



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00201

Agenda Date: 3/25/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Comprehensive Plan Evaluation & Update Notification Letter to State

Presenter:

Ben Chumley, Principal Planner, Growth Management

Description:

Request approval of a Chair letter notifying the state land planning agency (Florida Department of Commerce) that updates to the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan will be necessary to reflect changes in state statutory requirements since the last evaluation & update of the Plan in 2018.

This letter is required to be submitted by April 1, 2025 in accordance with subsection 163.3191(1), Florida Statutes and the schedule of due dates for local government comprehensive plan evaluation & appraisal notification published by the Department of Commerce. The County will have one year to transmit the necessary amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for state review.

Recommended Action:

Approve the attached letter for signature by the Chair notifying the Florida Department of Commerce that updates to the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan are necessary to reflect changes in state statutory requirements, as required by Sec. 163.3191(1), Florida Statutes.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

There is no cost associated with this item.

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

Florida Statutes Section 163.3191 requires that, at least once every 7 years, each local government shall evaluate its comprehensive plan to determine if plan amendments are necessary to reflect a minimum planning period of at least 10 years and to reflect changes in state planning requirements since the last update of the comprehensive plan, and to notify the state land planning agency as to its determination. Section 163.3191 Florida Statutes also requires each local government to comprehensively evaluate and, as necessary, update its comprehensive plan to reflect changes in local conditions.

The Florida Department of Commerce establishes due dates for each local government to evaluate its comprehensive plan and notify the State whether any amendments are necessary. Alachua County's due date for making its determination is April 1, 2025.

Staff has evaluated the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan and determined that updates to the Plan will be necessary to reflect changes in state statutory requirements since the last update of the Comprehensive Plan in 2018. The attached letter from the Chair indicates that the County has completed this evaluation and has determined that updates to the Plan will be necessary. The necessary amendments to the Comprehensive Plan must be transmitted for state agency review within 1 year of the County's notification letter.

Alachua County will be updating its Comprehensive Plan beginning in 2025 through 2026. The last major evaluation and update of the Plan was in 2018-2019. The current update will address the requirements of Florida Statutes as well as issues of local interest. This process will involve broad community engagement over the course of the next year.