

construction, whereas larger pipes are constructed from ductile iron. Improvements to the distribution/transmission system have generally followed the recommendations outlined in the most recent master plan, with the timing of specific projects dependent on development patterns. **Map 10** shows the extent of the system within the interchange study area.

#### E. Public Schools

The area is currently served by Wolf Lake and Zellwood elementary schools, Wolf Lake Middle School and Apopka High School. According to the Orange County Public Schools (OCPS), all four schools are projected to be deficient by FY 2011-12. The OCPS current 10-year plan includes a relief elementary school for Wolf Lake and Zellwood, and a relief middle school for Wolf Lake. **Maps 11 to 13** show the attendance zones for these schools.

### IV. Community Involvement

In conjunction with the County, the City conducted two public workshops to discuss the future growth around the proposed Wekiva Parkway Interchange. The first public workshop was conducted on February 25, 2010, and the second workshop was conducted on March 25, 2010. **Appendices B and C** contain the workshop summaries and the list of attendees. It should be noted that for the purpose of the Community Workshops an enlarged study area was reviewed, which included the area north of West Ponkan Road.

Additionally, the City held a public hearing before the City of Apopka Planning Commission on April 27, 2010 and the City Council on May 19, 2010.

### V. Wekiva Parkway Interchange Vision Plan

The Wekiva Parkway will complete the outer beltway around Metro Orlando area. The completion of this outer ring, along with the proposed interchange, will result in added growth and development pressure within the Wekiva Study Area.

The Interchange Vision Plan was developed with a goal to accommodate new development that: (1) supports regional markets that depend on the Wekiva Parkway's function to move people and goods (light industry and warehousing, hotels/motels, restaurants, gas stations, truck stops, and convenience stores)<sup>1</sup>; (2) is designed to complement the surrounding areas; and (3) manages and protects water and wildlife resources.

#### A. Land Use Vision

Even though the area is currently rural in character and the adopted land use categories for the area reinforce that character, the introduction of a highway interchange at Kelly Park Road will create development pressure in the area. The City, County and most area residents realize a need and have a desire for a plan for that future growth. The main goal of planning for growth is to situate it within an appropriate area around the interchange, and to allow sufficient density

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<sup>1</sup> Guidelines for Preparing Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the Wekiva Study Area



and intensity to maximize sustainability and minimize environmental impacts on the Wekiva Study Area. The City also wants to take advantage of the opportunity this location provides to create a setting that will attract new quality employment to the area. The higher densities and intensities expected to accompany the interchange should transition into lower densities/intensities to ensure compatibility with the surrounding areas. Well thought-out, coordinated development is, therefore, a driving element of the interchange land use plan. Coordinated, transitional development at the interchange will protect meaningful tracts of connected open space, and preserve rural land outside of the interchange study area while allowing for carefully planned growth.

As shown on **Map 8**, potential Karst features are indicated proximate to the proposed interchange. For that reason, the vision plan proposes a measured approach to intensive development in the area immediately adjacent to the interchange, and instead create two nodes of development at the closest intersections to the parkway: Kelly Park Road/Golden Gem Road and Kelly Park Road/Plymouth Sorrento Road (see **Map 14**). The most dense and intense uses will be located within a 1/3-mile radius of the two proposed nodes. Between these nodes and the one-mile study area boundary, land uses will provide a transition to the existing lower densities, and less intense development character will be respected beyond the one-mile radius.

**Map 15** shows the proposed interchange vision plan, which includes both City and unincorporated land. As shown on the map, the area within a 1-mile radius of the proposed interchange is proposed to be urban in character, with uses such as industrial, commercial, office, institutional/public, and medium and high-density residential uses. The highest intensity of use will be clustered around the two nodes as village centers. The area between the nodes and the one-mile radius will contain uses that will ensure the smooth transition to the less intense areas outside the one-mile radius.

The following is a description of the proposed character districts for the vision plan area.

**1. Village Center (residential and commercial mix)**

As noted above, the vision plan intends to concentrate the most intensive development within the two major intersection nodes. The type of development envisioned for these two nodes includes mixed-use buildings with retail uses on the ground floor and offices or residential spaces above. The Village Center character district will comprise approximately 5 to 15% of the area.

**2. Edge Employment(employment uses)**

Office uses may appear within the village center nodes as part of mixed-use buildings, or as stand-alone uses in the Edge Employment character district along the Wekiva Parkway. Other uses that would be appropriate for the Edge Employment area include industrial developments (clean industry), or large institutional uses (hospitals, educational facilities), which would provide much needed jobs in the area. Limited residential



will also be allowed. Both office and industrial uses will benefit from the visibility and access from the highway. Within the [EdgeEmployment](#) character district, greater attention will be applied to ensure protection of the potential Karst features and to allow for adequate setbacks from the highway. This area will not focus on the pedestrian environment as the village center, but would adopt a campus-like environment. Approximately 5 to 10% of the area is shown as [EdgeEmployment](#) on the vision plan map.

**3. Interchange (highway-dependent uses)**

The area between the proposed village centers and the parkway will be the most accessible to traffic exiting the highway. Therefore, the intended character for those areas will be a mix between Village Center and a more “suburban” type setting. It is expected that this is the area where gas stations would be located. There will be form-based standards adopted to ensure the transition from the fast-moving traffic in the highway to the more walkable environment expected to develop in the village centers. The Interchange character district will contain predominantly stand-alone uses (as opposed to mixed-use buildings) with less intensity of development than in the Village Center. [EdgeEmployment](#) character district type uses, including limited high density residential, may also occur in this character district. The area to be dedicated to Interchange uses comprises approximately 5 to 10% of the entire vision plan area.

**4. Transitional (office, medium density residential uses)**

Uses within the transitional areas will be regulated to minimize the impact of the most intensive areas (Village Center, [EdgeEmployment](#) and Interchange) on the existing lower density neighborhoods surrounding the study area. Medium densities in the form of town houses, apartments and condominiums, and office uses will be allowed within the Transitional district. The vision plan shows that approximately 10 to 20% of the total area will be dedicated to the Transitional character district. The expected density in the Transitional character district would accommodate between 5 to 15 dwelling units per acre depending on their location respective to neighborhood areas.

**5. Neighborhood (residential)**

The Neighborhood character district is intended to be primarily a single-family residential area. This district will have lower density residential than the Transitional district, allowing for a smooth transition into the existing lower density neighborhoods outside the 1-mile radius. The character of the area will be regulated through form-based standards to ensure that single-family homes are designed with front porches and that garages are located in the back with access from alleyways. The neighborhood area comprises over 50% of the vision plan area.

6. Recreation and Institutional

The Vision Plan shows an area as Recreation, consistent with the adopted Northwest Small Area Plan. This, however, does not mean that there will only be one area designated for recreation/open space. As properties develop (especially large tracts), the City will consider dedication of land for open space. Institutional uses (schools, churches, etc.) will also be defined as the area develops. It is anticipated that a minimum of 15% of the land within the area will eventually be used for open space/recreation purposes.

B. Vision Plan Holding Capacity

Based on the land uses and densities proposed in the vision plan, holding capacities were calculated to identify the amount of development that could potentially occur in the area. **Table 3** demonstrates that the vision plan area could accommodate approximately 15,873 residential units and 22,587,535 square feet of non-residential development.

Table 3: Vision Plan Holding Capacity

Proposed Land Use	Total Acres	% of Total	Max. Intensity (FAR)	Max. Density (UPA)	Density/ Intensity Factor	Total Dwelling Units	Non-Residential Square Feet
Village Center Core (assumes 1st floor non-resid. + resid above)	80	2.1	0.5	12	0.75	720	1,306,800
Village Center balance (assumes 1st floor non-resid. + resid above)	248	6.4	0.35	12	0.75	2,232	2,835,756
Interchange (assumes 10% residential)	175	4.5	1.0	15	0.70	184	4,811,875
Edge Employment (assumes 10% residential)	260	6.7	0.5	7.5	0.60	117	3,052,231
Transitional (assumes 70% resid.; 30% non)	581	14.9	1.0	15	0.85	5,185	6,453,276
Neighborhood (assumes 90% residential)	2,360	60.7	0.5	5	0.70	7,435	3,598,699
Parks/Recreation	121	3.1	0.2		0.50	0	528,897
Wekiva Parkway ROW	63	1.6					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,889</b>	<b>100.0</b>				<b>15,873</b>	<b>22,587,535</b>

Note: Acreages and yields are approximations only.

Based on the total acres of the area and the potential for residential and non-residential development noted above, an overall density of 4 du/ac and an overall FAR of 0.14 could be achieved.