

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has general responsibility for conduct of the comprehensive planning program. The Board conducts public hearings (monthly) and workshops (as scheduled) to consider countywide regulations, policies, and related applicant requests concerning long range planning matters within the scope of its responsibilities. The Board does not have regulatory authority to consider site-specific land use issues, but serves as an advisory authority, making the final recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners on the adoption of land development regulations, comprehensive plan amendments, and land use policies.

- The Planning Board's main duty is to review applications for amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map, pursuant to Section 2.09.02 of the Land Development Code, *Procedures*, which briefly states:
 - A. *Local planning agency consideration.* The Escambia County Planning Board serves as the local planning agency. Prior to any plan amendment being proposed or adopted by the BCC, the LPA shall conduct a public hearing and promulgate recommendations on each plan amendment so considered.
 - B. *Board of County Commissioners action.* Upon receipt of the LPA recommendation, the BCC may propose Comprehensive Plan amendments and develop such amendments with the requisite data and analysis pursuant to F.S. § 163.3184 and relevant Florida Administrative Code provisions (i.e., F.A.C. Rule 9J-11.)
 - C. *Department of Community Affairs review.* Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the BCC will transmit proposed plan amendments to the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to allow opportunity for review and comment prior to adopting said amendments. Upon receipt of DCA comments, if any, on proposed amendments, the BCC may proceed with the adoption process as defined in F.S. § 163.3184.
- The Planning Board also hears requests for interpretations, pursuant to Section 2.07.01 of the Land Development Code, *Planning Board (LPA) interpretations*, which briefly states:

The Planning Board, sitting as the Local Planning Agency (LPA), shall review and interpret any provisions of this Code for the purposes of clarification or determination of meaning and intent if questions should arise regarding the meaning, intent or interpretation of any provision or section. Such interpretation request shall be presented at the next regular Planning Board meeting if the request is received by the Planning and Engineering Department staff at least 20 calendar days in advance of said meeting.