MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members
From: Staff
Date: March 18, 2016 Council Meeting
Subject: Local Government Comprehensive Plan Review
Draft Amendment to the Wellington Comprehensive Plan
Amendment No. 16-1ESR

Introduction

The Community Planning Act, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, requires that the regional planning council review local government comprehensive plan amendments prior to their adoption. The regional planning council review and comments are limited to adverse effects on regional resources or facilities identified in the strategic regional policy plan (SRPP) and extrajurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any affected local government within the region. Council must provide any comments to the local government within 30 days of the receipt of the proposed amendments and must also send a copy of any comments to the state land planning agency.

The amendment package from Wellington includes a text amendment to the Transportation Element of the comprehensive plan. The amendment is related to adoption of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation Plan. This report includes a summary of the proposed amendment and Council comments.

Summary of Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment is to revise the Transportation Element of the comprehensive plan by updating pedestrian and bicycle Policies 1.1.14 – 1.1.20; adding a pedestrian pathways map; and adding a bicycle lanes map. The updated policies support Objective 1.1, which calls for motorized and non-motorized transportation systems that are safe, convenient, and efficient, and consist of arterial, collector, and local roadways. The pedestrian pathway and bicycle lane maps provide detailed linkages of neighborhoods, schools, and other community centers. The maps have been developed in coordination with the Palm Beach County Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element related to bicycle, pedestrian, and linked open space facilities; and with the Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Master Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan.
Regional Impacts

No adverse effects on significant regional resources or facilities have been identified.

Extrajurisdictional Impacts

Wellington has indicated that the proposed amendment was submitted to the Palm Beach County Intergovernmental Plan Amendment Review Committee. No extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified.

Conclusion

No adverse effects on regional resources or facilities and no extrajurisdictional impacts have been identified.

Recommendation

Council should approve this report and authorize its transmittal to Wellington and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Attachments
List of Exhibits

Exhibit

1  General Location Map
2  Pedestrian and Bicycle Policies – Text Changes Showing Strikethrough and Underline
3  Pedestrian Pathways Map
4  Bicycle Lanes Map
PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE POLICIES

Policy 1.1.14 Wellington shall install bicycle lanes if feasible when collector roadways are expanded.

Policy 1.1.15 Wellington, via the Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation Plan, shall continue to maintain a detailed bicycle and pedestrian circulation plan which links encourage the creation and maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian links that improve connectivity to neighborhoods, schools, and other community services centers, parks, community centers, along with transit stops, in a safe and convenient manner.

Policy 1.1.16 Wellington shall prepare an overall bicycle and pedestrian circulation plan along specified collectors and arterial roads by January 2011, cooperate and coordinate to the extent feasible and shall cooperate and coordinate to the extent feasible with the implementation of the Palm Beach County Bicycle Transportation Master Plan.

Policy 1.1.17 Wellington shall review annually bicycle facilities and improvements, per the identify missing links needed to complete its bicycle and pedestrian circulation plan that may be in need of completion or enhancement. The review shall consider prioritization, and the potential for placement in the and shall also provide a general cost estimate for consideration of inclusion in the 5 Year Capital Improvements program, including vis-a-vis the timing of other types of infrastructure improvements that may be proposed in the same location or adjacent to such proposed facilities or improvements.

Policy 1.1.18 New bicycle or pedestrian facilities or maintenance projects shall, to the extent feasible, consider ways to decrease bicycle and pedestrian travel time, maintain efficient vehicular movement while reducing bicycle and pedestrian conflicts, provide for user-friendly traffic control devices, provide for the physically handicapped, and encouraged increased use.

Policy 1.1.19 Wellington shall continue to ensure that new development contains sidewalks, pedestrian and bicycle related amenities and linkages as required by the Land Development Regulations.

Policy 1.1.20 Relative to other pedestrian facilities, Wellington may consider placing higher Capital Improvements priority on pedestrian facilities or improvements within 5 to 10 minute pedestrian walking distances of neighborhoods, and/or where the Comprehensive Plan Land Use or Transportation elements indicate special emphasis areas for walkability.

Policy 1.1.21 Wellington shall coordinate to the extent feasible with the objectives of the Palm Beach County Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element as to bicycle, pedestrian, and linked open space facilities, and with the Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (MPO) Master Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan, ensure new development contains linkages to surrounding development and amenities where needed and feasible.

Policy 1.1.22 By 2014 Wellington shall complete an analysis to determine if additional improvements are required to facilitate safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the vicinity of the new municipal complex and adjacent recreational facilities.

Policy 1.1.23 Wellington shall continue to coordinate with the MPO as a member of Bicycle/Greenway/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BGPAC).
Exhibit 3
Pedestrian Pathways Map
Exhibit 4
Bicycle Lanes Map