

HORIZON 2025
THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2008 - 2025
CHAPTER 7: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL FACILITIES ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES
OCTOBER, 2008

CHAPTER INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Community and Cultural Facilities Element is to provide for necessary public facilities and services based on existing and future land use and population projections. The Goals, Objectives and Policies found in this Element address the current and projected needs related to municipal buildings, library facilities and services, public schools and the school system, police and fire protection, emergency services facilities, and cultural facilities. Many of the objectives and policies included in this Element were identified as needs in the *Baldwin County Strategic Plan: 2006-2016*. Increasing requirements will be placed on the County's infrastructure and services as the population increases; this Element identifies the needs associated with the anticipated demands.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL: To adequately provide facilities, utilities and services available to the public, including administration buildings, libraries, public school buildings, fire protection and emergency services facilities, art centers, community or recreation centers, and environmental and cultural resources; and to ensure County departments have appropriate office space, equipment, staff, and staff training to provide quality service to Baldwin County residents.

Objective 1: Population increases and development are expected to continue during the planning period with an estimated population increase to 143,519 by 2025 in the unincorporated area of the County. The County shall be prepared to meet the challenges presented by continued and rapid growth.

Policy 1.1: All capital projects over 1 million dollars shall require a fiscal impact and cost benefit analysis.

Policy 1.2: By 2011, the County shall develop an infrastructure assessment (concurrency standard) program/ system for essential public services (i.e. schools, police, fire, parks, utilities, roads and other infrastructure).

Policy 1.3: The Council on Aging shall work with community agencies and other providers to ensure that a full array of services and facilities are available to provide for the rapidly changing needs of the senior population.

Policy 1.4: Baldwin County shall coordinate with the Baldwin County Board of Education (BCBE) to improve the County's education system, and to ensure sufficient land is available for new and expanded school facilities.

HORIZON 2025
THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2008 - 2025
CHAPTER 7: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL FACILITIES ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES
OCTOBER, 2008

Objective 2: The Baldwin County Commission and other elected County officials shall remain committed in ensuring safe communities

Policy 2.1: Maintain the crime rate for reported crime at or below the national average.

Objective 3: Establish community programming in relation to emergency relief, efficient judicial and public health systems.

Policy 3.1: By 2010, ensure that incident level, inter-operable communications include updates and drills. By 2016, implement a countywide/ regional inter-operable communication system that provides coherent communications between the multiple inter-governmental agencies in support of first responders.

Policy 3.2: By 2010, the County shall complete an assessment of volunteer fire districts and search and rescue squads in order to ensure the adequacy of coverage for rapid growth within the County.

Policy 3.3: By 2011, obtain and maintain NFPA 1600 Standard on Disaster/ Emergency Management and Business Continuity Accreditation (EMAP). In addition, by 2011, define and implement disaster recovery measures to meet the service level agreements.

Policy 3.4: The County shall increase emphasis on health care issues, especially those related to elderly populations. The number of health care facilities shall be increased as the population grows. Accordingly, the County shall also increase its alcohol and drug rehabilitation facilities.

Objective 4: Baldwin County recognizes that its most significant assets are natural resources and waterways. The County shall work in cooperation with all citizens to protect, preserve and strengthen the environment within the community.

Policy 4.1: By 2010, coordinate public awareness and environmental education efforts with the Baldwin County public schools to have a majority of its students participate in environmental programs and community projects.

Policy 4.2: By 2014, increase citizen awareness of environmental issues with 35% of citizens reporting they are better informed of environmental issues related to: pollution, littering, recycling, the value of the environment, and stormwater issues.

Policy 4.3: By 2010, 30 percent of solid waste generated by County buildings shall be recycled.

Policy 4.4: By 2015, 30 percent of solid waste generated by residents of unincorporated areas of the County shall be recycled.

HORIZON 2025
THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2008 - 2025
CHAPTER 7: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL FACILITIES ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES
OCTOBER, 2008

Policy 4.5: By 2015, increase the number of recycle drop off points.

Policy 4.6: By 2009, design an enforcement mechanism such as fines and/or citations for illegal dumping and other environmental issues with inter-jurisdictional coordination.

Policy 4.7: By 2013, ensure oversight of sewer services and septic systems to include consumer protections, and decrease spills by 30 percent.

Policy 4.8: The County shall create and foster partnerships with other local, state and federal agencies to protect endangered species habitat, to prevent species of concern from being listed, and to lessen impacts to existing endangered species using strategies identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan.

Objective 5: Baldwin County shall provide necessary public services such as the construction and maintenance of roads, safe and accessible public buildings, trash collection and recycling, and public transportation.

Policy 5.1: Services provided by the County shall be supported by technology through investment in fiber optics, networks, and other hardware/ software needed to support cost effective government.

Policy 5.2: By 2012, lower County road related accidents by 5%.

Policy 5.3: By 2018, 75% of citizens shall have access throughout Baldwin County to broadband internet access and other enhanced communication services.

Policy 5.4: Customer service shall be improved to ensure all citizen inquiries and/or complaints are promptly addressed.

Policy 5.5: Where necessary, the County shall modify and/or expand existing community centers to serve as educational centers for classes such as computer training. Special focus shall be given to serving the needs of the senior population.

Policy 5.6: Construction and maintenance of County roadways shall be consistent with the Baldwin County Highway Department's Strategic Plan.