

VI. Community Policies

The following policies, numbered to align with the Community Goals, were developed in conjunction with all stakeholders and are intended to provide qualitative guidance to address the Issues and Opportunities identified in this Plan and to provide a framework for the development of the Community Work Program. The Community Work Program then addresses the Issues and Opportunities through specific projects, for each of which the participants, anticipated cost, and time frame are identified.

These policies are organized around the issues identified in the "Needs and Opportunities" section, and are further organized around the seven important topics of the Plan:

1. Natural and Cultural Resources
2. Economic Development
3. Housing
4. Land Use
5. Transportation
6. Community Facilities and Services
7. Intergovernmental Coordination
8. Broadband Services

Natural Resources

Goal 1: Execute and support conservation and protection measures for natural areas. These areas include, but are not limited to, floodplains, wetlands, groundwater recharge zones, protected river corridors, hardwood forests, and habitats supporting Georgia and federally listed endangered species.

Needs & Policies

Need: *The community needs to protect the valuable water resources in order to maintain clean drinking water and use of waterways for recreation.*

Policy 1.1: **Water Resources.** Coordinate with the surrounding counties and cities to ensure that the water resources of the area are protected.

Policy 1.2: **Inventory of Resources.** Berrien County should create a detailed inventory of its natural resources to support their effective protection and long-term preservation.

Need: *Berrien County needs to protect water resources and promote public fishing areas for recreations and outdoor tourism*