Evaluation of the Comprehensive Plan

The following are the goals, objectives and policies (GOP’s) of the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan regarding preservation of historical and archaeological resources. These GOP’s were reviewed and evaluated for consistency with the County Historic Preservation Public Policies recommended by the Pinellas County Historic Preservation Advisory Board and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 2008.

Proposed amendments to the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan regarding preservation of historical and archaeological resources are shown below and are underlined/in bold.

Recreation and Open Space Element:

1. 8. Objective: Pinellas County Departments shall cooperatively develop educational programs and materials concerning the conservation, protection, restoration, and interpretation of natural, historic and cultural resources.

2.1.8. Policy: Pinellas County will continue to incorporate environmental/historical/archaeological education exhibits and kiosks to support the education curriculum at regional parks and environmental lands, consistent with approved management plans.

5.3. Objective: The County shall continue to identify, protect and preserve historic and archaeological resources in Pinellas County, including coastal areas. Particular emphasis will be given to increasing the interpretation and appreciation of such resources.

5.3.1. Policy: By December 2010, the County shall update the 1994 countywide inventory of historic and archaeological resources. The findings will be utilized as the primary basis for identifying potentially significant local, state and national register eligible historic and archaeological resources in the County. The inventory may be further revised as needed, based upon information that meets acceptable professional criteria for identifying these resources.
5.3.2 Policy: Concomitantly with the update to the countywide inventory of historical and archaeological resources, the County will update its Geographic Information System (GIS) in order to have an accurate database for making preservation decisions, including in association with redevelopment planning.

5.3.3 Policy: Based on the findings of the County’s Historic Preservation Task Force and the resulting development of a historic preservation program potential amendments to this Comprehensive Plan may be required to adequately protect historic resources, and inform County residents, businesses and local leaders of the value those resources bring to the character and quality of communities throughout Pinellas County. Furthermore, potential amendments to the County’s Land Development Code may be required to adequately protect historic and archaeological resources.

5.3.4 Policy: As additional sites of potential historical or archaeological significance are identified in unincorporated Pinellas County, they shall be submitted to the Florida Department of State for inclusion in the Florida Master Site File.

5.3.5 Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to provide for the protection, preservation, and appropriate use of historically significant housing, structures, and archaeological resources through implementation of the historic preservation and comprehensive zoning chapters of the Pinellas County Land Development Code.

5.3.6 Policy: Historic and archaeological sites as identified in the County’s Geographic Information System shall be shown on site plans submitted for development or redevelopment.

5.3.7 Policy: When appropriate, and as resources allow, Pinellas County shall continue to support citizen-initiated efforts to preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources.

5.3.8 Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to offer incentives to protect and restore designated historic properties in the unincorporated area and, when appropriate, shall coordinate with the municipalities on intergovernmental efforts to protect historic resources.
5.3.9. Policy: Pinellas County shall recognize historic and archaeological resources that could potentially be affected by land use and zoning changes.

5.3.10. Policy: Pinellas County shall promote the protection, preservation, or sensitive adaptive reuse of historic and archaeological resources located in coastal areas and provide public access where appropriate and possible.

5.3.11. Policy: Pinellas County shall continue its historical and archaeological preservation education programs to inform residents and visitors about the history and prehistory of Pinellas County, and to increase an awareness of the significance of the County’s historic and archaeological resources.

5.3.12. Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to recognize, preserve, protect, and interpret archaeological and historic sites and buildings that are listed on the official National Register, or are of local historical significance within County parks and environmental lands.

5.3.13. Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to support County historic and archaeological sites and structures such as the old County Courthouse, the Philippe Park Indian Mound and Fort DeSoto, as well as interpretive centers such as the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center and Heritage Village, that contribute to heritager-based tourism and cultural stewardship.

5.3.14. Policy: When a significant historic structure or archaeological site is acquired by Pinellas County, the County assess the feasibility of preserving the historic structure or the significance of the archaeological site.

5.3.15. Policy: The County may identify and include public infrastructure improvements as part of its overall program to promote the protection and preservation of significant historic and archaeological resources.

5.3.16. Policy: By December 2010, Pinellas County will establish a countywide guide to historically significant facilities.

5.3.17. Policy: Pinellas County will maintain repositories for the protection and interpretation of archaeological, historic and public art collections.
5.3.18. Policy: Pinellas County will continue to offer historical and cultural programming and interpretation within its system of regional parks and environmental lands, where appropriate and consistent with applicable management plans.

5.3.19. Policy: Historical and cultural programming activities will not compromise the environmental, historical, archaeological and resource-based integrity of the regional parks and environmental lands in which they are located.

5.3.20 Policy: Pinellas County shall cooperate with the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to provide them with additional local information on the evaluation of nominated National Register eligible sites.

5.3.21 Policy: Pinellas County shall coordinate with and request from SHPO, an evaluation of historic bridges located within Pinellas County that have been recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the Florida Department of Transportation (Exhibit #).

5.3.22 Policy: Pinellas County shall develop strategies for documenting under-recorded historical and archaeological resources by emphasizing the documentation of linear resources (e.g. canals, railroads, historic road segments), by coordinating with local genealogical and historical societies to conduct surveys of historic cemeteries and unmarked graves in the future cultural resource surveys and by developing contexts for these resources to accurately assess their historic significance.

5.3.23 Policy: Pinellas County shall consider coordination with municipalities, as appropriate, to record cultural resources related to the histories of ethnic enclaves (e.g. African-Americans, Greek heritage of Tarpon Springs, etc.).

5.3.25 Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to conduct oral interviews to gather information about diminished cultural resources within the County.
6.1 **OBJECTIVE:**

Pinellas County shall develop cooperative ventures with State and local municipalities and shall develop a collaborative countywide educational system to promote historic preservation programs in Pinellas County.

6.1.1 **Policy:** Pinellas County shall work with members of the Ozona and Crystal Beach communities to gauge the level of support for nominating Crystal Beach and Ozona for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and for listing on the Pinellas County Historic Preservation Overlay Zoning District.

6.1.2 **Policy:** Pinellas County shall consider developing strategies for updating documentation for existing National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) sites.

6.1.3 **Policy:** Pinellas County shall continue to support municipalities, as appropriate, with nominations of eligible sites for listing on the National Register and shall coordinate with municipalities in the review of existing National Register historic boundaries and contributing properties as necessary.

6.1.4 **Policy:** Pinellas County shall support National Register nominations for all individually eligible resources as determined by State Historic Preservation Office.

6.1.5 **Policy:** Pinellas County shall develop a countywide historic preservation toolbox that would guide owners of historic properties on the availability of local programs and incentives that would help preserve and promote historic properties in Pinellas County.

6.1.6 **Policy** Pinellas County shall encourage municipalities to enact local historic preservation ordinances and programs.

6.1.7 **Policy** To promote local historic preservation incentives available to municipalities, Pinellas County shall work and coordinate with municipalities that have adopted a local historic property tax exemption ordinance.
6.1.8 Policy: By 2010, Pinellas County shall become a Certified Local Government Program (CLG) and provide technical assistance to increase the number of municipalities participating in the state CLG program.

6.1.9 Policy: Pinellas County shall develop strategies to support municipalities with technical assistance and educational opportunities in historic preservation, and shall continue to provide and support municipal historic property ad valorem tax exemption applications.

6.1.10 Policy: Pinellas County shall support local historic preservation educational outreach programs available to all residents and visitors of Pinellas County interested in historic preservation, including owners of historic properties, realtors and developers, preservation commission and historical society members, municipalities, and historic preservation professionals.

6.1.11 Policy: Pinellas County shall promote the economic benefits of historic preservation to real estate professionals, including realtors, developers, and insurance companies.

6.1.12 Policy: Pinellas County shall coordinate with historical societies and museums to develop exhibits for schools and libraries highlighting cultural resources of the county.

6.1.13 Policy: Pinellas County shall support the activities, policies and programs of the Pinellas County Historic Preservation Task Force established in 2005 renamed in 2008 to the Pinellas County Historic Preservation Advisory Board.

* Note: Goal 6 and subsequent objectives and policies of ROSE will need to be renumbered.

Transportation Element:

1.1.10. Policy: Pinellas County shall coordinate road improvement plans with the needs of local residents in terms of historic and community preservation.

Coastal Management Element:

4.2.1. Policy: The County shall as a minimum use the following criteria for siting marinas and boat ramp facilities:
• No adverse impact on archaeological or historic sites as defined by state and local comprehensive plans.

**Future Land Use Element:**

2.4.5 Policy: In areas of the County having a historic or consistent design character, new development should be designed to maintain and support the existing character *of the area.*

**Public School Facility Element:**

2.1.5 Policy: In addition to consistency with the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan, the proposed location of a new or expanded public educational facility of the School Board within one of the land use categories listed in Policy 2.1.3 shall be reviewed and considered with the following general criteria:

5. There will be no adverse impact on archaeological or historic sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places or designated by a local government as locally significant historic or archaeological resources.

**Housing Element:**

1.11.9. Policy: Pinellas County shall continue to provide for protection, preservation and appropriate use of historically significant housing structures through implementation of the historic preservation and zoning regulations of the Pinellas County Land Development Code.