GOAL: 7.1

Protect Historical Resources to Preserve the Cultural, Architectural, and Archaeological History of Manatee County, Florida, and the Nation, to Provide Opportunities for Education, for Aesthetic Value, and for Passive Enjoyment of These Resources.

Objective: 7.1.1

Historically Significant Neighborhoods: Identify, preserve, and protect historically significant neighborhoods to:

- preserve the special character of existing residential uses;
- promote preservation of local neighborhood heritage;
- provide historical continuity for future residents and visitors;
- protect or improve property values; and
- promote pride in significant local neighborhoods.

Policy: 7.1.1.1

Identify and preserve all historically significant neighborhoods not already protected by State and Federal programs.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department will cooperate with state, regional, and local agency programs to locate historically significant neighborhoods.
Policy: 7.1.1.2  
Continue to protect local, state, and nationally designated historically significant neighborhoods by identifying them with the appropriate historical overlay on the Future Land Use Map and the Official Zoning Atlas and afford the historic structures and other land use elements in these historic neighborhoods special protection. (See also Policy 2.2.2.6)

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Coordination between the Manatee County Planning Department, the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, the Historical Resources Division of the County Clerk’s Office, and the Manatee County Historic Preservation Board to recommend neighborhoods for protection and to develop specific protection mechanisms for each unique historic neighborhood.

Policy: 7.1.1.3  
Review all requests for additions, alterations, rehabilitation, and demolition of historically significant housing within historic neighborhoods to ensure that such development is consistent with the continued historic viability of the structure and the neighborhood.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning and Building Departments review of all applications for development in historic neighborhoods to ensure consistency with adopted land development regulations.

Policy: 7.1.1.4  
Provide technical and economic assistance, as appropriate, to facilitate the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of contributing structures in designated historic neighborhoods.
Implementation Mechanism:

a) Manatee County Historic Preservation Board support of local applications for technical and economic assistance from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and other appropriate sources to implement this policy.

Policy: 7.1.1.5  
Prohibit demolition of contributing structures in historic neighborhoods, except in cases where preservation or rehabilitation and reuse have been thoroughly explored and all alternatives to demolition are not economically possible.

Implementation Mechanism(s):

a) Planning Department and Historic Preservation Board to assist owners in identifying economically viable alternatives to demolition of historic structures.

b) Historic Preservation Board approval of demolitions only when consistent with this policy.

Policy: 7.1.1.6  
Maintain the preservation plan for the Cortez National Register Historic District which recognizes traditional use of the district as a commercial fishing village and which identifies compatible reuse of existing waterfront and other structures.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning and Building Department implementation of the Cortez vision Plan and the Cortez Historic Design guidelines during development approvals in the Village of Cortez.
Objective: 7.1.2  **Historical Landmarks:** Identify and protect local historically significant landmarks to:

- preserve Manatee County history;
- recognize individual historic preservation efforts; and
- provide historical continuity for residents and visitors; and
- provide historical continuity for the community after a post disaster event.

Policy: 7.1.2.1  Prepare and update a county historical landmarks survey and map for the Coastal Planning Area by 2012, and survey areas outside of the Coastal Planning Area as part of the ongoing survey effort.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department survey and mapping of significant historical landmarks consistent with this policy.

Policy: 7.1.2.2  Preserve significant historic structures located outside of historic neighborhoods as identified in policy 7.1.2.1.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department revision of the Historic Preservation regulations to include a voluntary program for landmarks designation.

b) Planning and Building Departments provide assistance to owners of historical properties identifying economically viable alternatives to demolition.

c) Planning and Building Departments provide timely assistance to owners to encourage stabilization of structures and appropriate transition.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy: 7.1.2.3</th>
<th>Require the sensitive rehabilitation and reuse of historical landmarks as an alternative to demolition whenever possible.</th>
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<td>Policy: 7.1.2.4</td>
<td>Assist private property owners of historically significant landmarks in applying for and utilizing State and Federal assistance programs.</td>
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<td>a) Planning Department and Historic Preservation Board coordination to facilitate action and to provide assistance in a manner consistent with this policy.</td>
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<td>Policy: 7.1.2.5</td>
<td>Develop incentives for owners of historically significant properties to encourage landmarks designation. Such incentives may include:</td>
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<td>1) Favorable tax rates for rehabilitated historic structures;</td>
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<td>2) Establishment of a low interest revolving loan program for maintenance, rehabilitation and repairs of historic structures; and</td>
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<td>3) Special recognition programs for sensitive rehabilitation and/or reuse.</td>
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Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department study of possible incentive mechanisms in compliance with this policy.

Policy: 7.1.2.6

By 2011, adopt historic preservation tax abatement program consistent with state law to encourage preservation of historic resources.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department coordination with appropriate departments and agencies to establish program.

Policy: 7.1.2.7

Seek designation as a Certified Local Government (CLG) by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department, in coordination with the Historic Preservation Board, develop recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

Objective: 7.1.3

Archaeological Sites: Preserve and protect significant archaeological sites from incompatible development to increase understanding of the settlement of the County.

Policy: 7.1.3.1

Require that all land development applications requiring site plan, or subdivision plat review address the occurrence or potential occurrence of historical and archaeological resources within their property boundaries.

Implementation Mechanism(s):

a) Developer provision of information in the development application regarding evidence
from all sources of any on-site historical or archaeological resources. The general location of all identified historical resources shall be shown on all appropriate site plan, and conditions for the protection of such resources shall be included within the Development Order.

b) Planning Department determination of whether a land development application is within a known area of historical or archaeological sensitivity as indicated by the 1990 Archaeological Site Probability Map or by the HR Overlay District of the Future Land Use Map or the HA zoning district overlay of the Official Zoning Atlas or other applicable information or professional evaluation.

c) by 2010, Planning Department update of the 1990 Archaeological Site Probability Map.

Policy: 7.1.3.2

Prohibit the destruction and/or disturbance of any significant historical or archaeological resource site except to allow data recovery or archaeological excavation activities approved by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources.

Implementation Mechanism(s):

a) All identified significant historical resources will be shown on final site development plans and conditions will be contained within the Development Order which will ensure the continued protection of such resources.

b) Historic Preservation Board review of all requests for projects which have significant impacts upon historical and archaeological sites and artifacts that lie within a project site to provide for the mitigation of adverse impacts upon them.
Policy: 7.1.3.3

Require the temporary suspension of land development or alteration activities when sites of potential archaeological significance are uncovered. Where such resources are deemed significant, require the implementation of appropriate action to preserve the value of these resources.

Implementation Mechanism(s):

a) Planning Department notification by the Developer upon discovery of potential sites.

(b) Developer coordination with the Planning Department, Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and the Historic Preservation Board to determine what actions will be taken to achieve policy compliance in an expeditious manner.

Policy: 7.1.3.4

Limit the distribution of specific locational information concerning privately owned and unprotected archaeological resources.

Implementation Mechanism:

(a) Planning Department will not advertise specific locations of archaeological sites. All requests for detailed locational information will be referred to the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources.

Policy: 7.1.3.5

Prepare and maintain a County-wide inventory of significant archaeological sites (See Policy 7.1.3.4).

Policy: 7.1.3.6

Assist private property owners of significant archaeological sites in applying for and utilizing State and Federal assistance programs.
Policy: 7.1.3.7
Explore incentive such as the use of conservation easements, to encourage the preservation of archaeological landmarks.

Objective: 7.1.4
Historical Sites Educational, Cultural and Recreational Value: Increase utilization of state and locally designated historic neighborhoods, landmarks, and archaeological sites for historic and cultural education and to meet passive recreational needs.

Policy: 7.1.4.1
Preserve and protect significant historical and archaeological resources which have aesthetic, educational, cultural, and historical value for public viewing and education whenever feasible.

Implementation Mechanism:

a) Planning Department coordination with state, regional, and local entities to assess the potential for public display of historical resources for educational purposes, and seek methods to fund the implementation of anticipated activities. Assessments shall be based upon:

- National Register status;
- ability of the County to protect the resource; and
- availability of funding for display, interpretation, and security.

Policy: 7.1.4.2
Protect the Madeira Bickel Mound, DeSoto National Memorial, The Gamble Mansion, and other historically significant sites using the historic resources overlay on the Future Land Use Map and the Official Zoning Atlas and promote the passive recreational use of these sites.
Implementation Mechanism:

a) Coordination between the Planning Department and the Manatee County Historic Preservation Board to identify passive recreational uses which are consistent with continued protection and preservation on these resources.

Policy: 7.1.4.3 Promote the educational, cultural, and recreational value of locally designated historic resources by dissemination of public information on these passive recreational resources, where appropriate.

Implementation Mechanism(s):

a) Where funding is available, develop brochures of historical resources detailing their importance to the history and/or prehistory of Manatee County, Florida, and the United States.

b) Utilize the Manatee County Government Access TV (MGA TV) consistent with this policy.

c) Work with the Historical Resources Division of the County Clerk’s Office and the Manatee County Library’s Historical Archives to implement this policy.

Policy: 7.1.4.4 Include significant historical sites and neighborhoods in any planned greenways system whenever appropriate and feasible. (see also Policy 8.4.1.3)

Goal: 7.2 Continue to Offer the Citizens of Manatee County a Responsive, Innovative, Proactive Program of Library Service That Is Capable of Upgrading the Educational, Recreational, Business, Civic and Cultural Quality of Life in the Community.
Objective: 7.2.1  

**Inventory Performance Measures:** Purchase books and other library materials annually to approach a system-wide collection meeting national standards for quantity and diversity, as promulgated by the American Library Association or other recognized authority and to provide superior service to the residents of Manatee County.

Policy: 7.2.1.1  

Maintain or exceed the current state library standard for basic library service of 2 volumes per capita (books and non-book/audio-visual materials).

Policy: 7.2.1.2  

Adhere to the activities outlined in the Manatee County Public Library Long Range Plan.

Policy: 7.2.1.3  

Continue to investigate additional sources of revenue for achieving the policies under Goal 7.2.

Objective: 7.2.2  

**Facilities Performance Measures:** Progress toward meeting national standards for adequate library facilities to serve all citizens of Manatee County.

Policy: 7.2.2.1  

Continue to demonstrate progress towards providing 0.6 square feet of library space per capita of resident population in Manatee County, where financially feasible and in compliance with the Library Facilities Long Range Development Plan.

Policy: 7.2.2.2  

Improve library services and availability by developing new, and refurbishing existing, library facilities and by continuing to explore the possibility of providing bookmobile service.

Objective: 7.2.3  

**Broader Service:** Make progress toward improved service to provide for the needs of all citizens of Manatee County.
| Policy: 7.2.3.1 | Continue to expand basic library service to the under-eighteen population in a cost-feasible manner. |
| Policy: 7.2.3.2 | Continue to develop and expand the provision of specialized information services and resources in a cost-feasible manner to enhance the work of both County government and the business community. |
| Policy: 7.2.3.3 | Continue to extend basic library services in a cost-feasible manner to a wider range of learning- and physically-disabled persons. |
| Policy: 7.2.3.4 | Continue to develop and improve coordination with the public and private schools, institutions of higher learning and other libraries. |
| Goal: 7.3 | **Improve the Cultural Quality of Life of Manatee County Residents and Visitors.** |
| Objective: 7.3.1 | **Cultural Diversity and Accessibility:** Increase the diversity, accessibility and variety of cultural facilities and opportunities available to Manatee County residents and visitors. |
| Policy: 7.3.1.1 | Encourage, facilitate, or provide for the siting of new, well-integrated cultural complexes in the growing areas of Manatee County. |
| Policy: 7.3.1.2 | Continue to encourage the work of the Manatee County Council and other cultural organizations, by: |
| | - recognizing and promoting regional and local artists; |
- developing incentive programs to encourage the placement of art in publicly- and privately-owned spaces; and
- coordinating arts and cultural events in the County.

Policy: 7.3.1.3  Encourage development of diverse forms of artistic endeavor.

Policy: 7.3.1.4  Coordinate with the Manatee County Arts Council and the Ringling School of Art to develop public art throughout Manatee County and to beautify bus shelters.

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Objective: 7.3.2  **Coordinate Cultural Activities:** Increase coordination between the County and cultural organizations to meet the County's cultural needs and to improve the efficiency with which the County's cultural resources are utilized.

Policy: 7.3.2.1  Take the initiative to make cultural resources and opportunities an integral part of the local planning efforts by formalizing mechanisms for coordination between appropriate County departments and advisory groups.

Policy: 7.3.2.2  Encourage coordination between local cultural organizations and the business and educational communities.

Policy: 7.3.2.3  Continue to recognize the Manatee County Arts Council as the designated Local Arts Agency for Manatee County serving to advise the County on arts and cultural matters, including coordination of arts activities.

Objective: 7.3.3  **Promotion of Cultural Resources:** Improve awareness of
the County's cultural resources.

Policy: 7.3.3.1 Encourage the business community to promote awareness of cultural resources and opportunities through public promotion, in-house publications, and by providing funding support for cultural activities.

Policy: 7.3.3.2 Encourage local cultural organizations to work with the business community, the educational community, and other interested local groups to develop information resources concerning cultural issues for inclusion in future business recruitment and other promotion efforts.

Policy: 7.3.3.3 Consider the increase in funding, including funding based on the tourist generated revenues of the County tourist bed tax, for the purpose of promoting the County's cultural resources as a vital part of tourism development planning.