way if a plan of phased restoration with native plants were to follow immediately.	273	384	139	78	74
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Question	Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly
Q18. "Fast Food" franchise and formula restaurants are not compatible with the character of Boca Grande and should	Agree 669	176	56	20	Disagree 27
be prohibited by ordinance and/or severely restricted through architectural, parking and signage regulations.					
Q19. All vehicle rental facilities renting out golf carts,	507	279	102	40	20
mopeds or any type of motorized or electric transportation devices and bicycles should not be allowed to encroach upon public parking or county right-of-ways or parking that was					20
required as a condition for the issuance of a building permit.					
Q20. Tour buses, trolleys, carriages, etc should not be permitted to obstruct traffic in the Village or to operate in residential neighborhoods. Q21. I would support a lower real estate tax treatment on land that was maintained as an open space.	605	213	73	37	20
Q21. I would support a lower real estate tax treatment on land that was maintained as an open space.	351	344	142	61	50
Q22. I believe Charlotte and Lee County should support and encourage local businesses through equitable real estate taxing policies.	293	444	154	39	18
Q23. I support the acquisition of the Florida Power and Light land (9+ acres on the southern tip of Gasparilla Island) to conserve and protect the fragile environmental qualities of this unique coastal property.	623	191	67	37	30
Q24. Communities on some Gulf Barrier Islands have created, under the aegis of their respective counties, Municipal Services Benefit Units (MSBU's) to fund a portion of the costs of beach renourishment projects as well as the acquisition of land for open space and parks. Given the mportance of healthy beaches to the safety, stability and economic viability of Gasparilla Island, should an MSBU applicable to the entire Boca Grande Community collect Cunds for beach renourishment? If the formula for raising Cunds were fair and equitable, I would support such a measure o fund the portion of beach re-nourishment costs not paid for by Federal and State governments.	143	288	171	173	173
Q25. I am in favor of permitting process to allow vehicular access to beaches in emergencies such as removal of dead fish luring Red Tide.	418	427	53	29	21
Q26. The issue of Red Tide continues to impact the Island conomy as well as the health and well-being of residents and risitors. I believe that county governments should fund and nanage beach clean-up after an emergency.	477	355	57	38	21
226 B. I believe both counties should fund Red Tide research vork such as the Start Program.	459	342	93	31	23
Q27. Lee County and Charlotte County should allocate funds to assist state agencies in managing and protecting the isheries of Charlotte Harbor and Boca Grande Pass.	406	339	139	38	26

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Question	Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly
Q28. I would favor a Marine Park zoning District in order to	Agree		104	<u> </u>	Disagree
facilitate consistent local enforcement of existing Federal,	349	384	104	57	54
State and County regulations in waterfront areas. It could deal					
with marine sanitation and live aboard issues, Jet Ski areas					
and hours of operation, removal of abandoned and derelict					-
vessels, and perhaps establish decibel levels for boats.					
Regulation would be carefully written to not interfere with					
commercial fishing interest on Boca Grande.					
Q29. No new boat ramps should be located or permitted on	574	256	74	32	12
Gasparilla Island. Parking of cars and trailers for any existing	5/4	230	/4	52	I Z
launching sites must be contained on site and not be permitted					
to overflow on to the public right-of-way.					
Q30. I would support the formation of a local seven-member	354	391	125	37	41
Boca Grande Historical District Board to review applications	554	391	125	57	41
for Certificates of Appropriateness and to make					
recommendations to Gloria Sajgo, the principal planner or the					
Lee County Historic Preservation Board. The Boca Grande					
Historic District Board would be appointed by the Lee County					
Commissioners. It would be stipulated that the Boca Grande					
Historic District Board members have similar qualifications					
as the Lee County Historic District Board members.					
Q31. I would support planning efforts to assure compatibility	481	326	64	34	43
of new construction and redevelopment with the scale and	.01	220	0.	5.	12
design of existing structures in Boca Grande neighborhoods.					
Charlotte and Lee County should work with the community of					
Boca Grande to develop and ordinance to preserve light,					
space and are around new and rehabilitated construction.			· · · ·		
Q32. Lee County and Charlotte County should notice, via	498	338	72	23	17
certified mail, abutters and property owners within 500 feet of				1	
a variance or special exception request.					
Q33. I am in favor of a Document Clearing House on the	344	399	129	47	29
island to improve access to permitting requests.					
Q34. Charlotte County should review any development	548	284	71	24	21
within a mile of the Boca Grande Causeway for traffic			-		
impact, emergency access, public safety and hurricane					
evacuation. A traffic impact study should be required which	ĺ	ĺ			
considers the cumulative impact of other developments in the					
immediate area. If adequate standards cannot be met, the					
density and intensity of the proposed developments should be					
reduced.					
Q35. And lastly, for "extra credit", Lee County and Charlotte	567	183	100	60	38
County should manage and control the iguana population on					
Boca Grande.		[

Figure 7. Boca Grande Community Survey Results Ranked by Priority

> 90% Response

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
1	Question 12	93%	1%	6%
	I would support any effort to improve radio dispatch communications with local police, fire and Emergency Medical Services.			

> 80% Response

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Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
2	Question 18	89%	5%	6%
	"Fast Food" franchise and formula restaurants are not compatible with the character of Boca Grande and should be prohibited by ordinance and/or severely restricted through architectural, parking and signage regulations.			
2	Question 25 I am in favor of permitting vehicular access to beaches in	89%	5%	6%
	emergencies such as removal of dead fish during Red Tide.			
4	Question 32	88%	4%	8%
	Lee County and Charlotte County should notice , via certified mail, abutters and property owners within 500 feet of a variance or special exception request.			
5	Question 26A	88%	6%	6%
5	The Issue of Red Tide continues to impact the island economy as well as the health and well-being of residents and visitors. I believe county governments should fund and manage beach clean –up after an emergency.			
5	Question 34	88%	5%	7%
	Charlotte County should review any development within a mile of Boca Grande Causeway for traffic impact, emergency access, public safety, and hurricane evacuation. A traffic impact study should be required which considers the cumulative impact of other developments in the immediate area. If adequate standards cannot be met, the density and intensity of the proposed developments should be reduced.			
7	Question 29	88%	5%	7%
,	No new boat ramps should be located or permitted on Gasparilla Island. Parking of cars and trailers for any existing launching sites must be contained on site and not be permitted to overflow on to the public right-of -way.			

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
8	Question 20	86%	6%	8%
	Tour buses , trolleys, carriages, etc. should not be permitted to obstruct traffic in the village or to operate in residential neighborhoods.			
9	Question 23	86%	7%	7%
	I support the acquisition of the Florida Power and Light land (9+ acres on the southern tip of Gasparilla Island) to conserve and protect the fragile environmental qualities of this unique coastal property.			
10	Question 31	85%	8%	7%
10	I would support planning efforts to assure compatibility of new construction and redevelopment with the scale and design of existing structures in Boca Grande neighborhoods. Charlotte and Lee County should work with the community of Boca Grande to develop an ordinance to preserve light, space and air around new and rehabilitated construction.			
11	Question 26B	84%	6%	10%
	I believe both counties should fund Red Tide research work such as the Start Program.			
12	Question 8	83%	7%	10%
	I would support the use of " back alleys " for truck deliveries to the extent possible.			
13	Question 19	83%	6%	11%
-	All vehicle rental facilities renting out golf carts, mopeds or any type of motorized or electric transportation devices and bicycles should not be allowed to encroach upon public parking or county right-of -ways or parking that was required as a condition for the issuance of a building permit.			

> 70% Support

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
14	Question 35	79%	10%	11%
	And lastly, for "extra credit", Lee County and Charlotte County should manage and control the iguana population on Boca Grande.			
15	Question 27	79%	7%	14%
	Lee County and Charlotte County should allocate funds to assist state agencies in managing and protecting the fisheries of Charlotte Harbor and Boca Grande Pass.			

Community Survey

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15	Question 30	79%	8%	13%
	I would support the formation of a local seven-member Boca Grande Historical District Board to review applications for Certificates of Appropriateness and to make recommendations to Gloria Sajgo, the principal planner of the Lee County Historic Preservation Board. The Boca Grande Historic District Board would be appointed by the Lee County Commissioners. It would be stipulated that the Boca Grande Historic District Board members have similar qualifications as the Lee County Historic District Board members.			
17	Question 33	78%	8%	14%
	I am in favor of a Document Clearing House on the island to improve access to permitting requests.			
18	Question 22	78%	6%	16%
	I believe Charlotte and Lee County should support and encourage local businesses through equitable real estate taxing policies .			
19	Question 28	77%	12%	11%
	I would favor a Marine Park zoning District in order to facilitate consistent local enforcement of existing Federal, State and County regulations in waterfront areas. It could deal with marine sanitation and live aboard issues, Jet Ski areas and hours of operation, removal of abandoned and derelict vessels, and perhaps establish decibel levels for boats. Regulation would be carefully written to not interfere with commercial fishing interests on Boca Grande.			
20	Question 21	73%	12%	15%
	I would support a lower real estate tax treatment on land that was maintained as open space.			

> 60% Response

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Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
21	Question 17	69%	16%	15%
	I favor the removal of exotic pest plants from county rights of way if a plan of phased restoration with native plants were to follow immediately.			
22	Question 14	22%	69%	9%
	The speed limit on Gasparilla Road south of the Boca Grande Club to South of 18 th Street should be 35 MPH. It is currently 45 MPH.			
23	Question 7	22%	69%	9%
	I would support time-controlled parking in the Village.			

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
24	Question 9	66%	19%	15%
-	I would favor a parking ordinance restricting overnight parking in the public right-of-ways.			
25	Question 1	64%	26%	10%
	I would prefer to receive mail at my post office box rather than home delivery if home delivery ever became available.			
26	Question 6	63%	16%	21%
	I believe the 5th. Street median (mahogany trees) should be a no parking area.			
27	Question 13G	23%	63%	14%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Golf Carts			
28	Question 11	62%	18%	20%
	I would support the widening and landscaping of the walking/bike path south of the Village on Gulf Boulevard			

> 50% Response

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
29	Question 13A	54%	27%	19%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Traffic/Automobile Safety			
30	Question 5	32%	52%	16%
	I believe one of the four lanes on Gilchrist Street should be used as a bike/golf cart path.			
31	Question 2	51%	23%	26%
	I would support additional landscaping in the Village area.			

> 40% Response

Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
32	Question 15	41%	49%	10%
	I believe Gasparilla Road and Gulf Boulevard should be double striped to prevent passing.			
33	Question 13B	47%	33%	20%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Crime			
34	Question 4	46%	41%	13%
	I believe parking in the median on Gilchrist Street should be restricted to only Church functions			

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Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
35	Question 24	45%	36%	19%
	Communities on some Gulf Barrier Islands have created, under the aegis of their respective counties, Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBUs) to fund a portion of the costs of beach re-nourishment projects as well as the acquisition of land for open space and parks. Given the importance of healthy beaches to the safety, stability and economic viability of Gasparilla Island, should an MSBU applicable to the entire Boca Grande Community collect funds for beach re- nourishment? If the formula for raising funds were fair and equitable, I would support such a measure to fund the portion of beach re-nourishment costs not paid for by Federal and State governments.			
36.	Question 3	43%	40%	17%
	I would support the acquisition of existing vacant land for conversion into vehicle/golf cart parking in the Village.			
37	Question 13F	43%	28%	29%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Parking			
38	Question 16	38%	42%	20%
	I believe a golf cart/bike path for Cole Island Bridge should be built now before the bridge is replaced			

> 30% Response

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Rank		Agree	Disagree	Neutral
39	Question 10	37%	37%	26%
	I would support design changes in traffic flow and pedestrian walkways in the Village to increase pedestrian and vehicular safety.			
40	Question 13E	37%	23%	40%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Environmental Regulations			
41	Question 13C	36%	33%	31%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Building Codes			
42	Question 13D	34%	36%	30%
	The current level of enforcement is adequate for Zoning Regulations			

Figure 8. Boca Grande Community Survey Question #36 "What one major improvement would you like to see made in Boca Grande in the immediate future?" (As of May 18, 2004)


Lee County Vision Statement

Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande – In 1980, the Florida Legislature found that the community of Boca Grande, comprised of Gasparilla Island and nearby islands, is part of the fragile barrier island system as defined in the Presidential Directive on barrier islands dated May 23, 1977, and is an area of particular natural beauty containing abundant plant, marine, animal and bird life. The State of Florida recognized that the conservation of the natural beauty, plant, marine, animal and bird life of the islands was in the best interest of the residents and property owners of the islands, the citizens of Lee and Charlotte Counties and the State of Florida, and consequently created the *Gasparilla Island Conservation District* by enacting the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act of 1980 (Ch 80-473). The Act was subsequently amended in 1983 and 1986 (Ch 83-385 and Ch 86-341) and s hereafter referred to as the GICDA. The intent of the GICDA is to limit density and development to a level which will not degrade the fragile environment or overburden the limited infrastructure of the islands.

For the purposes of this comprehensive plan, the community of Boca Grande includes Gasparilla Island, Boca Grande Isles, the Gasparilla Golf Course Island, Three Sisters Island, Hoagen's Key, Loomis Island, Cole Island, and the Gasparilla Island bridge lands and causeway islands, and includes all submerged lands, tidal lands, overflow lands and tidal ponds as described in the GICDA.

To insure that the intent of the GICDA is carried out, actions proposed in sections that follow must be undertaken to promote sound environmental policy, preserve the character and history of the community, safeguard the water supply, protect the sports fishing industry and support the essentially seasonal businesses in Boca Grande, and to ensure that residents have adequate access, law enforcement, and emergency and utility services.

The core of the Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande community is the unincorporated village of Boca Grande, designated as an Historic District. This community is unique in that it has no direct road access to or from the rest of Lee County. All access to Boca Grande by motor vehicle is via Charlotte County, or by boat, or small seaplane. The Lee County portion of Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande is designated as Urban Community, Outer Islands, Public Facilities, Conservation Lands, and Wetlands on the Future Land Use Map. Maximum density in the Urban Community category is restricted to three dwelling units per acre.

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The population is highly seasonal with peak population residency and daily visiting occurring during the months of November through May. With land vacancy of less than 15%, Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande has virtually no capacity for additional new development, while substantial population growth is expected in adjacent areas of Charlotte and Sarasota Counties. The Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande community is dedicated to preserving its historic character and scale and its unique island residential character so that the community will look substantially the same in 2020 as it does today, including its unique mix of vital small businesses, without fast food franchises, formula and intense retail or intense commercial tourist activities, other than the historic Gasparilla Inn.

High priorities for Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande are the preservation and conservation of its fragile environment, including recreation and open space areas, its Historic District, the residents' quality of life and right to continued enjoyment of its natural and cultural gifts, and consistent enforcement of all current and future regulations with respect to zoning, traffic, parking, law enforcement, public utilities, the GICDA and the Historic District.

To the greatest extent possible, Lee County and Charlotte County should work together to jointly develop land development regulations and ordinances which are required by the policies found in this Comprehensive Plan. Different implementing ordinances and regulations should be avoided.

Charlotte County Vision Statement

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Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande – In 1980, the Florida Legislature found that the community of Boca Grande, comprised of Gasparilla Island and nearby islands, is part of the fragile barrier island system as defined in the Presidential Directive on barrier islands dated May 23, 1977, and is an area of particular natural beauty containing abundant plant, marine, animal and bird life. The State of Florida recognized that the conservation of the natural beauty, plant, marine, animal and bird life of the islands was in the best interest of the residents and property owners of the islands, the citizens of Lee and Charlotte Counties and the State of Florida, and consequently created the *Gasparilla Island Conservation District* by enacting the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act of 1980 (Ch 80-473). The Act was subsequently amended in 1983 and 1986 (Ch 83-385 and Ch 86-341) and is hereafter referred to as the GICDA. The intent of the GICDA is to limit density and development to a level which will not degrade the fragile environment or overburden the limited infrastructure of the islands.

For the purposes of this comprehensive plan, the community of Boca Grande includes Gasparilla Island, Boca Grande Isles, the Gasparilla Golf Course Island, Three Sisters Island, Hoagen's Key, Loomis Island, Cole Island, and the Gasparilla Island bridge lands and causeway islands, and includes all submerged lands, tidal lands, overflow lands and tidal ponds as described in the GICDA.

To insure that the intent of the GICDA is carried out, actions proposed in sections that follow must be undertaken to promote sound environmental policy, preserve the character and history of the community, safeguard the water supply, protect the sports fishing industry and support the essentially seasonal businesses in Boca Grande, and to ensure that residents have adequate access, law enforcement, and emergency and utility services.

The core of the Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande community is the unincorporated village of Boca Grande, designated by Lee County as an Historic District. This community is unique in that it has no direct road access to or from the rest of Lee County. All access to Boca Grande by motor vehicle is via Charlotte County, or by boat, or small seaplane. The Charlotte County portion of Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande is designated as Low and Medium Density Residential, Commercial Center and Preservation on the Future Land Use Map. Maximum density is limited to five dwelling units per acre in these land use categories (Charlotte County Code of Laws and Ordinances 3-5-191). However, within the Coastal High Hazard Zone,

new residential subdivisions are limited to a maximum of 3.5 dwelling units per acre in the tropical storm and category 1 zones. (Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan, page 1-67)

The population is highly seasonal with peak population residency and daily visiting occurring during the months of November through May. With land vacancy of less than 15%, Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande has virtually no capacity for additional new development, while substantial population growth is expected in adjacent areas of Charlotte and Sarasota Counties. The Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande community is dedicated to preserving its historic character and scale and its unique island residential character so that the community will look substantially the same in 2020 as it does today, including its unique mix of vital small businesses, without fast food franchises, formula and intense retail or intense commercial tourist activities, other than the historic Gasparilla Inn.

High priorities for Gasparilla Island/Boca Grande are the preservation and conservation of its fragile environment, including recreation and open space areas, its Historic District, the residents' quality of life and right to continued enjoyment of its natural and cultural gifts, and consistent enforcement of all current and future regulations with respect to zoning, traffic, parking, law enforcement, public utilities, the GICDA and the Historic District.

To the greatest extent possible, Charlotte County and Lee County should work together to jointly develop land development regulations and ordinances which are required by the policies found in this Comprehensive Plan. Different implementing ordinances and regulations should be avoided.

Element I - Future Land Use Lee County

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Goal 1: To preserve the traditional character, scale, and tranquility of the historic village and residential areas of the Boca Grande community by continuing to limit the densities and intensities of use and development to sustainable levels that will not adversely impact the natural environment, overburden the existing infrastructure, or require additions to the present infrastructure.

Objective 1.1: Lee County will continue to enforce the regulations found in the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, and will assist the residents of Boca Grande to further develop growth management policies and regulations to limit densities and intensities of development on Gasparilla Island, in order to maintain the historic scale and development patterns of the community.

Policy 1.1.1: Lee County will not locate or permit any new boat ramps or other watercraft launching facilities on Gasparilla Island and will not allow the expansion of any existing ramps or facilities. The County will require that parking of cars and trailers for any existing sites must be contained on site and not be permitted to overflow into the public rights of way.

Policy 1.1.2: An ordinance prohibiting fast food and retail franchises, and formula restaurants will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this Policy. These regulations will clearly define these types of restaurants and franchises which are inconsistent with the community character of Boca Grande and therefore incompatible uses. Until such regulations are adopted, fast food and retail franchises, and formula restaurants will not be permitted. Policy 6.1.7 in the Historic Preservation Element prohibits these types of uses within the Boca Grande Historic District.

Policy 1.1.3: Changes to the Land Development Code will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this Policy, to better manage rental and tour businesses which have an impact on the neighborhoods and environment of the community. These regulations will address issues such as the number and location of operators, safety, privacy, security, liability insurance, parking facilities, property maintenance, storm water management, and compatibility. Until such regulations are adopted, Lee County will not issue permits or occupational licenses for any new business proposing rental of electric or motorized vehicles such as mopeds, scooters, golf carts, personal watercraft (jet-skis) or similar vehicles, and businesses

which operate tour boats, busses, trolleys, carriages, or other vehicles on tours of neighborhoods on Gasparilla Island.

Existing rental operations may continue to operate. Additional square footage to any building or an increase in the number of rental vehicles must comply with all existing regulations, including the provision that all outdoor storage must be contained on the business property and comply with existing regulations.

Policy 1.1.4: Lee County will work with the Boca Grande Community to establish a Document Clearing House in Boca Grande, where copies of selected documents from permit applications, variance requests, staff reports, Hearing Examiner recommendations and resolutions, Historic District Special Certificates of Appropriateness, and Administrative Variances and for any development on Gasparilla Island and will be kept for public inspection. The County's failure to provide or to timely provide documents to the Document Clearing House, or failure of the Document Clearing house to receive documents, will not constitute a defect in notice or bar a public hearing from occurring as scheduled.

Policy 1.1.5: The owner or agent for any request which requires a public hearing, such as a variance, special exception, or consumption on premises; any request for an Historic District Special Certificate of Appropriateness; or any administrative variance for development on Gasparilla Island, must conduct one public informational meeting in Boca Grande where the owner or agent will provide a general overview of the project for any interested citizens. If the request is located within the Boca Grande Historic District, the informational meeting will be presented to the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board at its appointed meeting location. For all other requests, the applicant is fully responsible for providing the meeting space and providing security measures as needed.

Lee County encourages zoning staff to participate in such public informational meetings. This meeting must be conducted before the application can be found sufficient. Subsequent to this meeting, the applicant must provide county staff with a meeting summary document that contains the following information: the date, time, and location of the meeting; a list of attendees; a summary of the concerns or issues that were raised at the meeting; and a proposal for how the applicant will respond to any issues that were raised. Whenever possible, public hearings for proposed projects on

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Boca Grande should be held between the months of October through May. Public hearings which are held during the months of June through September, will require notification of the date and time of the hearing to surrounding property owners a minimum of one month prior to the hearing date.

Policy 1.1.6: In addition to compliance review by Lee County development services staff, Lee County will require that all permit applications for development on Gasparilla Island will bear a statement, signed and notarized by the owner or authorized agent, that the plans comply with the provisions of the GICDA.

Policy 1.1.7: In order to promote water conservation and better manage this important resource, Lee County will investigate the feasibility of requiring all applicants for permit requests of new structures to conduct a cistern feasibility study as part of the permitting process. For redevelopment projects, Lee County will seek to encourage the establishment of cisterns wherever practicable.

Policy 1.1.8: In order to maintain the traditional scale and historic patterns of development on Gasparilla Island, Lee County will work with the Boca Grande community to develop an ordinance to preserve light, space and air around new residential dwelling construction and to discourage "mega houses" or "mansionization" of Boca Grande. New development or redevelopment will recognize that traditional setbacks, particularly front and side yard setbacks, as well as strict adherence to the Coastal Construction Control Line, within existing and proposed neighborhoods on Gasparilla Island, should be maintained. Lee County has determined that house designs which dwarf their neighbors are incompatible with existing historic and traditional neighborhoods and will be discouraged. These regulations will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this policy.

Until such an ordinance is adopted, no variances from existing property development regulations will be approved including setbacks, lot coverage, or height. Contributing structures in the Historic District or structures outside the Historic District which are designated as an historic resource under Chapter 22 of the Land Development Code may seek Special Certificates of Appropriateness and administrative relief from development regulations if approved by the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board. **Policy 1.1.9:** Lee County will work to develop tax policies that will enable large estate properties to remain intact. Any redevelopment of estate properties or other large parcels of land will be consistent with the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, will work to preserve open space, and will not exceed three (3) dwelling units per acre. Parcels comprised of more than one lot of record, which are under unified control may not be divided unless the resulting lots conform with the maximum density of 3 dwelling units per acre (minimum lot size of 14,520 square feet), as established in the Lee Plan, Table 1(a), Note #5.

Policy 1.1.10: Lawfully existing businesses and commercial buildings in the Boca Grande commercial areas will be deemed to be vested as related to parking, setbacks, height, and land use. Any expansion or change of use to one of higher intensity will require a review of parking impacts, setbacks, height, and uses as necessary. Any new or expanded uses in the Historic District will require public review and a finding by the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board that the project is consistent with the community's historic village character and will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare.

Policy 1.1.11: Lee County will support the Boca Grande community in their efforts to further investigate the need for modified development requirements applicable to Boca Grande, based upon the unique nature of the community, the location of Boca Grande on a barrier island at the mouth of Charlotte Harbor, the limited opportunities for supporting infrastructure, the seasonal nature of the demand upon public facilities, and the need for cross-county administration of growth management legislation. Such support may include the following:

- a. The creation of a marine park zoning district to facilitate consistent local enforcement of existing Federal, State and County regulations in waterfront areas and new regulations to better manage coastal issues such as use and rental of personal watercrafts, abandoned vessels, live aboards, sanitation, water quality, and noise.
- b. Adoption of modified development regulations such as, but not limited to, parking requirements, minimum setbacks, and commercial and residential design standards.
- c. Completion of an impact study of parking deficiencies prior to granting any additional administrative parking variances in the historic village commercial area. Until such time as the parking

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study is completed, new construction will be required to meet current parking requirements for its intended use.

Policy 1.1.12: Lee County will maintain the Public Facilities designation on the Lee County Future Land Use Map for the approximately 9.19 acre former Florida Power & Light/Belcher Oil facility on the south end of Gasparilla Island and ensure that no action is permitted that is inconsistent with that designation. Use of this property as passive open space will best serve the goal of enhancing the beauty and environmental integrity of the Island.

Element I: Future Land Use Lee County: Goals, Objectives and Policies

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Element I - Future Land Use Charlotte County

Goal 1: To preserve the traditional character, scale, and tranquility of the historic village and residential areas of the Boca Grande community by continuing to limit the densities and intensities of use and development to sustainable levels that will not adversely impact the natural environment, overburden the existing infrastructure, or require additions to the present infrastructure.

Objective 1.1: Charlotte County will continue to enforce the regulations found in the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, and will assist the residents of Boca Grande to further develop growth management policies and regulations to limit densities and intensities of development on Gasparilla Island, in order to maintain the historic scale and development patterns of the community.

Policy 1.1.1: Charlotte County hereby adopts the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (GICDA), as it exists on the date of adoption of this Policy, by reference, as part of the Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan. In addition, Charlotte County will incorporate the language of the GICDA into the zoning code of Charlotte County Code of Laws and Ordinances.

Policy 1.1.2: Redevelopment of any property on Gasparilla Island and Cole Island will conform to the density restrictions of Charlotte County's Coastal High Hazard (CHH) Zone (to the extent that they do not conflict with the GICDA) and should not be to a greater height, density or intensity than the original development. The height restrictions that apply to Gasparilla Island under the GICDA (38' above average lot grade or 42' above mean sea level, whichever is less) will also be applied to Cole Island in order to maintain building uniformity.

Policy 1.1.3: Charlotte County will continue to preserve and protect lands on Gasparilla and surrounding islands that are zoned Environmentally Sensitive on the Charlotte County official zoning map.

Policy 1.1.4: Charlotte County will designate the portion of Gasparilla Island within its jurisdiction as a bird and wildlife sanctuary. The adopting provisions may be modeled after the Lee County Gasparilla Island Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary Ordinance, adopted in Lee County Ordinance 83-16,

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which provides protective regulations for birds, wildlife and wildlife habitat, authorizes enforcement and provides penalties.

Policy 1.1.5: Charlotte County will not locate or permit any new boat ramps or other watercraft launching facilities on Gasparilla Island, Cole Island, or anywhere along Gasparilla Road from the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority toll booth to C.R. 775, and will not allow the expansion of any existing ramps or facilities in these locations. Charlotte County will continue active enforcement of no parking zones along Gasparilla Road between the GIBA toll booth and C.R. 775, and in the vicinity along C.R. 775. Enforcement will also continue to prohibit cars and trailers from overflowing onto public rights-of-way.

Policy 1.1.6: An ordinance prohibiting fast food and retail franchises, and formula restaurants will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this Policy. These regulations will clearly define these types of restaurants and franchises which are inconsistent with the community character of Boca Grande and therefore incompatible uses. Until such regulations are adopted, fast food and retail franchises, and formula restaurants will not be permitted.

Policy 1.1.7: Changes to the Land Development Code will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this Policy, to better manage rental and tour businesses which have an impact on the neighborhoods and environment of the community. These regulations will address issues such as the number and location of operators, safety, privacy, security, liability parking facilities, property maintenance, storm insurance, water management, and compatibility. Until such regulations are adopted, Charlotte County will not issue permits or occupational licenses for any new business proposing rental of electric or motorized vehicles such as mopeds, scooters, golf carts, personal watercraft (jet-skis) or similar vehicles, and businesses which operate tour boats, busses, trolleys, carriages, or other vehicles on tours of neighborhoods on Gasparilla Island.

Existing rental operations may continue to operate. Additional square footage to any building or an increase in the number of rental vehicles must comply with all existing regulations, including the provision that all outdoor storage must be contained on the business property and comply with existing regulations. **Policy 1.1.8**: Charlotte County will work with the Boca Grande Community to establish a Document Clearing House in Boca Grande, where copies of selected documents from all development permit applications, variance requests, staff reports, and Board of Zoning Appeals' decisions for any development on Gasparilla Island will be kept for public inspection. The County's failure to provide or to timely provide documents to the Document Clearing House, or failure of the Document Clearing House to receive documents, will not constitute a defect in notice or bar a public hearing from occurring as scheduled.

Policy 1.1.9: The owner or agent for any request which requires a public hearing, such as a variance, special exception, or consumption on premises; or any administrative variance for development on Gasparilla Island, must conduct one public informational meeting in Boca Grande where the agent will provide a general overview of the project for any interested citizens. The applicant is fully responsible for providing the meeting space and providing security measures as needed.

Charlotte County encourages zoning staff to participate in such public This meeting must be conducted before the informational meetings. Subsequent to this meeting, the application can be found sufficient. applicant must provide county staff with a meeting summary document that contains the following information: the date, time, and location of the meeting; a list of attendees; a summary of the concerns or issues that were raised at the meeting; and a proposal for how the applicant will respond to any issues that were raised. Whenever possible, public hearings for proposed projects on Boca Grande should be held between the months of October through May. Public hearings which must be held between the months of June through September, will require notification of the date and time of the hearing to surrounding property owners a minimum of one month prior to the hearing date.

Policy 1.1.10: In addition to compliance review by Charlotte County development services staff, Charlotte County will require that all permit applications for development on Gasparilla Island will bear a statement, signed and notarized by the owner or authorized agent, that the plans comply with the provisions of the GICDA.

Policy 1.1.11: In order to promote water conservation and better manage this important resource, Charlotte County will investigate the feasibility of

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requiring all applicants for permit requests of new structures to conduct a cistern feasibility study as part of the permitting process. For redevelopment projects, Charlotte County will seek to encourage the establishment of cisterns wherever practicable.

Policy 1.1.12: In order to maintain the traditional scale and historic patterns of development on Gasparilla Island, Charlotte County will work with the Boca Grande community to develop an ordinance to discourage "mega houses" or "mansionization" of Boca Grande. New development or redevelopment will recognize that traditional setbacks, particularly front and side yard setbacks, as well as strict adherence to the Coastal Construction Control Line, within existing and proposed neighborhoods on Gasparilla Island, should be maintained. Charlotte County has determined that house designs which dwarf their neighbors are incompatible with existing traditional neighborhoods and will be discouraged. These regulations will be adopted within two years of the adoption of this policy. Until such an ordinance is adopted, no variances from existing property development regulations will be approved including setbacks, lot coverage, or height.

Policy 1.1.13: Charlotte County will support the Boca Grande community in their efforts to further investigate the need for modified development requirements applicable to Boca Grande, based upon the unique nature of the community, the location of Boca Grande on a barrier island at the mouth of Charlotte Harbor, the limited opportunities for supporting infrastructure, the seasonal nature of the demand upon public facilities, and the need for cross-county administration of growth management legislation. Such support may include the following:

- a. Consideration of policies to ensure consistent local enforcement of existing Federal, State and County regulations in waterfront areas and new regulations to better manage coastal issues such as use and rental of personal watercrafts, abandoned vessels, live aboards, sanitation, water quality, and noise.
- b. Adoption of modified development regulations such as, but not limited to, parking requirements, minimum setbacks, commercial and residential design standards.

Policy 1.1.14: Surrounding property owner notices which are currently required for all public hearings in consideration of a zoning request will be sent to all surrounding property owners within 500 feet of the subject

Element I: Future Land Use Charlotte County: Goals, Objectives and Policies

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property. This requirement will take effect upon adoption of this policy, and will be adopted in the land development regulations.

Objective 1.2: Charlotte County will implement policies to assess the development impacts of properties with the potential to affect Boca Grande.

Policy 1.2.1: Charlotte County will review development proposals to determine potential impacts upon the Boca Grande community. These impacts may include increased traffic as new residents seek recreational opportunities, increased demand on utilities, parking facilities, solid waste collection and disposal, wellfield protection, and impacts upon the limited commercial resources of the Island. Approvals for new development must demonstrate they will not have a negative impact on the community and do not exceed adopted levels of service as measured in annual concurrency reports.

Policy 1.2.2: Charlotte County will provide copies of development proposals for all projects of an intensity greater than a single-family or two-family residence located within a two mile radius of the intersection of C. R. 775 and Gasparilla Road, or within a one mile radius of the potable water wells serving the Gasparilla Island Water Association, to the Document Clearing House established for the Boca Grande community. As a result, the residents and stakeholders of the Boca Grande community will be informed of the type and extent of development proposals that are occurring in an area that can reasonably be assumed to affect directly or indirectly the Boca Grande community.

Policy 1.2.3: Charlotte County will require that the cumulative impact of development proposals for all projects of an intensity greater than a single-family or two-family residence located within a two mile radius of the intersection of C. R. 775 and Gasparilla Road, be reviewed for impacts upon causeway access, public safety, emergency vehicle access, traffic, and hurricane evacuation. The land development regulations will be amended within two years of the adoption of this Policy to require submittal of traffic impact studies including anticipated impacts upon the Boca Grande Causeway for such projects and potential strategies for congestion mitigation.

Policy 1.2.4: Charlotte County will continue to preserve and protect the potable water supply for Gasparilla Island from incompatible development

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that would serve to reduce the quality or quantity of water available to the residents of Boca Grande as required in Comprehensive Plan Goal 9 and Goal 10, related Objectives and Policies, and the Charlotte County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Chapter 3-9 Zoning, Article III Special Regulations, Section 3-9-99 Wellhead Protection Area.

Policy 1.2.5: Charlotte County will review parking requirements for resort development, residential and commercial, to determine whether modified standards are warranted in areas with highly seasonal infrastructure impacts.

Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act of 1980 and Amendments

The Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (GICDA) was adopted by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature in 1980. It has been incorporated into the Lee County Land Development Code, Chapter 34, Article VII, Supplementary District Regulations, Division 30 - Property Development Regulations, Subdivision V - Gasparilla Island, beginning in Section 34-2251 through Section 34-2255. The GICDA has also been incorporated into the Charlotte County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Chapter 3-5 Planning and Development, Article VII Gasparilla Island, beginning in Section 3-5-186 through Section 3-5-191. Charlotte County Policy 1.1.1 recommends Charlotte County also place the GICDA in their zoning code.

1980 Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act

- Creates the Gasparilla Island Conservation District (GICD)
- GICD includes Gasparilla Island, Boca Grande Isles, Gasparilla Golf Course Island, Three Sister's Island, Hoagen's Key, Loomis Island and all adjacent submerged lands, tidal lands, overflow lands and tidal ponds.
- Establishes maximum height at 38 feet from the average sea grade elevation to the peak of the roof of new or altered structures.
- Limits density to 5 dwelling units per acre, land must be above mean sea level, under single ownership and contiguous.
- Restricts the commercial, industrial or multi-family use of land to those lands zoned for such uses prior to the effective date of the Act. Limits rezonings to single-family districts only.
- Limits exterior advertising signs to on site signs which relate to activities on the premises, and prohibits banners, beacons, neon, rotating, flashing and animated signs.
- Establishes existing non-conforming structures and signs as lawful and allows for repairs and reconstruction.
- Original Act required adoption by referendum of the GICD eligible voters, November, 1980.

1983 & 1986 Amendments

- Prohibits variances from density, height and sign restrictions.
- Allows for repairs, renovations or reconstruction of non-conforming structures if Board of County Commissioners makes a finding that the traditional use of the structure has served the public and community benefit.
- Establishes the Gasparilla Inn Historic Resort Area.
- Allows for the continued use and maintenance of the Inn and sets maximum density within the resort area at 80 resort rooms, 109 employee dwelling units and 56 other residential dwelling units.

Future Land Use Categories

Figure 9. Boca Grande Future Land Use by Acreage

Future Urban Areas	Acres	Acres
Public Facilities	76.6	
Urban Community	794.1	
Low Density Residential	249.2	
Medium Density Residential	25.8	
Commercial Center	2.6	
Subtotal	$1148.3 \pm$	$1148.3 \pm$
Non-Urban Area	Acres	
Conservation Lands Upland	85.5	
Outer Island	123.6	
Subtotal	209.1±	209.1±
Environmentally Critical Areas	Acres	14.01 (See)
Conservation Lands Wetland	115.9	
Wetlands	14.3	
Preservation	72.8	
Subtotal	203.0±	203.0±
Total Acreage	的教育的	1560.4±

Figure 10. Boca Grande Future Land Use by Percentage

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*Conservation Lands – Consists of Preservation, Conservation Land Uplands and Conservation Lands Wetland, and Outer Island. All listed areas are considered virtually unbuildable.

Of the 1560 \pm total acres on Boca Grande, 412 \pm acres, or 26%, are designated in Non-urban and Environmentally Critical land use categories. The Outer Island category consisting of 123.6 \pm acres is the location of the Gasparilla Inn golf course.

85.5± acres of Conservation Upland is located on the southern end of Boca Grande and is owned by the by State of Florida Trust for Internal Improvement Trust Fund (TIITF). Current Lee County regulations state that Conservation Upland is only to be used for wildlife preserves; wetland and upland mitigation areas and banks; natural resource based parks; ancillary uses for environmental research and education, historic and cultural preservation, and natural resource based parks (such as signage, parking facilities, caretaker quarters, interpretive kiosks, research centers, and quarters and other associated support services); and water conservation lands such as aquifer recharge areas, flow ways, flood prone areas, and well fields. This area does not allow for any residential development.

In addition, the Lee County Wetland future land use category only allows one dwelling unit per twenty acres (1 du/20 acre), which would only allow for one additional housing unit on Boca Grande. The Preservation land use category in the Charlotte County jurisdiction allows for one dwelling unit per forty acres (1 du/40 acre).

Residential Zoning Districts	Acres
RM-2 Residential Multi-Family	99.2
RS Residential Single Family	502.9
TFC-2 Two Family Conservation	18.0
PUD Planned Unit Development	55.8
RMF Residential Multi-Family	163.0
RSF Residential Single Family	103.6
Total	942.5±

Industrial/Marine Zoning Districts	Acres
IL Light Industrial	4.2
IM Marine Industrial	0.9
PORT	57.5
Total	62.6±

Commercial Zoning Districts	Acres
CM Marine Commercial	2.0
C-1 Commercial	27.5
CS-1 Special Commercial Office	0.2
CT Commercial Tourist	11.2
Total	40.9±

Agricultural and Environmental	Acres
Zoning Districts	
AG-2 Agriculture	440.5
Environmentally Sensitive	72.8
Total	513.3±

Figure 12. Boca Grande Zoning Districts by Percentage

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The predominant zoning category on Boca Grande is Residential, as nearly 56% is zoned in one of these categories. 33% is zoned Agriculture or Environmentally Sensitive. The remaining 7% is split between Light Industrial and Marine uses (4%) and Commercial (3%).

Figure 13.	Property Develo	pment Regulations	by Zoning District
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	RM-2	RS-1	RS-2	TFC	2-2
Lot Area	6,500'	7,500'	12,500'	750	0,
Lot Width	65'	75'	100'	75	,
Lot Depth	100'	100'	100'	100),
Street Setback	25'	25'	25'	25	>
Side Setback	7'	7.5'	10'	7.5	,
Rear Setback	20'	20'	20'	20	,
Water Setback	50'	50'	50'	50	,
Max Height	38'	38'	38'	38	,
Max Lot Coverage	45%	40%	40%	40%	6
	CM/IM	PO	RT	IL	AG-2
Lot Area	20,000'	20,0	000'	20,00 0'	39,500'
Lot Width	100'	10	0'	100'	100'
Lot Depth	100'	10	0'	100'	130'
Street Setback	25'	25	5'	25'	25'
Side Setback	20'	10% of width, Min 20'		20'	15'
Rear Setback	20'	25'		15'	25'
Water Setback	50'	50'		50'	50'
Max Height	38'	38'		38'	38'
Max Lot Coverage	40%	40	%	40%	25%

Lee County

	C-1, C- 1A, & C- 2A	CS-1
Lot Area	7,500'	-
Lot Width	75'	100'
Lot Depth	100'	100'
Street Setback	25'	25'
Side Setback	15'	20'
Rear Setback	25'	20'
Water Setback	50'	50'
Max Height	38'	38'
Max Lot Coverage	40%	40%

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Charlotte County

	СТ	RMF-T	RSF3.5	RMF5	RSF5	ES
Lot Area	12000'	7500'	10,000'	7,500'	7,500'	10 ac
Lot Width	100'	80'	80'	80'	70'	250'
Street Setback	25'	25'	25'	25'	25'	25'
Side Setback	0'	7.5'	7.5'	7.5'	7.5'	10'
Rear Setback	10'	15'	10'	15'	10'	20'
Water Setback	50'	50'	50'	50'	50'	50'
Max Height	38'	38'	38'	38'	38'	38'
Max Lot Coverage	35%	35%	35%	35%	35%	10%

Source: Lee and Charlotte County Land Development Regulations

The community of Boca Grande has imposed strict zoning regulations in the past few decades to preserve the natural beauty of the island. Some of the most important regulations that were set up; limit the height restriction to 38 feet, a maximum dwelling density of five dwelling units per acre, and the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act that restricts rezonings on the island.

As with many communities comprised of platted lots recorded prior to current building codes and styles, Boca Grande has had a significant number of variances approved from the property development regulations. According to the official zoning maps of Lee County, 258 variances have been approved since 1984. That is equivalent to nearly 13 every year. The most frequently approved variance is a setback variance from the required side setback (53), followed by relief from the street right-of-way (49). The third most frequent variance is related to the location or height of a fence (45). These variances do not include Administrative Approvals granted in conjunction within the Boca Grande Historic District. Although rezoning applications are limited on Boca Grande, there are still a significant number of zoning actions which require public hearings that justify establishing the recommended Document Clearing House.

Another issue relating to non-conforming lots is the potential division of larger parcels into smaller lots of record. While the current density is limited to 3 dwelling units per acre in Lee County, and 3.5 dwelling units per acre in Charlotte County, the minimum use provision allows single family homes on lots of record. Lee County Policy 1.1.9 seeks to ensure Minimum Use Determinations will not be granted to parcels comprised of multiple, nonconforming lots of record on Boca Grande. A review of over 3000 parcel

descriptions found there are $241\pm$ parcels which are comprised of more than one lot of record. This translates into a minimum of $241\pm$ additional lots which could potentially be developed with single family homes.

Population Trends

Boca Grande is directly impacted by the current population growth and development of Lee, Charlotte and Sarasota Counties, as they are the counties encompassing and surrounding the Gasparilla Island. For this reason, it is important to understand what the current growth and development trends are in these areas, as well as, what the impact will be to the island.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census Fact Finder, Boca Grande (zip code 33921) has a population of 1,500 people. Estimates of seasonal population range from 2,300 to 3,500 people.

The population of the Lee and Charlotte County area has grown tremendously in the last 20 years. Both counties have more than doubled in population since the 1980 census and the growth rate has no signs of slowing. Charlotte County has a current population of approximately 152,000 people while Lee County has approximately 480,000 people. Estimates for the year 2020 have the counties growing at the same rate as today. Sarasota County has also had significant growth trends since the 1980 census, with a 42% increase in population since that time. The current population in Sarasota county stands at approximately 346,800 people and a steady growth rate is expected to continue through the year 2020.

Figure 14. Population Growth Rates by County

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Source: US Census Bureau

The statistics regarding the building permits are comparable with the recent growth of population. The number of single-family permits has been on the rise since 1980, with a large increase beginning in 1997 in Lee County. Charlotte County sustained a large growth from 1985-1989 and is steadily on the rise once again. Sarasota County building permits have fluctuated over the last 20 years with the numbers decreasing significantly in the early to mid 1990's. The trend then started an upswing in 1997 with a substantial increase each year since that point.

According to the 2000 United States Census the state of Florida has had a 23.53% population increase, ranking it #7 in the nation for population growth. Only one state nationally had a population growth of more than 50%. This shows that Charlotte, Lee and Sarasota Counties are all growing at a significantly faster rate than the state and national average.





Source: US Census Bureau

Charlotte County Housing Occupancy	Units	Percentage
Total housing units	79,758	100
Occupied housing units	63,864	80.1
Vacant housing units	15,894	19.9
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	10,512	13.2
Lee County Housing Occupancy	Units	Percentage
Total housing units	245,405	100
Occupied housing units	188,599	76.9
Vacant housing units	56,806	23.1
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	39,502	16.1

Figure 16. Lee and Charlotte County Housing Occupancy Rates

Source: State of the Cities Data System

Charlotte County Population Trends

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Charlotte County is known as a "platted lands" community, similar to Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres in Lee County. According to the Charlotte Comprehensive Plan, there are 87,740 platted lots in the *West County Planning Area*, of which 72,264 are vacant.

In Rotunda West there are 26,260 platted lots of which 24,226 are vacant. Many of these lots now have sewer service and can be developed. The projected build-out population of Rotunda alone is over 50,000. There are also a number of large parcels of vacant land in the immediate area zoned for high-density multi-family use. Some of these properties are now in various stages of being developed.

The Population of Charlotte County has virtually doubled every decade since the 1950's. The 2000 population was 141,627. If all existing, platted lots in the county were developed, the eventual population would be over 500,000. There currently are no plans in place for reassembly*, redesign or replatting of these properties although Charlotte County is studying the problem. (* Except the Murdock CRA)

The 2000 population for the *West County Planning Area* was 31,580 with the seasonal increase estimated at 30% or 41,054. By 2005, 9,560 new residents are projected plus the 30% seasonal increase will mean another 12,428 new residents bringing the population to 53,582. By 2010, 6,304 more residents are projected, plus the seasonal increase of 30% for a total of 61,677, nearly double the 2000 figure.

Over the next six years, we can expect the population in the areas immediately surrounding Gasparilla Island to increase by approximately 15,864 plus a seasonal increase of 30% or 20,623 new residents by 2010.

Figure 17. Annual Single Family Building Permits



Source: State of the Cities Data System

Marina Facilities

Figure 18. Marina Facility Inventory

Site	Parking	Slips, Ramp	Location
1. Gasparilla Inn Marina	None	145 Dry and 24 Wet	891 8th Street
2. Gasparilla Marina	None	500 Dry and 225 Wet	15001 Gasparilla Road
3. Public Boat Ramp	90	Public Boat ramp	6401 Boca Grande Causeway
4. Eldred's Marina	30	30 Wet, Public Ramp	6301 Boca Grande Causeway
5. Uncle Henry's Marina	None	58 Wet, Public Ramp	5800 Gasparilla Road
6. Innlet Motel	Guest	Private Boat ramp	1251 12th Street East
7. Whiddens Marina	None	13 Wet	190 1st Street East
8. Millers Marina	None	Transient only	222 Harbor Dr.
9. Boca Grande North Condos	Guest	Private Boat Ramp	6020 Causeway Road
10. Palm Island Marina	None	180 Dry and 60 Wet	7080 Placida Road, Cape Haze

The ten marinas listed above are available to service most of Gasparilla Island. The Innlet motel and Boca Grand North Condominiums have boat ramps that are only available to guests. Below is a summary of the eight other marinas available to service the community of Boca Grande.

- The Inn Marina has the islands only dry storage facility with approximately 145 dry storage racks and approximately 24 wet slips.
- Gasparilla Marina is by far the largest provider of boat storage to the island. With 225 wet slips and over 500 dry storage racks there is plenty of space to service those in need of a place to store their boat. Additionally there is a new dry storage facility with a proposed 300-400 dry storage racks.
- Eldred's Marina, located on the Boca Grande Causeway has approximately 30 wet slips and a public ramp with an estimated 30 parking spaces for cars with trailers.
- Also located on the causeway is the Placida Park boat launch site. There are 90 available parking spots servicing the launch facility.
- Palm Island Marina is located northwest of Eldred's Marina and has 180 dry storage racks, 60 wet slips, and 20 transient slips.
- Uncle Henry's Marina at the north end of Boca Grande has a public boat ramp and 58 wet slips.

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- Millers Marina is a transient marina only with bait, a ships store and fuel.
- Whidden's Marina has 13 wet slips and has boats available for rental through Captain Russ' Boat Rentals.



The inventoried marina's contain approximately 410 wetslips and 825 dry storage racks, with an additional 300-400 to come with the addition of the new facility servicing the Gasparilla Marina. Also, there are 120 parking spaces for the public boat ramps.

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Boca Grande Future Land Use Map

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Boca Grande Zoning Map

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Element II - Transportation, Parking and Traffic Lee County

Goal 2: To ensure residential and commercial land use in Boca Grande that recognizes the connection between the existing transportation infrastructure and the community's desire to preserve Boca Grande's community character as a tranquil residential community, with an historic village center, and abundant open space and preservation areas.

Objective 2.1: Lee County will recognize the inherent need to limit additional impacts to the existing transportation infrastructure of Boca Grande, the varied types and limited access to the community, the need for alternate forms of transportation within the community, the need for specialized standards for parking and commercial service areas, and the seasonal nature of infrastructure demand that exists throughout the community.

Policy 2.1.1: Lee County will continue to enforce the provisions of the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act which limit growth, limit building height and restrict advertising throughout Boca Grande.

Policy 2.1.2: Lee County will support the provision of convenient, safe bridges providing access to Gasparilla and Cole Islands through support of the autonomy of the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority (GIBA), support for the highest standard of safety for vehicles, golf carts, bicycles, and pedestrians, and support of strict enforcement of driving laws.

Policy 2.1.3: Lee County will assist in efforts to improve the bike and golf cart path along Gulf Boulevard, south of the village. A feasibility study will be conducted to see if improvements such as widening of the path and landscaping can improve safety, shared use opportunities, and capacity.

Policy 2.1.4: Lee County will adopt regulations for bicycle safety, golf cart driver age restrictions, and golf cart driver education programs. Lee County will require all golf cart vendors/operators to distribute operator's rules to vendees and display rule stickers on rental carts. These regulations will be adopted in the Land Development Code within two years of the adoption of this Policy and, will consider requirements for annual licensing with specific options for enforcement and penalties.

Policy 2.1.5: In order to preserve the historic characteristics of the community, Lee County will support the use of four-way stop intersections, rather than traffic signals, whenever possible in the Boca Grande community.

Policy 2.1.6: Lee County will support efforts to beautify road right-of-ways and enhance the public realm of Boca Grande. In order to maintain low traffic volumes, operating speeds, and noise levels, improvements will emphasize traffic calming techniques, and the need to preserve the aesthetic values of the community. Particular emphasis will be placed in the Historic District. Enhancements may include village streetscaping such as additional street trees, trash receptacles, benches and burying utilities underground.

Policy 2.1.7: Lee County will continue to ensure viable hurricane evacuation options for the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Policy 2.1.8: Lee County will support improvement of pedestrian safety by establishing and marking crosswalks throughout the community, by improving pedestrian circulation within the Historic District, and consistently enforcing all regulations on the bike paths, which includes minimum age requirements for operation of golf carts.

Objective 2.2: Lee County will conduct a parking and traffic study to identify ways to create safe and efficient parking for employees, patrons and visitors, and to determine the appropriate parking standards which will address the capacity and design needs of the Boca Grande commercial district. The parking and traffic study will address the following policies.

Policy 2.2.1: As a result of regional growth and local redevelopment, Lee County will provide assistance to develop a long-range strategy to address increased parking demand. This may result in regulations, infrastructure improvements or adoption of management practices which incorporate any number of the following:

- a. Revised traffic count thresholds
- b. Maximum development intensities
- c. Revised minimum parking requirements
- d. Traffic congestion mitigation practices
- e. Vehicle and pedestrian safety programs
- f. Shared parking agreements

Element II: Transportation, Parking & Traffic Lee County: Goals, Objectives and Policies
g. Public/Private partnerships to fund new or expanded parking facilities.

Policy 2.2.2: Lee County will seek to maximize the efficiency and the functionality of existing parking facilities by improving trailblazing signage, re-designing existing parking facilities, and creating specific facilities for golf cart and bicycle parking. Designated parking for employees, the appropriate number of parking spaces for new and expanded uses, and enforcement of existing parking restrictions and permit requirements will also be examined.

Policy 2.2.3: Parking along the beach access streets and other public rightsof-way will be regulated to allow convenient ingress and egress to residences and permit adequate emergency vehicle access at all times. Lee County will support efforts to analyze the appropriateness of overnight and long term parking in the public right-of-way, the Gilchrist median, and along beach access streets.

Policy 2.2.4: Lee County will seek to direct service vehicles and delivery vehicles to designated unloading zones. Due to the traffic congestion in the Historic District, Lee County will assist in establishing time restrictions on service and delivery trucks during March and April.

Policy 2.2.5: Lee County will encourage alternative transportation by supporting golf cart and bicycle use and improving design for golf cart and bicycle parking throughout the Boca Grande community.

Policy 2.2.6: For all new development and redevelopment, Lee County will continue to support and improve design and permitting efforts through the site plan review process that adequately address truck deliveries, emergency vehicle access, and solid waste disposal.

Policy 2.2.7: Lee County will assist in a study of traffic patterns and flow in and around the Post Office, Park Avenue, East Railroad Avenue and West Railroad Avenue, seeking to develop a plan of action that will improve the functionality of the infrastructure while preserving the aesthetics of the community.

Policy 2.2.8: To preserve the capacity of the existing roadways and parking facilities, Lee County will adopt regulations within two years of the adoption

of this Policy, that address the appropriateness of high impact uses such as fast food restaurants, convenience food stores, and other franchise retail stores and restaurants.

Element II - Transportation, Parking and Traffic Charlotte County

Goal 2: To ensure residential and commercial land use in Boca Grande that recognizes the connection between the existing transportation infrastructure and the community's desire to preserve Boca Grande's community character as a tranquil residential community, with an historic village center, and abundant open space and preservation areas.

Objective 2.1: Charlotte County will recognize the inherent need to limit additional impacts to the existing transportation infrastructure of Boca Grande, the varied types and limited access to the community, the need for alternative forms of transportation within the community, the need for specialized standards for parking and commercial service areas and the seasonal nature of infrastructure demand that exists throughout the community.

Policy 2.1.1: Charlotte County will continue to enforce the provisions of the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act which limit growth, limit building height and restrict advertising throughout Boca Grande.

Policy 2.1.2: Charlotte County will manage development along C. R. 775 and C.R. 771 through the zoning and development permitting process to control access and traffic patterns leading to Gasparilla Island, near the intersection of Gasparilla Road and C. R. 775, in order to assure safe and convenient access to Gasparilla Island. Charlotte County will require traffic impact studies for all development within a two mile radius of the intersection of C. R. 775 and Gasparilla Road which generate more than 25 average daily trips in order to determine the impacts to this intersection. If the impact of the development causes the intersection to fall below Level of Service D, mitigation efforts will be required as part of the development approvals that increase traffic volumes will be limited.

Policy 2.1.3: Charlotte County will continue to ensure the provision of convenient and safe bridges, providing access to Gasparilla and Cole Islands through support of the autonomy of the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority (GIBA), and continued emphasis on the safety of vehicles, golf carts, bicycles and pedestrians through the continued enforcement of traffic regulations and laws.

Policy 2.1.4: Charlotte County will adopt regulations for bicycle safety, golf cart driver age restrictions, and golf cart driver education programs. Charlotte County will require all golf cart vendors/operators to distribute operator's rules to vendees and display rule stickers on rental carts. These regulations will be adopted in the land development regulations within two years of the adoption of this Policy, and will consider requirements for annual licensing with specific options for enforcement and penalties.

Policy 2.1.5: In order to preserve the historic characteristics of the community, Charlotte County will support the use of four-way stop intersections, rather than traffic signals, whenever possible in the Boca Grande community.

Policy 2.1.6: Charlotte County will support efforts to beautify road right-ofways and enhance the public realm of Boca Grande. In order to maintain low traffic volumes, operating speeds, and noise levels, improvements will emphasize traffic calming techniques, and the need to preserve the aesthetic values of the community. Enhancements may include village streetscaping such as additional street trees, trash receptacles, benches and burying utilities underground.

Policy 2.1.7: Charlotte County will continue to ensure viable hurricane evacuation options for the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Policy 2.1.8: Charlotte County will support improvement of pedestrian safety by establishing and marking crosswalks throughout the community, and consistently enforcing all regulations on the bike paths, which includes minimum age requirements for operation of golf carts.

Policy 2.1.9: To preserve the capacity of the existing roadways and parking facilities, Charlotte County will adopt regulations within two years of the adoption of this Policy, that address the appropriateness of high impact uses such as fast food restaurants, convenience food stores, and other franchise retail stores and restaurants.

Analysis of Traffic Counts and Level of Service

The Lee County Department of Transportation is required to conduct traffic counts once a year on minor collector roads and four times a year on major arterial roadways. Lee County has a periodic count station, station number 510, located on Gasparilla Road, just south of the Charlotte County line. Periodic count stations do not collect data year round. Rather they collect traffic counts periodically and are adjusted based on factors collected from an appropriate permanent station. Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is determined by taking the periodic count and dividing the raw volume count by the daily and monthly factors obtained from an appropriate permanent count station. The adjusted traffic counts are averaged and rounded to the nearest 100 to determine the AADT.

Figure 19. Average Annual Daily Traffic on Gasparilla Road

Year	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Trips	4800	4800	3800	4900	4300	4300	4100
Source: Lee County Department of Transportation							

During 2003, the Average Annual Daily Traffic was 4800 trips per day. Although trips in 2001 went down and trips peaked in the year 2000 at 4900 daily trips, the trend since 1997 is a steady increase. From the years 1997 to 2003 the AADT has increased by 700 trips per day, which is an increase of 17%.

Lee County has adopted a minimum Level of Service (LOS) standard for traffic on Gasparilla Road. Service on Gasparilla Road cannot fall below a LOS E, which is the equivalent of 880 trips during the 100^{th} highest hour. Current service was measured at LOS C, which equates to a 100^{th} highest peak hour of 230 trips.

Due to the sensitive nature of the environment on Boca Grande it is imperative that the traffic volume never reach critical level. Although the roadway currently provides the required level of service, it is important that the traffic flow and LOS continue to be closely monitored, since the surrounding area is growing at a rapid rate and it is not expected to slow in the foreseeable future. Charlotte County Policy 2.1.2 will provide the necessary monitoring to ensure continued sufficient transportation service to Boca Grande.

Parking Space Inventory

The Transportation and Parking Subcommittee completed an estimate of the required number of parking spaces in central Boca Grande based on the minimum parking requirements found in the Lee County Land Development Code. Attempts were made to contact each owner for the square footage of the buildings or number of seats for the business. In some cases, these were estimated. The businesses and minimum number of spaces are summarized in *Figure 20*. The minimum parking standards used for the estimate were as follows:

Retail (rt):	1 space per 200 Square Feet
Restaurant (rs):	1 space per 3 seats
Office (o):	1 space per 300 Square Feet
Medical Office:	1 space per 200 Square Feet

Based on these minimum parking standards, the required number of parking spaces is 623.

The Subcommittee also completed an inventory of existing parking spaces available to the public. The total number of spaces identified is 391. The number of spaces is summarized in *Figure 21*. and shown on the accompanying Parking Inventory Key Map. The difference between the required number of spaces and those available is 232, as shown in *Figure 22*.

Location/ Business	Intensity (Square Feet or seats)	Required Number of Spaces	Total Spaces
Park Avenue West			
Pink Pony (rt)	2,160 SF	11	
Boca Rico (rs)	102 seats	34	
McHugh Porter (o)	1,620 SF		
South Plumbing (o)	3,240 SF		
Superior Painting (o)		16	
Subtotal		61	61
Hudson's (rt)	3,500 SF	17	
(1) 2-bedroom		-2	
(1) 1-bedroom		1	
Subtotal		20	20
Italiano Building			
Retail	1,875 SF	9	
Office	1,125 SF	4	

Figure 20. Estimate of Required Number of Parking Spaces in Central Boca Grande

Element II: Transportation, Parking & Traffic Support Documentation and Analysis

Location/	Intensity	Required Number	
Business	(Square Feet or seats)	of Spaces	Spaces
(2) 1-bedroom		2	
Subtotal		15	15
Little Ariel			
Retail	1,000 SF	5	
(1) 2-bedroom		2	
(1) 1-bedroom		1	
Subtotal		8 .	8
Melvin Boca Grande Partners (rt)	4,400 SF	22	22
Fugates (rt)	4,265 SF	21	
Artistic	234 SF	1	
Boca Cabana	674 SF	3	
Parsley Baldwin	1,520 SF	7	
Subtotal		32	32
Boca Grande Outfitters			
Boca Grande Outfitters Retail	750 SF	4	
Storage	1,000	2	
Four Offices	1,750 SF	6	
Subtotal		12	12
Holly's Gifts Retail			
Retail	750 SF	4	
(2) 2-bedroom		4	
(1) 1-bedroom		1	
Subtotal		9	9
Bike Shop		•	
Retail (2 stories)	7318 SF	37	
Barber Shop	150 SF	1	
Royal Palm	150 SF	1	
(4) 2-bedroom		8	
1 efficiency		1	
Subtotal		48	48
Theatre Building			
P.J. Seagrille	151 seats	50	
Gallery (rt)	700 SF	3	
Jewelry (rt)	200 SF	1	
Office/Storage	2,600 SF	9	
Subtotal		63	63
Palermo			·
Retail	3,550 SF	17	
1 Efficiency		1	
Subtotal		18	18
Park Avenue (East)			
Railroad Depot			

Element II: Transportation, Parking & Traffic Support Documentation and Analysis II-9

Location/	Intensity	Required Number	
Business	(Square Feet or seats)		Spaces
Retail	4,101 SF	20	· ·
Office	3,247 SF	11	
(1) 2-bedroom		2	
Subtotal		33	33
Temptation		•	
Restaurant	130 seats	43	
(4) 1-bedroom		4	
1 efficiency		1	
Subtotal		48	48
Hill Building			
Retail	3,600 SF	18	
(4) 2-bedroom		8	
Subtotal Clinic		26	26
Clinic	3,000 +/-	15	15
Railroad Avenue			
Loon's (it)	1,250 SF	6	6
Palermo (rt)	2,600 SF	13	13
Gande Aire			
Retail	2,500 SF	12	
Shop (rt)	200 SF	1	
Subtotal		13	13
Barnicol (rt)	5,000 SF	25	25
Bakery	2,800 SF	14	14
Nextel (o)	1,430 SF	5	5
Grande Impressions			
Bowen Construction (ö)			
Boca Grande Limo (o)	1,250 SF	4	4
Gem Garden (rt)	1,000 SF	5	5
Galleria (rt)	3,500 SF	17	17
Railroad Plaza (rt)	6,121 SF	31	31
Italiano Insurance (o)	1,920 SF	6	6
Palm Building (o)	2,400 SF	8	8
	5,400 SF	18	18
Smarts Studio (rt)	1,812 SF	9	9
444 Fourth Street		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
(2) 1-bedroom		2	
3 retail shops	3,500 SF	17	
Subtotal	-,	19	19
Total Parking Spaces			623

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#1	Park Avenue (3 rd to 5 th)	88
#2	West Railway (4 th to 5 th)	30
#3	East Railway (3 rd to 5 th)	79
#4	3 rd Street (Gilchrist to Tarpon)	39
#5	4 th Street (Gilchrist to Tarpon)	63
#6	5 th Street (Gilchrist to Tarpon)	43
#7	Gilchrist parking Lot at 5 th Street	49
	Total Available Spaces	391

Figure 21. Inventory of Public Parking Spaces in Central	l Boca	Grande
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Figure 22.	Difference Between	Required Parking	g Spaces and Ac	tual Spaces Available in
	Central Boca Grand	'e		

Required Number of Spaces	623
Available Number of Spaces	391
Parking Space Shortage	232

The community recognizes that the shortage does not necessarily suggest there is a need to provide 232 additional parking spaces in central Boca Grande. This could have a drastic impact on the character of the commercial village. However, the 232 parking space difference does help to explain the congestion and lack of parking which the community experiences during peak season.

As with all pedestrian oriented districts, users should be encouraged to park once, and at the same time discouraged from making unnecessary trips in their automobile. Therefore, unlike the suburban, automobile oriented development standards which are currently in place, the community needs to explore parking requirements which reflect the needs of the commercial village.

Lee County Objective 2.2 requests a comprehensive parking and traffic study be completed in order to devise an overall parking strategy to address the current conditions. Lee County Policy 2.2.1 provides ideas which should be considered in the study while devising a park once strategy. Revised parking standards will work in concert with improved trailblazing signage, shared public and private parking opportunities, convenient and safe locations for golf cart users, and improved or additional parking as determined by the study.

Parking Inventory Key Map

Element II: Transportation, Parking & Traffic Support Documentation and Analysis

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Element III - Conservation and Coastal Management Lee County

Goal 3: Lee County will preserve, protect, and, where possible, enhance the physical integrity, village character, ecological values, and natural beauty of Boca Grande and Gasparilla Island, focusing upon the diverse and healthy native vegetation, the clear offshore waters, and the varied and abundant native marine and wildlife resources in a manner compatible with the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act, the promotion and preservation of the historic Boca Grande village as a thriving community, and preservation of Gasparilla Island's historic heritage.

Objective 3.1: Lee County will support the efforts of the Federal and State authorities, and the Boca Grande community to preserve, protect, and enhance the positive environmental qualities of Gasparilla Island. Lee County will involve local community organizations in the planning process and will enforce these community plan policies through implementation in the land development regulations.

Policy 3.1.1: Lee County will support and encourage beach renourishment and other efforts to maintain the beaches and protect Gasparilla Island from tidal events.

Policy 3.1.2: Lee County will assist the Boca Grande community in evaluating and promoting the creation of a Municipal Services Benefit Unit, or a Florida Erosion Control District, for assistance in funding beach renourishment projects.

Policy 3.1.3: Lee County will support the State's efforts to protect and preserve mangroves both on private properties as well as within public lands and easements. Not later than December 31, 2005, Lee County will review the State regulations regarding mangrove trimming and removal and determine whether additional protections need to be enacted on Gasparilla Island to protect its fragile environment.

Policy 3.1.4: Since future use of the 9.19 acres of land owned by Florida Power & Light at the south end of Gasparilla Island as passive open space will best serve the goal of enhancing the beauty and environmental integrity of the Island, Lee County will assist private and public efforts to acquire the land for that purpose through financial, administrative and political measures. Lee County will also maintain the Public Facilities designation of the property on the Lee County Future Land Use Map and ensure that no action is permitted that is inconsistent with that designation.

Policy 3.1.5: Lee County will strictly enforce its own policies related to the preservation of the beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife, by prohibiting any construction seaward of the coastal construction control line without clear, convincing, and incontrovertible evidence that no reasonable use of a property would exist without such alterations. This policy shall not apply to the placement of raised walkways intended to cross over the dune system from adjoining properties, nor will it apply to bona fide beach renourishment and shoreline protection efforts. Lee County will support the State's efforts to protect the beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife communities on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.6: The Beach renourishment efforts of Lee County will include the re-establishment of a beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife communities, including nesting birds and turtles, to the greatest extent practicable. Lee County will monitor and enforce its policies and regulations protecting dunes, dune vegetation, and dune wildlife communities on Gasparilla Island. Any rock or hard revetment will be covered with sand and planted with salt resistant native plants.

Policy 3.1.7: Except for emergency events and red tide, or similar, clean-up activities, Lee County will ban vehicular traffic from all beaches on Gasparilla Island and will provide enforcement of the ban.

Policy 3.1.8: Lee County will use regulatory powers to preserve, protect, and enhance the marine habitat surrounding Gasparilla Island, including sea grass beds, manatee habitat, estuarine habitat, and near shore waters of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.9: Lee County will review and enforce all permits for new dock construction to assure the protection of sea grass beds, manatee habitat, tarpon fishing grounds, and other environmental values intrinsic to Charlotte Harbor. Copies of dock and shoreline permits will be sent to the Document Clearing House as established pursuant to Policy 1.1.4.

Policy 3.1.10: Lee County will assist in the enforcement of management standards established by the Southwest Florida Regional Harbor Board for vessel moorings in anchorages and bayous of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.11: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Lee County will establish policies and guidelines for beach clean-up during red tide and similar extraordinary tidal events.

Policy 3.1.12: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Lee County will establish a program to restore the plant diversity on County owned lands on Gasparilla Island through the removal of exotic vegetation and its replacement with native species. Such a program will be phased so that the general character of the community will be maintained during the maturation process. Exotic species which are killed in place will be removed as appropriate so as not to create a negative impact or create a hazard to the community.

Policy 3.1.13: Lee County will support programs that provide periodic clean-up activities in aquatic preserves, on the beaches of Gasparilla Island, and at beach access points on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.14: Lee County will work in conjunction with Charlotte County to implement a plan to stop the proliferation of iguanas and other exotic fauna on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.15: Lee County will provide financial and political support for research into the causes and control of red tide and other similar extraordinary tidal events through the support of Solutions to Avoid Red Tide, Inc. (S.T.A.R.T.) and other efforts to address and remedy the problems associated with these occurrences.

Objective 3.2: Lee County will manage public resources and direct public efforts to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural environments on Gasparilla Island through measures to control the risk of harm attributable to human impact.

Policy 3.2.1: Lee County will strictly enforce all regulations limiting noise, consumption of alcoholic beverages, littering, signage, and any nuisance activities on all public lands, rights of way, beaches, beach accesses, and public easements.

Policy 3.2.2: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Lee County will adopt an ordinance which creates a buffer zone around all of Gasparilla Island extending seaward not less than 1,000' from the mean high tide line. The ordinance will also limit the speed of personal watercraft, commonly known as jet skis, to idle speed in that zone, and limit the speed of other boats in that zone as appropriate.

Policy 3.2.3: Lee County will support efforts to preserve, protect, and, where possible, enhance the tarpon and game fish population of Charlotte Harbor and the near shore waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

Element III - Conservation and Coastal Management Charlotte County

Goal 3: Charlotte County will preserve, protect, and, where possible, enhance the physical integrity, village character, ecological values, and natural beauty of Boca Grande and Gasparilla Island, focusing upon the diverse and healthy native vegetation, the clear offshore waters, and the varied and abundant native marine and wildlife resources in a manner compatible with the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act.

Objective 3.1: Charlotte County will support the efforts of the Federal and State authorities, and the Boca Grande community to preserve, protect, and enhance the positive environmental qualities of Gasparilla Island. Charlotte County will involve local community organizations in the planning process and will enforce these community plan policies through implementation in the land development regulations.

Policy 3.1.1: Charlotte County will support and encourage beach renourishment and other efforts to maintain the beaches and protect Gasparilla Island from tidal events.

Policy 3.1.2: Charlotte County will assist the Boca Grande community in evaluating and promoting the creation of a Municipal Services Benefit Unit, or a Florida Erosion Control District, for assistance in funding beach renourishment projects.

Policy 3.1.3: Charlotte County will support the State's efforts to protect and preserve mangroves both on private properties as well as within public lands and easements. Not later than December 31, 2005, Charlotte County will review the State regulations regarding mangrove trimming and removal and determine whether additional protections need to be enacted on Gasparilla Island to protect its fragile environment.

Policy 3.1.4: Charlotte County will strictly enforce its own policies related to the preservation of the beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife, by prohibiting any construction seaward of the coastal construction control line without clear, convincing, and incontrovertible evidence that no reasonable use of a property would exist without such alterations. This policy shall not apply to the placement of raised walkways intended to cross over the dune system from adjoining properties, nor will it

apply to bona fide beach renourishment and shoreline protection efforts. Charlotte County will support the State's efforts to protect the beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife communities on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.5: The beach renourishment efforts of Charlotte County will include the re-establishment of a beach dune system, beach dune vegetation, and beach dune wildlife communities, including nesting birds and turtles, to the greatest extent practicable. Charlotte County will monitor and enforce its policies and regulations protecting dunes, dune vegetation, and dune wildlife communities on Gasparilla Island. Any rock or hard revetment will be covered with sand and planted with salt resistant native plants.

Policy 3.1.6: Except for emergency events and red tide, or similar, clean-up activities, Charlotte County will ban vehicular traffic from all beaches on Gasparilla Island and will provide enforcement of the ban.

Policy 3.1.7: Charlotte County will use regulatory powers to preserve, protect, and enhance the marine habitat surrounding Gasparilla Island, including, but not limited to, sea grass beds, manatee habitat, estuarine habitat, and near shore waters of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.8: Charlotte County will review and enforce all permits for new dock construction to assure the protection of sea grass beds, manatee habitat, tarpon fishing grounds, and other environmental values intrinsic to Charlotte Harbor. Copies of dock and shoreline permits will be sent to the Boca Grande Document Clearing House as established pursuant to Policy 1.1.8.

Policy 3.1.9: Charlotte County will assist in the enforcement of management standards established by the Southwest Florida Regional Harbor Board for vessel moorings in anchorages and bayous of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.10: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Charlotte County will establish policies and guidelines for beach clean-up during red tide and similar extraordinary tidal events.

Policy 3.1.11: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Charlotte County will establish a program to restore the plant diversity on County owned lands on Gasparilla Island through the removal of exotic vegetation

and its replacement with native species. Such a program will be phased so that the general character of the community will be maintained during the maturation process. Exotic species which are killed in place will be removed as appropriate so as not to create a negative impact or create a hazard to the community.

Policy 3.1.12: Charlotte County will support programs that provide periodic clean-up activities in aquatic preserves, on the beaches of Gasparilla Island, and at beach access points on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.13: Charlotte County will work in conjunction with Lee County to implement a plan to stop the proliferation of iguanas and other exotic fauna on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 3.1.14: Charlotte County will provide financial and political support for research into the causes and control of red tide and other similar extraordinary tidal events through the support of Solutions to Avoid Red Tide, Inc. (S.T.A.R.T.) and other efforts to address and remedy the problems associated with these occurrences.

Objective 3.2: Charlotte County will manage public resources and direct public efforts to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural environments on Gasparilla Island through measures to control the risk of harm attributable to human impact.

Policy 3.2.1: Charlotte County will strictly enforce all regulations limiting noise, consumption of alcoholic beverages, littering, signage, and any nuisance activities on all public lands, rights of way, beaches, beach accesses, and public easements.

Policy 3.2.2: Within two years of the adoption of this Policy, Charlotte County will adopt an ordinance which creates a buffer zone around all of Gasparilla Island extending seaward not less than 1,000' from the mean high tide line. The ordinance will also limit the speed of personal watercraft, commonly known as jet skis, to idle speed in that zone, and limit the speed of other boats in that zone as appropriate.

Policy 3.2.3: Charlotte County will support efforts to preserve, protect, and, where possible, enhance the tarpon and game fish population of Charlotte Harbor and the near shore waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

Solutions To Avoid Red Tide (START)

Solutions To Avoid Red Tide (START), founded in 1995 by General Jim Patterson the former Mayor of Longboat Key, Florida, is a grass roots, non-profit, citizen organization dedicated to funding and promoting efforts for the prevention, control and mitigation of red tide. START also wishes to increase public awareness of the risks and concerns of red tide and to communicate what is being done about it.

The goals of START include keeping federal, State and local officials aware of the need to provide continual funding for research into the nature of red tide. In addition, START researches for methods to control and mitigate red tide without negatively impacting the environment.

The START program has chapters in Longboat Key, Boca Grande and Bonita Springs.

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is a partnership that protects the estuaries and watershed from Venice to Estero Bay to Winter Haven. This partnership gives people in the 4,400-square-mile study area a voice to address diverse resource management concerns including fish and wildlife habitat loss, water quality and water flow.

The goals for this program include:

- Improve the environmental integrity of the Charlotte Harbor study area.
- Preserve, restore, and enhance seagrass beds, coastal wetlands, barrier beaches, and functionally related uplands.
- Reduce point and non-point sources of pollution to attain desired uses of the estuary.
- Provide the proper fresh water inflow to the estuary to ensure a balanced and productive ecosystem.
- Develop and implement a strategy for public participation and education.
- Develop an accessible information management system that integrates data on the Charlotte Harbor study area pertinent to harbor and watershed management.

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The area that affects Boca Grande is the Charlotte Harbor estuary. Charlotte Harbor lies primarily in Charlotte County and connects to the Gulf of Mexico through Boca Grande Pass. Although Charlotte Harbor has an area of 270 square miles, much of the harbor is very shallow. Areas of deep harbor water extend up into the lower Myakka and Peace Rivers. Sandy shelves make up the harbor "walls" including Cape Haze on the west, and Punta Gorda/Cape Coral on the east. Much of this land is publicly owned. With recent growth in the area much of the natural habitat has been displaced by platted lots and suburban development. As people continue to crowd this area the impacts of man-made canals, septic systems, mangrove trimming, and loss of upland habitats require more careful management.

The goals listed above institute a long-term vision of the regions resources. All of these goals are possible with local commitment and participation in the implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the Greater Charlotte Harbor Watershed.

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Element IV - Community Facilities and Services Lee County

Goal 4: Lee County will seek to ensure the continued delivery of high quality, accessible community facilities and services that meet the educational, recreational, informational, and public safety, health and welfare needs of the residents, visitors and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Objective 4.1: Through the administration of county services, the Land Development and Administrative Codes, and the cooperative efforts of interagency and intergovernmental agreements, Lee County will continue to provide utilities and infrastructure; emergency, law enforcement and fire protection services; education, information resource and recreation services; and mosquito and animal control services, in a safe and efficient manner.

Policy 4.1.1: Lee County will seek to maintain and enhance the public/ private partnership for the operation and enhancement of the Boca Grande Community Center and other County operated facilities open to the public in the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.2: Lee County will cooperate with the Gasparilla Island Water Association (GIWA) to ensure the continued provision of potable water and sanitary sewer service to the community of Boca Grande. Lee County will continue to support the Wellhead Protection regulations adopted by the GIWA and Charlotte County to protect and preserve the sources upon which the community of Boca Grande relies for its potable water.

Policy 4.1.3: Lee County will facilitate and provide for the disposal of solid waste, including refuse, recyclables, and horticultural waste. Lee County will enter into an inter-governmental agreement with Charlotte County, if necessary, to ensure that the community of Boca Grande will have access to Charlotte County's solid waste disposal area located on Environmental Way in Charlotte County.

Policy 4.1.4: Lee County will facilitate and cooperate with the applicable mosquito control district to ensure that adequate measures are undertaken to control the health risk that mosquitoes represent. Lee County will continue to support the utilization of safe, effective, and environmentally responsible measures for mosquito control, recognizing the need to preserve local flora and fauna, including marine life.

Policy 4.1.5: Lee County will work with the applicable mosquito control district to facilitate the dissemination of aerial spraying schedules, as well as any threat to the public health, to the community of Boca Grande, the Boca Grande Health Clinic, and the newspapers that serve the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.6: Lee County will support the operation and enhancement of a reference library facility, including the provision and improvement of adequate electronic based equipment, internet access, and software, in cooperation with local community organizations. Professionally trained library personnel will manage and operate the facility. Lee County will seek an inter-governmental agreement with Charlotte County as may be required to provide cross-jurisdictional support of library and information resource services for residents of the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.7: So long as local interest exists in the community of Boca Grande to maintain an Island School to serve the population of the community of Boca Grande, Lee County will support the Lee County School Board, if necessary, with an inter-local agreement, in maintaining a viable school site and educational programs. Such support may include, but is not limited to, facilitation of land use regulations, joint use of community resources, funding assistance, joint utilization of staffing, or other applicable coordination efforts.

Policy 4.1.8: Lee County will cooperate with the Boca Grande Fire Control District (BGFCD) in the provision of fire protection services to the community of Boca Grande. Such cooperation will include, but will not be limited to, recognition that the Fire Chief of the BGFCD has the authority for interpretation and enforcement of fire codes in the community of Boca Grande. All homes will be required to have the address clearly posted on the property.

Policy 4.1.9: Lee County will provide the necessary communications infrastructure as required to manage and dispatch all 911 calls affecting the community of Boca Grande, entering into agreements as necessary with the BGFCD and Charlotte County.

Policy 4.1.10: Lee County will cooperate in the establishment of inter-local agreements between and among all necessary parties to provide for: 1) the

appropriate handling of hazardous materials incidents; 2) mutual aid agreements with the Englewood Fire Control District and Charlotte County Fire and EMS; 3) advanced life support emergency medical services; and 4) back-up EMS response as may be required by the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.11: Lee County will cooperate as necessary in the provision of communications, information distribution, public service meetings, educational efforts, and a local liaison for emergency situations affecting the community of Boca Grande. Lee County will maintain an up-to-date list of first-in team contacts, cooperate as necessary with applicable jurisdictions and service providers for communication of evacuation status, shelter locations, and re-entry information in the event of an emergency situation. The issuance of evacuation notices will be coordinated with Charlotte County. Lee County will work with other local, State, and Federal authorities as necessary to assist in the provision of adequate means by which the community of Boca Grande can be evacuated through the Cape Haze Peninsula in the event of an emergency situation. It is acknowledged that the appropriate Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is determined by the Boca Grande Fire Control District.

Policy 4.1.12: Lee County Emergency Medical Services shall provide land or air transportation to the most appropriate facility based on the patients medical history and shall maintain a liaison with the Boca Grande Health Clinic to keep the clinic fully informed of all Emergency Medical protocols and procedures for operations and any changes that may be implemented whether temporary or permanent. The Boca Grande Health Clinic shall be informed relating to any public health issues or public county health problems.

Policy 4.1.13: Lee County will promote and assist as necessary in the provision of a full-time police and law enforcement presence for the community of Boca Grande. Cooperative arrangements in the form of interlocal agreements, or other mechanisms as may be applicable, between Lee and Charlotte County will be supported if necessary.

Policy 4.1.14: The Lee County Department of Transportation will continue to provide the necessary maintenance and improvements on all public rights-of-way to ensure the continued safety and efficiency of roadways, paths, and surface water management systems.

Element IV - Community Facilities and Services Charlotte County

Goal 4: Charlotte County will seek to ensure the continued delivery of high quality, accessible community facilities and services that meet the educational, recreational, informational, and public safety, health and welfare needs of the residents, visitors, and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Objective 4.1: Through the administration of county services, the Land Development and Administrative Codes, and the cooperative efforts of interagency and intergovernmental agreements, Charlotte County will continue to provide utilities and infrastructure; emergency, law enforcement and fire protection services; education, information resource and recreation services; and mosquito and animal control services, in a safe and efficient manner.

Policy 4.1.1: Charlotte County will cooperate with the Gasparilla Island Water Association (GIWA) to ensure the continued provision of potable water and sanitary sewer service to the community of Boca Grande. Charlotte County will work with the GIWA to protect and preserve the sources upon which the community of Boca Grande relies for its potable water. Charlotte County will continue to administer its Wellhead Protection program to protect and preserve the GIWA water sources, and will execute emergency stand-by agreements between Charlotte County Utilities and the GIWA.

Policy 4.1.2: Charlotte County will facilitate and provide for the disposal of solid waste, including refuse, recyclables, and horticultural waste. Charlotte County will enter into an inter-governmental agreement with Lee County, if necessary, to ensure that the community of Boca Grande will have access to Charlotte County's solid waste disposal area located on Environmental Way in Charlotte County.

Policy 4.1.3: Charlotte County will facilitate and cooperate with the applicable mosquito control district to ensure that adequate measures are undertaken to control the health risk that mosquitoes represent. Charlotte County will continue to support the utilization of safe, effective, and environmentally responsible measures for mosquito control, recognizing the need to preserve local flora and fauna, including marine life.

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Policy 4.1.4: Charlotte County will work with the applicable mosquito control district to facilitate the dissemination of spraying schedules, as well as any threat to the public health, to the community of Boca Grande, the Boca Grande Health Clinic, and the newspapers that serve the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.5: Charlotte County will seek an inter-governmental agreement with Lee County as may be required to provide cross-jurisdictional support of library and information resource services for residents of the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.6: Charlotte County will cooperate with the Boca Grande Fire Control District (BGFCD) in the provision of fire protection services to the community of Boca Grande. Such cooperation will include, but will not be limited to, recognition that the Fire Chief of the BGFCD has the authority for interpretation and enforcement of fire codes in the community of Boca Grande. All homes will be required to have the address clearly posted on the property.

Policy 4.1.7: Charlotte County will cooperate in the establishment of interlocal agreements between and among all necessary parties to provide for: 1) the appropriate handling of hazardous materials incidents; 2) mutual aid agreements with the Englewood Fire Control District and Charlotte County Fire and EMS; 3) advanced life support emergency medical services; and 4) back-up EMS response as may be required by the community of Boca Grande.

Policy 4.1.8: Charlotte County will cooperate as necessary in the provision of communications, information distribution, public service meetings, educational efforts, and a local liaison for emergency situations affecting the community of Boca Grande. Charlotte County will maintain an up-to-date list of first-in team contacts, cooperate as necessary with applicable jurisdictions and service providers for communication of evacuation status, shelter locations, and re-entry information in the event of an emergency situation. The issuance of evacuation notices will be coordinated with Lee County. Charlotte County will work with other local, State, and Federal authorities as necessary to assist in the provision of adequate means by which the community of Boca Grande can be evacuated through the Cape Haze Peninsula in the event of an emergency situation. It is acknowledged

that the appropriate Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is determined by the Boca Grande Fire Control District.

Policy 4.1.9: Charlotte Emergency Medical Services shall provide land or air transportation to the most appropriate facility based on the patients medical history and shall maintain a liaison with the Boca Grande Health Clinic to keep the clinic fully informed of all Emergency Medical protocols and procedures for operations and any changes that may be implemented whether temporary or permanent. The Boca Grande Health Clinic shall be informed relating to any public health issues or public county health problems.

Policy 4.1.10: Charlotte County will promote and assist as necessary in the provision of a full-time police presence and law enforcement for the community of Boca Grande. Cooperative arrangements in the form of interlocal agreements, or other mechanisms as may be applicable, between Charlotte and Lee County will be supported if necessary.

Policy 4.1.11: The Charlotte County Department of Transportation will continue to provide the necessary maintenance and improvements on all public rights-of-way to ensure the continued safety and efficiency of roadways, paths, and surface water management systems, as funded by the existing Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) known as the Boca Grande Street and Drainage Unit.

Figure 23. Inventory of Existing Intergovernmental Services

Organization	Address	
Lee County Mosquito Control, Hyacinth Control	15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, FL	
Lee County Schools	2055 Central Avenue, Ft. Myers, FL	
Charlotte County Schools	1445 Education Way Port Charlotte, FL	
Lee County Health Dept.	83 Pondella Road, North Fort Myers, FL	
South Florida Water Management District	2301 McGregor Boulevard Fort Myers, FL 33901	
Lee County Library at Boca Grande Community Center	131 First Street West, Boca Grande, Florida 33921	
West Charlotte Sanitation District (all solid waste on Gasparilla)	25550 Harbor View Road, Suite 2 Port Charlotte, FL 33980	
Gasparilla Island Water Association	P.O. Box 326, Boca Grande, FL	
Boca Grande Fire District	360 E. Railroad Ave, Boca Grande, FL	

- The Lee County Mosquito and Hyacinth control provide service to Boca Grande.
- Boca Grande is located in District One of the Lee County School District. Schools serving District One are Cape Elementary, Gulf Elementary, Elementary School "Q" (next to Gulf Elementary), Pelican Elementary, Pine Island Elementary, Skyline Elementary, The Sanibel School (K-8), Trafalgar Elementary, Gulf Middle, Trafalgar Middle, Cape Coral High, and Ida S. Baker High School. None of these schools are located on Boca Grande.
- Boca Grande is located near the Lemon Bay School District of the Charlotte County School District. Schools serving Lemon Bay School District are Vineland Elementary, Myakka River Elementary, L.A. Ainger Middle School, and Lemon Bay High School. Children on Boca Grande attend these schools.
- The Lee County Health Department provides health care to all Lee County residents. The nearest Lee County health facility is located in North Fort Myers. The health clinic on Boca Grande is the Boca Grande Health Clinic, Inc.

- Boca Grande is located in the Lower West Coast planning region of the South Florida Water Management District.
- The Lee County Library system has a branch at the Boca Grande Community Center. This provides the borrowed use of books, newspapers, magazines and videos as well as Internet access.
- The West Charlotte Sanitation District handles solid waste disposal for the Lee County portion of Boca Grande through an inter-local agreement. Charlotte County imposes a surcharge for all waste hauled to the Charlotte County Landfill from the Lee County portion of Boca Grande.
- The Gasparilla Island Water Association has its plant just east of Rotonda West and provides potable water and sanitary sewer service to all of Gasparilla Island. If needed the utility may purchase water from Charlotte County Utilities.

Boca Grande Utility Services

Boca Grande is currently served by Gasparilla Island Water Association (GIWA), a reverse osmosis treatment plant and a color removal plant. It is considered a major Regional Treatment Plant for sewage and water. The maximum sewage capacity is 705,000 gallons per day with a projected usage in 2004 of 612,000 gallons per day. They also have an agreement with Charlotte County Utilities to purchase potable water from them should the need arise. Approximately 1,410 customers are served by GIWA and it operates at an ERU level of service of 763 gallons per capita daily usage.

Figure 24. Boca Grande Water Consumption

Gasparilla Island	Water Association Usage
Charlotte County	31.21% at 238,507 gpd
Lee County	68.79% at 525,693 gpd

Source: Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan

Florida Power & Light (FPL) services Boca Grande for both residential and commercial uses. TECO People's Gas is also available to the island and is quickly becoming a popular choice among the residents. Charlotte County has a class 1 disposal facility with a disposal capacity through the year 2025, with 190 acres for

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future growth. Local phone service to the island is provided by Sprint and the main cable provider is Comcast Cable. The utilities accessible to the island are adequate and there appear to be no issues with the capacity levels at this time.

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Element V – Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Lee County

Goal 5: Lee County will seek to promote, protect and enhance existing and potential open space, recreational facilities, and the quality of life for the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande. These efforts will enhance the aesthetic qualities of Boca Grande and benefit its residents while preserving the characteristics of its fragile barrier island system.

Objective 5.1: Lee County recognizes that Boca Grande represents a unique cross-jurisdictional, barrier island community with distinct physical attributes that govern the preservation of open space and recreational opportunities. Lee County will seek to enhance and protect the quality of life for residents, visitors and stakeholders through the preservation of functional open space and recreational opportunities while seeking to limit demands upon a restricted infrastructure and enhance the aesthetic qualities of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 5.1.1: Lee County will support efforts to protect and enhance the functionality of the eight-mile long pedestrian/bike/electric golf cart path on Gasparilla Island. Lee County recognizes that this eight-mile long linear park and path serves a recreational purpose, a transportation purpose, and an aesthetic purpose for the residents, visitors and stakeholders of the Island. Not later than December 31, 2005, Lee County will undertake efforts to improve the pedestrian/bike/electric golf cart path along the southerly end of the path similar to those improvements located in the northerly, GICIA owned portion of the path.

Policy 5.1.2: Lee County will coordinate public works projects, such as street resurfacing, repairs, maintenance, drainage swales and other surface water management systems, with the Boca Grande community so that they include landscaping and aesthetic options that are in keeping with the concept of promoting, preserving and enhancing the ecological and aesthetic values of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 5.1.3: Not later than December 31, 2005, Lee County will investigate the feasibility of converting Banyan Street to a one-way facility and reducing the pavement width in order to better preserve and protect the banyan trees. Lee County will assist in establishing an historic, scenic or similar type of designation, as recommended in the *Banyan Tree Assessment Report, Banyan Street-Boca Grande, Florida*, prepared by the Lee County

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-1 Lee County: Goals, Objectives and Policies Division of Environmental Sciences, to further provide for the protection and preservation of this unique street area. 3 3

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Policy 5.1.4: Upon adoption of this Policy, Lee County will prohibit automobile parking on 5th Street from Park to Gilchrist, known as Mahogany and Veterans Park, in order to protect the unique aesthetic features of this roadway.

Policy 5.1.5: Lee County will continue to support the designation of Gasparilla Island as a bird and wildlife sanctuary, as adopted in Lee County Ordinance 83-16. Lee County will support the efforts of Charlotte County for the designation of Cole Island, Live Oak Key, Peekins Ranch Cove and Key, the fishing pier at the old 400 foot railroad bridge, and the peninsula located north of the Lee County line, (as identified in the Open Space Inventory) and all remaining land zoned Environmentally Sensitive, as well as the Charlotte County portion of Gasparilla Island, as a bird and wildlife sanctuary.

Policy 5.1.6: Lee County will support and promote the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands, and will continue to support, promote and investigate additional funding sources for the Gasparilla Island Land Conservancy Stewardship Program and other preservation programs. Element V of the Boca Grande Community Plan includes the inventory of existing community open space and sensitive lands.

Objective 5.2: Lee County shall preserve and maintain the functionality of the existing recreational facilities currently available on the Island.

Policy 5.2.1: Lee County will maintain the existing recreational facilities on Gasparilla Island, including two tennis courts, a basketball court, a volleyball court, the baseball field on Wheeler Street, the various beach access locations, a community playground, the picnic areas, and fishing sites, including one on the Bayou.

Policy 5.2.2: Lee County will assist private and public efforts to acquire the approximately 9.19 acre F. P. & L./Belcher Oil facility at the south end of Gasparilla for the purpose of maintaining it as a passive open space and reestablishing a native beach-dune ecology across the site.
Policy 5.2.3: Lee County will support efforts in the Historic District to install additional native landscaping, especially along Park Avenue and Fourth Street, to provide greater community aesthetics, safer pedestrian movement, landscaped parking areas for automobiles and golf carts and more efficient traffic flow.

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V Lee County: Goals, Objectives and Policies

Element V – Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Charlotte County

Goal 5: Charlotte County will seek to promote, protect and enhance existing and potential open space, recreational facilities, and the quality of life for the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande. These efforts will enhance the aesthetic qualities of Boca Grande and benefit its residents while preserving the characteristics of its fragile barrier island system.

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Objective 5.1: Charlotte County recognizes that Boca Grande represents a unique cross-jurisdictional, barrier island community with distinct physical attributes that govern the preservation of open space and recreational opportunities. Charlotte County will seek to enhance and protect the quality of life for residents, visitors and stakeholders through the preservation of functional open space and recreational opportunities while seeking to limit demands upon a restricted infrastructure and enhance the aesthetic qualities of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 5.1.1: Charlotte County will support efforts to protect and enhance the functionality of the eight-mile long pedestrian/bike/electric golf cart path on Gasparilla Island. Charlotte County recognizes that this eight-mile long linear park and path serves a recreational purpose, a transportation purpose, and an aesthetic purpose for the all of the residents, visitors and stakeholders of the Island. The Boca Grande Street and Drainage Unit referred to in Policy 4.1.11 is a potential funding source.

Policy 5.1.2: Charlotte County will coordinate public works projects, such as street resurfacing, repairs, maintenance, drainage swales and other surface water management systems, with the Boca Grande community so that they include landscaping and aesthetic options that are in keeping with the concept of promoting, preserving and enhancing the ecological and aesthetic values of Gasparilla Island.

Policy 5.1.3: Charlotte County will support the designation of Cole Island, Live Oak Key, Peekins Ranch Cove and Key, the fishing pier at the old 400 foot railroad bridge, and the peninsula located north of the Lee County line, (as identified in the Open Space Inventory) and all remaining land zoned Environmentally Sensitive, as well as the Charlotte County portion of Gasparilla Island, as a bird and wildlife sanctuary. Lee County Ordinance 83-16 may serve as a model ordinance.

Policy 5.1.4: Charlotte County will support and promote the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands, and will continue to support, promote and investigate additional funding sources for the Gasparilla Island Land Conservancy Stewardship Program and other preservation programs. Element V of the Boca Grande Community Plan includes the inventory of existing community open space and sensitive lands.

Policy 5.1.5: Charlotte County shall preserve and maintain the functionality of its existing recreational facilities currently available on the Island, including Uncle Henry's fishing site at the old railroad bridge.

Policy 5.1.6: Charlotte County will maintain the causeway islands as natural open space.

Figure 25. Open Space Inventory Key Map

Charlotte County



Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-6 **Support Documentation and Analysis**



Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Support Documentation and Analysis

Open Space held by Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association (GICIA)

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-8 Support Documentation and Analysis

1. Tract A (Approximately 35.5 Acres east of Gasparilla Road) Owner: GICIA STRAP: 02-43-20-02-0000A.0010 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Urban Community Wetlands





 2. Tract B
 6000 feet of frontage on Gasparilla Sound (15 Acres)
 Nature Trail with Bridge and Bench
 Owner: GICIA
 STRAP: 11-43-20-02-0000B.0000
 Zoned: AG-2
 FLUM: Urban Community Wetlands

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Support Documentation and Analysis

V-9



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Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-10 Support Documentation and Analysis

5. Hoagen Key 14 Acres Owner: GICIA STRAP: 12-43-20-00-00001.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Wetland Outer Island





 6. GICIA Hardwood Hammock, 7 lots from 40-45th Street, all exotics removed, replanted with native trees. 3.87 Acres
 Owner: GICIA
 STRAP: 02-43-20-06-00015.0080
 Zoned: RS-1
 FLUM: Urban Community

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-11 Support Documentation and Analysis



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Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-12 Support Documentation and Analysis

Publicly Owned Open Space

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-13 Support Documentation and Analysis

 9. Wheeler Street Ball Field and Property to Northeast 31 Acres
 Owner: Lee County
 STRAP: 23-43-20-00-00007.1000 23-43-20-00-00002.0000
 Zoned: AG-2
 FLUM: Conservation Uplands Conservation Wetlands



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10. Community Center Complex 3.72 Acres Owner: Lee County STRAP: 14-43-20-01-00005.0010 Zoned: RS-1 FLUM: Urban Community

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-14 Support Documentation and Analysis



11. The small Boulevard running east and west between Gasparilla Road and Gilchrist, lined with Mahogany Trees and a flagpole monument (Veterans Memorial)
Owner: Lee County
STRAP: Public Right of Way
Zoned: N/A
FLUM: N/A

12. Gilchrist Boulevard

Owner: Lee County STRAP: Public Right of Way Zoned: N/A FLUM: N/A



Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-15 Support Documentation and Analysis

Trust for Internal Improvement Trust Fund (TIITF)

13. Snail Key 5.11 Acres Owner: TIITF State of Florida STRAP: 02-43-20-00-00001.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Wetlands



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14. Peninsula north of County Line (Charlotte County)
7.7 Acres
Owner: Charlotte County BOCC
STRAP: 0070369-000000-8
Zoned: ES
FLUM: Preservation





15. 400' Fishing Pier at old railroad Track at Uncle Henry's (Charlotte County) 7.6 Acres Owner: Charlotte County BOCC STRAP: 0070353-005000-5 Zoned: ES FLUM: Preservation

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-17 Support Documentation and Analysis

16. Peekins Ranch Cove & Key (Charlotte County) 12 Acres Owner: Charlotte County BOCC STRAP: 0070366-000000-1 Zoned: ES FLUM: Preservation



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17. Live Oak Key (Charlotte County) 27 Acres Owner: Charlotte County BOCC STRAP: 0070368-000000-9 Zoned: ES FLUM: Preservation





18. Range Light Park West of Gulf Boulevard (5.68 Acres)

Owner: U.S. Fish and Wildlife STRAP: 23-43-20-00-00007.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Conservation Lands Uplands



19. Lighthouse museum constructed in 1890 13 Acres Owner: TIITF State of Florida STRAP: 26-43-20-00-00011.0000 35-43-20-00-00001.0000 Zoned: TFC-2 FLUM: Conservation Uplands

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-19 Support Documentation and Analysis

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20. Government Open Space Mid-Island Preserve 59.08 Acres Owner: TIITF State of Florida STRAP: 23-43-20-00-00008.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Public Facilities

21. Government Open Space 33.02 Acres Owner: TIITF State of Florida STRAP: 26-43-20-00-00100.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Conservation Uplands

 22. Government Open Space ¹/₂ mile of Beach on Gulf 13.93 Acres
 Owner: TIITF State of Florida
 STRAP: 26-43-20-00-00200.0000
 Zoned: AG-2
 FLUM: Conservation Uplands



Privately Owned Open Space

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-21 Support Documentation and Analysis



25. Soccer Field south of 7th Street at the Gulf (3.5 Acres)
Owner: Gasparilla Inn
STRAP: 14-43-20-00-00002.0000
Zoned: RS-2
FLUM: Urban Community



26. Corner lot on Gasparilla Road And 5th Street
Owner: Gasparilla Inn
STRAP: 14-43-20-00-00002.0000
Zoned: RS-2
FLUM: Urban Community

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27. Gasparilla Inn Golf Course Owner: Gasparilla Inn STRAP: 14-43-20-00-00002.0000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Outer Island

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-24 Support Documentation and Analysis

Lakes, Ponds, Bayou's and Waterways

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-25 Support Documentation and Analysis

28. Three ponds from 40th Street to 27th Street west of Gasparilla **Owner:** STRAP: Multiple Straps Zoned: RS-1 FLUM: Urban Community





29. Ball Field Lake (End of Wheeler Street) **Owner:** Lee County STRAP: 23-43-20-00-00007.1000 Zoned: AG-2 FLUM: Conservation Uplands **Conservation Wetlands**

Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Support Documentation and Analysis

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30. Cutlass Lake (End of Pilot Street) Owner: TIIFT State of Florida STRAP: 23-43-20-00-00008.0000 Zoned: RS-1 FLUM: Public Facilities



31. Gasparilla Lake

FLUM: Preservation

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Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-27 Support Documentation and Analysis





32. Grand Bayou starting at channel at Charlotte Harbor extending north past the Gasparilla Inn Golf Course into Boca Grande Isles and divides to run north to Loomis Flats and east to Charlotte Harbor.

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Held by GICIA.

33. Two South Bayou lakes Owner: TIITF State of Florida STRAP: 26-43-20-00-00100.0000 FLUM: Conservation Uplands

34. Treasure Lake Owner: Boca Grande Isles Owner Association STRAP: 12-43-20-05-0000A.00CE Zoned: N/A FLUM: N/A



Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-29 Support Documentation and Analysis





Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification Support Documentation and Analysis

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40. Mainland of the GIBA Owner: Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority (GIBA) STRAP: 0070343-000200-7 Zoned: CT FLUM: Multiple Codes



Element V: Open Space, Recreation, and Beautification V-31 Support Documentation and Analysis

STRAP: 0070343-000000-9 Zoned: CT FLUM: Multiple Codes

41. North Island of the GIBA

Owner: GIBA

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Additional Open Space Areas

42. Pocket Park (Sam Murphy Park), beautifully landscaped with seating areas, lighting and fountain (50x100 feet). Located in center of Historic District.

43. 7 single residence lots donated by Mr. Edmund Pratt.

44. 5 beach parks Sand Spur at Range Light Sea Grape Sea Wall Dunes Lighthouse

45. Approximately 5.56 mile of golf cart and jogging path north of 5th Street, also with agreement between GIBA and GICIA, built and maintained bike path extension to the north end of bridge to Cole Island. Total area approximately 35 acres.

46. Conservation Easements:

- a. Property that runs along the bayou at the end of a lot on the east side of 18th Street
- b. Property that runs less than a mile along Charlotte Harbor, behind Boca Bay's North Bay Development (50 x 3,100 feet)
- c. Property that runs from the east side of the building pad to the mean high water line on the old Pratt lot on East Railroad, north of the GIWA property

47. Town Park with bike path, highly landscaped, running from 5th to 3rd Street in Historic District

Element VI – Historic Preservation Lee County

Goal 6: To protect, preserve, and enhance the historic resources and heritage of the Boca Grande community.

Objective 6.1: Lee County will seek to preserve the historic resources of Boca Grande through the adoption of policies and regulations that recognize the unique community characteristics, a tranquil residential community, with an historic village center, and abundant open space and preservation areas, and that also recognize the local sensitivity of the community's architecture, history and legacy as an old railroad town.

Policy 6.1.1: Lee County will establish a Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board with the powers and duties found in Lee County Land Development Code Chapter 22, Section 22-74, which includes the ability to designate historic resources and to approve or deny applications for Special Certificates of Appropriateness. The Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board will be comprised of seven members from the categories found in the Lee County Land Development Code, Section 22-72, except that whenever possible the members will be residents, or property or business owners of the Boca Grande community. Members shall serve as described in Section 22-72 and will be appointed by the Lee County Board of County Commissioners.

Policy 6.1.2: Lee County will provide copies of applications for historic designations and of all Special Certificates of Appropriateness, as well as administrative variances, to the Document Clearing House as established pursuant to Policy 1.1.4, and will send notices to all property owners within 500 feet of the subject property, consistent with the notification requirements used for land use public hearings, in order that the community may be better informed and have the opportunity to participate in the process to preserve its historic resources.

Policy 6.1.3: Lee County will work with the community of Boca Grande in updating its inventory of contributing and non-contributing structures as part of its efforts to preserve the historic resources of Gasparilla Island. Lee County will assist in efforts to create a record of the historic features of the Island in order to sustain a legacy for future generations.

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Policy 6.1.4: Lee County will work with the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board and the community of Boca Grande in reviewing the design parameters applicable to the Historic District of Boca Grande to ascertain whether additions, modifications, or deletions need to be considered.

Policy 6.1.5: Lee County will investigate the designation of Banyan Street as an historic resource and assist with the implementation of additional recommendations found in the *Banyan Tree Assessment Report*, *Banyan Street-Boca Grande*, *Florida*, completed by the Lee County Division of Environmental Sciences, as recommended by the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board.

Policy 6.1.6: Lee County will investigate additional fiscal and tax incentives to preserve the economic viability of the Historic District of Boca Grande.

Policy 6.1.7: Lee County will preserve the historic village character of the commercial sector of Boca Grande through the prohibition within the Boca Grande Historic District of formula fast food restaurants and other similar franchise operations, formula commercial signage, and other design components or uses that are not in keeping with the historic elements of the existing community character on Gasparilla Island.

Policy 6.1.8: Lee County will work with the Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board and the community to review the build-back regulations to ascertain whether modifications need to be undertaken in order to restore historic features in the event of catastrophe. If necessary, regulations to allow designated historic resources to be reconstructed will be adopted.

Element VI – Historic Preservation Charlotte County

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Goal 6: To protect, preserve, and enhance the historic resources and heritage of the Boca Grande community.

Objective 6.1: Charlotte County will seek to preserve the historic resources of Boca Grande through the adoption of policies and regulations that recognize the unique community characteristics, a tranquil residential community, with an historic village center, and abundant open space and preservation areas, and that also recognize the local sensitivity of the community's architecture, history and legacy as an old railroad town.

Historic Preservation

The Boca Grande Historic District was created by adoption of Lee County Resolution HD-90-05-01, on June 18, 1990. The Historic District is located in the center of Gasparilla Island and begins at 20th Street and extends south to 1st Street. Structures within the district are categorized as either contributing or non-contributing. Contributing structures are described by Lee County as those that are historic, exceptionally designed, or are directly associated with the historical period of the district. Remaining structures within the district are designated as non-contributing structures. The adopting resolution designated 131 properties as contributing structures. Lee County's publication <u>Design Guidelines Manual for the Boca Grande Historic District in Lee County, Florida</u> is the best resource for information on the district. The Guide describes the different architectural styles represented by the contributing structures, new construction and remodeling of non-contributing structures.

The district includes a variety of land uses and architectural styles. Uses include single family homes, churches, the Boca Grande Community Center, the Health Clinic, the Gasparilla Inn, the train depot and the commercial village. Residential architectural styles include Frame Vernacular, Colonial Revival, four types of Bungalow, Mediterranean Revival, and Mission. Commercial architectural styles include Commercial Vernacular, Art Deco, and Mediterranean Revival. The churches and community center also incorporate a mixture of these architectural styles.

Prior to the issuance of a building permit for any property within the district, a Certificate of Appropriateness must be issued. A Regular Certificate of Appropriateness (RCA) is issued for ordinary maintenance and repair on a designated property. RCAs are issued administratively by Lee County staff. A Special Certificate of Appropriateness (SCA) is required for any alteration, demolition, relocation, reconstruction, excavation or new construction which would result in a change to the original appearance of the resource. SCAs must be approved by the Lee County Historic Preservation Board.

Figure 26. contains a listing of all of the contributing structures as listed in the Lee County adopting Resolution HD 90-05-01. In addition to the contributing structures in the Historic District, there are three other properties which are designated as Historic. They are the Amory Chapel State Park, the Boca Grande Lighthouse, and the Power House at Boca Bay's Community House.

Element VI: Historic Preservation Support Documentation and Analysis 9

Figure 26.	Boca	Grande	Historic Distri	ct Contributing	Structures
	2000	01.00.000			200 0000000000

	Lee County STRAP	Property Address
1	11-43-20-01-00043.A250	
2	11-43-20-01-00044.0010	1841 18TH ST W
3	11-43-20-01-00045.0010	1945 19TH ST W
4		Submerged land, Government Lot
5	14-43-20-00-00003.0030	
6		
7	14-43-20-01-00001.0080	300 3RD ST W
8	14-43-20-01-00001.0130	241 GILCHRIST AVE
9	14-43-20-01-00001.0140	251 GILCHRIST AVE
10	14-43-20-01-00002.0010	121 GILCHRIST AVE
11	14-43-20-01-00002.0060	Combined with 14-43-20-01-00002.0150 161 GILCHRIST AVE
12	14-43-20-01-00002.0100	101 GILCHRIST AVE
13	14-43-20-01-00002.0130	141 GILCHRIST AVE
14	14-43-20-01-00002.0150	161 GILCHRIST AVE
15	14-43-20-01-00003.0010	121 1ST ST W
16	14-43-20-01-00003.0050	150 GILCHRIST AVE
17	14-43-20-01-00003.0090	141 PARK AVE
18	14-43-20-01-00003.0100	151 PARK AVE
19	14-43-20-01-00003.0110	220 BANYAN ST
20	14-43-20-01-00003.0140	224 BANYAN ST
21	14-43-20-01-00003.0160	171 PARK AVE
22	14-43-20-01-00004.0040	225 BANYAN ST
23	14-43-20-01-00004.0050	231 PARK AVE
24	14-43-20-01-00004.0080	260 GILCHRIST AVE
25	14-43-20-01-00004.0120	251 PARK AVE
26	14-43-20-01-00004.0140	271 PARK AVE
27	14-43-20-01-00004.0150	281 PARK AVE
28	14-43-20-01-00004.0160	291 PARK AVE
29	14-43-20-01-00005.0010	131 1ST ST W
	14-43-20-01-00006.0010	
31	14-43-20-01-00006.0020	220 PARK AVE
32	14-43-20-01-00006.0060	261 WEST RAILROAD AVE
33	14-43-20-01-00007.0060	260 EAST RAILROAD AVE
34	14-43-20-01-00007.0090	261 PALM AVE
35	14-43-20-01-00007.0110	271 PALM AVE
36	14-43-20-01-00007.0120	291 PALM AVE
7	14-43-20-01-00008.0010	350 3RD ST E
8	14-43-20-01-00008.0020	280 PALM AVE
9	14-43-20-01-00008.0040	260 PALM AVE
0	14-43-20-01-00008.0050	261 TARPON AVE
1	14-43-20-01-00008.0060	271 TARPON AVE

Element VI: Historic Preservation Support Documentation and Analysis

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	Lee County STRAP	Property Address
42	2 14-43-20-01-00008.0070	354 3RD ST E
43	14-43-20-01-00009.0010	290 TARPON AVE
44	14-43-20-01-00009.0020	270 TARPON AVE
45	14-43-20-01-00009.0040	260 TARPON AVE
46	14-43-20-01-00012.0010	460 4TH ST E
47	14-43-20-01-00012.0020	380 TARPON AVE
48	14-43-20-01-00012.0030	370 TARPON AVE
49	14-43-20-01-00012.0040	360 TARPON AVE
50	14-43-20-01-00012.0050	350 TARPON AVE
51	14-43-20-01-00012.0060	340 TARPON AVE
52	14-43-20-01-00012.0070	330 TARPON AVE
53	14-43-20-01-00012.0080	320 TARPON AVE
54	14-43-20-01-00012.0090	361 3RD ST E
55	14-43-20-01-00012.0100	365 3RD ST E
56	14-43-20-01-00012.0110	321 LEE AVE
57	14-43-20-01-00012.0130	341 LEE AVE
58	14-43-20-01-00012.0160	371 LEE AVE
59	14-43-20-01-00012.0170	381 LEE AVE
60	14-43-20-01-00013.0010	450 4TH ST E
61	14-43-20-01-00013.0020	380 PALM AVE
62	14-43-20-01-00013.0030	370 PALM AVE
63	14-43-20-01-00013.0060	340 PALM AVE
64	14-43-20-01-00013.0090	310 PALM AVE
65	14-43-20-01-00013.0100	311 TARPON AVE
66	14-43-20-01-00013.0120	331 TARPON AVE
67	14-43-20-01-00013.0130	341 TARPON AVE
68	14-43-20-01-00013.0140	351 TARPON AVE
69	14-43-20-01-00013.0150	361 TARPON AVE
70	14-43-20-01-00013.0160	371 TARPON AVE
		384 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		380 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		combined with 14-43-20-01-00014.0040 380 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		370 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		340 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		330 EAST RAILROAD AVE
		320 EAST RAILROAD AVE
	14-43-20-01-00014.0190	
1	14-43-20-01-00014.0210	
1000	14-43-20-01-00014.0260	
	14-43-20-01-00015.0010	
	14-43-20-01-00015.0050	
	14-43-20-01-00015.0090	
	14-43-20-01-00015.0110	
1	14-43-20-01-00016.0010	

Element VI: Historic Preservation Support Documentation and Analysis
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	Lee County STRAP	Property Address
86	14-43-20-01-00016.0020	380 GILCHRIST AVE
87	14-43-20-01-00016.0070	323 3RD ST W
88	14-43-20-01-00016.0120	311 PARK AVE
89	14-43-20-01-00016.0160	333 PARK AVE
90	14-43-20-01-00016.0240	375 PARK AVE
91	14-43-20-01-00016.0250	428 4TH ST W
92	14-43-20-01-00017.0010	400 4TH ST W
93	14-43-20-01-00017.0030	361 GILCHRIST AVE
94	14-43-20-01-00017.0060	341 GILCHRIST AVE
95	14-43-20-01-00017.0080	301 3RD ST W
96	14-43-20-01-00021.0010	480 EAST RAILROAD AVE
97	14-43-20-01-00021.0160	420 EAST RAILROAD AVE
98	14-43-20-01-00021.0230	451 PALM AVE
99	14-43-20-01-00022.0010	490 PALM AVE
100	14-43-20-01-00023.0010	490 TARPON AVE
101	14-43-20-01-00033.0010	801 GASPARILLA RD
102	14-43-20-01-00035.0020	1040 10TH ST W
103	14-43-20-01-00035.0090	921 9TH ST W
104	14-43-20-01-00035.0120	Combined with 14-43-20-01-00035.0210 901 9TH ST W
105	14-43-20-01-00035.0210	901 9TH ST W
106	14-43-20-01-00036.0010	1041 10TH ST W
107	14-43-20-01-00036.0020	1140 11TH ST W
	4-43-20-01-00036.0060	
	4-43-20-01-00036.0070	
110	4-43-20-01-00036.0080	1110 11TH ST W
111	4-43-20-01-00037.0010	1141 11TH ST W
112	4-43-20-01-00037.0050	1121 11TH ST W
		Combined with 14-43-20-01-00037.0100 1210 12TH ST W
114	4-43-20-01-00037.0210	1111 11TH ST W
	4-43-20-01-00038.0070	
	4-43-20-01-00038.0080	
		Combined with 14-43-20-01-00040.0070 1501 GASPARILLA RD
1181	4-43-20-01-00058.0130	891 8TH ST E
12 11	4-43-20-01-00060.0010	
	4-43-20-01-00061.0120	
		1100 EAST RAILROAD AVE
1221	4-43-20-02-00024.0060	208 HARBOR DR
	4-43-20-02-00024.0090	
	4-43-20-03-00019.0080	
	4-43-20-03-00019.0130	
	4-43-20-03-00019.0140	
	4-43-20-03-00019.0160	
	4-43-20-03-00019.0210	
292	3-43-20-00-00005.0000	190 1ST ST E

Element VI: Historic Preservation Support Documentation and Analysis

	Lee County STRAP	Property Address
130	23-43-20-00-00005.0010	168 1ST ST E
131	23-43-20-00-00005.0020	172 1ST ST E

Since the inception of the Historic District, the Lee County Historic Preservation Board has reviewed and approved a significant number of SCAs. Since the creation of the Historic District in 1990, a total of 203 SCAs have been issued. One of the benefits a property is eligible for when designated an Historic Resource is Administrative Approval of variances from the Land Development Regulations. These are usually reviewed in conjunction with a SCA. Since 1990, a total of 145 Administrative variances have been granted. The majority of variances are from property development regulations such as minimum setbacks for structures and fences, and lot coverage.

The number of properties which have been preserved and rehabilitated demonstrates the success of the Preservation Program and the Boca Grande Historic District. It also demonstrates the importance of engaging the Boca Grande community as much as possible. Currently, the Lee County Historic Preservation Board meets in downtown Fort Myers and surrounding property owners are not notified of SCAs, which often include an Administrative Approval of a variance. Lee County staff recently began sending copies of SCA requests to the Boca Grande Community Center, but the community desires an opportunity for more direct involvement with this wonderful resource. The creation of a Boca Grande Historic Preservation Board, comprised of local residents, with meetings held in Boca Grande, is the best opportunity for Lee County to engage as many of the residents of Boca Grande in the Historic Preservation process as possible.

Boca Grande Historic District Boundary Map

Element VI: Historic Preservation Support Documentation and Analysis

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	AERIAL (Flown March 2002) HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY (APPROXIMATE)	ZEVISIONS:
ENGINEERS * PLANNERS * SURVEYORS & MAPPERS 2006 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016	BOCA GRANDE COMMUNITY PLAN Gerpanila Island. Lee County Flonda	

Element VII – Economics Lee County

Goal 7: To identify and preserve the elements of the Gasparilla Island economy that contribute to the quality of life for the residents and stakeholders, including the restaurants, shops, fishing guides, art galleries, real estate companies, and existing commercial businesses which combine to make Boca Grande a unique village economy.

Objective 7.1: Lee County will work with all of the interests that make up the economy of Boca Grande to preserve and promote the economic health of the Boca Grande community while not expanding the amount of commercial property on the Island in accordance with the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (GICDA).

Policy 7.1.1: Lee County will support efforts by the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority (GIBA) to secure funding for the repair and maintenance of the bridges connecting Gasparilla Island to the mainland.

Policy 7.1.2: Lee County will support efforts to preserve, maintain, and enhance the beaches of Gasparilla Island, exploring alternate funding mechanisms such as the Tourist Development Tax, establishment of <u>a</u> Municipal Service Benefit Unit or a Florida Erosion Control District, or establishment of some alternative cross-jurisdictional funding mechanism. Funded programs will include, but are not limited to, beach restoration and renourishment, erosion control, beach acquisition, beach access maintenance, support of existing beach facilities, and beach clean-up.

Policy 7.1.3: Lee County will support, preserve, protect, and seek to enhance the tarpon and game fishing industry as a vital element of the Boca Grande economy. Support should include appointing Boca Grande representatives of the tarpon and game fishing industry to the Tourist Development Council, identifying and securing funding to study and implement policies to ensure the continued health of the tarpon and game fish population and habitat, and assisting in clean-up operations aimed at removing debris from areas in Charlotte Harbor where tarpon and game fish congregate.

Policy 7.1.4: Lee County will work with the Boca Grande community to review and ensure adopted levels of service for the provision of water,

sewer, roadway capacity, and parks and recreation are consistent with the Goals, Objectives and Policies adopted in the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 7.1.5: To ensure the continued economic health of Boca Grande, Lee County will seek to maximize the efficiency and the functionality of existing parking facilities and review existing parking standards for their consistency with the historic and environmental constraints found in the community.

Policy 7.1.6: Lee County will coordinate with the Lee County School District to ensure adequate educational opportunities are available to the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Policy 7.1.7: Lee County will give preference to businesses and contractors located on Gasparilla Island when awarding bids for public works projects in order to reduce the amount of off-Island traffic and limit impacts to the infrastructure.

Policy 7.1.8: To ensure Boca Grande's economic health, Lee County will support the preservation of historic businesses and commercial structures by providing tax and other financial incentives for existing businesses. The Gasparilla Inn is an example.

Element VII – Economics Charlotte County

Goal 7: To identify and preserve the elements of the Gasparilla Island economy that contribute to the quality of life for the residents and stakeholders, including the restaurants, shops, fishing guides, art galleries, real estate companies, and existing commercial businesses which combine to make Boca Grande a unique village economy.

Objective 7.1: Charlotte County will work with all of the interests that make up the economy of Boca Grande to preserve and promote the economic health of the Boca Grande community while not expanding the amount of commercial property on the Island in accordance with the Gasparilla Island Conservation District Act (GICDA).

Policy 7.1.1: Charlotte County will support efforts by the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority (GIBA) to secure funding for the repair and maintenance of the bridges connecting Gasparilla Island to the mainland.

Policy 7.1.2: Charlotte County will support, preserve, protect, and seek to enhance the tarpon and game fishing industry as a vital element of the Boca Grande economy. Support should include appointing Boca Grande representatives of the tarpon and game fishing industry to the Tourist Development Council, identifying and securing funding to study and implement policies to ensure the continued health of the tarpon and game fish population and habitat, and assisting in clean-up operations aimed at removing debris from areas in Charlotte Harbor where tarpon and game fish congregate.

Policy 7.1.3: Charlotte County will work with the Boca Grande community to review and ensure adopted levels of service for provisions of water, sewer, roadway capacity, and parks and recreation are consistent with the Goals, Objectives, and Policies adopted in the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 7.1.4: To ensure the continued economic health of Boca Grande, Charlotte County will seek to maximize the efficiency and the functionality of existing parking facilities and review existing parking standards for their consistency with the historic and environmental constraints found in the community. **Policy 7.1.5**: Charlotte County will coordinate with the Charlotte County School District to ensure adequate educational opportunities are available to the residents and stakeholders of Boca Grande.

Policy 7.1.6: Charlotte County will give preference to businesses and contractors located on Gasparilla Island when awarding bids for public works projects on Boca Grande in order to reduce the amount of off-Island traffic and limit impacts to the infrastructure.

Boca Grande Economic Profile

1. ないらい ありにもえいてい 一般に 水戸 没有なななない				Percent Home
		> 65 years of age		Ownership
Boca Grande	975		\$85,204	
Lee County	440,888	25%	\$24,542	76.5%
Charlotte County	141,627	34%	\$21,806	83.7%

Figure 27. Regional Population, Per Capita Income and Home Ownership

Source: US Census Bureau

As of the 2000 census, Charlotte County has a population of 141,627 people with over 34% of the population at 65 years of age and older. Almost 70% of the workforce is employed in Retail Trade, Transportation, Utilities, Services, Education and Health fields, with an unemployment rate of 4.1%. Charlotte County has a home ownership rate of 83.7%. Lee County has a population of 440,888 with over 25% at age 65 and older. Charlotte County's average per capita income for 1999 was \$21,806 annually compared with Lee County's \$24,542 annually and a state average of \$21,557 annually. Lee County has a home ownership rate of 76.5%.

As of 2000, Boca Grande had a population total of 975 people residing in 414 households (998 total housing units). The average per capita income is \$85,204 annually and the average household income is \$154,630, with approximately 500 of its residents in the work force. Based on these numbers, the residents of Boca Grande have an average per capita income four times that of the average Floridian.

Boca Grande Property Values and Taxes Levied

All data was obtained from the Lee County Property Appraiser's office. Values were generated on August 6, 2004. Just Value is the total parcel assessment less any consideration for the cost of a sale. It is closest value to Fair Market Value the Property Appraiser produces. The Assessed Value is based on the *Highest and Best Use Standard* or the *Present Use Standard*. The Taxable Value is the value after the Save Our Homes cap has been applied and any personal exemptions, such as the \$25,000 Homestead Exemption.

Property Description	Number	Just	Assessed	Taxable Value
	of Parcels	Value	Value	
Vacant Residential	200	136,743,630	136,743,630	136,743,630
Single Family Residential	995	1,240,638,780	1,076,908,270	1,063,188,110
Mobile Home	4	1,730,510	1,730,510	1,730,510
Multi-Family 10 or More	2	0	0	0
Condominium	134	105,486,000	102,197,440	101,445,940
Multi-Family Less than 10	7	3,706,170	3,469,200	3,418,200
Vacant Commercial	7	2,309,040	2,309,040	2,309,040
Stores, One Story	10	4,651,890	4,651,890	4,651,890
Commercial, Mixed Use	11	8,398,590	8,398,390	8,348,390
Community Shopping Center	1	818,730	818,730	818,730
Office, One Story	7	3,194,460	3,194,460	3,194,460
Airports, Terminals, Piers	2	3,832,550	3,832,550	3,832,550
Restaurants, Cafeterias	3	3,768,170	3,768,170	3,768,170
Hotels, Motels	2	10,180,200	10,180,200	10,180,200
Vacant Industrial	2	593,200	593,200	593,200
Ornamentals, Misc AG	4	7,553,760	7,553,760	7,553,760
Churches, Temples	5	5,168,270	5,168,270	0
Privately Owned Hospitals	1	541,540	541,540	0
Orphanages, Non-Profit Services	2	1,828,490	1,828,490	. 0
Cultural Organizations, Facilities	24	9,364,500	9,364,500	117,280
Forest, Parks, Recreational	19	18,155,420	18,155,420	0
Hospitals	2	1,556,440	1,556,440	0
Counties, Other	6	4,710,860	4,710,860	0
Federal, Other	2	6,599,510	6,599,510	0
Utility	. 5	6,635,170	6,635,170	4,413,390
Right-Of-Way	1	500	500	500
Rivers, Lakes, Submerged Land	57	31,840	31,840	31,840
Sewage Disposal, Waste Lands	1	1,650	1,650	1,650
Grand Totals	1,516	\$1,588,199,870	\$1,414,915,550	\$1,350,263,360

Figure 28. Lee County Boca Grande Taxing District

Element VII: Economics Support Documentation and Analysis

The Lee County portion of Boca Grande has a taxable value of \$1,350,263,360.

The following Millage Rates were obtained from a 2003 Lee County tax bill for a property on Boca Grande. The taxes levied are based on the total taxable value of the Lee County portion of Boca Grande, \$1,350,263,360.

Taxing Authority	Millage Rate	Taxes Levied
Boca Grande Fire District	1.4173	\$1,913,728
Public School-By Local Board	2.5890	\$3,495,831
Public School-By State Law	5.7570	\$7,773,466
Lee County Capital IMP	1.0124	\$1,367,006
Lee Co Unincorp-MSTU	1.2114	\$1,635,709
Lee County General Revenue	4.3277	\$5,843,534
Lee County Hyacinth Control	0.0295	\$39,832
Lee County Library Fund	0.9630	\$1,300,303
Lee County Mosquito Control	0.2984	\$402,918
SFL Water MGMT-Everglade Const	0.1000	\$135,026
West Coast inland Waterway	0.0400	\$54,011
Lee County All Hazards-UNINC	0.0733	\$98,974
SFL Water MGMT-District/ Okeechobee Levy	0.5970	\$725,091
Total	18.3987	\$24,843,090

Figure 29. 2003 Lee Count	tu Rosa Granda Tarina	District Millage	Rates and Taxes I ewied
rigure 29. 2005 Lee Court	іу Боси Огипие Тиліпд	District Millage	Rules una Tuxes Levieu