

4. Housing

Goal: Support affordable housing options that revitalize family-friendly neighborhoods.

Policies

4.1 The growing need for workforce and affordable housing should be addressed through public-private partnerships to construct additional housing.

4.2 Educational opportunities should be provided to the homebuilding industry to implement public/private incentive programs and construction techniques to ensure access to adequate and affordable housing options for all residents in all income levels.

4.3 A mixture of housing types in varying income levels should be encouraged and actively promoted.

4.4 Impediments and barriers to affordable housing should be analyzed, and steps to alleviate those impediments and barriers should be implemented, especially in designated revitalization areas.

4.5 The development and maintenance of a proactive housing inventory should be encouraged.

4.6 The existing housing stock and neighborhoods should be proactively maintained and protected from incompatible uses and nuisances through the enforcement of local zoning ordinances, code enforcement, and building inspection programs, etc.

4.7 Efforts should be made to fund education, rental/down-payment, and maintenance assistance programs through public grants/loans and/or DCA/HUD certified organizations that reduce housing costs of persons living in poverty, including programs for low-income homeowners, renters, and first-time homebuyers, as well as programs for solar power, weatherizing buildings, and energy efficiency, especially in designated revitalization areas.

4.8 Public-private partnerships should be coordinated to improve lots and structures in designated revitalization areas and make the areas more attractive to reinvestment and visitors, giving first priority to the needs of the current residents.

4.9 Various methods and programs should be utilized to acquire property within the Designated Revitalization Area, including land donation.

4.10 Collaboration with local residents, local public safety organizations, and the Valdosta Police Department should be encouraged in order to support programs that reduce crime rates.

4.11 Implementation of programs and strategies identified by the Consolidated Plan and the Neighborhood Revitalization Plans should be continued.