



# Alachua County Strategic Guide - FY2023

## Equitable and Resilient Community

- Resilient means integrating the environment, the local economy, and equity to achieve sustainability
- Equitable means striving to treat everyone justly according to their circumstances, providing opportunity and access for everyone, while focusing on closing existing equity and access gaps

### Guiding Principles:

- Address the root cause of issues and inequities
- Utilize a collaborative approach where we seek to hear from all the voices, consider other points of view, and coordinate and leverage relationships to get more done than we could on our own
- Continue to provide mandated services and discretionary services expected by our constituents in a transparent, accountable, efficient and effective manner

## Address the Housing Gap

- Invest intentionally to reduce the gap in available public housing
- Coordinate proactively with agencies, municipalities, and other entities
- Define clearly the policies and expectations to make it predictable and more likely to be implemented
- Focus on extremely-low and low income housing
- Develop a “whole cost” approach, including operating costs, not just construction and development costs

## Achieve Social and Economic Opportunity for All

- Promote proactive, collaborative leadership to make the most of Alachua County’s resources
- Build equitable access to health (physical and mental), safety, and opportunity, especially for people who haven’t traditionally had access to those systems
- Create an inclusive process that gets all voices heard
- Focus our Economic Development efforts on local businesses and removing barriers to economic opportunity
- Drive the discussion and implement a central receiving facility as a way to deliver coordinated services
- Enhance public safety and services to shift the focus from reactionary to life-improving interventions and support innovative models for blight reduction, citizen safety and education, alternatives to incarceration, and public safety advocacy for disadvantaged populations
- Work with private and public partnerships, including farms and local food entrepreneurs to build a community food system

## Invest in and Protect Our Environment

- Continue Wild Spaces & Public Places and include agricultural lands as well
- Focus community planning and growth to address climate change and community and environmental resiliency
- Create a Climate Action Plan and implement Climate Action Plan recommendations
- Implement and refine adopted energy, water, and environmental conservation and preservation plans to benefit all inhabitants, and ensure activities are aligned with the Climate Action Plan

## Provide for the Welfare and Protection of the Public

- Provide resources necessary to meet fire prevention and protection, law enforcement, criminal justice, 911 Communications Center, and Jail services
- Coordinate countywide resources in conjunction with our community partners for the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery from man-made, environmental, and/or natural disasters
- Manage public safety components of capital infrastructure, roadway maintenance, development review, public facility life-safety maintenance, solid waste removal, and building inspections

## Accelerate Progress on Infrastructure

- Identify and report transparent priorities and progress dashboards
- Investigate Infrastructure Sales Tax in conjunction with Housing Trust Fund, and renewal of Wild Spaces & Public Places
- Research, apply for, and prepare to implement federal investments for the benefit of our local community
- Develop a ‘Today’s design for tomorrow’s roads and infrastructure’ mindset
- Address internet affordability and accessibility gaps throughout the County
- Provide for Public Safety infrastructure
- Improve community mobility and transportation options