



COMMUNITY MEETING #2 SUMMARY

- **Meeting Details**

- July 30, 2026, at 6:00PM
- LaBelle Civic Center located at 481 W Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, FL 33935

- **Attendance Statistics**

- 24 Attendees, including 4 Commissioners

- **Discussion Summary**

The RVI team provided an overview of the ongoing Comprehensive Plan Update process, the project timeline, and strategic staggering of amendments to ensure consistency with SB 180.

The focus of this workshop was to discuss Phase 1 Amendments, covering (1) mandatory updates related to consistency with State Statutes, (2) changes related to consistency across the document, and (3) changes to capture the evolved community vision, and minor changes that do not conflict with SB 180. The new Vision Statement as well as key Goals, Objectives and Policies, related to the evolved community vision were presented for collective review and feedback.

Feedback from the workshop is detailed below:

- **Vision Statement**

- Limit the Vision Statement to the City's priorities only as noted in the first paragraph.
- Make clear that current strengths including rich agricultural heritage, small-town charm, neighborly values are going to remain priorities for the Plan period until 2050.
- Add reference to preservation of historic structures as a priority.
- Technical information in the second paragraph may be excluded.
- Reference to the "City under the Oaks" should be maintained.

- **Goal 1**

- Keep reference to “Human” resources
 - Define “small-town charm”
- Policy 1.3.1
 - Review if all R-2, R-2T and R-3 zoned properties are appropriate for densities based on the Zoning District as opposed to the Residential future land use (3 DU/AC).
- Policy 1.3.3
 - Refine policy to encourage retention of historic structures within the Downtown District. *This may be addressed with updates to the Downtown Form Based Code, than this Plan Update.*
 - Remove reference to “highest densities and intensities”
 - Define “Activated Public Space”
 - Review strategies that reduce vacancies within the Downtown District. *This may be outside the scope of this Plan amendment.*
- Policy 1.7
 - Define “voluntary annexation” to relieve concerns of any obligation on Property Owners to annex into the City based on services, location etc.
- Goal 2
 - No recommended changes.
- Policy 2.1.5
 - Include reference to traffic maintenance as a strategy for ensuring safety of all users and reducing congestion.
- Goal 3
 - No recommended changes.
- Policy 3.1.5, Policy 3.1.6 (related to protection and enhancement of residential neighborhoods)
 - No recommended changes.
- Goal 6
 - No recommended changes.
- Policy 5.8.3, Policy 5.8.4, Policy 6.5.3, Policy 6.5.7 (related to protection and connection to the Caloosahatchee River)
 - No recommended changes.
- Policy 5.5.9 and 6.7.3 (related to protections for Oak trees)

- Clarify protections for “Live” oaks only, limit protections for other species with shorter expected life spans.
- Goal 11
 - Define “high quality of life”
- Policy 11.1.1, Policy 11.1.2 (related to safeguarding adequate land for employment-generating uses)
 - No recommended changes.
- Policy 11.3.6, Policy 11.3.7, Policy 11.3.8 (related to developing a conducive environment for long-term business retention)
 - Update 11.3.7 to encourage diversified recreational, cultural, and social opportunities for all users, instead of limiting it to students and young professionals.
- Objective 11.6, Policy 11.6.1, Policy 11.6.5 (related to creation of a target industries program)
 - Review available studies including those by the Florida Chamber of Commerce on industries relocating to the State and area to provide guidance on potential target industries. *Development of a Target Industry Program will be a separate undertaking by the City.*