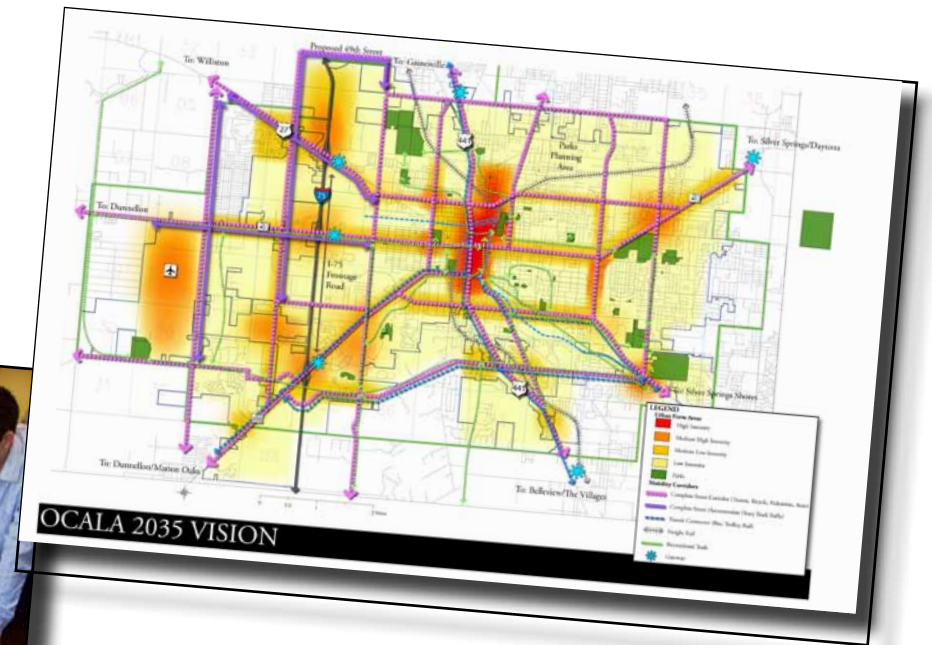


Ocala 2035 Vision

Ocala is...



a great place to live, play, and prosper.



October, 2010





Acknowledgements

The Ocala 2035 Vision could not have been completed without the participation and assistance of the following individuals:

City Council

- Mayor Randy Ewers
- Council President Reuben Kent Guinn (District 4)
- Councilwoman Suzy Heinbockel (District 1)
- Councilwoman Mary S. Rich (District 2)
- Councilman John Priester (District 3)
- Councilman Daniel Owen (District 5)

City of Ocala Staff

- Ricky A. Horst, City Manager
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- Peggy Cash, Administrative Supervisor

Ocala 2035 Vision Leadership Group

- Paolo Mastroserio, Chair
- Steve Albright, Co-Chair, Urban Form and Public Spaces
- Ken Ausley, Co-Chair, Urban Form and Public Spaces
- Jaye Baillie, Co-Chair, Building and Site Design
- Jerome Johnson, Co-Chair, Building and Site Design
- Ross Jones, Co-Chair, Recreation and Parks
- Todd Rudnianyn, Co-Chair, Mobility and Connectivity
- Clark Yandle, Co-Chair, Mobility and Connectivity
- Bob Dumond

- Dave Fechtman
- Summer Gill
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Vision Statement and Principles

I. Executive Summary

II. Why a Vision?

III. History of Ocala's Development

IV. Vision Design Topics

V. Public Participation

VI. Ocala 2035 Vision

Vision Statement

Ocala is... a great place to live, play, and prosper.

Vision Principles

In the year 2035 and beyond,

Ocala is a community of natural and man-made beauty. Ocala celebrates and builds on its rich history by protecting our natural and cultural resources and given long-term continuity to our community's physical character and design.

Ocala is a community of neighborhoods. The citizens of Ocala have established their own neighborhood identities, each uniquely essential to preserving and promoting its peace, quiet, safety, and ease and options of travel. Citizen initiatives are the cornerstone for our community decision making process;

Ocala has diverse mixed-use centers offering convenient shopping and services easily accessible by neighborhood residents wishing to either walk, bicycle or drive;

Ocala's gateways welcome residents and visitors through attractive "front doors" that invite people to experience our dynamic and friendly community;

Ocala citizens are proud of our Downtown. Downtown Ocala is the heart of the community. It's well preserved historic buildings, the complementing architecture of newer buildings, pedestrian-friendly gridded street system, and the Town Square provide a charm and "sense of place" unmatched by other communities of its size in Central Florida;

Downtown Ocala is a vibrant hub of residential, retail, office, governmental, cultural, and entertainment activity. Specialty shops, restaurants and residential development line the streets, creating a unique environment distinct from suburban retail centers;

Ocala is the County Seat, a vitally active center for regional employment in Marion County, with the strong presence of the financial, medical, industrial, office and government sectors of the economy;

Ocala has an unmatched community recreation and park system serving all residents. Recreation areas and parks are linked by the City's network of pedestrian routes and bikeways, so that everyone resides within an easy walk or bike ride of an urban open space;

Ocala is a city with viable mobility options for all citizens and visitors, with its system of public bus and rail transportation, bicycle trails, and complete streets. Increased mobility options, capacity and reliability are essential to our economic vitality and quality of life;

Ocala is one of the safest cities in the county for pedestrians and bicyclists. Ocala streets are designed to encourage pedestrian and bicycle mobility, helping to make Ocala one of the healthiest community in Central Florida.

The purpose of the Ocala 2035 Vision is to describe how the community wants the City to look and function in the future. The visioning process evaluated and answered the following key questions regarding community building in Ocala for the year 2035 and beyond:

- How do people move around the community?
- How are the streets designed, used, and connected?
- What is the relationship of buildings to streets?
- What do the buildings, neighborhoods, commercial districts, and open spaces look like?

The recommendations of the Ocala 2035 Vision will be used to establish priorities for future decision-making. The Ocala 2035 Vision provides a roadmap for the future, built upon community consensus to promote continued support and implementation over time.

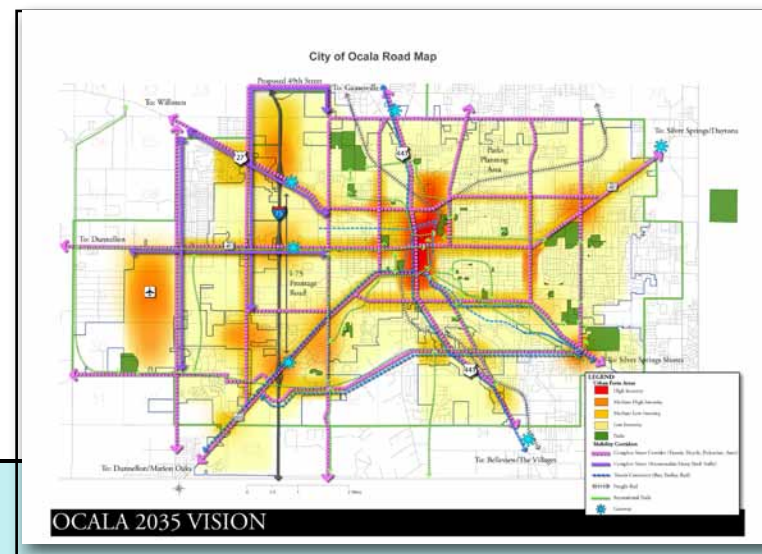
To obtain diverse community feedback and encourage public participation, the City of Ocala invited key community members to participate on the “Community Form & Design Visioning Leadership Group”. The Leadership Group was a diverse group of citizens, responsible for actively encouraging other citizens to actively participate in the visioning process. It evaluated all public comments and feedback received during public meetings and prepared the final Ocala 2035 Vision Plan recommendations and implementation strategies for presentation to the City of Ocala City Council.

The Ocala 2035 Vision represents a composite of ideas generated by the Leadership Group and the public through public meetings, workshops, and a two-day design conference. It reflects broad views from the community of how Ocala will be viewed in the future regarding its physical character and function. The following vision principles describe what “Ocala Is” to be in the year 2035 and beyond:

- ...a community of natural and man-made beauty*
- ...a community of neighborhoods*
- ...a vibrant hub of residential, retail, office, governmental, cultural, and entertainment activity*
- ...the County Seat, a vitally active center for regional employment in Marion County*
- ...a city with viable mobility options for all citizens and visitors*
- ...a city that welcomes residents and visitors through attractive gateways that invite people to experience our dynamic and friendly community*

The Ocala 2035 Vision Implementation Strategies provide action plans and recommendations to support and achieve the Vision. Implementation strategies include the following:

1. Adopt the Ocala 2035 Vision by resolution and as a component of the Ocala Comprehensive Plan
2. Evaluate and prioritize all Planning and Capital Improvement Projects to support implementation of the Ocala 2035 Vision.
3. Initiate Comprehensive Plan Amendments to be consistent with the Ocala 2035 Vision.
4. Continue Leadership Group participation as champions of the Vision.
5. Use the Ocala 2035 Vision to guide the development review process



The City of Ocala began the Ocala 2035 Vision process in April 2010. The purpose of the visioning process was to describe how the community wants the City of Ocala to look and function in the future. The visioning process evaluated and answered the following key questions of community building:

- *How will people move around the community?*
- *How are the streets designed, used, and connected?*
- *What is the relationship of buildings to streets?*
- *What will the buildings, neighborhoods, commercial districts, and open spaces look like?*

After several months of public design workshops, community discussions, and research on other communities, the public reached consensus on the desired conditions in the City of Ocala in the year 2035 and beyond. The Vision provides a roadmap for the future, built upon community consensus to promote continued support and implementation over time. It will be used to establish priorities for future community decision-making.

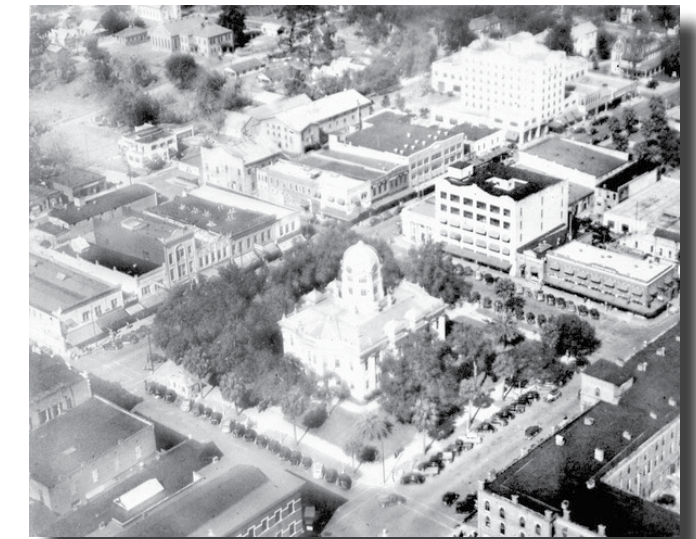
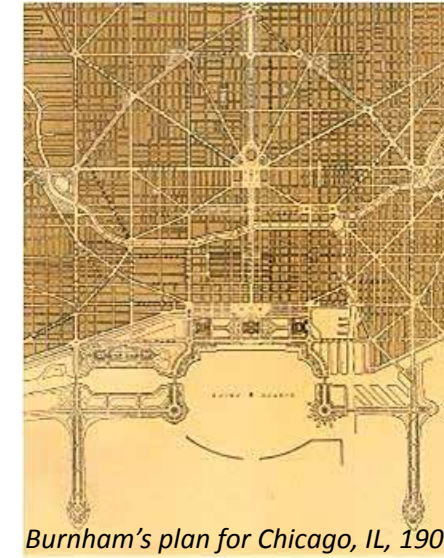
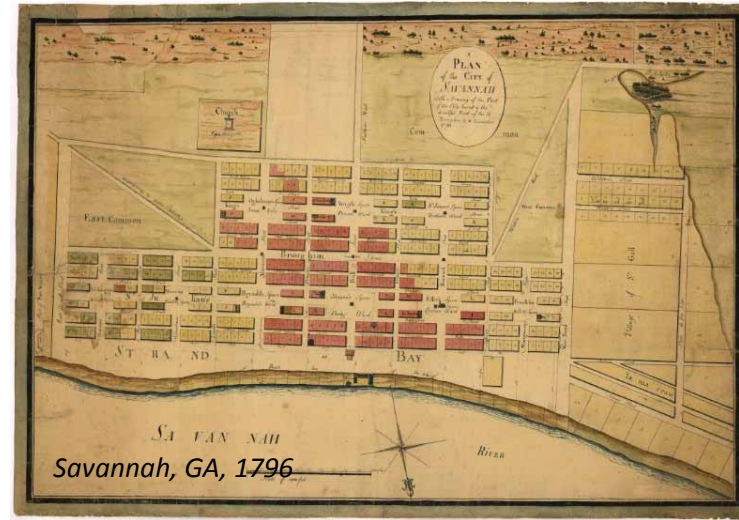
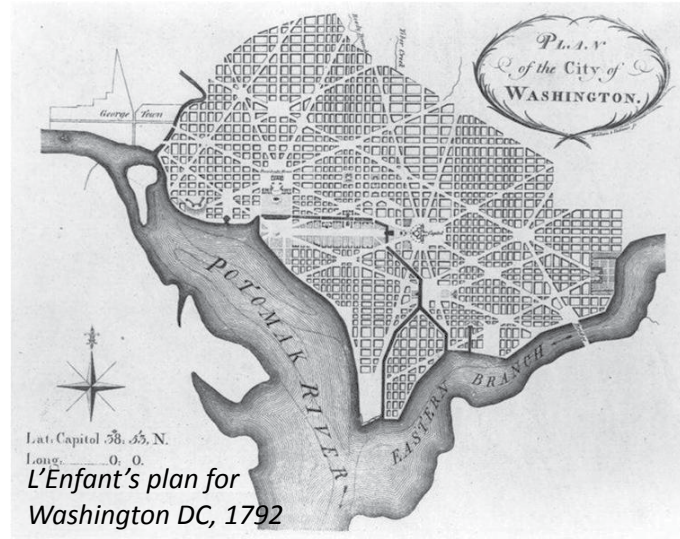
Recommendations and findings from the Vision will be used by the City to update or create the following implementation documents:

- Community Issues for the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) of the Comprehensive Plan;
- Comprehensive Plan Amendments;
- Land Development Code revisions;
- Sub-area redevelopment plans for specific areas of the City;
- Recreation and Parks Master Plan; and
- Urban Form and Design Guidelines and Codes.



History of Ocala's Development

The City of Ocala shares many characteristics with other great communities, such as Savannah, Georgia; Washington D.C.; and Chicago, Illinois. Although planned and built in the 18th and 19th Centuries, the original plans for these communities are regarded today as exemplary examples of community and land use planning,



Shared characteristics include a pedestrian scale designed for walking, an emphasis on public and civic spaces as the focal points of the community, interconnected and gridded street patterns, and rail service near the central business district. Like these communities, the Ocala Historic Downtown Square is a community focal point and attraction that incorporates a civic area with businesses, government, and services. It is surrounded by single family residences and parks.



Exposition Street near Ocala House, 1909



Magnolia Street, 1900



E. Broadway Street, 1940



Main Street, 1940

However, beginning in the 1950s, the urban form and development patterns of Ocala began to change.



1950
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and 3rd Street



1952
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and 3rd Street



2010
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and 3rd Street

- Roads were widened to accommodate and promote increased automobile traffic, resulting in a decreased emphasis on pedestrian circulation and activity. The major corridors, including SR 200, SR 40, and Pine Street, became single-use districts, lined with individual commercial lots primarily oriented towards the automobile rather than the pedestrian.
- Over time, these roads continued to be widened in order to accommodate larger volumes of high speed traffic, and the construction of Interstate 75 interchanges resulted in even more automobile-oriented highway strip commercial development.
- Today, residents describe these corridors as physical barriers that divide segments of the community, uninviting, and even dangerous for pedestrians.



1950
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and Broadway



1952
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and Broadway



2010
Looking North
– Intersection of Pine and Broadway

What are other communities doing?

Urban sprawl and the need for redevelopment and community revitalization is not unique to the City of Ocala.

Communities throughout the nation have experienced “growing pains” due to population growth and expansion of the urbanized area. Issues related to unmanaged growth include the following:

- Health concerns due to lack of exercise
- Increased time spent in the automobile
- Disconnection between homes and employment
- Loss of community identity
- Deteriorating physical conditions leading to blight

Because of these issues, many communities are adopting or promoting “traditional” urban form, a development pattern much like Ocala prior to the 1950s.

These communities share many of the following features, including:



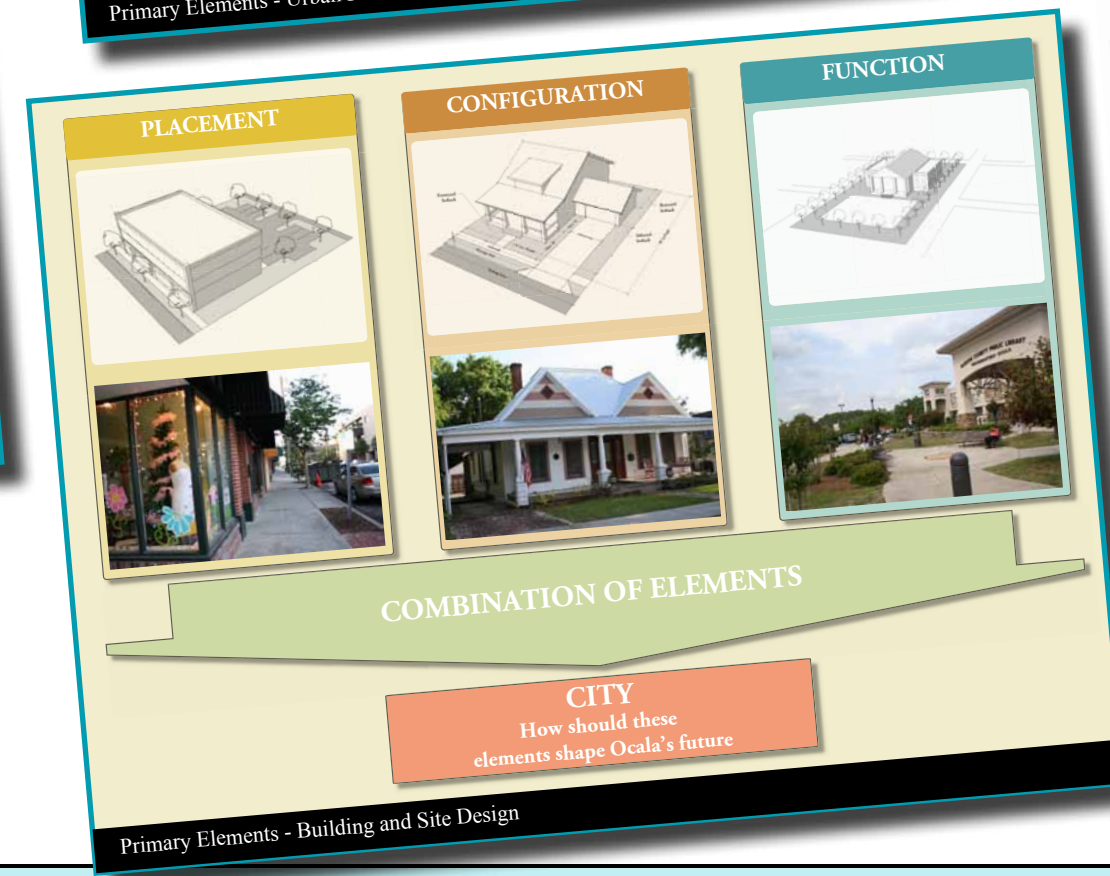
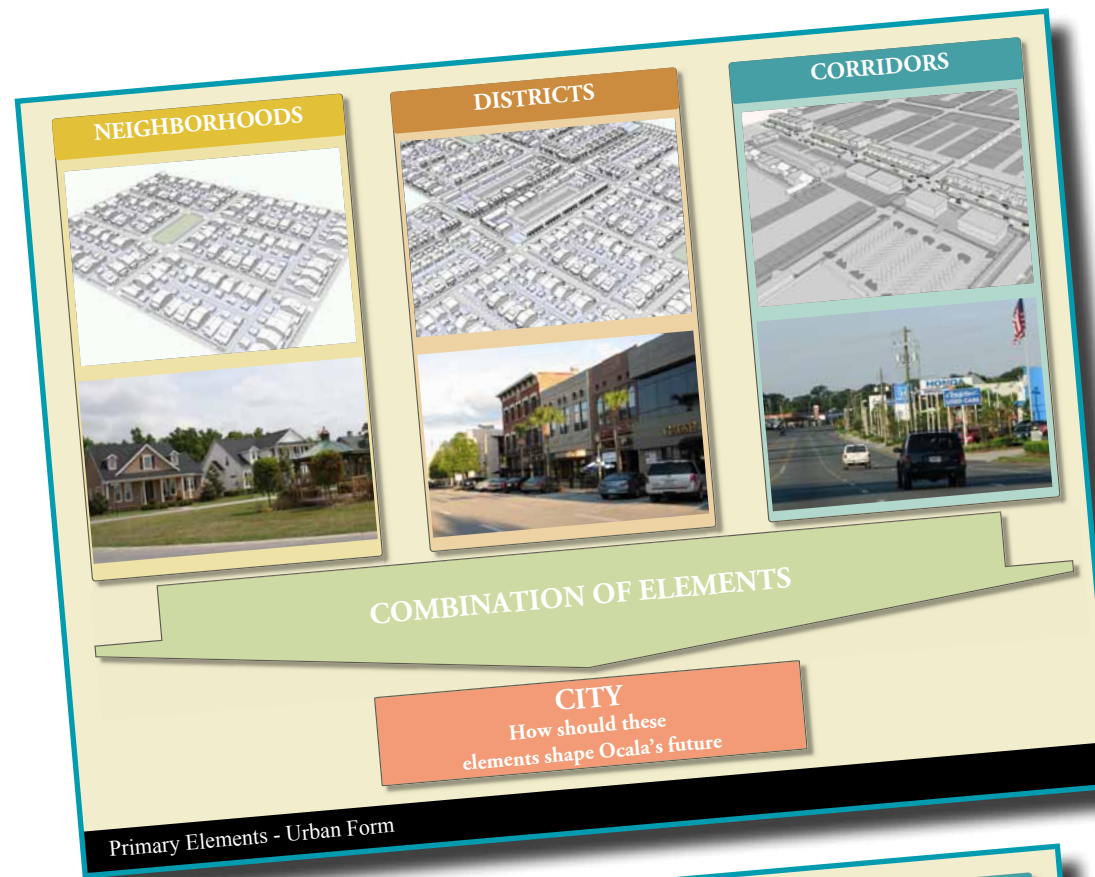
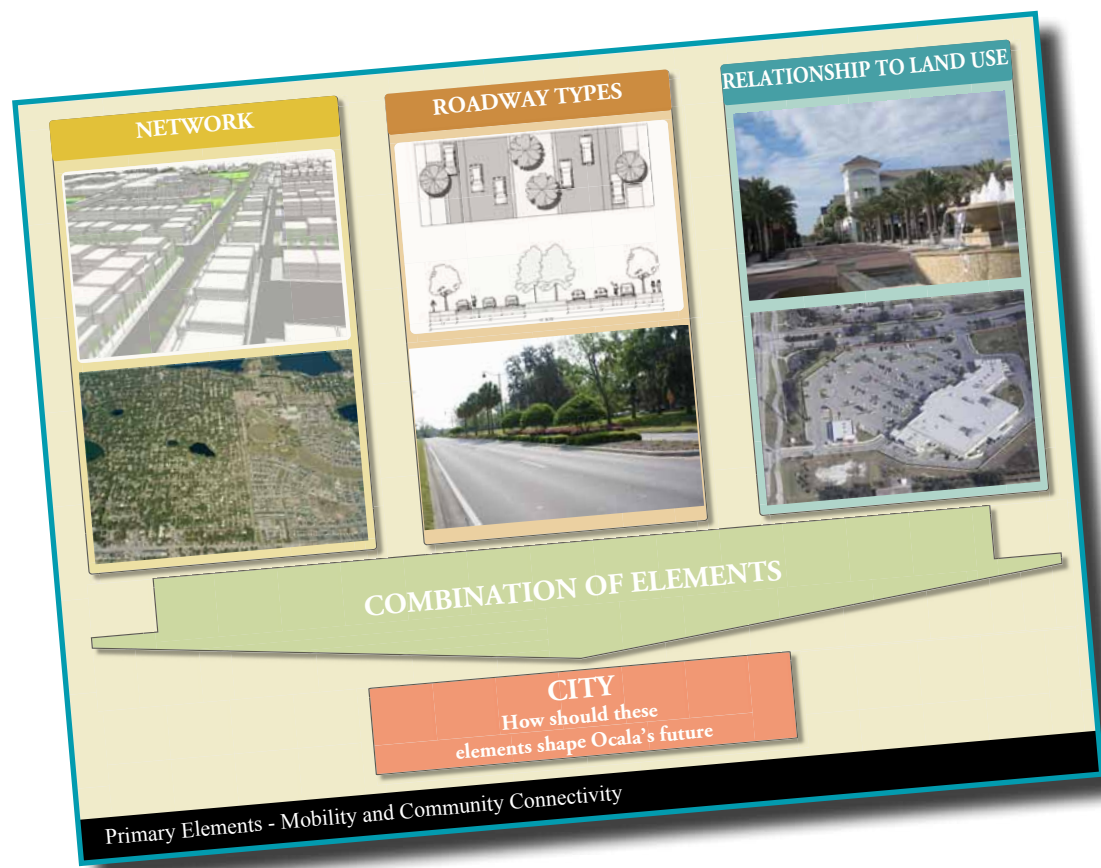
- Interconnected street networks composed of short, walkable streets, sidewalks, and blocks;
- Buildings that are oriented close to the street and sidewalk, rather than set back far from the street or separated with surface parking lots;
- Emphasis of pedestrian activity and accessibility over vehicular accessibility;
- Mixture of uses, including residential, retail, office, civic, and parks;

In order to determine the preferred future design conditions of Ocala, residents compared existing conditions in Ocala with nearby analog communities that exhibit exemplary design characteristics, including Baldwin Park and Thornton Park in the City of Orlando; Winter Park Village and Hannibal Square in the City of Winter Park; and Celebration in Osceola County.

During the visioning process, Ocala residents described how they would like their community to appear and function in the year 2035 and beyond. This was accomplished by evaluating three separate, but interrelated, design topics, all of which serve as the building blocks for a community:

- Urban Form & Open Space;
- Building & Site Design;
- Mobility & Community Connectivity

Through visual and interactive exercises, residents then selected the design characteristics that they would like in Ocala's future.



The Urban Form & Open Space design topic evaluated land use and development patterns within the City of Ocala. To establish the desired future physical character of the different neighborhoods, commercial centers, and other areas of the City, a range of development intensities was created.

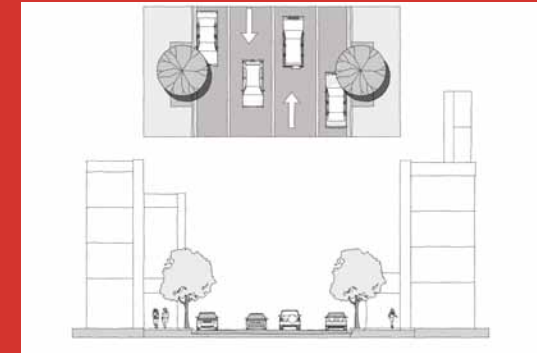
Intensity refers to the mixture of different uses within a subarea. A High Intensity Area has more uses, such as residential, retail, office, and institutional, than a Low Intensity Area, which may only have a single use. Each Intensity Area has a distinct physical character, further defined by the Building & Site Design topic.

The Community used these concepts to identify the desired intensity and mixture of uses for sub-areas of the City, as shown on the Ocala 2035 Vision.

BLOCKS	FRONTAGE	OPEN SPACE	BUILDINGS/USE	PARKING

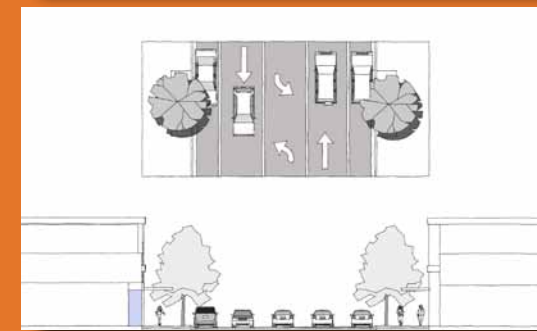
High Intensity

- Highest Mixture of Uses
- Tallest buildings
- Small building setbacks
- High Pedestrian Activity: wide sidewalks
- Plazas and civic areas
- Parking on street or behind buildings



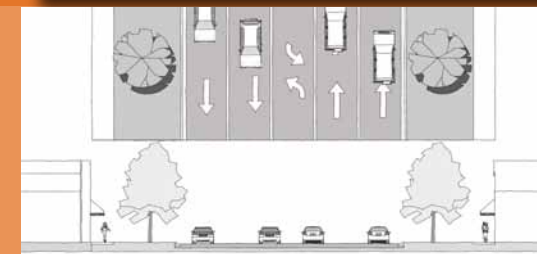
Medium High Intensity

- Mixed Use
- Tall buildings
- Small building setbacks
- Pedestrian Activity : wide sidewalks
- Plazas and civic areas
- Parking on street or behind buildings



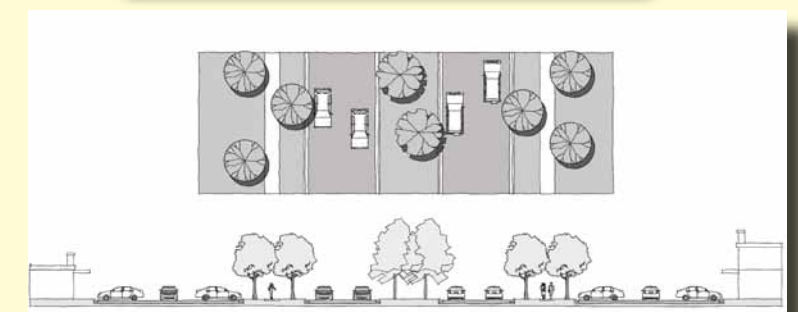
Medium Low Intensity

- Limited mixed use
- Larger setbacks and roads
- Larger neighborhood and community parks and open space
- Parking on street or in front of buildings



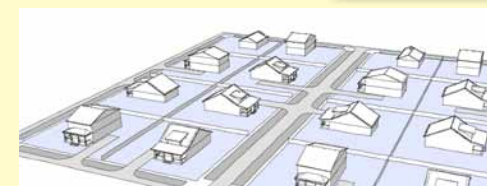
Low Intensity (Non-Residential)

- Generally a single use, automobile dependant
- Largest regional parks and open space
- Largest setbacks, surface parking in front of buildings
- Limited pedestrian activity
- Less connectivity



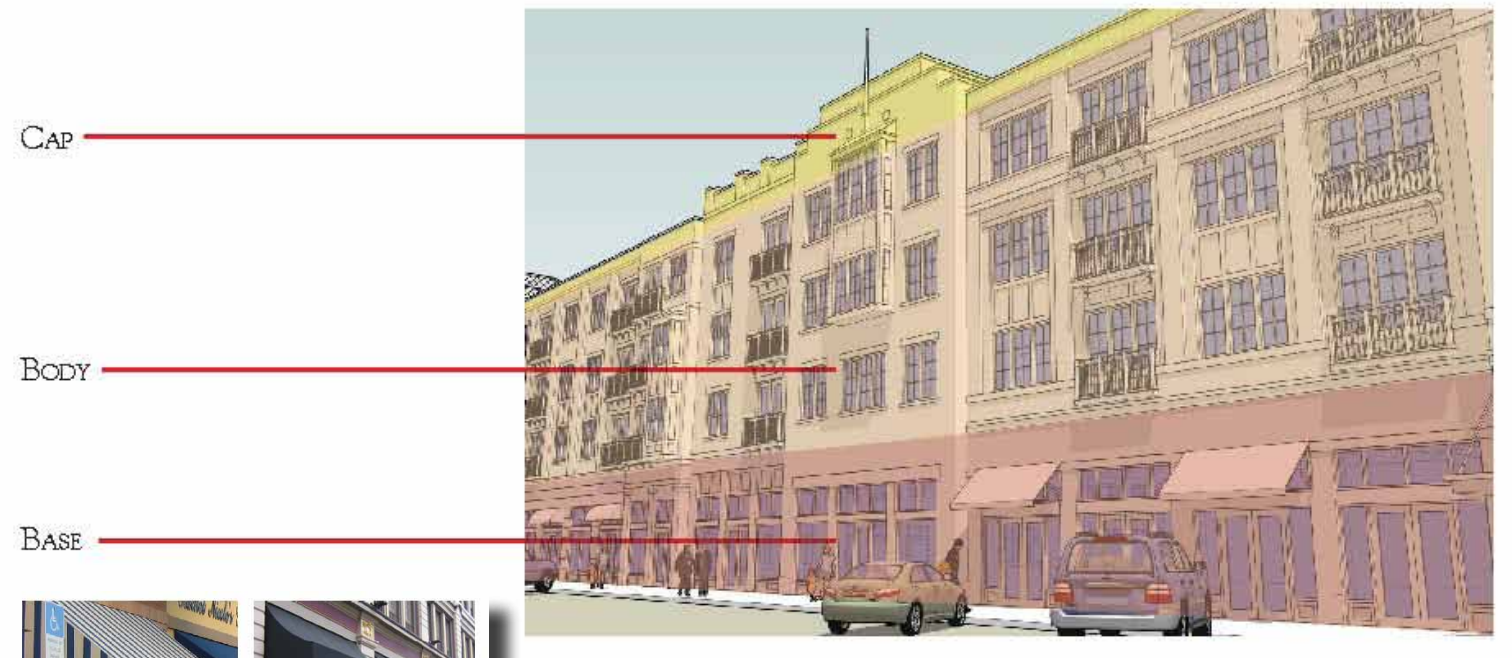
Low Intensity (Residential)

- Neighborhoods
- Largest regional parks and open space
- Small, local roads with sidewalks and shade landscaping



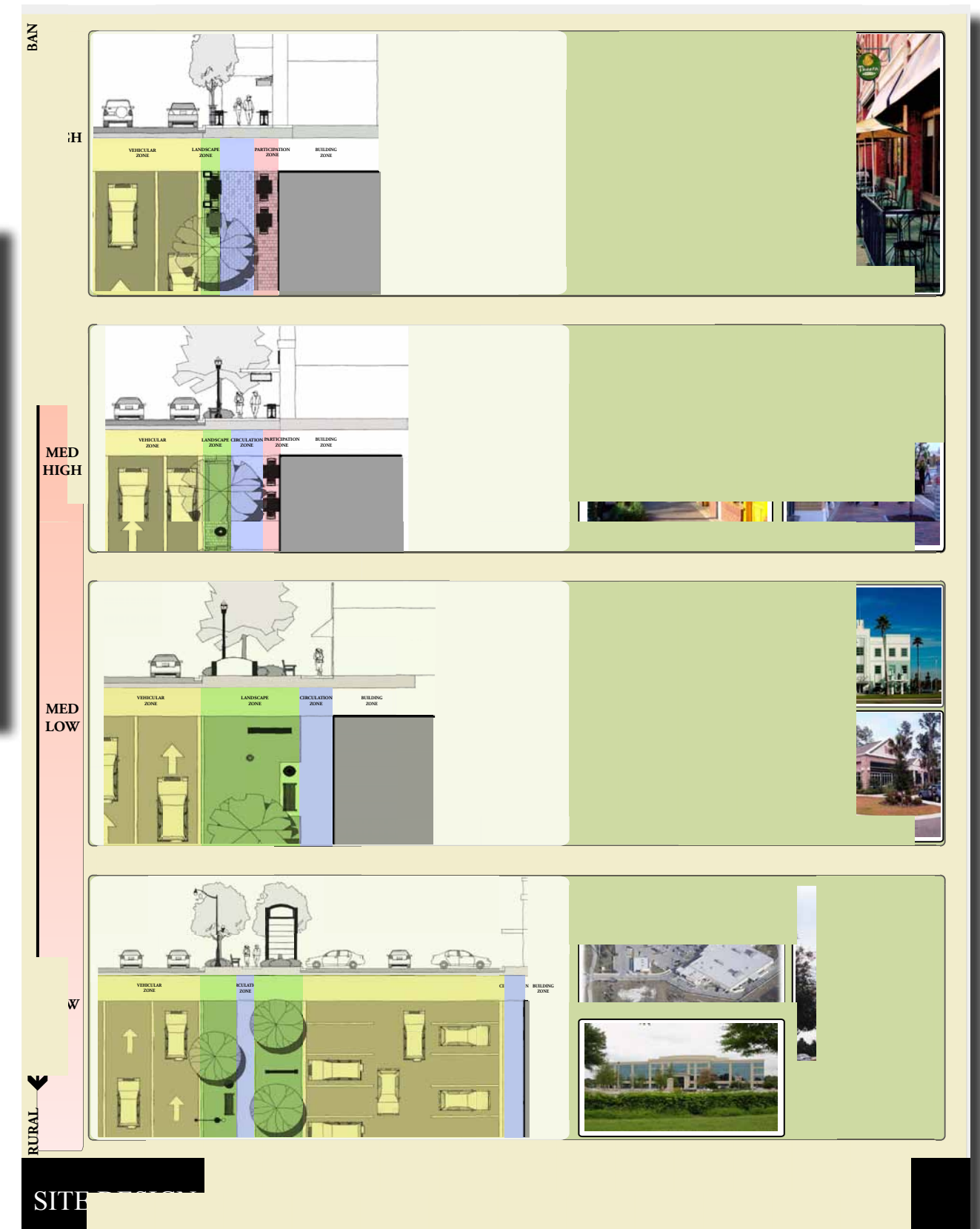
The Building & Site Design topic evaluated how the placement and design of buildings on a site affect the pedestrian experience, either encouraging or discouraging pedestrian activity.

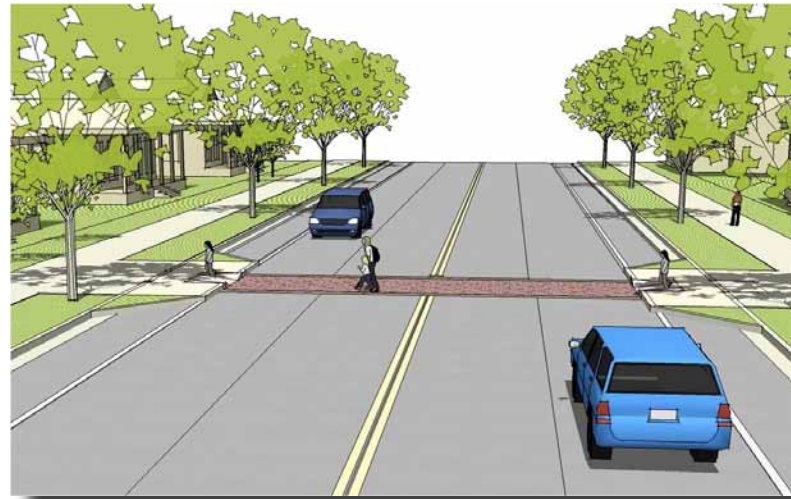
The physical location of buildings and their distance from the street, sidewalk, or property line, also known as a “setback”, influences the Urban Form of an area. Buildings with small setbacks provide a more urban character and are most appropriate in High and Medium-High Intensity areas. Buildings with large setbacks provide a more suburban or even rural character and are most appropriate in Low Intensity areas.



The character of building components and styles were also evaluated. Building features that provide pedestrian-level shade, such as awnings, arcades, balconies, and other overhangs, were preferred by the community. In addition, landscaping that provides canopy shade was also preferred by the community.

One of the key issues identified during the visioning process was the need for more detailed building and site design development codes. The preparation and adoption of a Form-Based Code, which graphically depicts the intended physical outcome of the desired building and site design, rather than the conventional zoning approach of separation of uses, will support the implementation of the Ocala 2035 Vision.





Conventional four-lane street before Road Diet

The Mobility & Community Connectivity design topic evaluated the future use and character of roadways, trails, and transit in the City of Ocala and surrounding region. Community members agreed that the old paradigm of continually widening roadways to accommodate increased vehicular traffic was not sustainable. Instead, there was support for an interconnected street network that provides travel choices, rather than a single pathway.

Because many community members view the existing large roadway corridors as physical barriers, an emphasis was made on pedestrian, bicycle, and non-vehicular use, accessibility and safety.

Two main tools will be used to promote these goals:

Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for **all users**:

- Multi-modal, accommodating pedestrians of all ages and abilities, bicycles, public transit, and automobiles
- Desirable appearance, including landscaping, shade, and design

Road Diets are reductions to the number of travel lanes on a roadway cross section

- Reduces automobile lanes or lane width
- Reduces speeding
- Improves pedestrian safety and comfort

Increased use and accessibility of public transit was also recommended to provide transportation choices, reduce vehicle congestion, and reconnect Ocala to neighboring communities throughout the region. Transit choices may include trolley, Bus Rapid Transit, light rail, and commuter rail.

Community members emphasized the need for a trail system that links neighborhoods, parks, schools, and businesses together. The creation of the trails system will be implemented through the Recreation and Parks Master Plan.



Street after Road Diet: addition of bicycle lanes, reduces four travel lanes to two travel lanes and one turning lane



Steve Price
Urban Advantage

Conventional Street: the automobile is the primary use, all other modes are secondary



Steve Price
Urban Advantage

Conceptual Complete Street: includes sidewalks, shade landscaping, bicycle lanes

To obtain diverse community feedback and encourage public participation, the City of Ocala invited key community members to participate on the "Community Form & Design Visioning Leadership Group". The Leadership Group was composed of community activists, business owners, institutional representatives, non-profit organizations, and other key community members.

The mission statement of the Leadership Group for the visioning process was:

"To create an avenue of approach fueled by a unified community vision that provides a path to enhance Ocala's quality of life."



In addition to regular bi-monthly meetings, the Leadership Group was responsible for attending and participating at the public workshops, encouraging other citizens to actively participate. It engaged in interactive, educational sessions regarding the City's current and future physical characteristics.

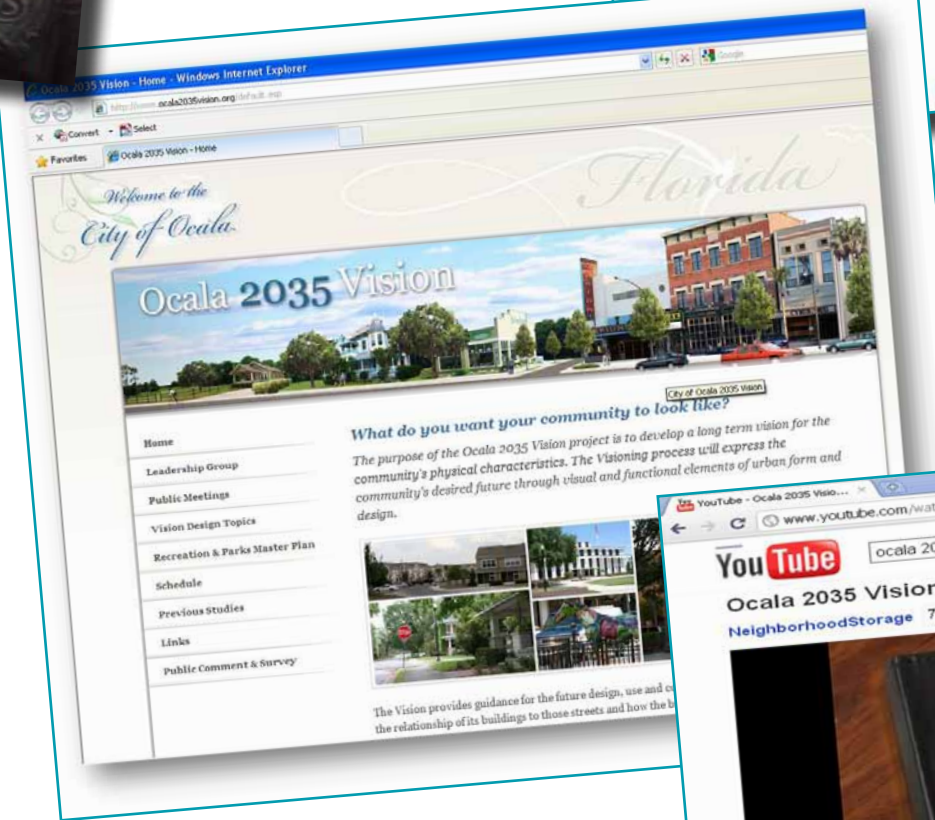
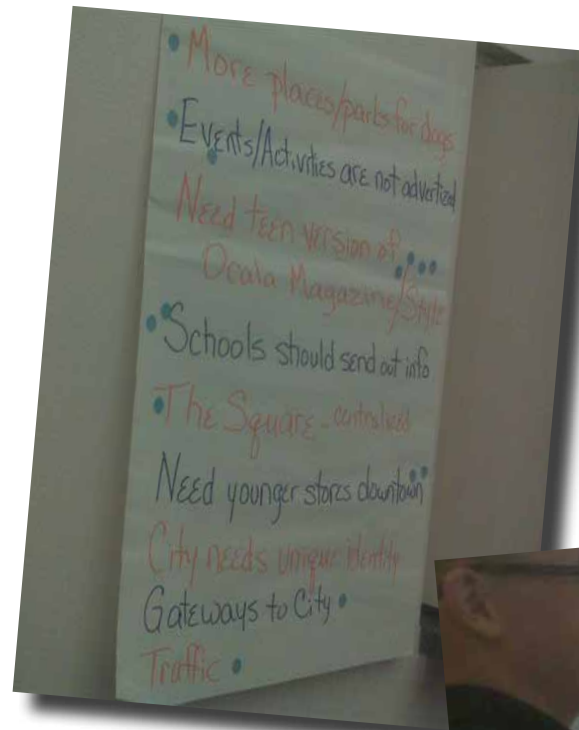
The Leadership Group evaluated all public comments and feedback received during public meetings and prepared the final Ocala 2035 Vision Plan and implementation strategies for presentation to the City of Ocala City Council, recommending its adoption as a consensus vision from City of Ocala citizens.

Focus Groups

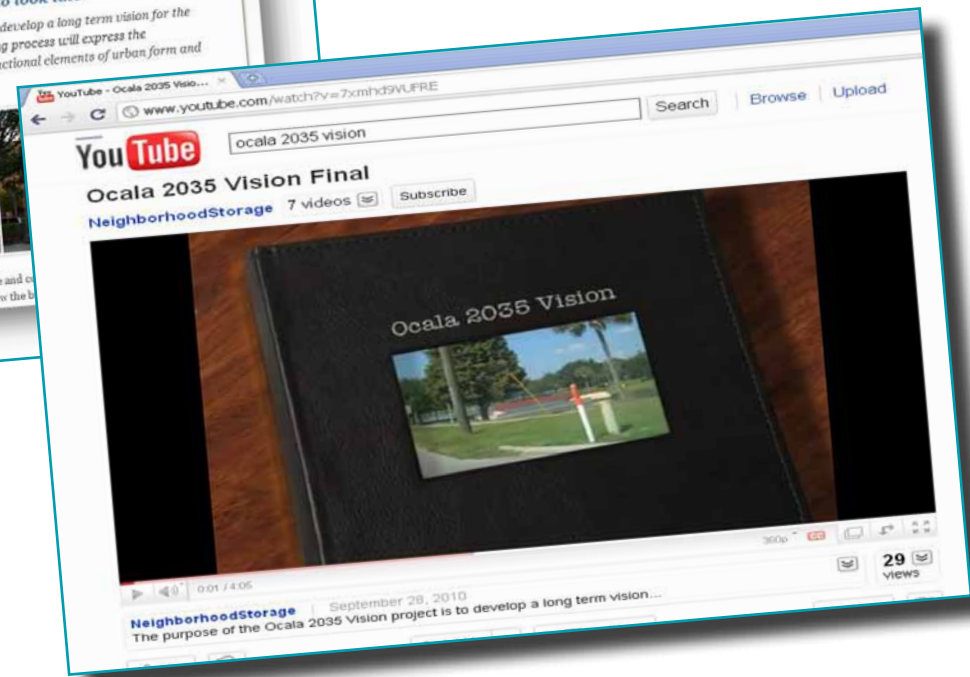
Small "Focus Group" meetings were held to obtain additional public feedback during the visioning process.

Focus Groups included:

- Emerging Leaders of Ocala
- Lillian Bryant Center youth group
- Healthcare professionals
- Westport High School students
- Youth of United Way



Please visit www.ocala2035vision.org for more information.



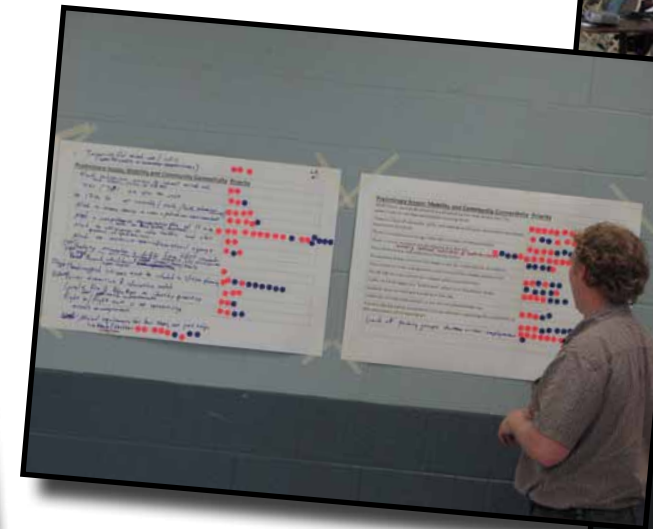
A variety of social networking and electronic media were used to promote the visioning process. The project website provided an additional opportunity to receive public comments and was updated regularly with presentations, meeting summaries and photographs.

Kickoff and Issues Identification

Two City-wide Kickoff Workshops were organized in order to identify community Issues that should be addressed by the Ocala 2035 Vision. Workshop attendees were asked to confirm and/or comment on preliminary issues identified by the Leadership Group and project team, or to identify new Issues that were not previously discussed. The public also used “dot density voting” to identify those issues they thought were most important. The results of the exercise illustrated the issues that the overall community prioritized for the visioning process.

The following key issues were identified by the public and the Leadership Group for consideration during the visioning process:

- There is a lack of high density, mixed-use development in the City
- Improve visual characteristics of entry corridors
- Roadways form physical barriers that divide the City
- Regulatory barriers (existing codes and regulations) prevent flexibility in design
- The City needs architectural standards, including for Downtown



Design Conference

The Leadership Group convened a two day Design Conference at the College of Central Florida campus to gain additional public input. Through interactive exercises and educational presentations about the purpose and advantages of the Vision Design Topics, attendees told the Leadership Group and City staff facilitators which community design components should be included in the Vision. Attendees then used maps to designate areas of the City where they believed changes in the urban form, site design, or transportation network should occur.

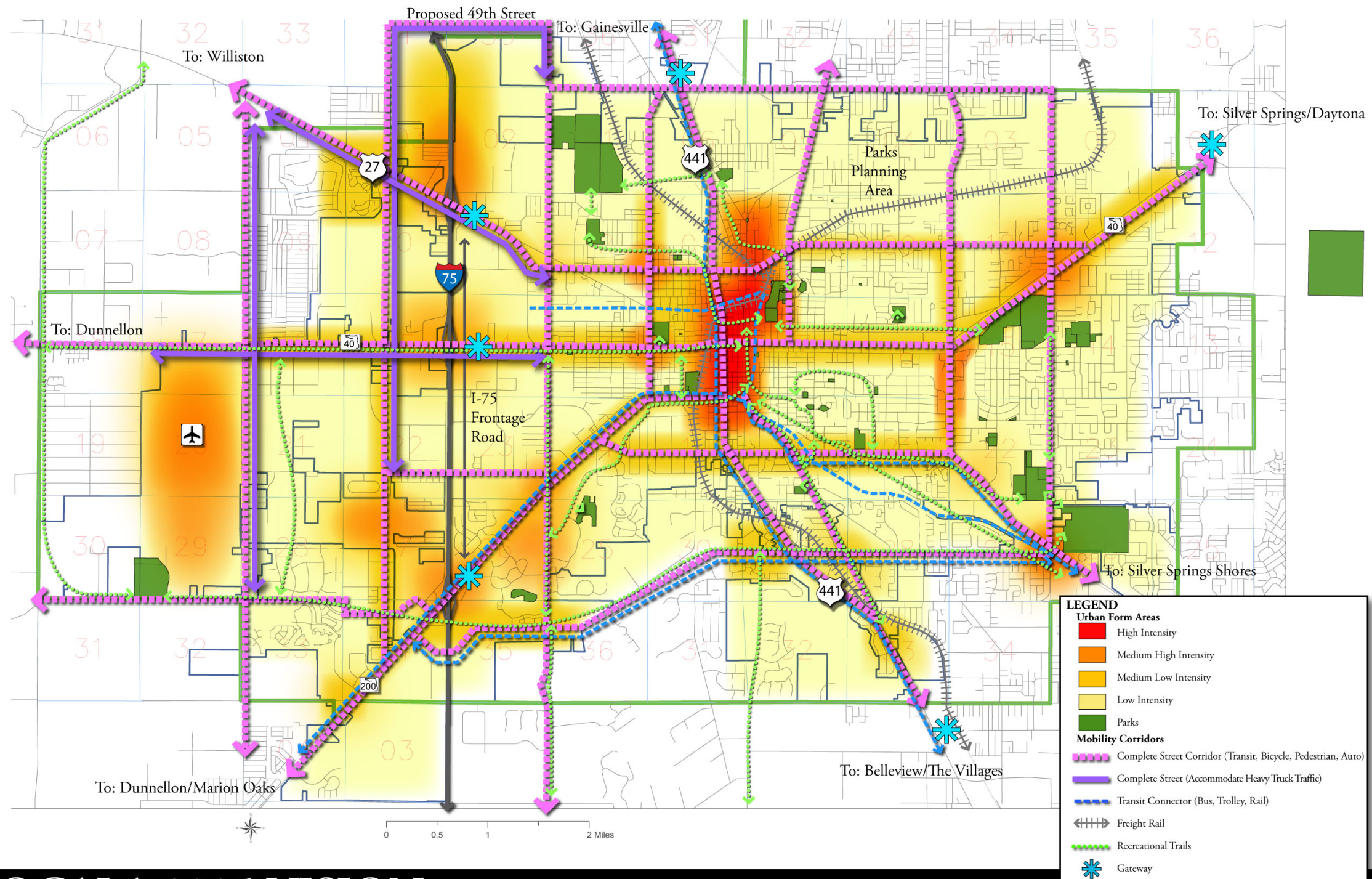
Key themes from the Design Conference included the following:

- There is a great deal of enthusiasm within the community to see positive change.
- There is a need to reconnect East to West, and North to South Ocala. There should be no physical, social, or cultural barriers.
- Planning and design should consider the needs for people first, and the needs for automobiles second.

The Leadership Group reviewed the results of the Design Conference, including all maps, drawings, and public comments. The majority of this data confirmed that the Leadership Group’s draft vision plans, created during the monthly working sessions with City staff and the project consultant team, were substantially consistent with the goals and desires of the community at-large. The Leadership Group then used this public input to refine the draft vision plan and make their final Ocala 2035 Vision recommendations to the City Council.

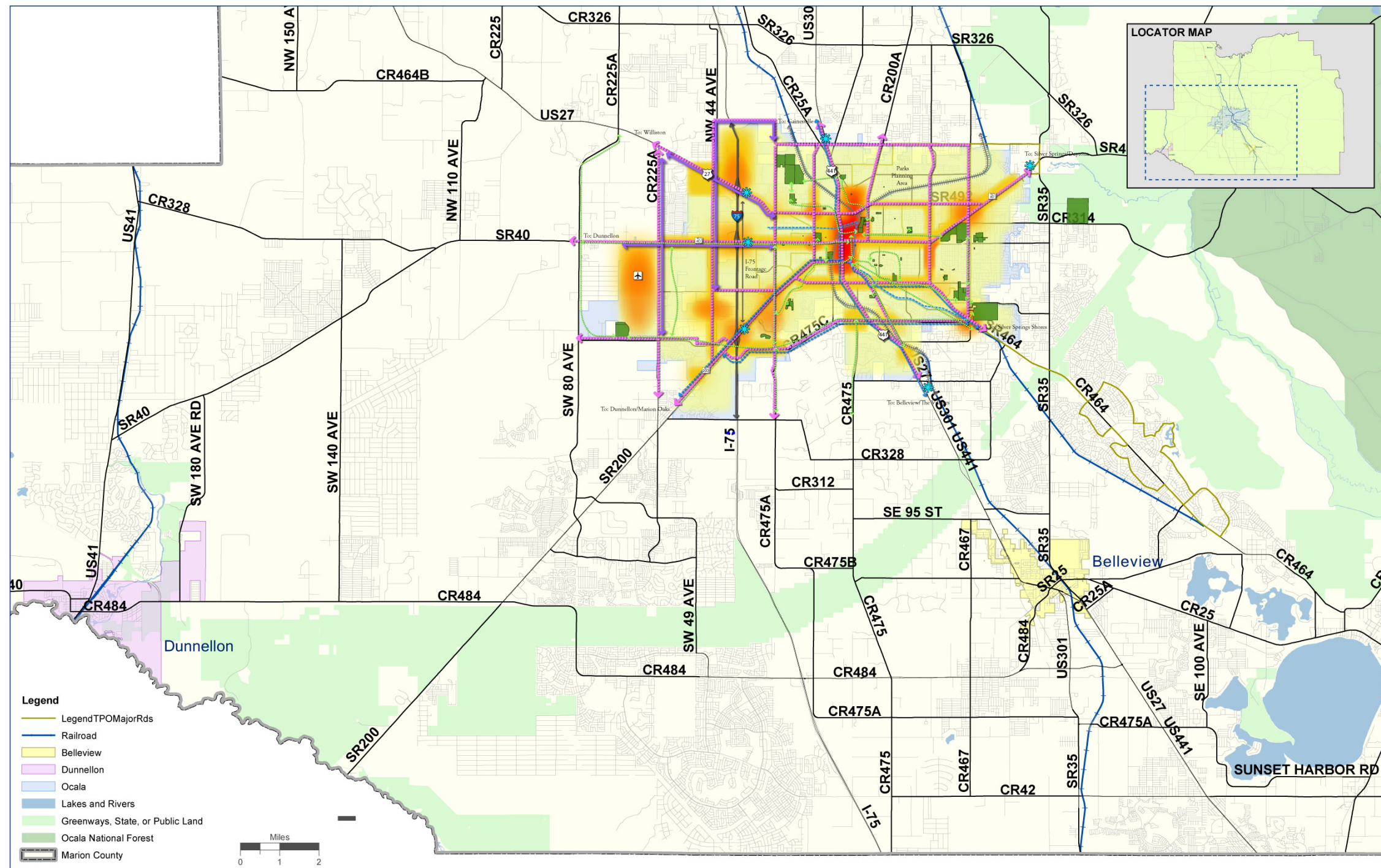






OCALA 2035 VISION

- The Ocala 2035 Vision represents a composite of ideas generated by the Leadership Group and public input from the Design Conference.
- The Leadership Group reviewed all public input and made their final recommendations for adoption by City Council.



- The County Context Map depicts the relationship between the City of Ocala, incorporated Dunnellon and Belleview, and unincorporated Marion County.
- A key aspect of the Ocala 2035 Vision is connectivity, both internal to the City and external to surrounding jurisdictions, natural features, and the larger region.

OCALA 2035 VISION - COUNTY CONTEXT MAP

Vision Statement

The Vision Statement describes what the community wants Ocala to be in the future.
It is a long-term community goal

Ocala is... a great place to live, play, and prosper.

Vision Principles

The vision principles define Ocala's future in terms of community values. The vision principles describe what "Ocala Is" in the year 2035 and beyond, providing greater detail to support the implementation of the Vision Statement.

To become effective over the long term, the city's vision principles must become assimilated into the city's organizational culture. Community leaders (elected officials, appointed officials and the Leadership Group) have the responsibility of communicating the vision regularly, acting as role-models by embodying the vision, establishing objectives that will lead to the vision, and taking short-term actions compatible with the vision.

These community vision principles reflect broad views from the community of how Ocala will be viewed in the future regarding its physical character and function. The Vision principles are intended to be a blueprint for the future of Ocala. The vision principles aim for continuity of development that achieves the urban form, design, and mobility desires of present citizens for their children and future citizens of Ocala.

Ocala 2035 Vision Implementation Strategies

The Vision Plan graphic is only one part of the overall community vision. In order to achieve the Vision, general and specific actions must occur. The Implementation Strategies provide action plans and recommendations to support and achieve the Vision Statement and Vision Principles.

Vision Principles

In the year 2035 and beyond,

Ocala is a community of natural and man-made beauty. Ocala celebrates and builds on its rich history by protecting our natural and cultural resources and given long-term continuity to our community's physical character and design.

Ocala is a community of neighborhoods. The citizens of Ocala have established their own neighborhood identities, each uniquely essential to preserving and promoting its peace, quiet, safety, and ease and options of travel. Citizen initiatives are the cornerstone for our community decision making process;

Ocala has diverse mixed-use centers offering convenient shopping and services easily accessible by neighborhood residents wishing to either walk, bicycle or drive;

Ocala's gateways welcome residents and visitors through attractive "front doors" that invite people to experience our dynamic and friendly community;

Ocala citizens are proud of our Downtown. Downtown Ocala is the heart of the community. It's well preserved historic buildings, the complementing architecture of newer buildings, pedestrian-friendly gridded street system, and the Town Square provide a charm and "sense of place" unmatched by other communities of its size in Central Florida;

Downtown Ocala is a vibrant hub of residential, retail, office, governmental, cultural, and entertainment activity. Specialty shops, restaurants and residential development line the streets, creating a unique environment distinct from suburban retail centers;

Ocala is the County Seat, a vitally active center for regional employment in Marion County, with the strong presence of the financial, medical, industrial, office and government sectors of the economy;

Ocala has an unmatched community recreation and park system serving all residents. Recreation areas and parks are linked by the City's network of pedestrian routes and bikeways, so that everyone resides within an easy walk or bike ride of an urban open space;

Ocala is a city with viable mobility options for all citizens and visitors, with its system of public bus and rail transportation, bicycle trails, and complete streets. Increased mobility options, capacity and reliability are essential to our economic vitality and quality of life;

Ocala is one of the safest cities in the county for pedestrians and bicyclists. Ocala streets are designed to encourage pedestrian and bicycle mobility, helping to make Ocala one of the healthiest community in Central Florida.



General Strategies

1. Adopt the Ocala 2035 Vision by resolution and as a component of the Ocala Comprehensive Plan (pursuant to Section 163.3167(11), Florida Statutes). This will provide legal standing for the Vision and coordinate its implementation with other planning initiatives over time. Year 2011
2. Evaluate and prioritize all Planning and Capital Improvement Projects to support implementation of the Ocala 2035 Vision. Year 2011 and ongoing
3. Initiate Comprehensive Plan Amendments to be consistent with the Ocala 2035 Vision. Year 2011
4. Continue Leadership Group participation as champions of the Vision. At minimum, hold monthly Leadership Group meetings to monitor the implementation of the Ocala 2035 Vision.
 - a. The Leadership Group members should attend Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council meetings to support the Vision, as appropriate. Year 2010 and ongoing
 - b. The Leadership Group will provide City Council with an annual report on specific progress related to the Vision. Year 2010 and ongoing

5. The Ocala 2035 Vision will be used to guide the development review process
 - a. The Planning Consultant and representatives from the Leadership Group will meet with the One-Stop Permit Team and the City's Senior Management Team to discuss issues, strategies and recommendations in the Ocala 2035 Vision. Year 2011 and ongoing
 - b. The Leadership Group will meet annually with the One-Stop Permit Team and the City's Senior Management Team on specific progress related to the Vision. Year 2011 and ongoing
6. Direct City Departments and appointed Boards to support implementation of the Vision. Year 2011 and ongoing
7. Conduct a study to evaluate redevelopment potential of the West Ocala area (Downtown to I-75, SR 200 north to City limits).
 - a. Create Community Redevelopment Areas (CRAs) and/or other programs to promote revitalization of sub-areas within West Ocala. Year 2011
8. Redevelop the west side of Pine Avenue as High Intensity to visually, physically, socially, and economically connect east and west. Years 2012 and ongoing
9. Conduct a study to evaluate redevelopment potential of the Tuscawilla Park area.
 - a. Create Community Redevelopment Area(s) (CRAs) and/or other programs to promote revitalization. Year 2011
10. Create a methodology to analyze potential annexation areas by evaluating compatible land uses and fiscal impacts. Year 2011
11. Establish joint planning areas with Marion County to promote the Vision as it relates to areas adjacent to the City limits and implementation of regional mobility efforts. Year 2011



Urban Form & Open Space Strategies

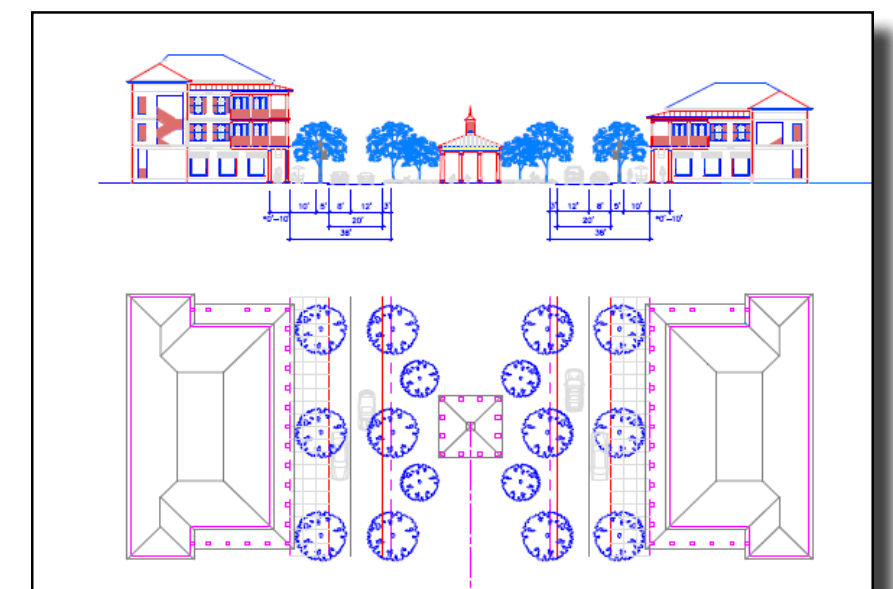


1. Through community involvement, identify and map Ocala’s neighborhoods. Identify specific sub-areas for detailed neighborhood redevelopment, new development and preservation plans.
 - a. Upon approval of the local redevelopment plans, initiate comprehensive plan amendments as necessary to accommodate new development. Year 2011
 - b. Begin capital improvement projects to improve the appearance of the public realm to attract private investment. Year 2011
2. Implement recommendations of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan to identify, acquire, and program new parks, trails and open spaces in the City. Identify, reserve, and/or acquire right-of-way needed to create a connected parks system. Year 2011 and ongoing
3. Maintain an inventory of vacant or underutilized properties with existing zoning or future land use classifications that will support mixed use development. Year 2012 and ongoing
4. Maintain an inventory of vacant or underutilized properties with development potential adjacent to or within one quarter mile of a transit corridor depicted on the Vision plan. Year 2012 and ongoing



Building & Site Design Strategies

1. Amend the Land Development Code to encourage innovative design and implement the Vision. Establish a task force of citizens, local professionals and/or Leadership Group members to aid in the Land Development Code review and amendment process. Year 2012 - 2015
2. Develop a Form-Based Code to regulate the desired site design and building form for appropriate areas of the City. Year 2012 - 2015
3. Create an incentive program to encourage infill, development or redevelopment. Year 2011 - 2015
4. Provide shade for pedestrians, preserve and protect the natural environment, and enhance the beautification of the built environment through landscaping standards. Year 2012 - 2015



Mobility & Connectivity Strategies



1. Develop Streetscape Master Plans, including landscape and hardscape details, to improve visual aesthetics of City gateway corridors, including SR 200, SR 40, US-27, and US-441. Coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Marion County to ensure that all applicable transportation design criteria are met. Year 2012 - 2015
2. Provide for an interconnected street system to relieve and distribute traffic volumes as an alternative to roadway widening. Year 2011 and ongoing
3. Require Complete Street evaluations for the viability of multimodal transportation and desirable visual aesthetics. Year 2011
4. Establish a City-wide sidewalk improvement program to provide the pedestrian connectivity desired in the vision.
 - a. Identify areas of the City that do not have sidewalks or have disconnected sidewalk links. Year 2011 - 2015
 - b. Prioritize sidewalk program to maximize connectivity and support neighborhood sub-area plans and Parks Master Plan. Year 2011 - 2015
 - c. Acquire easements for sidewalks where they do not exist. Year 2011 - 2015
 - d. Include sidewalk improvements in the annual Capital Improvement Program. Year 2011 - 2015
5. Identify, reserve, and/or acquire transit corridor right-of-way for regional transit system connections to Belleview, Silver Springs Shores, Dunnellon, the Villages, Gainesville, Orlando, and Jacksonville. Year 2011 - 2035



6. Identify, reserve, and/or acquire transit corridor right-of-way for transit system connections in the urban core. Year 2011 – 2015
7. Provide trolley service that connects the North Magnolia area, Downtown and the Hospital district. Year 2016 – 2035



8. Provide trolley service that connects West Ocala to Downtown. Year 2016 - 2035
9. Establish minimum residential densities and commercial intensities to support the use of public transportation along Complete Streets and Transit Corridors depicted on the Vision map. Incorporate with future mobility plans. Year 2011
10. Evaluate opportunities to reestablish passenger rail service connected to the national AMTRAK rail network. Year 2011 - 2016



- Adoption of the Ocala 2035 Vision as a component of the Ocala Comprehensive Plan (Fiscal Year 2010-2011)
- Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) and Amendments (Fiscal Year 2010-2011)
- Neighborhood and sub-area studies (Fiscal Year 2010 - 2011)
- Preparation and adoption of Form-Based Code for neighborhood and study areas
- Land Development Code revisions
- Implementation of Recreation and Parks Master Plan

