

Vision 2032 Plan

Nassau County, Florida

VISION 2032



Nassau County, Florida

Vision 2032

A 25-Year Strategic Vision



Vision 2032 Statement

Nassau County is committed to managing growth and creating sustainable economic development in a way that maintains and improves the quality of life and unique character of the communities by utilizing its strengths – the people, the abundance of unspoiled natural resources, and its strategic location as the “Eastern Gateway to Florida.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements.....1
Letter from the Vision 2032 Steering Committee.....4

Introduction..... 6
A Vision for Nassau County’s Future.....7
Engaging the Public.....7
Topics for Discussion.....8
Setting Priorities.....9
Developing Goals, Objectives, and Strategies.....11

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies..... 14
Vision 2032 Statement.....15
Quality Of Life.....15
Infrastructure and Growth Management.....19
Governance and Leadership.....23

Implementation..... 26
Implementing Vision 2032.....27
Vision 2032 and the Comprehensive Plan.....27
Vision Into Action.....28

Acknowledgements

Vision 2032 Plan Steering Committee:

Commissioner Barry Holloway; District 4	Gene Bennett	Ron Flick	Melinda Leudke
Commissioner Ken Walker; City of Fernandina Beach	John Stack	Wendy Prather	Dean Woehrle
Councilman John Beasley; Town of Hilliard	Jack Perrett	Phil Kelley	
Mayor Shirley Graham; Town of Callahan	Bill Moore	Malcolm Noden	
Walter Fufidio; Nassau County Planning Director			

MGT of America Consultant Team :

Fred Seamon	Dennis Yecke	Rich McLaughlin
Reggie Smith	Jeri Birkes	Suzanne Woodcock
		Dee Torre

Board of County Commissioners 2007-2009:

Jim B. Higginbotham /Daniel B. Leeper, District 1
 Michael H. Boyle , District 2
 Stacy Johnson, District 3
 Barry Holloway, District 4
 Marianne Marshall/ Walter J. Boatwright, District 5

Planning & Zoning Board 2007-2009:

Patrick J. Keogh
 Dennis V. Jasinsky
 Marjorie Weibe-Reed
 Wayne Arnold
 Jeanne Scott
 Gene Bennett
 Tom Ford
 John Stack
 Patsy Quaile
 Sharyl Wood

Technical Experts:

Chuck Cooper, Nassau County Fire Rescue
 Jim Mayo, Baptist Hospital Nassau
 Steve Rieck, Economic Development Board
 Tommy Seagraves, Nassau County Sherriff
 Marci Larson, First Coast MPO
 Nancy Freeman, Nassau County Emergency Operations

Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach/Yulee Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors:

James L. Shroads
 Paul Audet
 Sean McGill
 Donna Lynn VanPuymbrouck
 Tony Baia
 Richard Goldman
 Pamela Brown
 Val Schwec
 Ray Poole
 George Langstaff
 Ron Flick
 Phil Kelley
 Meredith Lewis
 Randy Lindberg
 Theresa Hamilton

Nassau County Staff
 Greater Nassau Chamber of Commerce
 City of Fernandina Beach Elected Officials and Staff
 Town of Callahan Elected Officials and Staff
 Town of Hilliard Elected Officials and Staff
 Nassau County Economic Development Board
 Nassau County Tourist Development Council

Special Thanks To:

Vision 2032 Volunteers

The Nassau County School Board and Staff for use of School Facilities

and

The People of Nassau County



Centre Street, Fernandina Beach



The St. Marys River

Letter from the Vision 2032 Steering Committee

To the Residents of Nassau County:

Everybody who has lived in Nassau County for any length of time knows that change is inevitable. The Steering Committee believes that the best way for this community to deal with change is to manage it by envisioning the future and preparing for it. Vision 2032 has been a process of engaging the citizens of Nassau County in thinking about their desired future. We recognize that residents are busy with the daily tasks of home and business and the visioning process provided multiple opportunities, venues and media for forging a shared vision of our community's future. The Steering Committee is truly grateful to those many residents and stakeholders who participated in the public outreach part of this visioning process. For those whose schedule did not allow them to participate previously, implementation will take place over years and we encourage and invite you to be a part of the realization of this plan.

The idea for Vision 2032 dates from early 2007 when the leadership of the Amelia Island Fernandina Beach Yulee Chamber of Commerce calculated that the strategic planning model used in the in the business environment would benefit the community. Many strategic planning processes include a step where those involved consider their desired future, or vision. The Board of County Commissioners endorsed the idea in April 2007 and later authorized the hiring of MGT of America and created this Steering Committee to administer the process. The Board determined that this process would transcend political jurisdictions and encompass Nassau County as a whole.

We intend this process to help the community identify the future it desires by defining its core values and goals as well as strategies to achieve that future. The vision created through this process – an overview of what the community should be like in 25 years – becomes the foundation on which land use decisions, fiscal budgeting, and detailed strategic policies can be based.

We encouraged people to focus on assets rather than present needs and assess future options based on shared purposes and ideals. We found similar priorities expressed among all geographic regions and age groups.

Adoption of the Vision 2032 Final Plan is not an end, but a beginning. It may not be attained in its entirety and for that matter, probably won't be. With leadership and continued commitment this plan will guide our future. Your participation made this document possible and you are major stakeholders in our community's future and are empowered to ensure its implementation.

Thank you.

Vision 2032 Steering Committee

<i>Walter Fufidio</i>	<i>Todd Duncan</i>	<i>John Beasley</i>	<i>Jack Perrett</i>
<i>Barry Holloway</i>	<i>Gene Bennett</i>	<i>Shirley Graham</i>	<i>Bill Moore</i>
<i>Melinda C. Leudtke</i>	<i>Wayne King</i>	<i>Ron Flick</i>	<i>Dean Woehrle</i>
<i>Malcolm Noden</i>	<i>John Stack</i>	<i>Phil Kelly</i>	<i>Wendy Prather</i>
			<i>Ken Walker</i>



Cary State Forest

Introduction

A Vision for Nassau County's Future

Nassau County is located just north of Jacksonville on the Florida-Georgia border. Its abundant land, beautiful beaches, historic areas and year-round cultural events made the attraction of new growth to Nassau County inevitable. Over the past 25 years, Nassau County's population has grown by *110 percent*. This growth has led to great changes to the economy and community fabric of the County.



While the recession of 2008-2009 may have temporarily slowed this growth, the outlook for the continued growth and economic development of northeast Florida and southeast Georgia remains optimistic, and this growth will continue to shape the future of Nassau County. For the County to deal successfully with the challenges it will face in the future, it must develop a clear picture of where its residents want to go.



In May 2007, the Board of County Commissioners, in partnership with the Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach/Yulee Chamber of Commerce, hired consultants MGT of America, Inc., to begin a long-term (25-year) planning and consensus-building process to create a vision for Nassau County.

A vision plan is *not* a regulatory document. It is a tool used to provide guidance to the County for future decision making. It provides guidelines for policy makers as they set priorities and make decisions about the future of their communities.

Engaging the Public

The visioning process is based on the ideas and input of community members. It maximizes opportunities for residents to participate in planning for tomorrow.



The creation of Vision 2032 was a transparent process with all meetings open to the public. A Steering Committee was established to provide administrative oversight of the Vision 2032 project. A communication plan was developed and implemented to provide residents with information about Vision 2032; and input was received from stakeholder groups and residents of Nassau County through multiple public involvement opportunities.



Eight Public Participation Sessions were held at various locations throughout the County. At each meeting, public comments were collected on the topic areas described above. The Public Participation Sessions were used to gather the ideas, thoughts, and suggestions of Nassau County residents on their vision of how the County should look in the year 2032. The public participation process also included interviews with key stakeholders and a web site dedicated to Vision 2032 activities.

Topics for Discussion

The Board identified 11 topic areas as the focus for the visioning discussion:

- **Infrastructure:** roads, utilities, airports, railways, and public transportation systems.
- **Growth Management:** methods used to ensure that as the population grows that there are services available to meet their demands. These include not only services provided by County government, but other demands such as the protection of natural spaces; sufficient and affordable housing; delivery of utilities; the preservation of places of historical value; and sufficient land for employment-generating uses.
- **Education and School Facilities:** instructional programs and the physical buildings, lands, and contents of the school system.
- **Public Safety:** police and fire protection, emergency medical transport services, disaster planning, and public health services.
- **Economy and Workforce:** creating and sustaining jobs and the employees that fill those jobs.
- **Healthcare and Social Services:** medical and dental facilities and access to medical and dental care; medical and public assistance services provided by the government.
- **Recreation and Open Space:** indoor or outdoor recreation facilities such as parks, ball fields, or community centers; and outdoor space that is undeveloped and may or may not be open to public use.
- **Environment:** land, water, and air left in its natural state
- **Governance:** the system of County government that has legal authority to regulate and enforce laws.
- **Tourism:** the largest employment sector in the County; an important industry that provides all manner of services to visitors to Nassau County.
- **Cultural Opportunities and the Arts:** the availability of visual and performing arts expressing the heritage, values and character of Nassau County.



Old Callahan Depot— Greater Nassau Chamber of Commerce

Setting Priorities

At the eight Public Participation Sessions held across the County, participants were asked to rank the selected topic area in order of importance to their community.

County-wide, the five topics ranked most important to residents were:

1. Growth Management



2. Recreation and Open Space



3. Infrastructure



4. Environment



5. Education and School Facilities





Although all eight sessions were open to all and advertised countywide, residents typically attended the meeting closest to the community where they lived. So while there were strong similarities in the top issues of concern, there were important differences that appeared depending on the location of the session.

In Yulee, the fastest growing area of the County, Infrastructure and the Economy and Workforce were identified as the most important issues next to Growth Management; with Recreation and Open Space following close behind. The discussions here reflected the typical concerns of residents in rapidly urbanizing areas over traffic congestion, overcrowding of schools, and the difficulty of keeping up with the demands for recreation and other public facilities.

On Amelia Island (including Fernandina Beach), the top issues were Growth Management, Infrastructure, and the Environment, followed by Recreation and Open Space. As in Yulee, this area faces many of the issues of an urbanized area, but the difference on the island was a greater concern with the environment, and discussions often reflected the residents' concerns about protecting the beaches, rivers, streams and marshes found on and around Amelia Island.



While Growth Management was usually ranked very high as a priority in the small rural communities of Hilliard, Callahan and Bryceville, the more typical concerns about “growth management,” such as traffic congestion, tend to be less important in these areas than maintaining the rural lifestyle, with discussions focusing on maintaining the wide, open spaces in this area, providing more outdoor recreation areas including boat ramps and fishing areas. Providing more recreational activities for young people is also a high priority in rural areas. In fact, Recreation and Open Space was ranked the # 1 issue in Hilliard.

Across the County, citizens expressed how much they enjoy the quality of life in Nassau County. They want to maintain this quality of life by managing growth; creating skilled job opportunities; improve transportation networks; increase recreation and open space; and improve and expand essential services to keep pace with population growth.



Kayaking on the Nassau River

Developing Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

After development of the vision, the next step was to identify the ways to secure what the community desires. Goals, objectives, and strategies were developed using a mixture of the public comments during the eight Public Participation Sessions and discussions with the Steering Committee and stakeholder groups.

The 11 topic areas discussed at the public meetings were grouped under three main categories, Quality of Life; Infrastructure and Growth Management; and Governance and Leadership. Each category contains several issue areas. Each issue area has established goals, specific and measurable objectives, and implementing strategies.

Goals are overall or general statements about the quality and character of the community. They are translated into measurable and specific Objectives.

Objectives are the more specific ends towards which community leaders should direct their efforts. Performance standards or quality of life benchmarks are established in the Objectives and are used to monitor progress and measure change in the community.

Strategies are specific actions taken to achieve an Objective in support of a Goal.

The Goals, Objectives and Strategies recommended in the final Vision 2032 report are included in their entirety in the next section.



American Beach



Ft. Clinch State Park



CSX Railroad Crossing at Harts Road , Yulee

Goals, Objectives & Strategies

Vision 2032 Statement

Nassau County is committed to managing growth and creating sustainable economic development in a way that maintains and improves the quality of life and unique character of the communities by utilizing its strengths – the people, the abundance of unspoiled natural resources, and its strategic location as the “Eastern Gateway to Florida.”

Quality Of Life

Conservation and preservation of the natural environment, education and workforce training, health care, recreation and cultural activities and the arts all relate to quality of life and the values of Nassau County residents.

The goals, objectives, and strategies established below recognize the need to be creative in maintaining the quality of life for County residents during the difficult economic times and the limitations on revenue and sources of funds to pay for existing and future needs.



Issue Area 1: Conservation and Preservation of the Natural Environment

Goal: Conserve and/or preserve existing natural areas, including wetlands, floodplains, river corridors (such as, the St. Mary’s River), streams, creeks, and wildlife habitats.

Objective: By the year 2032, the acreage of publicly-owned natural, open space areas, and natural areas set aside for voluntary conservation or preservation, shall be equal to or greater than the year 2008 acreage.

Strategies:

1. Incorporate natural areas and features into development plans, parks and recreation areas, non-residential development, and infrastructure projects.
2. Promote increased “limited activity” setbacks from water bodies including rivers, lakes, streams, and creeks.
3. Promote the maintenance and development of wildlife corridors through adjoining residential and non-residential areas including infrastructure expansion or rebuilding projects.
4. Protect trees by establishing a tree protection ordinance for all development activities and offer incentives to agriculture and silviculture operations that use best management practices to preserve and ensure the regeneration of forested areas.

5. Encourage resource preservation by establishing standards in the land development regulations that allow transfers of residential densities for residential developments and increased floor area ratios for non-residential developments in residential areas that meet established resource protection standards.
6. Identify the existing outdoor recreation, open space, and natural areas of local and regional significance and, using the Vision2032 Plan and other data sources, develop a recreational and conservation Master Plan –a plan for an inter-connected network of these features –for incorporation into the Comprehensive Plan.
7. Establish community meetings between local government agencies, landowners, and state and federal agricultural agencies to promote sustainable agriculture in Nassau County.
8. Coordinate efforts with communities countywide to establish a strategy for protecting and conserving the water supply and resources for competing uses.

Issue Area 2: Education and Workforce Training

Goal: Coordinate with the Nassau County Economic Development Board and the Florida Community College to continue the workforce development post-secondary education and job training programs and integrate youth and adult education.

Objective: Continue existing, and expand post-secondary education opportunities at Florida Community College-Nassau Center and the joint-use Florida Community College/Nassau County Technical Training Facility to meet the workforce training and post-secondary education needs of Nassau County residents.

Strategies:

1. By August 2009, establish a task force consisting of Nassau County School District staff and educators, the Nassau County Economic Development Board, and the Continuing Education Center of the Florida Community College of Jacksonville in Yulee to identify the workforce needs and training programs required to provide a skilled workforce to meet the employer needs of existing and targeted industries.
2. By June 2010, incorporate efforts such as dual enrollment, advanced placement, and virtual school courses into the Nassau County School District education planning to ensure students from the Nassau County area can compete for post-secondary school admission slots with students from across the state and the country.
3. By August 2011, identify a suitable location, or locations, for vocational training programs at area high schools in coordination with the Nassau County Economic Development Board and Community College to meet the workforce needs of the existing and targeted employment sectors.

Issue Area 3: Health and Well-Being

Goal: Increase availability of health care services, providers, and facilities throughout Nassau County.

Objective: By the year 2032, residents in Nassau County will have community medical care facilities for health care not requiring hospitalization.

Strategies:

1. Support efforts of health care providers to expand hospital capacity in Nassau County, particularly west of I-95 and provide community satellite medical treatment and care facilities.
2. Starting in July 2009, coordinate with developers on establishing land uses for medical clinics, doctor's offices, and other medical facilities within existing and new communities and large-scale development projects.
3. Beginning in August 2009, begin to establish cooperative ventures between businesses, residents, libraries, schools, and the Health Department to continue providing public health programs and information on health issues, using grant funds when available.
4. Beginning in September 2009, work with the Florida Community College-Nassau Center and the joint-use Florida Community College/Nassau County Technical Training Facility and Nassau County School District to establish a vocational track for health care training in high schools that will transition into programs in the post-secondary institutions in the County.

Issue Area 4: Recreation and Open Space

Goal: Preserve existing and expand outdoor recreation areas, publicly-owned natural and open space areas, recreational facilities and services throughout Nassau County.

Objective: By the year 2010, add additional level of service standards to the Comprehensive Plan for recreation and open space to include acreage for active outdoor recreation areas, numbers and standards for recreation facilities (including boat ramps, skate parks, and ball fields), and generalized locations based upon existing deficiencies and projected population growth.

Strategies:

1. In 2009, begin a review and, as necessary, update the land development regulations to require dedication of multi-use trails and walkways for all developments or strips of land for a corridor of space for linkages between developments and land use activities.
2. Improve access to waterways through acquisition of land and construction of additional boat ramp parks with a mix of outdoor recreational facilities using grant funding and impact fees.
3. In July 2009, establish a committee of community volunteers to coordinate with the Nassau County School Board on a mechanism and plans to provide evening and weekend access to recreation.

4. On an ongoing basis, seek grant funding to acquire land to build a facility with a skate park, off-road trails, Frisbee golf, and other active recreational facilities to serve the youth and families of Nassau County.
5. On an ongoing basis, coordinate with willing seller landowners, non-profit recreation, and conservation land groups to set aside land for conservation or public open space.

Issue Area 5: Culture and the Arts

Goal: Seek public and private funding to increase county residents' opportunities and exposure to the arts and cultural activities and continue existing cultural and arts programs.

Objective: By the year 2010, establish a plan of action to enhance and update library facilities, museums, school auditoriums, and other public facilities to provide space for art and cultural activities in these facilities to serve local communities.

Strategies:

1. Establish a Teen Advisory Board to develop a list of needs and innovative methods of funding to provide art and cultural activities in schools, libraries, and other public facilities.
2. Using land development regulations encourage an effective mix of business and family entertainment uses in close proximity to residential areas, with buffers and other features, sufficient to ensure no impact to the peace and enjoyment of residents in their homes.
3. By the end of 2009, establish a Culture and Arts working group to develop plans and identify funding opportunities for community, cultural, and civic centers.



Amelia Community Theatre

Infrastructure and Growth Management

Managing growth and the development of infrastructure to ensure the quality of life is a difficult task requiring often difficult and controversial choices to be made, including where to locate land uses, what patterns of land use are desirable, and where to locate facilities to ensure maximum access and to minimize the cost.

The goals, objectives, and strategies established below recognize the need to be creative in meeting the growth management needs. With its vast vacant land inventory, Nassau County has the opportunity to learn from the development mistakes of other Florida counties; to adopt development patterns suited to changing transportation, telecommunications, and market conditions; and to maintain our “sense of place” while we grow.



Issue Area 1: Growth Management

Goal: Promote effective local planning processes at the County and incorporated community level that coordinate the funding and location of identified infrastructure needs, such as, recreation facilities, school sites, port landside and waterside facilities, and roads(including emergency evacuation routes), with associated land uses and available funds to pay for these facilities.

Objective: Incorporate the Vision 2032 Final Report as a component to the 2010 update of the local Comprehensive Plan in accordance with Sec. 163.3177, F.S.

Strategies:

1. On an annual basis, develop a list of community infrastructure priorities for each year of a maximum ten-year Capital Budget, and include in the early years of each year’s budget, those facilities with an available revenue source.
2. Elected officials, advisory board members, stakeholders, and local residents from each of the four communities should consult the Vision 2032 Final Report when making community development decisions. Development decisions must consider financial feasibility, availability of infrastructure, and private property interests.
3. Use volunteer groups to hold community-wide meetings to identify places in each community that are historically, socially and ecologically significant and recommend a plan that will reflect the desires, needs, and character of these existing “communities.”

4. Provide density and intensity bonuses for new, mixed-use developments where facilities and services are available. Bonuses should be tied to the inclusion of workforce housing, the provision of connecting or alternative transportation corridors, and the clustering of development to reduce the impact of development and preservation of natural areas; or through the acquisition of off-site development rights through transfer of development rights from designated sending areas.

Issue Area 2: Multi-Modal Transportation

Goal: Achieve a network of safe and efficient multi-modal transportation that is capable of meeting the transportation needs of residents and visitors at an acceptable level of service in a safe and efficient manner.

Objective: Work with the Nassau County Economic Development Board, Nassau County Public Works Department, and that of each incorporated community, to implement safety and capacity improvements in conjunction with the anticipated impacts of new developments and those of the airport, airport industrial park, and Port of Fernandina.

Strategies:

1. Use the information collected from coordination with the entities listed in the above objective to develop a list of community infrastructure priorities for each year of a maximum ten-year Capital Budget, and include in the budget those facilities for which a currently available revenue source and funds are available to pay for these needs.
2. Designate a regional multi-modal transportation entity to be responsible for the coordination of all modes of regionally significant surface transportation planning activities.
3. When development impacts are shown to reduce safety or the level of service beyond acceptable standards, implement capacity and safety improvements as a condition of new development approval using the fiscal analyses methodology provided in the 2007 Study.
4. Promote the use of interconnected street networks or alternative routes that connect existing roads in order to distribute traffic and maintain the rural character of existing two-lane roads.
5. Designate transit corridors for future public transportation service. These corridors may be designated for greater and use density and intensity.
6. Maintain a database of unused street and railroad rights-of-way for possible utilization as pedestrian trails, bicycle routes, and shuttle service.

Issue Area 3: Economic Development and Tourism

Goal: Expand the economic base and create a fiscal sustainable community by attracting high technology and high value industry, office, research, and educational facilities that provide new employment opportunities and support the existing major employment sectors.

Objective 1: Coordinate community and local government efforts with the Nassau County Economic Development Board to develop high-value, non-residential development and mixed use developments that generate additional professional and technical job opportunities.

Objective 2: Coordinate public and private efforts to ensure continuance of the vital tourism industry and identify opportunities to create a sustainable eco-tourism segment of the economy that takes advantage of the County's abundance of natural resource areas, such as the St. Mary's River.

Strategies:

1. By 2012, work with Florida Community College-Nassau Center to create training programs with existing and new companies.
2. By 2011, use a combination of tax incentives and state grants to bring in high tech/bio tech businesses.
3. By 2010, review the land development regulations and zoning maps to identify revisions required to provide opportunities for high-value, non-residential developments, and mixed-use developments with employment centers for targeted industries.
4. The Chambers of Commerce should provide training and assistance to existing and prospective small businesses in such areas as business planning, government regulation, capital acquisition, and employee development.
5. Emphasize Nassau County's cultural and historical amenities in tourism promotion and business recruitment efforts.
6. Create a public-private partnership to prepare shovel ready industrial and business/office park sites having a minimum of 200 acres, backbone infrastructure including central water, wastewater and stormwater, road and rail transportation, and telecommunications.
7. Create a public-private partnership to educate residents, leaders, and business owners on the importance of the tourism industry to Nassau County's economic well-being and the opportunities for sustainable tourism as a component of economic development.

Issue Area 4: Mixed Use Development

Goal: Encourage mixed-use developments designed to accommodate multiple community activities and services in close proximity. By reducing infrastructure demand, mixed-use developments can generate a positive fiscal impact on County's financial resources.

Objective: Coordinate community and local government efforts with the Nassau County Economic Development Board to develop high-value, non-residential and mixed-use developments that generate a positive cash flow for the County.

Strategies:

1. Identify the fiscal impacts of development proposals in terms of revenue versus cost of providing services using the Fiscal Impact Assessment Model (FIAM).
2. Through the Local Planning Agency, establish design guidelines, dimensional criteria, and incentives to promote compact mixed-use development patterns. Characteristics of mixed-use zoning include multiple uses dispersed vertically, shared parking located behind buildings, public amenities such as schools and parks as community focal points, and extensive pedestrian connectivity.
3. Determine and implement incentives to development that will help balance the tax base, such as the high technology and high value mixed-use developments or industry, office, research, and education facilities that provide new employment opportunities and support the existing major employment sectors.



Traditional Neighborhood Development at Amelia Park

Governance and Leadership

Times are changing, and so are boards and commissions across the country. Governance structures must serve the strategies and mission of the organization while enabling its leaders to exercise their responsibilities with transparency and integrity. Governance requires knowledge, leadership, vision, education, commitment, clarity, and strategy. Changes to government and its structures must be examined to ensure efficient and effective operations for all its constituents.



Issue Area 1: Government Structure

Goal: Determine if the existing form of government meets the needs of its residents.

Objective: By the year 2012, conduct a study to determine if a different form of government would better meet the needs of its residents.

Strategies:

1. Establish a blue ribbon committee to study the different types of governments that are available. That would include a review of County-commission, consolidated, and charter governments.
2. Determine the pros and cons of each type and compare to the existing form of government.
3. Determine if the current number of commissioners is sufficient representation for the number of County residents.
4. Submit a report by the end of 2010 containing findings and recommendations.
5. Implement recommendations, if feasible.



Historic Nassau County Courthouse



Church Road, Bryceville



Dune Walkover, Amelia Island

Implementation

Implementing Vision 2032

Implementing the strategies recommended in Vision 2032 will require a balance between the community’s long-range vision for the future, the rights of property owners to appropriately use their land, and the financial resources available to Nassau County. Limited resources will require setting priorities and, sometimes, making difficult choices as Nassau County works toward their vision for the future.



Implementation does not mean the end of the visioning process. It is part of a continuing cycle of public input, analysis, actions, and evaluation. Success depends on the commitment of public and private decision-makers and everyday citizens and in both the sectors. The community needs to work together to achieve this vision for the future.

Vision 2032 and the Comprehensive Plan

As the County began the visioning process in 2007, it was simultaneously conducting the state-mandated evaluation and appraisal of its Comprehensive Plan and updating the Plan to the new horizon year 2030. Wherever it was possible, the recommended strategies of Vision 2032 were integrated into the goals, objectives, and policies of each element of the Nassau County 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Here are some of the way how those recommendations have been incorporated in the Comprehensive Plan:

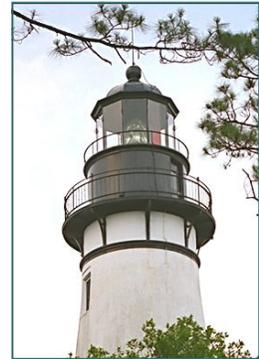


- Using the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) to encourage master planned mixed use development.
- Increasing the amount of land designated on the FLUM for targeted industry employment clusters.
- Adopting an Economic Development Element to provide policy guidelines for a coordinated economic development program.
- Adopting policies in the Capital Improvements Element to achieve a fiscally sustainable community.
- Requiring the adoption of a Recreation Master Plan to guide future acquisition of park land and construction of facilities.
- Adoption of a master plan for a dedicated bicycle trail on Amelia Island.

For more information about the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, please contact the Nassau County Growth Management Department at (904) 491-7328 or visit the County’s website: www.nassaucountyfl.com.

Vision Into Action

In April 2009, the Board of County Commissioners authorized a nine-member community-based advisory body to be called the Strategic Action Group, (SAG). This group would provide annual reports to the Board of County Commissioners and community at large on the implementation of the goals, objectives and strategies of Vision 2032 across the County and make recommendations on how to move future implementation efforts forward. to carry out the recommendations of the Vision 2032 Final Report. Each of the five County commissioners appointed a single representative from their district, and a representative was appointed by each of the county's three municipalities, the Town of Callahan, The City Fernandina Beach and the Town of Hilliard. The County Growth Management Department would serve as administrative support for the SAG. A system of "Lead Partners" would be established to take responsibility for specific actions relating to implementation. Lead Partners would be persons and organizations which would have subject expertise in the topic area areas addressed in the Vision 2032 Report.



In June 2009, the group changed their name from Strategic Action Group, (SAG), to the Vision Into Action Group (VIA).

The enabling resolution set the term of the SAG for three years, but allowed the Commission to extend this term until the completion of their assigned tasks. In April 2012 the Commission passed a resolution to extend the term of VIA for another three years.

To enhance its effectiveness, VIA has combined several of the eleven separate subject areas of the Vision 2032 report into seven separate portfolios, each of which is handled by a sub-committee chair. They are:

- 1. Health Care & Social Services**
- 2. Recreation, Open Space & Environment**
- 3. Economy, Workforce & Tourism**
- 4. Education & School Facilities**
- 5. Infrastructure & Growth Management**
- 6. Governance**
- 7. Public Safety**



As of May 2012, the representatives of the VIA will meet as a group on a quarterly basis. Each sub-committee chair is responsible for identifying, meeting with, and seeking the advice of their Lead Partners in their topic areas and submitting reports and recommendations to the VIA chair. These recommendations are presented quarterly by the VIA chair to the Board of County Commissioners.

For more information about the Vision Into Action Group, please contact: please contact the Nassau County Growth Management Department at (904) 491-7328 or visit their Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Vision-Into-Action

A vision without a task is but a dream. A task without a vision is drudgery. A vision and a task together are the hope of the world.

-Found in a church in Essex, England 1730.



For more information please contact:

Nassau County

Department of Planning & Economic Opportunity

Public Services Building

96161 Nassau Place

Yulee, Florida 32097

(904) 530-6300

www.nassaucountyfl.com