

# Initial Priorities for Action



Clearly, every desirable action cannot be accomplished in the short term. But this Plan can be used to provide a framework for, and a commitment to, long term planning, redevelopment, revitalization and funding in the Gateway Area. It can also provide a starting point for the necessary intergovernmental and interagency coordination required to achieve the regional potential of the Gateway Area.

The coordination and commitment that results from these initial actions, presented here for approval by the Board of County Commissioners, can better shape and focus ongoing planning and actions, and the identified implementing Departments will be on a common track to realize the potential of the Gateway Area. County staff can act to initiate the following actions immediately upon approval by the Board, with significant milestones achievable, in most cases, within the year.

**To set the stage for interdepartmental, intergovernmental and interagency coordination ...**

**Action 1:** The County Departments that developed this Plan will continue to coordinate and function, for County purposes, as the Gateway Planning Team.

*Gateway Planning Team: Planning; Development Review Services; Airport; Culture, Education and Leisure; Convention and Visitor's Bureau; Economic Development; Environmental Management; Public Works; Utilities; Community Development*

**Action 2:** Determine interest in, and convene, an Intergovernmental Team (i.e, the Cities of St. Petersburg, Largo and Pinellas Park) to cooperatively address the ventures and opportunities described in this Plan, including collaboration on a long range strategic plan for the Gateway Area, that recognizes both individual and countywide roles, responsibilities and goals, as well as the opportunities and benefits of coordination.

*Gateway Planning Team and Municipal representatives*

**Action 3:** Initiate/continue public and business sector involvement in the planning process, including area employers, developers and regulatory agencies.

*Economic Development Department to act as lead for this coordination, with involvement, as needed, by Gateway Planning Team*

**To determine the correct planning approach(es) ...**

**Action 4:** Continue to participate in ongoing planning efforts, including the County's Strategic Plan, the Countywide Economic Development and Redevelopment Plan; the Culture, Education and Leisure Master Plan; and the Cross Bayou Watershed Plan to determine what components are appropriate for implementation in the Gateway Area.

*County Administration, Planning, Economic Development*

**Action 5:** Consider, and discuss with affected governments and agencies, the value of a more formalized multi-jurisdictional planning approach to the Gateway Area (e.g., a Chapter 163, F.S. sector plan, overlays, etc.).

*Board of County Commissioners, County Administration, Economic Development, Planning*

**Action 6:** Develop conceptual plan for optimal co-location of uses at the "Speedway/Intermodal Hub" site.

*Planning Department as lead, with PSTA, FDOT, Public Works*

**Action 7:** Determine appropriate/required master plan process for the AIRCO property.

*Planning Department, Airport, Economic Development, Development Review Services*

**Decisions on property we own and property we don't own...**

**Action 8:** Discuss individually with stakeholders, and act immediately on, the recommendations for County-owned properties, particularly in regard to changes in land use and acquisitions (**Table 5**).

*Gateway Planning Team; Departments with individual property ownership taking respective lead*

**Action 9:** Actively identify and pursue desirable land acquisitions and land assemblages.

*Public Works/Real Estate and Economic Development, with substantial input from Gateway Planning Team*

**Positioning our plans to support Gateway Area goals...**

**Action 10:** Complete the Cross Bayou Watershed Plan and Watershed Revitalization Initiative, integrating with the County’s Brownfield Initiative.

*Environmental Management, Public Works and Economic Development; with input from Gateway Planning Team*

**Action 11:** Complete the Evaluation and Appraisal Report and amend the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan to reinforce Board Principles and Policy on the future of the Gateway Area, and to set strategic direction to achieve its long term potential.

*Planning Department, incorporating ideas and outcomes from Gateway Planning Team*

**Action 12:** Identify, evaluate and process any amendments required to the Pinellas County Future Land Use Map and Zoning Atlas in order to maximize contribution of County properties to Area goals.

*Planning Department, along with Development Review Services and incorporating ideas and outcomes from Gateway Planning Team*

**Action 13:** Identify/evaluate appropriate amendments to the Pinellas County Code/Land Development Regulations necessary to support implementation of the Gateway Master Plan, livable community concepts and overall quality of life.

*Planning and Economic Development; substantial input from Gateway Planning Team*

**Action 14:** Identify potential amendments to the Countywide Comprehensive Plan needed to foster quality redevelopment in the Gateway Area.

*Intergovernmental Team, Gateway Planning Team, Pinellas Planning Council*

*Positioning ourselves to support Gateway Area goals...*

**Action 15:** Provide consistent direction, organization and support to County Departments to ensure consistency and coordination in Departmental commitment and approach to the Gateway Area.

<i>Board of County Commissioners and County Administration</i>
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