CHAPTER 2007-204
House Bill No. 7203

An act relating to comprehensive planning; amending s. 163.3164, F.S.; redefining the terms “urban redevelopment” and “financial feasibility” for purposes of the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act; amending s. 163.3177, F.S.; providing for application of requirements for financial feasibility with respect to the elements of a comprehensive plan; delaying the deadline for amendments conforming public facilities with the capital improvements element; specifying circumstances under which transportation and school facilities shall be deemed to be financially feasible and to have achieved level-of-service standards; amending s. 163.3180, F.S.; providing an exception from concurrency requirements for certain airport facilities; providing an additional exemption from concurrency requirements for an urban service area under specified circumstances; requiring that a local government consult with the state land planning agency regarding the designation of a concurrency exception area; revising provisions providing an exception from transportation concurrency requirements for a multiuse development of regional impact; providing for the application of provisions that authorize payment of a proportionate-share contribution to Florida Quality Developments and certain plans implementing optional sector plans; revising the availability standard for achieving school concurrency; authorizing a development to proceed under certain circumstances; providing requirements for proportionate-share mitigation and proportionate fair-share mitigation with respect to transportation improvements; amending s. 163.3191, F.S.; exempting from a prohibition on plan amendments certain amendments to local comprehensive plans concerning the integration of port master plans; amending s. 163.3229, F.S.; extending the duration of a development agreement from 10 years to 20 years; amending s. 380.06, F.S.; extending the buildout and expiration dates for certain projects that are developments of regional impact; amending s. 704.06, F.S.; providing that all provisions of a conservation easement shall survive and remain enforceable after the issuance of a tax deed; authorizing two or more counties, or a combination of at least one county and municipality, to establish a tax increment area for conservation lands by interlocal agreement; providing requirements for such an interlocal agreement; requiring that a tax increment be determined annually; limiting the amount of the tax increment; requiring the establishment of a separate reserve account for each tax increment area; providing for a refund; requiring an annual audit of the separate reserve account; providing for the administration of the separate reserve account; requiring that the governmental body that administers the separate reserve account may spend revenues from the tax increment to purchase real property only if all parties to the interlocal agreement adopt a resolution that approves the purchase price; providing that a water management district may be a party to the interlocal agreement; requiring certain approvals from the Department of Environ-
Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (26) and (32) of section 163.3164, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.
163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.—

(2) Coordination of the several elements of the local comprehensive plan shall be a major objective of the planning process. The several elements of the comprehensive plan shall be consistent, and the comprehensive plan shall be financially feasible. Financial feasibility shall be determined using professionally accepted methodologies and applies to the 5-year planning period, except in the case of a long-term transportation or school concurrency management system, in which case a 10-year or 15-year period applies.

(3)(a) The comprehensive plan shall contain a capital improvements element designed to consider the need for and the location of public facilities in order to encourage the efficient use utilization of such facilities and set forth:

1. A component that which outlines principles for construction, extension, or increase in capacity of public facilities, as well as a component that which outlines principles for correcting existing public facility deficiencies, which are necessary to implement the comprehensive plan. The components shall cover at least a 5-year period.

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2. Estimated public facility costs, including a delineation of when facilities will be needed, the general location of the facilities, and projected revenue sources to fund the facilities.

3. Standards to ensure the availability of public facilities and the adequacy of those facilities including acceptable levels of service.

4. Standards for the management of debt.

5. A schedule of capital improvements which includes publicly funded projects, and which may include privately funded projects for which the local government has no fiscal responsibility, necessary to ensure that adopted level-of-service standards are achieved and maintained. For capital improvements that will be funded by the developer, financial feasibility shall be demonstrated by being guaranteed in an enforceable development agreement or interlocal agreement pursuant to paragraph (10)(h), or other enforceable agreement. These development agreements and interlocal agreements shall be reflected in the schedule of capital improvements if the capital improvement is necessary to serve development within the 5-year schedule. If the local government uses planned revenue sources that require referenda or other actions to secure the revenue source, the plan must, in the event the referenda are not passed or actions do not secure the planned revenue source, identify other existing revenue sources that will be used to fund the capital projects or otherwise amend the plan to ensure financial feasibility.

6. The schedule must include transportation improvements included in the applicable metropolitan planning organization’s transportation improvement program adopted pursuant to s. 339.175(7) to the extent that such improvements are relied upon to ensure concurrency and financial feasibility. The schedule must also be coordinated with the applicable metropolitan planning organization’s long-range transportation plan adopted pursuant to s. 339.175(6).

(b)1. The capital improvements element must be reviewed on an annual basis and modified as necessary in accordance with s. 163.3187 or s. 163.3189 in order to maintain a financially feasible 5-year schedule of capital improvements. Corrections and modifications concerning costs; revenue sources; or acceptance of facilities pursuant to dedications which are consistent with the plan may be accomplished by ordinance and shall not be deemed to be amendments to the local comprehensive plan. A copy of the ordinance shall be transmitted to the state land planning agency. An amendment to the comprehensive plan is required to update the schedule on an annual basis or to eliminate, defer, or delay the construction for any facility listed in the 5-year schedule. All public facilities must be consistent with the capital improvements element. Amendments to implement this section must be adopted and transmitted no later than December 1, 2007. Thereafter, a local government may not amend its future land use map, except for plan amendments to meet new requirements under this part and emergency amendments pursuant to s. 163.3187(1)(a), after December 1, 2008, and every year thereafter, unless and until the local government has adopted the annual update and it has been transmitted to the state land planning agency.

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2. Capital improvements element amendments adopted after the effective date of this act shall require only a single public hearing before the governing board which shall be an adoption hearing as described in s. 163.3184(7). Such amendments are not subject to the requirements of s. 163.3184(3)-(6).

(c) If the local government does not adopt the required annual update to the schedule of capital improvements or the annual update is found not in compliance, the state land planning agency must notify the Administration Commission. A local government that has a demonstrated lack of commitment to meeting its obligations identified in the capital improvements element may be subject to sanctions by the Administration Commission pursuant to s. 163.3184(11).

(d) If a local government adopts a long-term concurrency management system pursuant to s. 163.3180(9), it must also adopt a long-term capital improvements schedule covering up to a 10-year or 15-year period, and must update the long-term schedule annually. The long-term schedule of capital improvements must be financially feasible.

(e) At the discretion of the local government and notwithstanding the requirements of this subsection, a comprehensive plan, as revised by an amendment to the plan's future land use map, shall be deemed to be financially feasible and to have achieved and maintained level-of-service standards as required by this section with respect to transportation facilities if the amendment to the future land use map is supported by a:

1. Condition in a development order for a development of regional impact or binding agreement that addresses proportionate-share mitigation consistent with s. 163.3180(12); or

2. Binding agreement addressing proportionate fair-share mitigation consistent with s. 163.3180(16)(f) and the property subject to the amendment to the future land use map is located within an area designated in a comprehensive plan for urban infill, urban redevelopment, downtown revitalization, urban infill and redevelopment, or an urban service area. The binding agreement must be based on the maximum amount of development identified by the future land use map amendment or as may be otherwise restricted through a special area plan policy or map notation in the comprehensive plan.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4), subsections (5), (12), paragraph (e) of subsection (13), and subsection (16) of section 163.3180, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.3180 Concurrency.—

(4)

(b) The concurrency requirement as implemented in local comprehensive plans does not apply to public transit facilities. For the purposes of this paragraph, public transit facilities include transit stations and terminals, transit station parking, park-and-ride lots, intermodal public transit connection or transfer facilities, and fixed bus, guideway, and rail stations.
airport passenger terminals and concourses, air cargo facilities, and hangars for the maintenance or storage of aircraft. As used in this paragraph, the terms “terminals” and “transit facilities” do not include airports or seaports or commercial or residential development constructed in conjunction with a public transit facility.

(5)(a) The Legislature finds that under limited circumstances dealing with transportation facilities, countervailing planning and public policy goals may come into conflict with the requirement that adequate public facilities and services be available concurrent with the impacts of such development. The Legislature further finds that often the unintended result of the concurrency requirement for transportation facilities is the discouragement of urban infill development and redevelopment. Such unintended results directly conflict with the goals and policies of the state comprehensive plan and the intent of this part. Therefore, exceptions from the concurrency requirement for transportation facilities may be granted as provided by this subsection.

(b) A local government may grant an exception from the concurrency requirement for transportation facilities if the proposed development is otherwise consistent with the adopted local government comprehensive plan and is a project that promotes public transportation or is located within an area designated in the comprehensive plan for:

1. Urban infill development;
2. Urban redevelopment;
3. Downtown revitalization;
4. Urban infill and redevelopment under s. 163.2517;
5. An urban service area specifically designated as a transportation-concurrency-exception area which includes lands appropriate for compact, contiguous urban development, which does not exceed the amount of land needed to accommodate the projected population growth at densities consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan within the 10-year planning period, and which is served or is planned to be served with public facilities and services as provided by the capital improvements element.

(c) The Legislature also finds that developments located within urban infill, urban redevelopment, existing urban service, or downtown revitalization areas or areas designated as urban infill and redevelopment areas under s. 163.2517 which pose only special part-time demands on the transportation system should be excepted from the concurrency requirement for transportation facilities. A special part-time demand is one that does not have more than 200 scheduled events during any calendar year and does not affect the 100 highest traffic volume hours.

(d) A local government shall establish guidelines in the comprehensive plan for granting the exceptions authorized in paragraphs (b) and (c) and subsections (7) and (15) which must be consistent with and support a comprehensive strategy adopted in the plan to promote the purpose of the exceptions.
(e) The local government shall adopt into the plan and implement long-
term strategies to support and fund mobility within the designated exception area, including alternative modes of transportation. The plan amendment must also demonstrate how strategies will support the purpose of the exception and how mobility within the designated exception area will be provided. In addition, the strategies must address urban design; appropriate land use mixes, including intensity and density; and network connectivity plans needed to promote urban infill, redevelopment, or downtown revitalization. The comprehensive plan amendment designating the concurrency exception area must be accompanied by data and analysis justifying the size of the area.

(f) Prior to the designation of a concurrency exception area, the state land planning agency and the Department of Transportation shall be consulted by the local government to assess the impact that the proposed exception area is expected to have on the adopted level-of-service standards established for Strategic Intermodal System facilities, as defined in s. 339.64, and roadway facilities funded in accordance with s. 339.2819. Further, the local government shall, in consultation with the state land planning agency and the Department of Transportation, develop a plan to mitigate any impacts to the Strategic Intermodal System, including, if appropriate, the development of a long-term concurrency management system pursuant to subsection (9) and s. 163.3177(3)(d). The exceptions may be available only within the specific geographic area of the jurisdiction designated in the plan. Pursuant to s. 163.3184, any affected person may challenge a plan amendment establishing these guidelines and the areas within which an exception could be granted.

(g) Transportation concurrency exception areas existing prior to July 1, 2005, must meet, at a minimum, the provisions of this section by July 1, 2006, or at the time of the comprehensive plan update pursuant to the evaluation and appraisal report, whichever occurs last.

(12) When authorized by a local comprehensive plan, a multiuse development of regional impact may satisfy the transportation concurrency requirements of the local comprehensive plan, the local government’s concurrency management system, and s. 380.06 by payment of a proportionate-share contribution for local and regionally significant traffic impacts, if:

(a) The development of regional impact meets or exceeds the guidelines and standards of s. 380.0651(3)(h) and rule 28-24.032(2), Florida Administrative Code, and includes a residential component that contains at least 100 residential dwelling units or 15 percent of the applicable residential guideline and standard, whichever is greater;

(b) The proportionate-share contribution for local and regionally significant traffic impacts is sufficient to pay for one or more required mobility improvements that will benefit a regionally significant transportation facility;
(c)(d) The owner and developer of the development of regional impact pays or assures payment of the proportionate-share contribution; and

(d)(e) If the regionally significant transportation facility to be constructed or improved is under the maintenance authority of a governmental entity, as defined by s. 334.03(12), other than the local government with jurisdiction over the development of regional impact, the developer is required to enter into a binding and legally enforceable commitment to transfer funds to the governmental entity having maintenance authority or to otherwise assure construction or improvement of the facility.

The proportionate-share contribution may be applied to any transportation facility to satisfy the provisions of this subsection and the local comprehensive plan, but, for the purposes of this subsection, the amount of the proportionate-share contribution shall be calculated based upon the cumulative number of trips from the proposed development expected to reach roadways during the peak hour from the complete buildout of a stage or phase being approved, divided by the change in the peak hour maximum service volume of roadways resulting from construction of an improvement necessary to maintain the adopted level of service, multiplied by the construction cost, at the time of developer payment, of the improvement necessary to maintain the adopted level of service. For purposes of this subsection, “construction cost” includes all associated costs of the improvement. Proportionate-share mitigation shall be limited to ensure that a development of regional impact meeting the requirements of this subsection mitigates its impact on the transportation system but is not responsible for the additional cost of reducing or eliminating backlogs. This subsection also applies to Florida Quality Developments pursuant to s. 380.061 and to detailed specific area plans implementing optional sector plans pursuant to s. 163.3245.

(13) School concurrency shall be established on a districtwide basis and shall include all public schools in the district and all portions of the district, whether located in a municipality or an unincorporated area unless exempt from the public school facilities element pursuant to s. 163.3177(12). The application of school concurrency to development shall be based upon the adopted comprehensive plan, as amended. All local governments within a county, except as provided in paragraph (f), shall adopt and transmit to the state land planning agency the necessary plan amendments, along with the interlocal agreement, for a compliance review pursuant to s. 163.3184(7) and (8). The minimum requirements for school concurrency are the following:

(e) Availability standard.—Consistent with the public welfare, a local government may not deny an application for site plan, final subdivision approval, or the functional equivalent for a development or phase of a development authorizing residential development for failure to achieve and maintain the level-of-service standard for public school capacity in a local school concurrency management system where adequate school facilities will be in place or under actual construction within 3 years after the issuance of final subdivision or site plan approval, or the functional equivalent. School concurrency is satisfied if the developer executes a legally binding commitment to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand for public

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school facilities to be created by actual development of the property, including, but not limited to, the options described in subparagraph 1. Options for proportionate-share mitigation of impacts on public school facilities must **shall** be established in the public school facilities element and the interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.31777.

1. Appropriate mitigation options include the contribution of land; the construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; or the creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in exchange for the right to sell capacity credits. Such options must include execution by the applicant and the local government of a **binding** development agreement that constitutes a legally binding commitment to pay proportionate-share mitigation for the additional residential units approved by the local government in a development order and actually developed on the property, taking into account residential density allowed on the property prior to the plan amendment that increased the overall residential density. The district school board must **shall** be a party to such an agreement. As a condition of its entry into such a development agreement, the local government may require the landowner to agree to continuing renewal of the agreement upon its expiration.

2. If the education facilities plan and the public educational facilities element authorize a contribution of land; the construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition; or the construction or expansion of a public school facility, or a portion thereof, as proportionate-share mitigation, the local government shall credit such a contribution, construction, expansion, or payment toward any other impact fee or exaction imposed by local ordinance for the same need, on a dollar-for-dollar basis at fair market value.

3. Any proportionate-share mitigation must be directed by the school board toward a school capacity improvement identified in a financially feasible 5-year district work plan that **and which** satisfies the demands created by the that development in accordance with a binding developer’s agreement.

4. If a development is precluded from commencing because there is inadequate classroom capacity to mitigate the impacts of the development, the development may nevertheless commence if there are accelerated facilities in an approved capital improvement element scheduled for construction in year four or later of such plan which, when built, will mitigate the proposed development, or if such accelerated facilities will be in the next annual update of the capital facilities element, the developer enters into a binding, financially guaranteed agreement with the school district to construct an accelerated facility within the first 3 years of an approved capital improvement plan, and the cost of the school facility is equal to or greater than the development’s proportionate share. When the completed school facility is conveyed to the school district, the developer shall receive impact fee credits usable within the zone where the facility is constructed or any attendance zone contiguous with or adjacent to the zone where the facility is constructed.

5. This paragraph does not limit the authority of a local government to deny a development permit or its functional equivalent pursuant to its home rule regulatory powers, except as provided in this part.

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It is the intent of the Legislature to provide a method by which the impacts of development on transportation facilities can be mitigated by the cooperative efforts of the public and private sectors. The methodology used to calculate proportionate fair-share mitigation under this section shall be as provided for in subsection (12).

(a) By December 1, 2006, each local government shall adopt by ordinance a methodology for assessing proportionate fair-share mitigation options. By December 1, 2005, the Department of Transportation shall develop a model transportation concurrency management ordinance with methodologies for assessing proportionate fair-share mitigation options.

(b)(1) In its transportation concurrency management system, a local government shall, by December 1, 2006, include methodologies that will be applied to calculate proportionate fair-share mitigation. A developer may choose to satisfy all transportation concurrency requirements by contributing or paying proportionate fair-share mitigation if transportation facilities or facility segments identified as mitigation for traffic impacts are specifically identified for funding in the 5-year schedule of capital improvements in the capital improvements element of the local plan or the long-term concurrency management system or if such contributions or payments to such facilities or segments are reflected in the 5-year schedule of capital improvements in the next regularly scheduled update of the capital improvements element. Updates to the 5-year capital improvements element which reflect proportionate fair-share contributions may not be found not in compliance based on ss. 163.3164(32) and 163.3177(3) if additional contributions, payments or funding sources are reasonably anticipated during a period not to exceed 10 years to fully mitigate impacts on the transportation facilities.

2. Proportionate fair-share mitigation shall be applied as a credit against impact fees to the extent that all or a portion of the proportionate fair-share mitigation is used to address the same capital infrastructure improvements contemplated by the local government’s impact fee ordinance.

(c) Proportionate fair-share mitigation includes, without limitation, separately or collectively, private funds, contributions of land, and construction and contribution of facilities and may include public funds as determined by the local government. Proportionate fair-share mitigation may be directed toward one or more specific transportation improvements reasonably related to the mobility demands created by the development and such improvements may address one or more modes of travel. The fair market value of the proportionate fair-share mitigation shall not differ based on the form of mitigation. A local government may not require a development to pay more than its proportionate fair-share contribution regardless of the method of mitigation. Proportionate fair-share mitigation shall be limited to ensure that a development meeting the requirements of this section mitigates its impact on the transportation system but is not responsible for the additional cost of reducing or eliminating backlogs.

(d) Nothing in This subsection does not shall require a local government to approve a development that is not otherwise qualified for approval pursu-
ant to the applicable local comprehensive plan and land development regulations.

(e) Mitigation for development impacts to facilities on the Strategic Intermodal System made pursuant to this subsection requires the concurrence of the Department of Transportation.

(f) If in the event the funds in an adopted 5-year capital improvements element are insufficient to fully fund construction of a transportation improvement required by the local government’s concurrency management system, a local government and a developer may still enter into a binding proportionate-share agreement authorizing the developer to construct that amount of development on which the proportionate share is calculated if the proportionate-share amount in such agreement is sufficient to pay for one or more improvements which will, in the opinion of the governmental entity or entities maintaining the transportation facilities, significantly benefit the impacted transportation system. The improvement or improvements funded by the proportionate-share component must be adopted into the 5-year capital improvements schedule of the comprehensive plan at the next annual capital improvements element update. The funding of any improvements that significantly benefit the impacted transportation system satisfies concurrency requirements as a mitigation of the development’s impact upon the overall transportation system even if there remains a failure of concurrency on other impacted facilities.

(g) Except as provided in subparagraph (b)1., nothing in this section may not prohibit the Department of Community Affairs from finding other portions of the capital improvements element amendments not in compliance as provided in this chapter.

(h) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a multiuse development of regional impact satisfying the requirements of subsection (12).

Section 4. Subsection (14) is added to section 163.3191, Florida Statutes, to read:

163.3191 Evaluation and appraisal of comprehensive plan.—

(14) The requirement of subsection (10) prohibiting a local government from adopting amendments to the local comprehensive plan until the evaluation and appraisal report update amendments have been adopted and transmitted to the state land planning agency does not apply to a plan amendment proposed for adoption by the appropriate local government as defined in s. 163.3178(2)(k) in order to integrate a port comprehensive master plan with the coastal management element of the local comprehensive plan as required by s. 163.3178(2)(k) if the port comprehensive master plan or the proposed plan amendment does not cause or contribute to the failure of the local government to comply with the requirements of the evaluation and appraisal report.

Section 5. Section 163.3229, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3229 Duration of a development agreement and relationship to local comprehensive plan.—The duration of a development agreement shall not
exceed 20 years. It may be extended by mutual consent of the governing body and the developer, subject to a public hearing in accordance with s. 163.3225. No development agreement shall be effective or be implemented by a local government unless the local government's comprehensive plan and plan amendments implementing or related to the agreement are found in compliance by the state land planning agency in accordance with s. 163.3184, s. 163.3187, or s. 163.3189.

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (19) of section 380.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.06 Developments of regional impact.—

(19) SUBSTANTIAL DEVIATIONS.—

(c) An extension of the date of buildout of a development, or any phase thereof, by more than 7 years shall be presumed to create a substantial deviation subject to further development-of-regional-impact review. An extension of the date of buildout, or any phase thereof, of more than 5 years but not more than 7 years shall be presumed not to create a substantial deviation. The extension of the date of buildout of an areawide development of regional impact by more than 5 years but less than 10 years is presumed not to create a substantial deviation. These presumptions may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence at the public hearing held by the local government. An extension of 5 years or less is not a substantial deviation.

For the purpose of calculating when a buildout or phase date has been exceeded, the time shall be tolled during the pendency of administrative or judicial proceedings relating to development permits. Any extension of the buildout date of a project or a phase thereof shall automatically extend the commencement date of the project, the termination date of the development order, the expiration date of the development of regional impact, and the phases thereof if applicable by a like period of time. In recognition of the 2007 real estate market conditions, all phase, buildout, and expiration dates for projects that are developments of regional impact and under active construction on July 1, 2007, are extended for 3 years regardless of any prior extension. The 3-year extension is not a substantial deviation, is not subject to further development-of-regional-impact review, and may not be considered when determining whether a subsequent extension is a substantial deviation under this subsection.

Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 704.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

704.06 Conservation easements; creation; acquisition; enforcement.—

(4) Conservation easements shall run with the land and be binding on all subsequent owners of the servient estate. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 197.552, all provisions of a conservation easement shall survive and are enforceable after the issuance of a tax deed. No conservation easement shall be unenforceable on account of lack of privity of contract or lack of benefit to particular land or on account of the benefit being assignable. Conservation easements may be enforced by injunction or proceeding in equity or at law, and shall entitle the holder to enter the land in a reasonable manner.
and at reasonable times to assure compliance. A conservation easement may be released by the holder of the easement to the holder of the fee even though the holder of the fee may not be a governmental body or a charitable corporation or trust.

Section 8. Tax increment financing for conservation lands.—

(1) Two or more counties, or a combination of at least one county and one or more municipalities, may establish, through an interlocal agreement, a tax increment area for conservation lands. The interlocal agreement, at a minimum, must:

(a) Identify the geographic boundaries of the tax increment area;

(b) Identify the real property to be acquired as conservation land within the tax increment area;

(c) Establish the percentage of tax increment financing for each jurisdiction in the tax increment area which is a party to the interlocal agreement;

(d) Identify the governing body of the jurisdiction that will administer a separate reserve account in which the tax increment will be deposited;

(e) Require that any tax increment revenues not used to purchase conservation lands by a date certain be refunded to the parties to the interlocal agreement. Any refund shall be proportionate to the parties’ payment of tax increment revenues into the separate reserve account;

(f) Provide for an annual audit of the separate reserve account;

(g) Designate an entity to hold title to any conservation lands purchased using the tax increment revenues;

(h) Provide for a continuing management plan for the conservation lands; and

(i) Identify the entity that will manage these conservation lands.

(2) The water management district in which conservation lands proposed for purchase under this section are located may also enter into the interlocal agreement if the district provides any funds for the purchase of the conservation lands. The water management districts may only use ad valorem tax revenues for agreements described within this section.

(3) The governing body of the jurisdiction that will administer the separate reserve account shall provide documentation to the Department of Community Affairs identifying the boundary of the tax increment area. The department shall determine whether the boundary is appropriate in that property owners within the boundary will receive a benefit from the proposed purchase of identified conservation lands. The department must issue a letter of approval stating that the establishment of the tax increment area and the proposed purchases would benefit property owners within the boundary and serve a public purpose before any tax increment funds are

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deposited into the separate reserve account. If the department fails to provide the required letter within 90 days after receiving sufficient documentation of the boundary, the establishment of the area and the proposed purchases are deemed to provide such benefit and serve a public purpose.

(4) Prior to the purchase of conservation lands under this section, the Department of Environmental Protection must determine whether the proposed purchase is sufficient to provide additional recreational and ecotourism opportunities for residents in the tax increment area. If the department fails to provide a letter of approval within 90 days after receipt of the request for such a letter, the purchase is deemed sufficient to provide recreation and ecotourism opportunities.

(5) The tax increment authorized under this section shall be determined annually and may not exceed 95 percent of the difference in ad valorem taxes as provided in s. 163.387(1)(a), Florida Statutes.

(6) A separate reserve account must be established for each tax increment area for conservation lands which is created under this section. The separate reserve account must be administered pursuant to the terms of the interlocal agreement. Tax increment funds allocated to this separate reserve account shall be used to acquire the real property identified for purchase in the interlocal agreement. Pursuant to the interlocal agreement, the governing body of the local government that will administer the separate reserve account may spend increment revenues to purchase the real property only if all parties to the interlocal agreement adopt a resolution approving the purchase price.

(7) The annual funding of the separate reserve account may not be less than the increment income of each taxing authority which is held as provided in the interlocal agreement for the purchase of conservation lands.

(8) Unless otherwise provided in the interlocal agreement, a taxing authority that does not pay the tax increment revenues to the separate reserve account by January 1 shall pay interest on the amount of unpaid increment revenues equal to 1 percent for each month that the increment revenue remains outstanding.

(9) The public bodies and taxing authorities listed in s. 163.387(2)(c), Florida Statutes, school districts and special districts that levy ad valorem taxes within a tax increment area are exempt from this section.

(10) Revenue bonds under this section are payable solely out of revenues pledged to and received by the local government administering the separate reserve account and deposited into the separate reserve account. The revenue bonds issued under this section do not constitute a debt, liability, or obligation of a public body, the state, or any of the state’s political subdivisions.

Section 9. The Legislature finds that an inadequate supply of conservation lands limits recreational opportunities and negatively impacts the economy, health, and welfare of the surrounding community. The Legislature
also finds that acquiring conservation lands for recreational opportunities and ecotourism serves a valid public purpose.

Section 10. Section 163.3182, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.3182 Transportation concurrency backlogs.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) “Transportation concurrency backlog area” means the geographic area within the unincorporated portion of a county or within the municipal boundary of a municipality designated in a local government comprehensive plan for which a transportation concurrency backlog authority is created pursuant to this section. A transportation concurrency backlog area created within the corporate boundary of a municipality shall be made pursuant to an interlocal agreement between a county, a municipality or municipalities, and any affected taxing authority or authorities.

(b) “Authority” or “transportation concurrency backlog authority” means the governing body of a county or municipality within which an authority is created.

(c) “Governing body” means the council, commission, or other legislative body charged with governing the county or municipality within which a transportation concurrency backlog authority is created pursuant to this section.

(d) “Transportation concurrency backlog” means an identified deficiency where the existing extent of traffic volume exceeds the level of service standard adopted in a local government comprehensive plan for a transportation facility.

(e) “Transportation concurrency backlog plan” means the plan adopted as part of a local government comprehensive plan by the governing body of a county or municipality acting as a transportation concurrency backlog authority.

(f) “Transportation concurrency backlog project” means any designated transportation project identified for construction within the jurisdiction of a transportation concurrency backlog authority.

(g) “Debt service millage” means any millage levied pursuant to s. 12, Art. VII of the State Constitution.

(h) “Increment revenue” means the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (5).

(i) “Taxing authority” means a public body that levies or is authorized to levy an ad valorem tax on real property located within a transportation concurrency backlog area, except a school district.

(2) CREATION OF TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG AUTHORITIES.—

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(a) A county or municipality may create a transportation concurrency backlog authority if it has an identified transportation concurrency backlog.

(b) Acting as the transportation concurrency backlog authority within the authority’s jurisdictional boundary, the governing body of a county or municipality shall adopt and implement a plan to eliminate all identified transportation concurrency backlogs within the authority’s jurisdiction using funds provided pursuant to subsection (5) and as otherwise provided pursuant to this section.

(3) POWERS OF A TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG AUTHORITY.—Each transportation concurrency backlog authority has the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this section, including the following powers in addition to others granted in this section:

(a) To make and execute contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers under this section.

(b) To undertake and carry out transportation concurrency backlog projects for transportation facilities that have a concurrency backlog within the authority’s jurisdiction. Concurrency backlog projects may include transportation facilities that provide for alternative modes of travel including sidewalks, bikeways, and mass transit which are related to a backlogged transportation facility.

(c) To invest any transportation concurrency backlog funds held in reserve, sinking funds, or any such funds not required for immediate disbursement in property or securities in which savings banks may legally invest funds subject to the control of the authority and to redeem such bonds as have been issued pursuant to this section at the redemption price established therein, or to purchase such bonds at less than redemption price. All such bonds redeemed or purchased shall be canceled.

(d) To borrow money, apply for and accept advances, loans, grants, contributions, and any other forms of financial assistance from the Federal Government or the state, county, or any other public body or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this part, to give such security as may be required, to enter into and carry out contracts or agreements, and to include in any contracts for financial assistance with the Federal Government for or with respect to a transportation concurrency backlog project and related activities such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as the transportation concurrency backlog authority considers reasonable and appropriate and which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this section.

(e) To make or have made all surveys and plans necessary to the carrying out of the purposes of this section, to contract with any persons, public or private, in making and carrying out such plans, and to adopt, approve, modify, or amend such transportation concurrency backlog plans.

(f) To appropriate such funds and make such expenditures as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, and to enter into agreements with other public bodies, which agreements may extend over any period notwithstanding any provision or rule of law to the contrary.

CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(4) TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG PLANS.—

(a) Each transportation concurrency backlog authority shall adopt a transportation concurrency backlog plan as a part of the local government comprehensive plan within 6 months after the creation of the authority. The plan shall:

1. Identify all transportation facilities that have been designated as deficient and require the expenditure of moneys to upgrade, modify, or mitigate the deficiency.

2. Include a priority listing of all transportation facilities that have been designated as deficient and do not satisfy concurrency requirements pursuant to s. 163.3180, and the applicable local government comprehensive plan.

3. Establish a schedule for financing and construction of transportation concurrency backlog projects that will eliminate transportation concurrency backlogs within the jurisdiction of the authority within 10 years after the transportation concurrency backlog plan adoption. The schedule shall be adopted as part of the local government comprehensive plan.

(b) The adoption of the transportation concurrency backlog plan shall be exempt from the provisions of s. 163.3187(1).

(5) ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL TRUST FUND.—The transportation concurrency backlog authority shall establish a local transportation concurrency backlog trust fund upon creation of the authority. Each local trust fund shall be administered by the transportation concurrency backlog authority within which a transportation concurrency backlog has been identified. Beginning in the first fiscal year after the creation of the authority, each local trust fund shall be funded by the proceeds of an ad valorem tax increment collected within each transportation concurrency backlog area to be determined annually and shall be 25 percent of the difference between:

(a) The amount of ad valorem tax levied each year by each taxing authority, exclusive of any amount from any debt service millage, on taxable real property contained within the jurisdiction of the transportation concurrency backlog authority and within the transportation backlog area; and

(b) The amount of ad valorem taxes which would have been produced by the rate upon which the tax is levied each year by or for each taxing authority, exclusive of any debt service millage, upon the total of the assessed value of the taxable real property within the transportation concurrency backlog area as shown on the most recent assessment roll used in connection with the taxation of such property of each taxing authority prior to the effective date of the ordinance funding the trust fund.

(6) EXEMPTIONS.—

(a) The following public bodies or taxing authorities are exempt from the provision of this section:

1. A special district that levies ad valorem taxes on taxable real property in more than one county.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
2. Special district for which the sole available source of revenue is the authority to levy ad valorem taxes at the time an ordinance is adopted under this section. However, revenues or aid that may be dispensed or appropriated to a district as defined in s. 388.011 at the discretion of an entity other than such district shall not be deemed available.

3. A library district.

4. A neighborhood improvement district created under the Safe Neighborhoods Act.

5. A metropolitan transportation authority.

6. A water management district created under s. 373.069.

7. A community redevelopment agency.

(b) A transportation concurrency exemption authority may also exempt from this section a special district that levies ad valorem taxes within the transportation concurrency backlog area pursuant to s. 163.387(2)(d).

Section 11. The Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program created under s. 420.5095, Florida Statutes, shall be known as the "Representative Mike Davis Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program."

Section 12. For the purpose of implementing Specific Appropriation 1661A of the 2007-2008 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Community Affairs may use expedited rulemaking authority in order to implement the distribution of the Local Update Census Addresses (LUCA) technical assistance grants.

Section 13. Section 163.32465, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.32465 State review of local comprehensive plans in urban areas.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—

(a) The Legislature finds that local governments in this state have a wide diversity of resources, conditions, abilities, and needs. The Legislature also finds that the needs and resources of urban areas are different from those of rural areas and that different planning and growth management approaches, strategies, and techniques are required in urban areas. The state role in overseeing growth management should reflect this diversity and should vary based on local government conditions, capabilities, needs, and extent of development. Thus, the Legislature recognizes and finds that reduced state oversight of local comprehensive planning is justified for some local governments in urban areas.

(b) The Legislature finds and declares that this state’s urban areas require a reduced level of state oversight because of their high degree of urbanization and the planning capabilities and resources of many of their local governments. An alternative state review process that is adequate to protect issues of regional or statewide importance should be created for
appropriate local governments in these areas. Further, the Legislature finds that development, including urban infill and redevelopment, should be encouraged in these urban areas. The Legislature finds that an alternative process for amending local comprehensive plans in these areas should be established with an objective of streamlining the process and recognizing local responsibility and accountability.

(c) The Legislature finds a pilot program will be beneficial in evaluating an alternative, expedited plan amendment adoption and review process. Pilot local governments shall represent highly developed counties and the municipalities within these counties and highly populated municipalities.

(2) ALTERNATIVE STATE REVIEW PROCESS PILOT PROGRAM.—
Pinellas and Broward Counties, and the municipalities within these counties, and Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, and Hialeah, shall follow an alternative state review process provided in this section. Municipalities within the pilot counties may elect, by super majority vote of the governing body, not to participate in the pilot program.

(3) PROCESS FOR ADOPTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM.—

(a) Plan amendments adopted by the pilot program jurisdictions shall follow the alternate, expedited process in subsections (4) and (5), except as set forth in paragraphs (b) through (e) of this subsection.

(b) Amendments that qualify as small-scale development amendments may continue to be adopted by the pilot program jurisdictions pursuant to ss. 163.3187(1)(c) and (3).

c) Plan amendments that propose a rural land stewardship area pursuant to s. 163.3177(11)(d); propose an optional sector plan; update a comprehensive plan based on an evaluation and appraisal report; implement new statutory requirements; or new plans for newly incorporated municipalities are subject to state review as set forth in s. 163.3184.

(d) Pilot program jurisdictions shall be subject to the frequency and timing requirements for plan amendments set forth in ss. 163.3187 and 163.3191, except where otherwise stated in this section.

(e) The mediation and expedited hearing provisions in s. 163.3189(3) apply to all plan amendments adopted by the pilot program jurisdictions.

(4) INITIAL HEARING ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT FOR PILOT PROGRAM.—

(a) The local government shall hold its first public hearing on a comprehensive plan amendment on a weekday at least seven days after the day the first advertisement is published pursuant to the requirements of chapters 125 or 166. Upon an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the members of the governing body present at the hearing, the local government shall immediately transmit the amendment or amendments and appropriate supporting data and analyses to the state land planning agency; the
appropriate regional planning council and water management district; the Department of Environmental Protection; the Department of State; the Department of Transportation; in the case of municipal plans, to the appropriate county; the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and in the case of amendments that include or impact the public school facilities element, the Office of Educational Facilities of the Commissioner of Education. The local governing body shall also transmit a copy of the amendments and supporting data and analyses to any other local government or governmental agency that has filed a written request with the governing body.

(b) The agencies and local governments specified in paragraph (a) may provide comments regarding the amendment or amendments to the local government. The regional planning council review and comment shall be limited to effects on regional resources or facilities identified in the strategic regional policy plan and extrajurisdictional impacts that would be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of the affected local government. A regional planning council shall not review and comment on a proposed comprehensive plan amendment prepared by such council unless the plan amendment has been changed by the local government subsequent to the preparation of the plan amendment by the regional planning council. County comments on municipal comprehensive plan amendments shall be primarily in the context of the relationship and effect of the proposed plan amendments on the county plan. Municipal comments on county plan amendments shall be primarily in the context of the relationship and effect of the amendments on the municipal plan. State agency comments may include technical guidance on issues of agency jurisdiction as it relates to the requirements of this part. Such comments shall clearly identify issues that, if not resolved, may result in an agency challenge to the plan amendment. For the purposes of this pilot program, agencies are encouraged to focus potential challenges on issues of regional or statewide importance. Agencies and local governments must transmit their comments to the affected local government such that they are received by the local government not later than thirty days from the date on which the agency or government received the amendment or amendments.

(5) ADOPTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT FOR PILOT AREAS.—

(a) The local government shall hold its second public hearing, which shall be a hearing on whether to adopt one or more comprehensive plan amendments, on a weekday at least five days after the day the second advertisement is published pursuant to the requirements of chapters 125 or 166. Adoption of comprehensive plan amendments must be by ordinance and requires an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the governing body present at the second hearing.

(b) All comprehensive plan amendments adopted by the governing body along with the supporting data and analysis shall be transmitted within ten days of the second public hearing to the state land planning agency and any other agency or local government that provided timely comments under subsection 4(b).
(a) Any “affected person” as defined in s. 163.3184(1)(a) may file a petition with the Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57, with a copy served on the affected local government, to request a formal hearing to challenge whether the amendments are “in compliance” as defined in s. 163.3184(1)(b). This petition must be filed with the Division within 30 days after the local government adopts the amendment. The state land planning may intervene in a proceeding instituted by an affected person.

(b) The state land planning agency may file a petition with the Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57, with a copy served on the affected local government, to request a formal hearing. This petition must be filed with the Division within 30 days after the state land planning agency notifies the local government that the plan amendment package is complete. For purposes of this section, an amendment shall be deemed complete if it contains a full, executed copy of the adoption ordinance or ordinances; in the case of a text amendment, a full copy of the amended language in legislative format with new words inserted in the text underlined, and words to be deleted lined through with hyphens; in the case of a future land use map amendment, a copy of the future land use map clearly depicting the parcel, its existing future land use designation, and its adopted designation; and a copy of any data and analyses the local government deems appropriate. The state land planning agency shall notify the local government of any deficiencies within five working days of receipt of amendment package.

(c) The state land planning agency’s challenge shall be limited to those issues raised in the comments provided by the reviewing agencies pursuant to subsection (4)(b). The state land planning agency may challenge a plan amendment that has substantially changed from the version on which the agencies provided comments. For the purposes of this pilot program, the Legislature strongly encourages the state land planning agency to focus any challenge on issues of regional or statewide importance.

(d) An administrative law judge shall hold a hearing in the affected local jurisdiction. The local government’s determination that the amendment is “in compliance” is presumed to be correct and shall be sustained unless it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the amendment is not “in compliance.”

(e) If the administrative law judge recommends that the amendment be found not in compliance, the judge shall submit the recommended order to the Administration Commission for final agency action. The Administration Commission shall enter a final order within 45 days after its receipt of the recommended order.

(f) If the administrative law judge recommends that the amendment be found in compliance, the judge shall submit the recommended order to the state land planning agency.

CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.
1. If the state land planning agency determines that the plan amendment should be found not in compliance, the agency shall refer, within 30 days of receipt of the recommended order, the recommended order and its determination to the Administration Commission for final agency action. If the commission determines that the amendment is not in compliance, it may sanction the local government as set forth in s. 163.3184(11).

2. If the state land planning agency determines that the plan amendment should be found in compliance, the agency shall enter its final order not later than 30 days from receipt of the recommended order.

(g) An amendment adopted under the expedited provisions of this section shall not become effective until 31 days after adoption. If timely challenged, an amendment shall not become effective until the state land planning agency or the Administration Commission enters a final order determining the adopted amendment to be in compliance.

(h) Parties to a proceeding under this section may enter into compliance agreements using the process in s. 163.3184(16). Any remedial amendment adopted pursuant to a settlement agreement shall be provided to the agencies and governments listed in paragraph (4)(a).

(7) APPLICABILITY OF PILOT PROGRAM IN CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—Local governments and specific areas that have been designated for alternate review process pursuant to ss. 163.3246 and 163.3184(17) and (18) are not subject to this section.

(8) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY FOR PILOT PROGRAM.—Agencies shall not promulgate rules to implement this pilot program.

(9) REPORT.—The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2008, a report and recommendations for implementing a statewide program that addresses the legislative findings in subsection (1) in areas that meet urban criteria. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in consultation with the state land planning agency shall develop the report and recommendations with input from other state and regional agencies, local governments and interest groups. Additionally, the office shall review local and state actions and correspondence relating to the pilot program to identify issues of process and substance in recommending changes to the pilot program. At a minimum, the report and recommendations shall include the following:

(a) Identification of local governments beyond those participating in the pilot program that should be subject to the alternative expedited state review process. The report may recommend that pilot program local governments may no longer be appropriate for such alternative review process.

(b) Changes to the alternative expedited state review process for local comprehensive plan amendments identified in the pilot program.

(c) Criteria for determining issues of regional or statewide importance that are to be protected in the alternative state review process.
(d) In preparing the report and recommendations, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall consult with the state land planning agency, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the regional planning agencies in identifying highly developed local governments to participate in the alternative expedited state review process. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall also solicit citizen input in the potentially affected areas and consult with the affected local governments, and stakeholder groups.

Section 14. There is established four full-time equivalent planning positions and appropriated rate in the amount of $220,000 and salary budget authority in the amount of $326,620 from the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Division of Community Planning for the purposes of providing technical assistance and advice to state and local governments in their ability to respond to growth-related issues, and to ensure compliance with chapter 163 comprehensive planning issues.

Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor June 19, 2007.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 19, 2007.