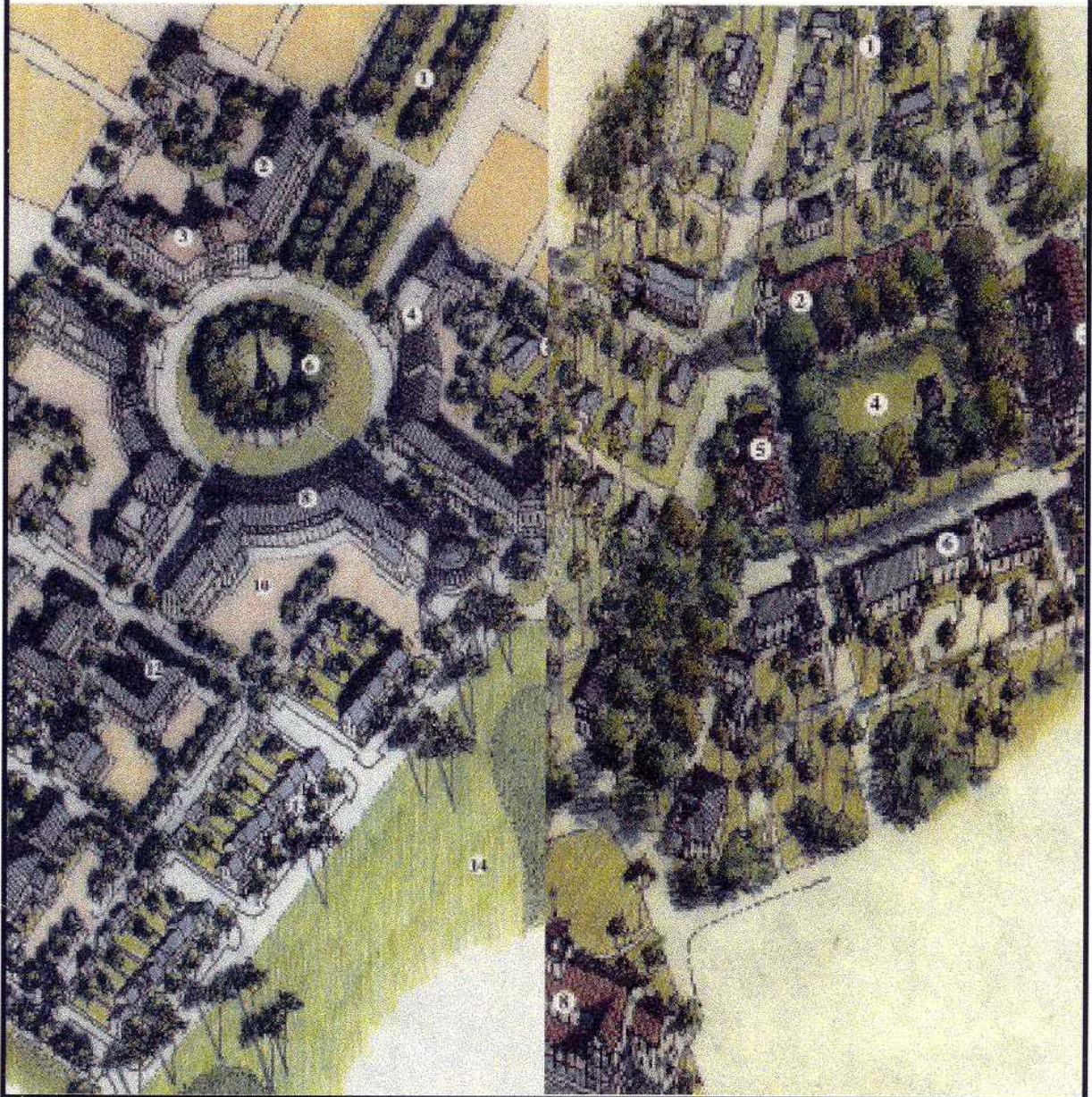


GLOSSARY



GLOSSARY

Accessory Apartment - A separate living unit, within a principal structure, that may have separate bathroom and cooking facilities, but which is clearly accessory to the principal use.

Advance Acquisition - The acquisition of real property rights for use on a designated transportation corridor in advance of the fiscal year in which right of way acquisition would normally occur. This is done to take advantage of favorable prices and/or the availability of land and to preclude further development that would make the property more costly to the public.

Affordable - Means that monthly rents or mortgage payments, including taxes, insurance, and utilities, do not exceed 30 percent of the amount which represents the percentage of median adjusted gross annual income for households classified as very low, low and moderate income.

Algal Bed - A marine and estuarine natural community dominated by various species of algae attached to the bottom.

American Farmland Trust - A non profit membership organization that is dedicated to stopping the loss of productive farming and promoting farming practices that lead to a healthy environment.

Annual Unemployment Rate - The average unemployment rate for a given year.

Aquifer - An underground geologic formation holding ground water.

Aquifer Storage and Recovery - A water storage technique whereby surface water is pumped underground and stored in an aquifer until retrieved at a later time.

Atlantic Coastal Ridge - An area of higher elevation and well-drained sandy soils, which closely parallels the edge of the mainland through the Region.

Backlog - As used in transportation planning, it is an accumulation of traffic demand on a transportation facility that has yet to be satisfied through facility expansion, construction or other means.

Barrier Island - A relatively narrow strip of land extending along the shoreline, which separates the ocean from the coastal lagoon system.

Barrier Island - Coastal lands which are physically separated from the mainland by salt or brackish water and typically composed of sand shaped by strong currents, wind and wave action.

Basin Marsh - A shallow herbaceous or shrubby wetland situated in a relatively large and irregular shaped basin.

Beach - A marine and estuarine natural community consisting of unconsolidated sandy substrate occurring along the shoreline.

Beach Dune - A coastal upland community composed of a sandy foredune and upper beach that are sparsely to densely vegetated.

Benthic Community - An association of plant and animal populations occurring at or near the bottom substrate of a waterbody.

Bicycle or Pedestrian Facility - Any lane, path, or walkway which is designated for bicycle travel or foot travel. Roadways which meet criteria engineering standards such as wide outside travel lanes are also considered to be bicycle facilities.

Biscayne Aquifer - Name of the surficial aquifer occurring in southeastern Palm Beach County and other counties to the south.

Blackwater Stream - A natural river system originating in sandy lowlands where extensive wetlands and organic soils function as reservoirs, collecting rainfall and discharging it slowly to the stream.

Blighted Area - An area characterized by some or all of the following: deteriorating and/or abandoned buildings, inadequate or missing public or community services, vacant land with debris, litter, lack of sanitation facilities, trash and junk accumulation, and environmental nuisances such as noise, heavy traffic and odors.

Building Type - General classification of buildings based on similarity of urban design and architecture (i.e. courtyard type, side yard type, etc.) and regardless of use or function.

Capital Improvement Element (CIE) - The portion of the local comprehensive plan that sets a time frame for capital improvements to be completed in order to meet concurrency requirements.

Capital Improvement Programs - A timetable or schedule of future capital improvements to be carried out during a specific period and listed in order of priority, together with cost estimates and the anticipated means for financing each project.

Carpool, Carpooling - A single vehicle, share-the expense method of transportation for two or more individuals who regularly travel together to a common destination.

Central Business District - The core within a city usually containing: retail uses; governmental offices; service uses; professional; cultural; recreation; and entertainment

establishments and uses; residences; hotels and motels; appropriate industrial activities; and transportation facilities.

City - Planned and managed aggregation of neighborhoods and districts. A city is composed of several districts (i.e. a downtown, industrial, university, etc.) and of many neighborhoods.

Clearance Time - The time required to clear all roadways of all vehicles evacuating in response to a hurricane event. Clearance time begins when the first vehicle enters the road network (as defined by a hurricane evacuation behavioral response curve) and ends when the last evacuating vehicles reach an assumed point of safety.

Coastal High Hazard Area - Any area which historically has experienced destruction or severe damage, or is scientifically predicted to experience such damage from storm surge waves, erosion, or other manifestations of rapidly moving or driven water. Defined under Rule 9J-5.003(14), Florida Administrative Code, for local government comprehensive plan purposes as the evacuation zone for a Category 1 hurricane as established in the regional hurricane evacuation study.

Coastal Strand - An upland natural community characterized by stabilized, wind-deposited coastal dunes that are vegetated with a dense thicket of salt-tolerant shrubs.

Commercial/Service Airport - Airports which provide scheduled passenger services by an air carrier certified by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Community Design - Physical characteristics of one or several neighborhoods or districts.

Comprehensive Emergency Management - The practice by any government to capably plan for, manage, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters by coordinating the actions of many organizations and agencies.

Concurrency - As used in growth management, the requirement that public facilities and services needed to support development shall be available at the same time the impacts of such development will occur.

Consolidated Substrate - A marine and estuarine natural community consisting of solidified rock or shell conglomerates situated in expansive open areas of subtidal, intertidal, and supratidal zones which lack dense populations of sessile plant and animal species.

Coral Reef - A marine and estuarine natural community characterized as an expansive conglomerate of hard, sessile, limestone-building coral occurring in warm subtidal waters.

Cottage Home - A small, detached dwelling unit, normally less than 600 square feet in size, located on the same lot as a principle residential unit.

Council - The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, created pursuant to Section 186.504, Florida Statutes.

Countryside - General term that describes the combined function, form and design of non-urban areas (i.e. natural preserves, agricultural fields, reservoirs, etc.).

Cultural Facilities - Establishments such as museums, art galleries, botanical and zoological gardens of an historic, educational or cultural interest.

Deepwater - Permanent flooded aquatic systems such as a lake, river, estuary, or ocean.

Density Bonus - A system whereby permitted density or intensity can be increased in return for the construction of housing units affordable to low and moderate income systems.

Depression Marsh - A shallow, isolated wetland, which is usually a rounded depression in sandy substrate with herbaceous vegetation often in concentric bands.

Desalination - The process whereby salt is removed from sea water or brackish water.

Designated Corridor - Major transportation routes designated in State, local, or regional plans for the movement of people and goods by one or more transportation options (see Transportation Corridor).

Distressed Communities - Urban and rural communities often characterized by high ratios of unemployment, disinvestment, high vacancy rates, business failures, etc. Such communities find it financially difficult to provide basic services to their citizens.

District - Area within a city, town or village that is specialized in terms of function (e.g. downtown or industrial areas). While districts may also include a variety of uses, they are not self-sufficient. Instead, they provide a place for activities that would not fit well within a neighborhood.

Dome Swamp - A shallow, isolated, forested wetland, which is usually a circular depression that has a domed profile because smaller trees such as cypress grow near the outer edge and bigger trees grow in the center.

Dry Prairie - An upland natural community characterized as a flat nearly treeless plain with a dense ground cover of wiregrass, saw palmetto, and other grasses, herbs, and low shrubs.

Durable Goods - Manufactured products designed to be durable such as appliances and automobiles.

Eco-tourism - A nature-based tourism activity that focuses on the marketing of the environment, education of the natural resources and the experience of an unspoiled natural environment without the environment being threatened.

Economic Base - The production, distribution and consumption of goods and services within a planning area.

Economic Clusters - Industries that benefit economically by co-locating near businesses with similar characteristics and require similar employment and products.

Economic Development District - A regional economic development administration district authorized by the U.S. Economic Development Administration that will assist local governments within the district on economic development initiatives.

Ecosystem - All of the interacting parts of the biological and physical components of the environment.

Edge-to-area Ratio - A measure used in the evaluation of nature preserves, which compares the distance around the perimeter of the nature preserve to the area contained within the nature preserve.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) - Any building or structure specifically constructed to be impervious to storm or flood damage that serves as a government's strategic resource coordination, planning and communications center during a natural or technological hazard event.

Endangered Species - Animal or plant species that are recognized by federal or state agencies or organizations as being in imminent danger of extinction or expiration.

Estuarine Resources - The natural biological or physical components of an estuary.

Estuary - A semienclosed coastal body of water having a connection with the ocean and within which sea water is diluted with freshwater inflow from the land.

Exotic Species - Animal or plant species that are not native to the Region.

Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) - Any of over 300 chemicals the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has determined to be extremely hazardous to health or the environment. The presence of one or more EHS at a facility in excess of a specified quantity requires that certain reporting and local emergency planning activities be conducted.

Flatwoods/Prairie/ Marsh Lake - A wetland natural community similar to a depression marsh, but with an open water zone at the center.

Flood Plain - For the purposes of this document, those areas inundated during a 100-year flood event or identified by the National Flood Insurance Program as Zones A or Z on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Hazard Boundary Maps.

Flood Plain Swamp - A wetland natural community occurring on flooded soils along stream channels and in low spots and oxbows within flood plains.

Florida's Intrastate Highway System - A system of existing and future limited access and controlled access facilities which have the capacity to provide high-speed and high-volume traffic movements in an efficient and safe manner.

Floridan Aquifer - A deep aquifer that occurs beneath the entire Region and contains highly mineralized water.

Freshwater Tidal Swamp - A forested wetland near the mouth of a river or estuary just inland from mangroves or saltmarshes.

Goal - The long term end toward which programs and activities are ultimately directed.

Greenbelt - A stretch of land separating urban areas which is characterized by a land cover dominated by plants.

Greenway - A narrow or wide corridor of open space managed for natural resource conservation and/or recreation.

Groundwater - Water occurring in an aquifer below the surface of the land.

Growth Management - Planning theory popular during the 1980's which emphasized provision of services (i.e. roads, sewers, water police, etc.) and de-emphasized urban form and design.

Habitat Conservation Plan - A plan developed as part of a program authorized by the federal Endangered Species Act, which allows some impacts to an endangered or potentially endangered species in exchange for other measures to protect the species.

Hard Bottom - A marine and estuarine natural community consisting of solidified rock or shell conglomerates which lack dense populations of sessile plant and animal species.

Hardwood Hammock - A densely wooded upland or wetland community with high plant species diversity, which is dominated by oaks, cabbage palms, or other species of hardwood trees.

Hawthorn Formation - A geologic layer separating the surficial aquifer from the Floridan Aquifer.

Hazardous Material - One of several hundred thousand chemicals for which the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration requires a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). A MSDS is a legal document which details a chemical's synonyms; physical properties; shipping, handling and storage procedures; and health hazard, first aid, reactivity, fire and explosion, and spill and leakage data.

Homebound - Someone who is physically or mentally impaired and cannot leave their home without some type of aid and assistance.

Household - One or more persons, related or unrelated, living together in a single housing unit.

Hurricane - A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of at least 74 miles per hour which is generally accompanied by heavy rainfall, thunder, lightning, and tornadoes.

Hydric Hammock - A densely wooded wetland community characterized as a well developed hardwood and cabbage palm forest with an understory often dominated by palms and ferns.

Hydroperiod - The length of time over which a wetland remains flooded or saturated each season.

Hydrophyte - Any plant growing in water or on a substrate that is periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content.

Inclusionary Housing - A program to increase housing choice by providing the opportunity to construct more affordable, diverse and economical housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income citizens. Normally enacted through zoning.

Infill - Development on scattered vacant sites within a built-up area of a neighborhood or district.

Infrastructure - Buildings, roadways, bridges, airports, electrical generation and transmission systems, drainage and stormwater facilities water and wastewater systems, solid waste collection, transfer, recycling and disposal facilities, schools, parks prisons and any other facility that is basic in daily life.

Intermodal - The connection between two or more modes of transportation.

Intracoastal Waterway - A navigation channel which extends through the Region, running north-to-south parallel to the coastline.

Labor Force - All civilians in the non-institutional population 16 years and over classified as “employed” or “unemployed” and members of the Armed Forces stationed in the United States.

Labor Force Participation Rate - The number of persons in the Labor Force divided by the total number of persons aged 16-65.

Landfill Leachate - Water soluble material that is carried into the groundwater as a result of percolating through a landfill.

Level of Service (LOS) - An indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by a facility based on the operational characteristics of the facility. A qualitative rating of the effectiveness of a highway in serving traffic, measured in terms of operating conditions. Note: The Highway Capacity Manual identifies operating conditions ranging from “A” for best operations (low volume, high speed) to “E” for poor operations at possible capacity load.

Low Income Household - A household where total annual adjusted gross income is between 50 and 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the County in which the household occurs.

Low-Income Persons - One or more natural persons or a family, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

Major Industrial Sectors - Major components of the industrial classification system for classifying establishments by type of economic activity. Major industries are assigned two-digit Standard Industrial Classification codes.

Marine Resources - The natural biological and physical components of the ocean.

Maritime Hammock - An upland natural community characterized as a narrow band of hardwood forest lying just inland of the coastal strand community.

Mass Transit - Passenger services provided by public, private or non-profit entities such as the following surface transit modes: commuter rail, rapid rail transit, light rail transit, light guideway transit, express bus, and local fixed-route bus.

Median Age - A measurement that divides the age distribution into two equal parts: One-half of the cases falling below the median value and one-half above the value.

Medicaid - A jointly-funded state and federal health care program for low-income persons. States establish their own eligibility criteria and may set benefits above the minimum established by Federal law.

Medicare - Federal health insurance program for people aged 65 and over. Also, covers (since 1973) eligible disabled persons of any age and persons with chronic kidney disease.

Medium Income Household - A household where total annual adjusted gross income is between 80 and 120 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the County in which the household occurs.

Mesic Flatwoods - An upland natural community characterized as an open canopy forest of widely spaced pine trees with little or no understory, but a dense ground cover of herbs and shrubs.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - The organization designated by the Governor as responsible together with the State for transportation planning in an urbanized area according to 23 U.S.C. Section 134. This organization shall be the forum for cooperative decision-making by principal elected officials of general local government.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) - A relatively freestanding metropolitan area not closely associated with other areas. An MSA has a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus.

Mitigation Bank - An area where natural systems are protected and restored using contributions from individuals who impact similar systems at other locations.

Modal - Referring to the type of transportation used (bus, train, plane, automobile, bicycle, pedestrian).

Mode - A method or means of travel from place to place (highways, transit, railroads, bicycle, walking, water, air, etc.) or means of transportation.

Moderate-Income Persons - One or more natural persons or a family, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which is less than 120 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 120 percent of the median

annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

Mollusk Reef - A marine and estuarine natural community characterized as an expansive concentration of sessile mollusks occurring in intertidal and subtidal zones to a depth of 40 feet.

Natural Community - An assemblage of animal and plant populations characteristic of uplands, wetlands, or waterbodies in their predevelopment condition.

Natural Resource of Regional Significance - A natural resource or system of interrelated natural resources, that due to its function, size, rarity or endangerment retains or provides benefit of regional significance to the natural or human environment, regardless of ownership (Chapter 27E-5.002(4), Florida Administrative Code).

Natural Resources - The natural biological and physical components of the land, air, and sea.

Natural System - A natural community or ecosystem or group of adjacent or contiguous natural communities or ecosystems.

Natural Preserve - An area protected and managed to maintain native ecosystems.

Neighborhood - Area within a city, town or village which includes several types of housing and some commercial and workplace uses. Although diverse, neighborhoods tend to be predominately residential. Generally, they range in size from 40 to 200 acres.

Neighborhood School - A public school located to serve an existing or proposed neighborhood.

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) - An international trade program that is part of the new multilateral trading partnerships and regional common markets around the world. An initiative that subscribes to the principles of free and fair trade.

Pine Flatwoods - An upland natural community characterized as an open canopy forest dominated by slash pine trees with little or no understory, but a dense ground cover of herbs and shrubs, especially saw palmetto.

Policy - The ways in which programs and activities are conducted to achieve identified goals.

Post-Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment - Segments of comprehensive emergency management planning which provide for the short- and long-term replacement of structures, infrastructure, facilities, and services damaged or destroyed by a natural or technological disaster.

Potable Water - Water designated for drinking.

Potentially Endangered Species - Animal or plant species that have been listed by federal or state agencies or organizations as being threatened, rare, or of special concern.

Poverty Level - Threshold as defined by the Bureau of Census. Poverty thresholds are revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index and are computed on a national basis only. Persons below the poverty level are in extreme want of necessities.

Prairie Hammock - An upland natural community characterized as a clump of tall cabbage palm and live oak trees in the midst of prairie or marsh communities.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation - That segment of comprehensive emergency management planning which provides for any action taken to reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from a natural or technological disaster.

Preferred Form of Development - Implementation tool to plan and manage growth in the form of cities, towns and villages composed of districts and neighborhoods.

Prescribed Burn - A management technique whereby natural communities are set on fire under controlled conditions in order to simulate a natural wildfire, but without impacting surrounding areas.

Primary Dune - The first in a series of sandy wind-deposited ridges as one moves landward from the beach.

Public Transit - The transporting of people by a system, operated locally or regionally, consisting of one or more types of vehicles and/or services and available for public passenger travel and mobility.

Public Transportation Corridors - Major routes used for moving people and goods by one or more transportation options, including mass transit.

Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) - A deed restriction to a property that would limit its use to agricultural activity with some type of compensation to the property owner..

Quality of Life - A standard associated with components that include the natural environment, recreation, culture, safety, education, housing and health services when described.

Recharge - The process whereby rain water or surface water seeps into the ground and enters an aquifer.

Reclaimed Wastewater - Water that has been discharged from a wastewater treatment facility and is of sufficient quality for use in irrigation.

Redevelopment - The process by which cities renew themselves through private and public investments, i.e., renovation of a blighted area

Regional Roadway Network - See Regional Transportation Element, Section C. Significant Regional Resources and Facilities for list and definition.

Reverse Osmosis - A technique used to purify water which uses a membrane to limit the movement of certain molecules in the water.

Rotational Impoundment Management - A technique used to manage mangrove impoundments whereby hydrological connections to the estuary are opened and closed according to a schedule which limits reproduction by mosquitos, but allows the mangrove swamp to function ecologically with the estuary.

Saltwater Intrusion - The phenomenon occurring when salt water replaces freshwater in an aquifer.

Sand Bottom - A marine and estuarine natural community characterized as an expansive, relatively open benthic community which lacks dense populations of sessile plant and animal species.

Sandhill - An upland natural community characterized as a forest of widely spaced pine trees with a sparse understory of turkey oaks and a dense ground cover of grasses and herbs on rolling hills of sand.

Sandhill Upland Lake - A wetland natural community characterized as a permanently flooded shallow rounded depression occurring in a sandy upland community.

Scrub - An upland natural community which occurs on well-drained sandy soils and is usually dominated by sand pines and/or scrub oaks.

Scrubby Flatwoods - A scrub community with a canopy of slash pine instead of sand pine.

Seagrass Bed - A marine and estuarine natural community which is dominated by an expansive stand of vascular plants.

Shallow Aquifer - Another term for the surficial aquifer.

Shellfish Bed - A marine and estuarine natural community which is characterized by an expansive concentration of oysters or other mollusks.

Shell Mound - An upland community characterized as an elevated mound of mollusk shells and aboriginal garbage on which a hardwood, closed-canopy forest develops. Shell Mound is unusual among the biological communities in that it is largely the result of the activities of aboriginal natives, instead of natural physical factors.

Significant Regional Resources or Facility - Resources or facilities identified by the Council as being of regional importance and meeting one or more of the following criteria: a) a resource or facility that due to its uniqueness, function, benefit, service delivery area, or importance is identified as being of regional concern; b) a resource or facility that requires the participation or involvement of two or more governmental entities to ensure proper and efficient management; c) a resource or facility that meets either criteria (a) or (b) above and is defined to be of state or regional concern or importance in state or federal laws or rules of state or regional agencies adopted pursuant to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes (Chapter 27E-5.002(7) Florida Administrative Code).

Slough - A wetland which is characterized as a broad shallow channel, inundated with flowing water except during extreme droughts, that are the deepest drainageways within strand swamps and swale system.

Spatial Clustering - Businesses that select to geographically locate near existing businesses because of the relative benefits that would be derived by co-locating near such businesses.

Special Needs Population - Those residents who are afflicted with physical or mental impairments or who require full-time specialized medial or technological assistance which prevent them from safely evacuating prior to an emergency.

Spoil - The material removed when the bottom of a waterbody is dredged.

Sprawl - Any type or form of development that does not contribute to the creation of cities, towns and villages composed of neighborhoods and districts (i.e. isolated housing subdivision, schools disconnected from the urban areas they serve, isolated office and industrial parks).

Storm Surge - The rise in sea water level accompanying the approach of a hurricane. The extent of storm surge varies with the strength of the hurricane, coastal topography, and tides. Storm surge effect is compounded by wind-driven wave action on top of the surge water level.

Stormwater Attenuation Facility - A reservoir designed to retain stormwater for purposes of enhancing the water supply and limiting excessive flows to the estuary.

Stormwater Runoff - Water that originates from the drainage of land surfaces after a rain.

Strand Swamp - A shallow, forested wetland, which is usually an elongated depression or channel dominated by cypress.

Strategic Regional Policy Plan - Plan for one of the 11 uniform regions in Florida, as defined in Section 186.503(10), Florida Statutes.

Strategy - An overall means of achieving a goal which is proactive, future and results oriented with a focus on long term priorities, needs and problems.

Surficial Aquifer - A shallow aquifer that occurs near the surface of the ground.

Sustainability - meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Swale - A natural wetland characterized as a marsh situated in a broad shallow channel with flowing water and having emergent grasses, sedges, or herbs. Man-made swales, which are not recognized as natural resources of regional significance, are shallow channels designed to collect and transport stormwater runoff.

Telecommuting - The concept of using telecommunications as the vehicle for exchange and presence between home and the workplace rather than physically traveling between these two destinations.

Tidal Marsh - A marine and estuarine natural community, which is characterized as an expanse of grasses, rushes or sedges along the coastline.

Tidal Swamp - A marine and estuarine natural community, which is characterized as a dense, low mangrove forest occurring along a relatively flat shoreline.

Town - Planned and managed aggregation of neighborhoods and districts. A town is composed of no less than one district (i.e. a Main Street , a civic square, etc.) and of many neighborhoods.

Town Center (and Village or City Center) - Functional and civic nucleus of a Town. It should include a green or square, no less than one public building (i.e. Town Hall, Post Office, etc.), and commercial and mixed-use buildings.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) - Design philosophy that encourages development from the ground up with transit in mind; emphasizing securing a high density level, combining a mix of uses, utilizing a hierarchy of streets and designing at a human scale to maximize the potential for transit use within a community.

Transportation Corridor - Major routes used for moving people and goods by one or more transportation options.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) - Strategies designed to reduce the number of trips made by single occupant vehicles and enhance the regional mobility of all citizens. These strategies include but are not limited to encouragement and enhancement of traditional ridesharing (carpooling and vanpooling), public transportation, alternative work hours (flextime, compressed work week, etc.), non-motorized transportation (bicycle and pedestrian modes), priority or preferential parking for ridesharers, and development and implementation of shuttle services. Also included is the fostering of telecommuting programs.

Transportation Disadvantaged - Those persons who, because of disability, income status, or age, are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation.

Transportation Management Organization (TMO) - Organizations which are formed by private organizations such as local businesses, corporate employers and developers and sometimes partnered with local, regional or state agencies to address community transportation problems.

Tropical Hammock - A narrow band of hardwood forest lying just inland of the coastal strand community having a number of cold-sensitive species of tropical origin.

Unconsolidated Substrate - A marine and estuarine natural community consisting of unconsolidated material such as sand, shell, or mud, situated in expansive open areas of subtidal, intertidal, and supratidal zones, which lack dense populations of sessile plant and animal species.

Undifferentiated Aquifer - A surficial aquifer that has not been given a distinct name and may not be separated hydrologically.

Undisturbed Natural Community - A natural community that has not been altered significantly by selective clearing, retains its predevelopment character, and is not dominated by exotic species.

Upland - Areas that are not usually flooded, do not have hydric soils, and are not dominated by hydric vegetation.

Upland Buffer - An undeveloped area usually dominated by an upland natural community or landscape material that surrounds a wetland or lake.

Urban Form - General physical characteristics of urban development.

Urban Sprawl - Urban development or uses which are located in predominantly rural areas, or rural areas interspersed with generally low-intensity or low-density urban uses, and which are characterized by one or more of the following conditions: (a) The premature or poorly planned conversion of rural land to other uses; (b) the creation of areas of urban development or uses which are not functionally related to land uses which predominate the adjacent area; or (c) the creation of areas of urban development or uses which fail to maximize the use of existing public facilities or the use of areas within which public services are currently provided. Urban sprawl is typically manifested in one or more of the following land use or development patterns: Leapfrog or scattered development; ribbon or strip commercial or other development; or large expanses of predominantly low-intensity, low-density, or single-use development.

Value-Added Agriculture - The processing of raw vegetables and other products into canned, jarred or frozen materials and provided to food purveyors throughout the country.

Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) - On highways, a measurement of the total miles traveled in a given area for a specified time period. It is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the miles traveled in a given area or on a given highway during the time period. In transit, it is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the miles traveled on a given area or on a given route, line or given route, line or network during the time period.

Very Low Income Household - A household where total annual adjusted gross income does not exceed 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the County in which the household occurs.

Very Low-Income Persons - One or more natural persons or a family, not including students, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

Village - Planned neighborhood or small aggregation of neighborhoods which normally occurs beyond the metropolitan area. Often located in agricultural areas.

Vision - A description of the intended future physical appearance and qualities of the Region.

Wastewater Effluent - The liquid discharged from a wastewater treatment facility after completion of the treatment process.

Water Table - The upper surface of the surficial aquifer.

Waterbody - Permanently flooded aquatic system, such as a pond, river, lake, reservoir, estuary, or ocean.

Watershed - An area from which surface water runoff is drained by a stream, canal, or conveyance system.

Wet Flatwoods - A natural wetland characterized as relatively open-canopy forest of scattered pine trees with a shrubby understory or dense ground cover dominated by hydrophitic plants.

Wet Prairie - A natural wetland characterized as a treeless plain with ground cover of grasses and herbs.

Wetland - An area which has hydric soils, hydrophitic vegetation, and the ground is saturated for a portion of the year.

Wetland System - A series of wetlands that are linked hydrologically, at least during periods of high water.

Wilderness Island - A natural system that is completely surrounded by agriculture or urban development, and is geographically isolated from other natural systems.

Wildlife Corridor: A non-urbanized stretch of land between nature preserves that allows the movement of wildlife between the preserve areas.

Worm Reef - A marine and estuarine natural community which is characterized by a large colonial conglomerate of rigid Sabellarid worm tubes.

Xeric Hammock - An upland natural community characterized as either a scrubby, dense, low canopy forest with little understory other than palmetto, or a multi-storied forest of tall trees with an open or closed canopy.

Xeriscape - Landscape using drought tolerant species to conserve water.