

Existing Municipal Areas

These areas are defined by the current boundaries of the incorporated cities. Although cities control their own planning and zoning activities, county land use decisions will have a very real impact upon future municipal development patterns and the ability of each community to efficiently provide for future public services and facilities. The following policies apply to municipal planning areas:

Policies

- 1 Concentrate future nonfarm growth in or contiguous to municipalities where public infrastructure can be economically provided. Maximize the utilization and efficiency of existing public facilities and services.
- 1 Discourage premature development in municipal fringe areas.
- 1 Seek the input of municipal officials in the review of development proposals which could potentially impact future municipal expansion and public infrastructure projects.
- 1 Encourage annexation of potential development sites within municipal fringe areas before development plans are approved.
- 1 Promote cooperative efforts with the municipalities in dealing with growth issues. Municipal requests for extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction should be guided by the procedures outlined in the Plan Implementation chapter.
- 1 Insure that future rural development does not detract from the implementation of municipal comprehensive plans. Recognize municipal growth plans when considering future development proposals.
- 1 Preserve the identity of existing communities by discouraging sprawl and leapfrog development.
Encourage a pattern of development in transition areas which can be integrated into municipal planning areas without the need for costly and inefficient public infrastructure expenditures.