

## CITY OF BELLE SLE, FLORIDA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**Meeting Date:** April 2, 2024  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Raquel Lozano, Planner  
**Subject:** Comp Plan Update

**Background:** At the March 27, 2024, Council meeting, the Commission requested an update on the status of the Comp Plan Initiative.

Last year, the Council hired RVI Planning to help manage the City's first major update to its Comprehensive Plan in over ten years. This effort will set forth policies related to growth, public infrastructure, the environment, transportation, and other important topics for the City over the next 20+ years. The principles and strategies contained in the Plan are expressed through goals, objectives, and policies (GOPs), which inform the City's decisions. The GOPs in the Plan ensure that the City is prepared to meet challenges today and in the future.

The Preliminary Assessment Report, provided in November 2023, includes an analysis of changes in Belle Isle since 2010, when the current Comprehensive Plan was adopted. The preliminary assessment includes profiles of the City, population, education, economics, and housing. This Preliminary Assessment Report concludes that: 1) the Comprehensive Plan must be amended to reflect changes in state requirements since the last update; 2) some policies are out of date and have been accomplished or should be re-directed to address current needs; and 3) trends and conditions in the City of Belle Isle suggest updates to the Elements in order to strengthen the community's vision.

In the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Belle Isle identified the following major goals:

- Identify changes in state requirements that necessitate changes in the Plan.
- Identify changing conditions and trends affecting the community that should be reflected in the Comprehensive Plan, including development and redevelopment, community character, resiliency, and environmental considerations.
- Conduct a review of implementation of the existing Comprehensive Plan and the degree to which plan objectives have been achieved.
- Assess the successes and shortcomings of the plan.
- Vacant Land Availability/Build Out Analysis and Annexation Strategies.
- Understand the current and future demographic mix and how it may impact strategic decisions determined by the Comprehensive Plan.

RVI has gauged public feedback from residents by participating in the Joint Community Workshop (hosted on February 15th) and has met with local community stakeholders over the months to review input and direction based on the recommendations of the Preliminary Report. RVI is drafting amendment changes to the Comp Plan Elements and GOPs for City Staff to review in the coming weeks. Afterward, they will present this information to the Planning and Zoning Board in April or May for recommendations to the City Council. These amendments will be transmitted to Florida Commerce and applicable agencies under the State's Coordinated Review Process. Following comments from the State, the City Council may conduct final adoption hearings to ratify the amendments.