



Utilities Element

GOAL PROVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES THAT MEET THE NEEDS OF CURRENT AND FUTURE POPULATIONS, WHILE PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORTING THE CITY'S LIVABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING FRAMEWORK. THESE SERVICES INCLUDE POTABLE WATER, RECLAIMED WATER, WASTEWATER, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, AND SOLID WASTE.

Objective 1 Utility Services and Development Coordination. Ensure that infrastructure service expansion is coordinated with development.

- Policy 1.1 Timing of Facilities. Ensure all existing infrastructure systems are maintained, improved, or expanded in coordination with the development of properties and capital improvements schedule.
- Policy 1.2 Development Expansions. Require development to connect to City public utility services as part of the site and development review process in accordance with the following criteria:
- A. Size of development, types of structures, and land uses.
 - B. Proximity to existing infrastructure.
 - C. Available capacity.
 - D. Demand of future development projects.
 - E. Growth management controls.
- Policy 1.3 Private Service Providers Coordination. Coordinate new development practices with private utility services such as cable, power, and telecommunication utilities.
- Policy 1.4 Shared Development Improvements. The City shall work with developers to create shared development agreements for the extension of utility lines and expansion of utility services, especially in regard to annexed properties.
- Policy 1.5 Infrastructure Utilization. Maximize existing public utility infrastructure systems by encouraging infill development and redevelopment of established service areas.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 1.6 Coastal High Hazard Area Infrastructure. Minimize public utility infrastructure and limit public liability by evaluating private development activities in coastal high hazard areas.
- Policy 1.7 Annexation Utility Connection. Newly annexed properties shall connect to the City of Venice utility systems within 365 days of the date of annexation unless service is not available, or unless another service provider has been designated under the terms of the Joint Planning Agreement/Interlocal Service Boundary Agreement (JPA/ILSBA) with Sarasota County. If service is not available, properties must connect as soon as it becomes available.
- Policy 1.8 Extra-jurisdictional and Joint Planning Areas. Expansion of utility system should be consistent with the Extra-Jurisdictional Planning Area and Joint Planning Area.
- A. City and Sarasota County service providers and private property owners shall utilize development agreements to coordinate service delivery as prescribed in the Joint Planning Agreement.
- Policy 1.9 Best Management Practices. Utilize best management practices to improve the City's:
- A. Utility operations and service management.
 B. Public safety.
 C. System effectiveness.
 D. Environmental Protection.
 E. Financial feasibility.
- Policy 1.10 Existing System Improvements. Utilize the site and development process to ensure new development addresses the impact and deficiencies of existing infrastructure systems by improving the systems':
- A. Effectiveness through a more compact and better-utilized utility system.
 B. Efficiency and safety by looping the system.
 C. Economic sustainability by evaluating its financial feasibility and charging appropriate rates.
 D. Operational effectiveness, system functionality, and cost expenditures in coastal high hazard areas.
 E. Conservation of water resources.
 F. Utilization, whenever possible, of alternative energy sources such as solar energy for the provision of electrical power to island sewage pumping facilities, toward eventually reducing water utility rates.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 1.11 Project Coordination. Project scopes of works, schedules, and workplans should be coordinated with other infrastructure improvements that are needed in the same area. Examples of such coordinated enhancements include:
- A. Street projects that include utility, stormwater, sidewalk, and streetscape.
 - B. Utility projects that include community park, sidewalk, stormwater, or roads.
 - C. Stormwater projects that include roads, utility, and sidewalks.
- Policy 1.12 Facility Coordination. Utilize the site and development process to facilitate the coordination, extension, and co-location of shared essential infrastructure systems and services in order to promote neighborhood interconnectivity. Such systems include:
- A. Stormwater management.
 - B. Roads and driveways.
 - C. Utility easements.
 - D. Parks.
 - E. Sidewalks and trails.
 - F. Lift stations and gravity collection systems.
 - G. Utility infrastructure systems.
- Policy 1.13 Utility Master Plans. Examine the feasibility of updating the City's utility master plans based on an overall infrastructure prioritization schedule to ensure consistency with partner agency plans and reflect best industry practices. The City's utility master plans include:
- A. Water Master Plan.
 - B. Wastewater Master Plan.
 - C. Stormwater Master Plan.
- Policy 1.14 Utility Inventory. In conjunction with the development of the utility master plans, develop and maintain stormwater, reclaimed water, potable water, and wastewater service inventories to identify and address potential deficiencies in capacity. The inventory shall include:
- A. Current plant capacity.
 - B. Existing use (number and types of hook-ups).
 - C. All future committed capacity based upon approved site and development plans (number and type of hook-ups).
 - D. All future committed capacity based upon maximum density allowed if no site and development plan has been approved.
 - E. Potential service area needs.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 1.15 Infrastructure Replacement and Improvement Plan. The City shall target and prioritize the improvement and replacement of public infrastructure.
- Policy 1.16 Fee and Cost Reviews. Annually, review all fees, costs, and expenditures to continually ensure infrastructure systems are properly funded and promote resource conservation. The following funds are used to pay for infrastructure system improvements:
- A. Potable Water: Utilities Fund.
 - B. Reclaimed Water: Utilities Fund.
 - C. Wastewater: Utilities Fund.
 - D. Stormwater Management: Stormwater Fund.
 - E. Solid Waste Services: Solid Waste Fund.

Objective 2 Natural Resources Impact. Protect natural resources from the impact of the City's utilities infrastructure systems.

- Policy 2.1 Facility Inspections and Monitoring. Continue the City's inspection and compliance monitoring practices used at the City utility plants and facilities. Ensure that such practices are consistent with state and federal standards and regulations.
- Policy 2.2 Environmental Considerations. Protect human and natural communities by providing public utility services that:
- A. Maximize existing facilities prior to developing new infrastructure systems.
 - B. Contain wastewater facilities during a storm event.
 - C. Minimize stormwater system overflow during storm events and reduce water quality impacts to receiving waters, with particular attention to mitigating direct runoff and outfall into the Gulf of Mexico through innovative control technology.
 - D. Identify and protect natural water sources and environmentally sensitive land areas from the impacts of development.
 - E. Coordinate water quality monitoring, waste disposal, and stormwater management practices with partner entities.
 - F. Minimize the impact of water and wastewater facilities on the environment.
- Policy 2.3 Wellhead Protection Areas. All areas within a 500' radial setback from a surface or subsurface potable water well shall be designated as wellhead protection areas. The following uses will not be permitted within the wellhead protection areas:



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- A. Treatment, storage, disposal, and transfer facilities for hazardous wastes.
- B. Chemical and hazardous material storage tanks.
- C. Industrial wastewater.
- D. Reuse water applications.
- E. New class I and class III injection control wells.

Policy 2.4 Potable Water Supply Safety. The City shall protect the safety of its potable water supply by:

- A. Visually inspecting every well site for damage and vandalism.
- B. Utilizing a radio telemetry system to monitor pump failures, loss of flow and other indications of security problems.
- C. Having a redundant, off site, manual shut down system for well operations.
- D. Reporting any suspicious activities to the Florida State Warning Point.

Policy 2.5 Water Quality System Evaluation. The City shall continually evaluate and, if appropriate, enact alternative water quality standards for the design, construction, and maintenance of water infrastructure systems. This evaluation shall review the following:

- A. Non-structural storm water management system designs.
- B. Littoral zone vegetation requirements.
- C. Vegetation removal and management standards.
- D. System designs that conserve uplands and populations of listed species.

Policy 2.6 Water Resource Partnerships. Partner with the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and other local, regional, state, and federal water entities to protect the quality of natural ground water recharge areas, natural drainage features, and surface water bodies. Specific programs that require regional water coordination include, but are not limited to:

- A. Wellhead Protection Program.
- B. Location of potable wells.
- C. Regional Water Supply Plan.
- D. Myakka River Comprehensive Watershed Management (CWM) Plan.
- E. Myakka Wild and Scenic River Management Plan.
- F. Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plans.
- G. Watershed Management Program (WMP) Plans.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 2.7 Private Wells and Septic Systems. The City will not permit new private well and septic systems within environmentally sensitive areas or areas currently served by potable water, reclaimed water, and wastewater systems.
- A. Existing or new private well and septic systems are required to connect to City utilities upon service availability.
- Policy 2.8 Reclaimed Water Utilization. Utilize the site and development process to encourage the use of reclaimed water for irrigation where supplies are available. Areas that should be addressed include:
- A. Golf courses.
 - B. Public and private common areas and greenspace.
 - C. Roadway medians.
 - D. Landscaped areas in parks and other public properties.
 - E. All new proposed development areas.
- Policy 2.9 Reclaimed Water Infrastructure. Utilize the site and development process to ensure that development projects address the need for increased reclaimed water capacity for irrigation purposes throughout the City.
- Policy 2.10 Solid Waste Disposal. Coordinate with Sarasota County to ensure that waste disposal and treatment practices minimize negative impacts on natural resources.
- Policy 2.11 Solid Waste Pick-up. By 2012, the City shall evaluate the appropriateness of implementing once per week pick-up in single family residential areas and in the downtown during off season. The study should include a cost benefit analysis to convert existing collection system into an automated pick-up system.
- Policy 2.12 Solid Waste Regulation Compliance. The disposal, collection, and treatment of waste shall be consistent with best practices and state and federal regulations.
- Policy 2.13 Hazardous Waste. Protect the public and natural communities against the harmful impacts of hazardous waste by:
- A. Monitoring the sources of waste within the City.
 - B. Enforcing local, regional, state, and federal regulations and restrictions.
 - C. Educating the public about proper waste disposal practices.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 2.14 Waste Recycling. The City will continue to improve recycling efforts in order to protect natural resources and extend the life of landfill by:
- Educating the public about recyclable materials.
 - Completing assessments of commercial waste products to help with reduction of solid waste costs.
 - Coordinating disposal of residential household hazardous waste with Sarasota County.
 - Participating in Project Green Sweep for businesses to dispose of small quantities of hazardous waste, computers, and rechargeable batteries.
 - Promoting Green Business Partnership, a Sarasota County program assisting businesses to be environmentally responsible.
 - Identifying new recyclable materials and practices.
- Policy 2.15 Public Conservation Efforts. Utilize the City's Water Conservation Plan to encourage public conservation efforts by providing:
- Recycling and water conservation programs.
 - Public incentives for reducing, recycling, and reusing natural resources and waste products.
 - Information on reducing waste and minimizing energy use.
 - Provide incentives for water conservation.
- Policy 2.16 Public Education. Inform the public on ways to decrease their impacts on natural resources, reduce their public service demands, and save money. Such efforts should be coordinated with public and private entities and address:
- Reducing, reusing, and recycling waste products.
 - Utilizing energy saving and water efficient fixtures.
 - Utilizing reclaimed wastewater for irrigation.
 - Minimizing irrigation needs through Xeriscaping.
 - Using products with recycled components and packaging.
 - Annual water conservation school presentations and contests.

Objective 3: Level of Service. Maintain an adequate level of service for each of the city's public utility services including potable water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste.

- Policy 3.1 Level of Service Planning. As utility master plans are updated, ensure the LOS standards are updated to reflect recommendations and findings.
- Policy 3.2 New Development. Utilize the site and development review process to ensure that the LOS adopted by the City Concurrency Management Ordinance are met by each new development project.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 3.3 Utility Level of Service. Ensure that the City's utilities are properly maintained by meeting the following levels of service concurrently with development:
- A. Potable Water. A minimum LOS of 153 gpd/ERU based on average annual flow and a minimum Peak LOS of 227 gpd/ERU based on maximum day flow.
 - B. Wastewater. A minimum LOS of 123 gpd/ERU based on the average annual flow and a minimum Peak LOS of 244 gpd/ERU based on the maximum day flow.
 - C. Stormwater. The post-development runoff may not exceed pre-development runoff for a 24-hour, 25-year storm event.
 - D. Solid Waste. A minimum collection and capacity of 6.8 pounds per person per day; and collection of residential solid waste shall occur at least weekly.

Objective 4: Regional Coordination. The City shall assume its local and regional responsibility and authority by coordinating with intergovernmental partners in the development, maintenance, and delivery of public utility services.

- Policy 4.1 Master Planning Consistency. Utilize joint planning agreements to ensure the City's utility master plans are coordinated with local, regional, state, and federal partner plans.
- Policy 4.2 Joint Planning Area and Extra-Jurisdictional Planning Areas. Coordinate infrastructure and public utility services in the Joint Planning Area and Extra-Jurisdictional Planning Area with Sarasota County and private property owners as established in the Joint Planning Agreement.
- Policy 4.3 Infrastructure Coordination. Coordinate with partner entities including Sarasota County and SWFWMD on infrastructure planning in undeveloped parts of the City in order to ensure:
- A. New infrastructure is sensitive to environmental resources.
 - B. Coordination of infrastructure capital improvement and impact fee expenditures within extra jurisdictional planning areas with Sarasota County.
 - C. Execution of developer agreements through which private developers construct infrastructure enhancements that meet community needs while limiting public impact.
 - D. Alternative funding strategies, such as Community Development Districts, are considered to limit the impact on public expenditures.



City of Venice

Comprehensive Plan

- Policy 4.4 Ground Water Resource Coordination. Coordinate with SWFWMD, Peace River / Manasota Water Supply Authority, and other water related agencies and organizations on the identification and protection of artesian aquifers and other natural ground water recharge areas.
- Policy 4.5 Regional Water Supply System. Continue to cooperate with partner entities including Sarasota County, SWFWMD, and Peace River/Manasota Water Management District regarding an interconnected potable water supply system, regional water planning, and coordination of supply system lines.
- Policy 4.6 Stormwater Management Coordination. Coordinate with Florida Department of Environmental Protection, SWFWMD, and other regional, state, and federal entities to ensure that all proper stormwater drainage permits, regulations, and restrictions are met.
- Policy 4.7 Solid Waste Coordination. Coordinate the disposal of solid waste by continuing to implement solid waste interlocal agreements with Sarasota County. Add additional locations as needed and monitor tipping fees.
- Policy 4.8 Solid Waste Facility Capacity. The City will continue to coordinate with Sarasota County on the provision of solid waste facilities for the Greater Venice Area and surrounding Sarasota County.



City of Venice Comprehensive Plan