

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT
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14.0 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION *[Rule 9J-5.015(1), (2) F.A.C]*

The Intergovernmental Coordination Element of the Monroe County (County) Comprehensive Plan addresses the data inventory requirements of 9J-5.015(1), (2), and (3) of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The data inventory requirement will support the development of goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs for the Intergovernmental Coordination Element.

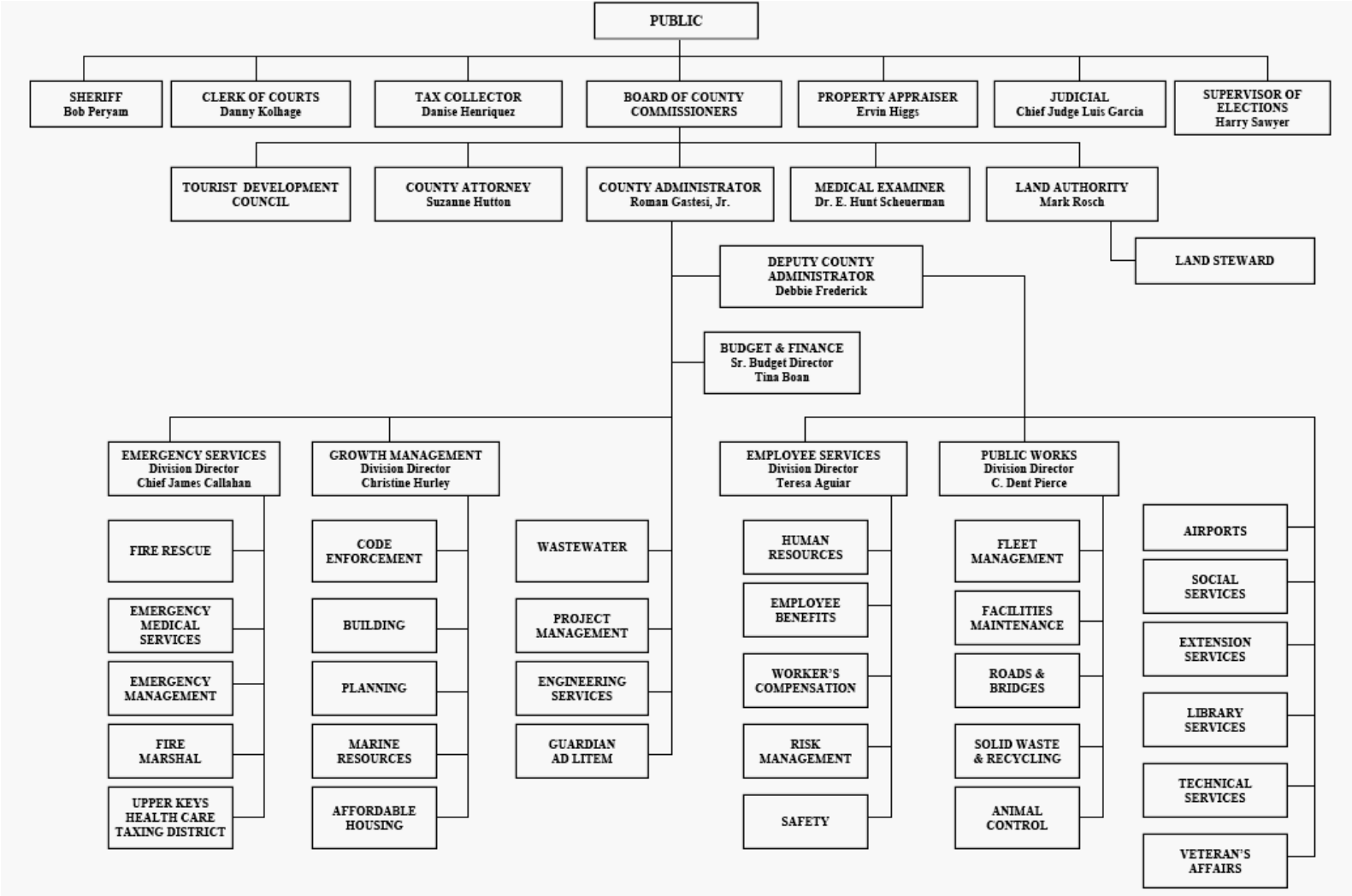
The purpose of this element is to increase the effectiveness, efficiency, and responsiveness of government; provide for consistency in decisions and actions between various departments and agencies; and to improve citizen awareness and participation.

14.1 Introduction

Monroe County Government Departments are interspersed throughout the County including offices in Key West, Stock Island, Marathon, and Key Largo. **Figure 14.1** (Monroe County Government Organization Chart) denotes the political and administrative structure of the County government.

Federal and State government involvement within the borders of the County is extensive due to land holdings and, among other legislation, the County's designation as an Area of Critical State Concern (380.0552, F.S.). The designation of the entire Florida Keys as a National Marine Sanctuary also provides an opportunity for coordinated efforts in research, regulation and enforcement on a variety of issues.

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Source: Monroe County 2011 Budget

Figure 14.1 - Monroe County Government Organizational Chart

14.2 Element Content

The Intergovernmental Coordination Element (ICE) is designed to address existing and future coordination procedures, processes, or actions intended to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of governmental operations. The ICE addresses a variety of intergovernmental relationships, including those between the County and School Board, utilities, or adjacent jurisdictions. The ICE requirements of the *Growth Management Act of 1985*, as amended, emphasize strong intergovernmental coordination, provide for identification of coordination needs, and for the use of appropriate existing coordination procedures, processes, and actions.

For the purposes of the ICE, “intergovernmental coordination” has been defined as occurring along a continuum of activities, ranging from informal contacts to formal procedures, actions, or agreements. The term “coordinate with” has been defined to include any or all of the following which may be appropriate and applicable to a given circumstance or need:

- Verbal or written communication;
- Scheduled or unscheduled meetings;
- Requests for information or comments about plans, reports, etc. of other entities;
- Special purpose groups organized to plan for or implement a specific task;
- Standing committees, organizations, or groups, for example, South Florida Regional Planning Council, South Florida Water Management District, and other such entities; or
- Interlocal agreements, resolutions, contracts, ordinances, grants, etc.

As part of intergovernmental coordination, the County has entered into various interlocal agreements that address many of the functions of the County. **Table 14.1** provides an inventory of selected Interlocal Agreements with Monroe County. This table does not represent an extensive list of all interlocal agreements, but highlights some of the major agreements that are discussed further within this element.

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Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory
[Rule 9J-5.015 (a)]

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Local Option Gas Tax Sharing Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County, City of Key West, City of Key Colony Beach, City of Layton, City of Marathon, City of Islamorada	To provided revenue share allocations
Supplemental Gas Tax Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County and the City of Marathon	Amends May 20, 2009 agreement
Interlocal Agreement Between the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida and the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	Monroe County and Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	To continue cooperative efforts to develop centralized wastewater treatment, collection and disposal services on a regional basis, District to initiate and complete construction of the North Components to serve 2,500 EDUs, initially and 13,000 EDUs upon completion of entire regional system
First Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida and the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	Monroe County And Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	Amend and restate in order to accurately describe sources of funds
Amendment Number One to First Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement of July 20, 2005 between the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida and the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	Monroe County And Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	To reflect the agreement of the parties to increase the amount of advance funding available to the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida and the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	Monroe County And Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	To amend and clarify the meaning of the defined term “North Components”
Interlocal Agreement Amendment for the Summerland/ Cudjoe/Upper Sugarloaf Regional Wastewater System to be Expanded to Cover Design for Big Pine Key through Ramrod Key and Lower Key	Monroe County and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	Amends the September 20, 2006 Interlocal Agreement for the regional wastewater system
Interlocal Agreement between Monroe County and Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority for the Conch Key/Duck Key Regional Wastewater System	Monroe County and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	Provides procedures for allocation, expenditures, and reimbursement of funds for wastewater treatment system
First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement between Monroe County and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority for the Big Coppitt Regional Wastewater System	Monroe County and Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	Amends June 21, 2006 Interlocal Agreement

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Second Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for the Big Coppitt Regional Wastewater System	Monroe County and Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	Amends June 21, 2006 Interlocal Agreement
Agreement between Monroe County and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority for Installation and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants in Unincorporated Monroe County	Monroe County and Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	Installation of Fire Hydrants in Unincorporated Monroe County
Amendment and 1 st Renewal of Franchise Agreement (Solid Waste and Recycling Collection)	Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County and Marathon Garbage Service, Inc. (f/k/a Mid-Keys Waste, Inc.)	Collaborate to help increase Monroe County’s annual recycling rate to 40% by 2014 with various forms of assistance noted by Franchisee
Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County Waste Collection and Disposal District and City of Layton	Solid Waste Collection
Governmental Interlocal Agreement between the County of Monroe County, State of Florida and the Monroe County Housing Authority	County of Monroe and the Monroe County Housing Authority	Appoints MCHA to provide professional planning, management and administrative services for the County pursuant to HUD, DCA and FHFA affordable housing programs
Library Impact Fee Interlocal Agreement City of Marathon	Monroe County and City of Marathon	Collection of Library Impact Fees
Amendment to Impact Fee Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County and the City of Key Colony Beach	Amends previous Interlocal Agreements for impact fees, specifically transportation and fire protection/EMS impact fees

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Joint Use Park Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County and the School Board of Monroe County	Provide for the development of a joint use park on the Sugarloaf School grounds
Interlocal Agreement Monroe County and Key Largo Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services District	Monroe County and Key Largo Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services	Establish mutual obligations and responsibilities of the County and the District for use, ownership, title to property, and provision of services, with September 30, 2006 the date County transferred responsibility for fire, rescue and emergency medical services to the District
Agreement between the Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Big Coppitt Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Big Coppitt Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Establishes volunteer fire department to be primary provider of fire rescue services within their assigned geographical area
Agreement between the Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Sugarloaf Key Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Sugarloaf Key Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Establishes volunteer fire department to be primary provider of fire rescue services within their assigned geographical area
Agreement between the Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and the Big Pine Key Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and the Big Pine Key Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Establishes volunteer fire department to be primary provider of fire rescue services within their assigned geographical area

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Agreement between the Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Layton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Layton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	Establishes volunteer fire department to be primary provider of fire rescue services within their assigned geographical area
Agreement between the Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Tavernier Fire and Ambulance Corps, Inc.	Board of Governors of Fire and Ambulance District 1 of Monroe County and Tavernier Fire and Ambulance Corps, Inc.	Establishes volunteer fire department to be primary provider of fire rescue services within their assigned geographical area
Memorandum of Understanding between the Naval Air Station Key West Fire Department and Monroe County Mutual Fire and Emergency Services Assistance Agreement	Naval Air Station Key West Fire Department and Monroe County	Render mutual fire and emergency assistance to one another
Memorandum of Understanding between the Islamorada, Village of Islands and Monroe County Mutual Fire and Emergency Services Assistance Agreement	Islamorada, Village of Islands and Monroe County	Render mutual fire and emergency assistance to one another

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Marathon and Monroe County Mutual Fire and Emergency Services Assistance Agreement	City of Marathon and Monroe County	Render mutual fire and emergency assistance to one another
Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Key West, Florida and Monroe County Mutual Fire and Emergency Services Assistance Agreement	Monroe County and City of Key West	Render mutual fire and emergency assistance to one another
Agreement between Ocean Reef Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and Monroe County for providing fire protection and emergency medical and rescue services	Ocean Reef Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and Monroe County	Render mutual fire and emergency assistance to one another
Agreement	Florida Keys Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. and County of Monroe, Florida	To provide repair and replacement services for outdoor lighting and traffic signals
Interlocal Agreement	Monroe County and the City of Key West	City/County involvement in the FWC Mooring Field Pilot Program

Table 14.1 – Existing Interlocal Agreement Inventory (continued)

Name of Agreement	Between	Brief Purpose of Agreement
Memorandum of Understanding Between the Florida Department of Community Affairs and Monroe County for a Coordinated Permit Review Process for Development	State of Florida Department of Community Affairs and Monroe County	MOU implements the requirements of Ch. 380, F.S., due to the Area of State Critical Concern and designates mutually agreed upon procedures between DCA and the County
Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning in Monroe County	Monroe County, Islamorada, Village of Islands, Key Colony Beach, Layton, Key West, Marathon, and the School Board of Monroe County	Various public school facility coordination as required by Ch. 163 F.S.

Source: Monroe County Agencies and Monroe County Clerk of Court website

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14.3 Inventory
[Rule 9J-5.015 (b)]

Table 14.2 below, provides an inventory of the local, regional, State, and federal entities with which the County coordinates, along with a short description of their role.

Table 14.2 - Existing Government/Entities Inventory

Entity	Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Major Areas of Coordination
City of Key Colony Beach City of Key West City of Layton City of Marathon Village of Islamorada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities located within Monroe County • Interlocal Agreements • Impact Fees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Management • Emergency Management • Transportation • Potable water • Waste Water • Environmental and Natural Resources • Parks and Recreation • Local Option Gas Tax • Airport Operations (Key West/Marathon)
Miami-Dade Collier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent Counties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Management • Emergency Management • Potable water • Environmental and Natural Resources
Miami-Dade Mass Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent County transit authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides mass transit routes to and within the County
Monroe County School District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Board facilities are located within unincorporated Monroe County • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Impacts (Ingress/Egress to Schools) • Projected need for new/improved facilities • Recreation Facilities and Programs
Monroe County Sheriff's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates Law Enforcement Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policing • Code Enforcement
Monroe County Land Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency Responsible for Land Acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of lands for conservation and affordable housing
Monroe County Housing Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency Responsible for Housing Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable Housing
North Key Largo Utility Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility • Special District • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and Wastewater Services to the Ocean Reef Community

Table 14.2 - Existing Government/Entities Inventory (continued)

Entity	Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Major Areas of Coordination
Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Utility • Special District • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wastewater Service to the Upper Keys
Key West Resort Utilities Corp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility • Special District • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key West Resort Utilities Wastewater Service to unincorporated Stock Island
Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility • Interlocal Agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generation and distribution of adequate and dependable supply of potable water • Wastewater treatment facilities
Florida Keys Electric Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric service provider
Keys Energy Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy services provider
Bell South (AT&T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility telephone provider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides adequate telephone services
Comcast Cable Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cable and internet service provider
Waste Management, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid waste management
Mid-Key Waste, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid waste management
Keys Sanitary Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid waste management
Card Sound Bridge & Road Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special District • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge and Approach Maintenance • Right-of-way mowing and brush cutting along Card Sound Road • Waiving tolls under emergency circumstances.
Florida Keys Mosquito Control District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Utility • Interlocal Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest control and treatment
South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Agency • Responsible for regional coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Regional Policy Plan • Socio-economic data projections • Intergovernmental review • Emergency Management • Coastal High Hazard Areas

Table 14.2 - Existing Government/Entities Inventory (continued)

Entity	Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Major Areas of Coordination
South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Agency • Special District • Oversees water resources, water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface water drainage • Wetland protection • Potable water supply • Environmental resources permits • Consumptive use permits
Department of Environmental Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Department of Community Affairs (DCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible for land planning and grant programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Plan must meet both statutory and administrative requirements. • Growth Management and Conservation issues per Chapter 380, F.S. • Funding assistance for Comprehensive Planning activities
Florida Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible for housing people with special needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulates community residential homes, foster care homes, and homes for special children
Florida Department of Health (DOH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible for administering health related issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well and septic permits • Cesspit inventory and removal
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible for all state roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. 1 improvements and construction • Access management • Traffic control devices along U.S. 1
Florida Department of State (DOS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Includes Division of Historic Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Survey Grants • Review of any project with Federal and/or State Involvement

Table 14.2 - Existing Government/Entities Inventory (continued)

Entity	Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Major Areas of Coordination
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agency • Responsible for protecting and conserving Florida's natural resources; managing State owned lands/ aquatic preserves, and regulating impacts on the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring/reporting on quality of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment • Air quality monitoring/reporting • Hazardous and solid waste disposal • Natural resources • Surface water drainage • Acquisition
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Regulatory control over hunting, fishing and taking of animals and fish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on permit applications • Provides Technical assistance on endangered animals and habitats
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Has regulatory authority in the Keys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use • Conservation • Regulation of dredge and fill permits
U.S. Navy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use • Recreation • Natural Resources • Emergency Management
U.S. Coast Guard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law Enforcement • Emergency management
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • National Weather Services • Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary • National Hurricane Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Management • Emergency Management • Environmental Management • Conservation and Coastal Management Element
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Regulatory control over certain habitats and wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on permit applications related to endangered animals and habitats

Table 14.2 - Existing Government/Entities Inventory (continued)

Entity	Existing Coordination Mechanisms	Major Areas of Coordination
Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Jurisdiction over all environmental issues of federal concern. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum federal standards for wastewater, drinking water, and air quality • Funding of wastewater facilities • Natural resources
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Flood Insurance Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Responsible for all flood zone mapping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with federal flood regulations • Regulation of habitable structure below flood elevation
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Maps soil types and describe their suitability for agricultural and development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use • Growth Management • Agricultural Lands • Ensures land use activities occur consistent with specific soil properties
U.S. Department of Interior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Agency • Preservation of Everglades National Park, Big Cypress Preserve, and Dry Tortuga Keys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use • Conservation • Parks and Recreation

Source: Monroe County

14.3.1 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with Local Governments

14.3.1.1 Municipalities

City of Key Colony Beach

The City of Key Colony Beach is a municipality of approximately permanent and seasonal 3,236¹ residents situated entirely within the County. It coordinates with the County on land use, impact fees, recreation, recycling, gas tax distribution, emergency planning, and solid waste collection and disposal.

¹ Estimated 2010 population. Source: *Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program*, South Florida Regional Planning Council, 2010.

City of Key West

The City of Key West is a municipality of approximately 33,656² permanent and seasonal residents within the boundaries of the County. It coordinates with the County on a broad range of issues, including land use, service delivery systems, infrastructure needs, solid waste, public and environmental health services, airport operation, emergency management, and recreation and open space.

City of Layton

The City of Layton is a municipality of approximately 451³ permanent and seasonal residents located entirely within the boundaries of Monroe County. It coordinates with the County on land use, impact fees, gas tax distribution, emergency planning, EMS services and equipment storage, and recycling.

City of Marathon

The City of Marathon is a municipality of approximately 15,957⁴ permanent and seasonal residents located entirely within the boundaries of the County. It coordinates with the County on land use, impact fees, gas tax distribution, airport operation, emergency planning, EMS services and recycling.

Village of Islamorada

The Village of Islamorada is a municipality of approximately permanent and seasonal 12,984⁵ residents located entirely within the boundaries of the County. It coordinates with the County on land use, impact fees, gas tax distribution, emergency planning, EMS services and recycling.

14.3.1.2 Counties

Miami-Dade County

Miami-Dade County is adjacent to the north of the County. Areas of coordination include hurricane evacuation and preparedness, land use planning, climate change, aquifer recharge protection, water supply planning, bus service and solid waste management and disposal. The Miami-Dade Comprehensive Plan provides goals, objectives and policies (GOPs) that address coordination with Monroe County. They are as follows: Objective ICE-1, ICE-3, ICE-4, ICE-5; Policies ICE-1A, ICE-1J, ICE-4B, and CM-8K.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

Collier County

Big Cypress National Preserve is within both Collier and Monroe Counties. Land use activities adjacent to the Preserve are an area of coordination between the Monroe and Collier Counties.

Miami-Dade Transit Authority

Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) Authority provides bus services in the County from Key Largo to the City of Marathon on two routes (#301 and #302).

14.3.1.3 Monroe County

Department of Airport Services

The department overseeing the county-owned airports in Marathon and Key West is administered through the County Administrator's Office. This department oversees each airport through a combination of local, State, and federal funding. That funding is supported by the collection of passenger fees, airport leases, and other airport fees. Numerous written agreements exist to administer funding through day-to-day operations, physical improvements, and provision of safety requirements.

Monroe County Transit

Monroe County Transit (MCT) is a door-to-door service designed for people who need transportation, and is available to the general public. The elderly and/or disabled individuals who are unable to access regular fixed route or commuter bus service are encouraged to use this service. MCT provides paratransit transportation within the Keys, available between Mile Marker 0 in Key West through Mile Marker 113 in Key Largo as well as Ocean Reef.

Lower Keys Shuttle

The Lower Keys Shuttle operates shuttle bus service between Key West and Marathon, connecting with Dade-Monroe Express in Marathon to provide bus service from Key West to Florida City (mainland Miami). Scheduled stops are made in Key West, Boca Chica, Big Coppitt, Bay Point, Sugarloaf, Cudjoe Key, Summerland Key, Big Pine Key, and Marathon.

Extension Services

The County and the University of Florida have partnered through the Extension Service for 20 years. The Extension Service partners with the County to provide a wide variety of learning opportunities and information to individuals, businesses, and agencies in marine, horticulture, and family and youth development.

The Green Initiative Task Force was created by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and is under the auspices of Extension Services. The scope of the task force is to, "... provide recommendations to the BOCC of environmentally sound practices and techniques to protect the environment as well as climate change recommendations."⁶

Library Services

Library Services administers the County library system, and "...provides the Commission with accurate and comprehensive information, advice, and counsel relating to our Libraries."⁷ The Board of County Commissioners appoints the Library Advisory Board to oversee this task.

Department of Project Management

Project Management is charged with providing engineering services, construction management, surveying and inspection of a variety of county projects; managing the County's Seven Year Roadway/Bicycle Path Plan and the Capital Improvement Plan.

Department of Wastewater

This department is charged with overseeing the implementation of the Waste Water Master Plan through the planning and construction of facilities.

The Office of Management and Budget

This Division is in charge of budgeting and financial planning for the County. Services include the development of the Annual Operations and Capital Budget; assisting in purchasing transactions, and competitive bidding of RFP's/RFQ's; oversight of the County's funding to non-profit organizations and certain pass-through grants, including monitoring.

Office of the County Attorney

The Office of the County Attorney provides legal advice and representation, including prosecution and defense of all lawsuits brought by and against the County; and represents the County at administrative hearings. Additional services include drafting and reviewing ordinances and resolutions, and approving all contracts, bonds and written instruments.

Department of Social Services

The Department oversees the health and welfare needs of the needy and disadvantaged citizens of the County. Services include providing meals for older adults throughout the

⁶ "Green Initiative Task Force". (n.d., para.1). Retrieved May 26, 2010 from: http://monroecofl.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/MonroeCoFl_Extenserv/GITF

⁷ "Monroe County Library Services". (n.d., para. 2). Retrieved May 26, 2010 from: http://monroecofl.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/MonroeCoFL_Library/LAB/board

county and in-home care to frail, impaired residents over 60 years old and/or disabled adults (age 18-59 years).

A registry of Special Needs clients who may be in need of hurricane evacuation assistance is maintained by this department. Special Needs clients are transported to Florida International University (FIU) in Miami, the County's designated out-of-county shelter.

Division of Emergency Services

This division provides emergency medical services and transportation to medical facilities; fire safety, protection, suppression, cause investigation, and safety services; fire protection engineering; coordinates with the Growth Management Division for site plan review, occupancy inspections and fire and life safety code enforcement.

Emergency Management Services plans and implements all peacetime emergency preparedness plans, including emergency response activities to events, e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, hazardous materials accidents, air crashes.

The Division also administers the Upper Keys Health Care Taxing District, which was created to ensure rapid transport and transfer of trauma alert victims to an appropriate state certified trauma center; specific details regarding the District are provided separately in this element. *Trauma Star*, an emergency air-ambulance helicopter, is jointly operated by Monroe County Fire Rescue and the Monroe County Sheriff's Department.

The Growth Management Division

Growth Management encompasses planning and development review, parks and recreation, building, and environmental resources. The Division Director oversees the operation of the Building, Code Enforcement, Marine Resources, Planning, Environmental Resources, and GIS Departments; the Office of Housing and Community Development; and the efforts of the Land Steward to administer and maintain conservation lands, including installing native vegetation, removing invasive exotics, site clean-up and debris removal, and other management activities.

The Building Department is charged with administering and ensuring compliance with the building code; issuing building and construction permits and Certificates of Occupancy; and supervising blasting within the County.

The Department of Code Enforcement has the responsibility to ensure compliance with and enforcement of all county codes, including the land use regulations, the Building Code, the Electrical Code, the Plumbing Code, Contractors Licensing and Floodplain ordinances.

The Department of Planning and Environmental Resources reviews all plans for new construction and development for compliance with the Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan, including environmental compliance and makes subsequent recommendations to the Planning Commission; maintains and updates the Comprehensive

Plan and Land Development Regulations adopted by the Board of County Commissioners; and administers the *Livable CommuniKeys* Plans and coordinates the implementation of the *Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail Master Plan*, the *Florida Keys Scenic Highway Corridor Management Plan* and the *Florida Keys Scenic Highway Interpretive Plans*; and supports and provides historic preservation efforts county-wide.

The County's GIS department provides mapping, and geographic data modeling and analysis for specific County functions.

The Office of Housing and Community Development promotes the development of affordable housing, and coordinates with various levels of the County government and County Attorney to accomplish its tasks.

Division of Public Works

Within the Division of Public Works are several departments:

The Facilities Maintenance Department maintains and repairs County owned buildings, parks, and beaches.

The Detention Facilities Department is responsible for maintaining the correction facilities located on Stock Island, Marathon and Plantation Key; the Sheriff's Administration Building on Stock Island; the Sheriff substations on Cudjoe Key, Marathon, and Plantation Key; and the old jail facility in Key West.

The Engineering Department works with FDOT, SFWMD, FDEP, and utility companies when planning, designing, constructing, and inspecting projects.

The Fleet Management Department is responsible for vehicle maintenance and/or repairs, painting, etc.

The Road and Bridges Department is responsible for maintaining and improving county roads, rights-of-way, bike paths, and County bridges.

The Solid Waste Management Department is responsible for overseeing solid waste collection and disposal activities; providing residential and commercial recycling services; administering a household hazardous waste collection and disposal program and providing pollution control services Countywide, excluding Key West and the Village of Islamorada.

Animal Control is responsible for enforcing State and county animal control regulations, protecting the public from the dangers and nuisances of uncontrolled, dangerous or feral animals, and protecting animals from cruelty, abuse or abandonment.

The Card Sound Toll Authority is also under Public Works, but is addressed separately in this element.

Monroe County School District

Coordination on the use, location, and maintenance of school facilities is extensive, largely through the use of interlocal agreements and informal arrangements with the County Public Works, Planning, and Building Departments. A representative of the School District is a non-voting member of the Planning Commission; summer recreation programs require coordination with the County Clerk; and instructional help is coordinated with the Sheriff's Department. Joint use facility agreements have become and will continue to be a critical part of the County government's responsibility to provide active recreation opportunities to its citizens.

School Board members and the school superintendent are elected at large. Approximately 90 percent of the Board's funds come from the County and the remainder from State and Federal sources. These funds are used to maintain all public school facilities within the County.

Monroe County Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office is managed by an elected official (the County Sheriff) and its budget is approved by the Board of County Commissioners; however, the Sheriff can appeal the budget to the Governor and Cabinet.

The Main Sheriff's Office Administration building is located on Stock Island, with patrol substations on Cudjoe Key, Marathon (Key Vaca), Islamorada, and Plantation Key. Detention facilities are located in Stock Island, Marathon and Plantation Key.

The Sheriff's Office has a Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT), as well as a Dive Team, Bomb Squad, and Special Investigations Unit (specializing in drug investigations).

The Sheriff's Office coordinates with various levels of the County government and the State Attorney to accomplish its law enforcement tasks. Emergency management also coordinates extensively with the Sheriff's Department.

Monroe County Land Authority

The Monroe County Land Authority (Authority) was created under Chapter 380 of Florida Statutes. Funding has been provided by the County, the Department of Community Affairs, and through special taxes within the County. The Authority acquires land within the County for public purposes, including recreation, affordable housing, environmental protection, and the protection of private property rights.

The Board of County Commissioners sits as the Authority's directors; however, the Authority's actions are also addressed by its own advisory committee.

Monroe County Housing Authority

The Housing Authority administers State and Federal Housing Assistance Programs. Within unincorporated Monroe County, the Authority administers the rental rehabilitation program and Section 8 housing assistance, and develops and manages public housing.

Monroe County Tourist Development Council

The Monroe County Tourist Development Council (MCTDC) is a public body created by referendum of the electors. The MCTDC is a legislative extension of the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, which appoints its nine members. Six of the Council's nine members must represent the five MCTDC taxing districts and are actively engaged in the tourism industry through ownership or managerial operation of a lodging establishment or employed by a tourism-dependent business.

A county commissioner and two other elected municipal officials fill the remaining three seats to represent the interests of the general public sector. The composition, membership qualifications, responsibilities and duties of all TDC's are defined by Florida Statute 125.0104. The MCTDC is further governed by Monroe County Ordinances 015-1988 and 017-1988 as amended.

Monroe County Property Appraiser

The Monroe County Property Appraiser is responsible for identifying, locating, and fairly valuing all property, both real and personal, within the County for tax purposes. Other responsibilities of the Property Appraiser's Office is tracking ownership changes; maintaining maps of parcel boundaries; providing updates to building and property characteristics; handles applications for property exemptions and other types of property tax relief; and analyzes trends in sales prices, construction costs and rents to best estimate the value of assessable property.

The Monroe County Growth Management Division should coordinate with the Property Appraiser's Office to continually update the existing database regarding land uses and densities and intensities of use in the County. The database should be updated to reflect the amount of development within the County as well as land use categories that are mapped on the Existing Land Use Map.

14.3.2 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with Public/Private Utilities

North Key Largo Utility Corporation

The North Key Largo Utility Corporation (NKLUC) is responsible for providing water and wastewater services to the Ocean Reef Community located on the northernmost tip of Key Largo. The Ocean Reef community is a gated membership-owned residential development with about 1,800 residential units and two golf courses.

The NKLUC coordinates with the County, through interlocal agreements to provide waste water services.

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District (KLWTD) is an independent utility created by the State of Florida in June 2002. The KLWTD service area extends from the north end of the Keys at the Dade County line [approximately U.S. 1 Mile Marker (MM) 124] south and westward to Tavernier Creek (approximately MM 91) and includes the properties along County Road 905 up to but not including the Ocean Reef District.

The District coordinates with the County, through interlocal agreements to provide central waste water services.

Key West Resort Utilities Corporation

Key West Resort Utilities Corp. is a private utility that provides advanced wastewater treatment service to approximately 2,672 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) on unincorporated Stock Island.

The utility coordinates with the County to provide waste water services.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)

The FKAA provides potable water to all residents of the County and has a legislative mandate to install and operate centralized sewer systems in the unincorporated areas.

FKAA coordinates with the County regarding the issuance of building permits, and through several interlocal agreements with the County, is tasked with installing and operating central sewer systems within the County. Additionally, FKAA, through an interlocal agreement, provides a portion of funding for hydrant installation, inspects and maintains hydrants, and furnishes water required for filling fire fighting apparatus. Informal agreements also exist with County Public Works.

Florida Keys Electric Cooperative

The electric cooperative purchases electricity from Florida Power & Light and sells it to residents of the County residing east and north of the Seven Mile Bridge. It maintains all equipment required to accomplish this task.

Florida Keys Electric Cooperative (FKEC) coordinates with the Building Department regarding electrical requirements of building permits and with County Public Works only when their facilities affect road maintenance.

Keys Energy Service

The Keys Energy Service generates and purchases electricity to sell to the residents of Key West and the County west and south of the Seven Mile Bridge. The utility is owned by the City of Key West and maintains all equipment required to accomplish its service provisions.

Keys Energy coordinates with the County Public Works Division regarding placement of facilities within County road right-of-way, and with the Building Department on the electrical requirements of building permits.

Bell South

Bell South (AT&T) provides phone and internet service to the Florida Keys.

Comcast Cable

Comcast Cable provides cable and internet service to the Florida Keys.

Waste Management, Inc.

Waste Management Inc. provides solid waste collection south of the Seven Mile Bridge and coordinates with the County through contract for services.

Mid-Key Waste, Inc.

Mid-Keys Waste Inc. provides solid waste collection in the middle keys and coordinates with the County through contract for services.

Mid-Keys Waste, Inc., as Marathon Garbage Service, Inc., provides services from MM 45 to MM 64 and as Island Disposal Service, serves the County from MM 65 to MM 72.

Keys Sanitary Services

Keys Sanitary Services provides solid waste collection from MM 91 to the County line and coordinates with the County through contract for services.

14.3.3 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with Local Independent Special Districts

Card Sound Bridge & Road Authority

The Authority is part of the County Public Works Department, but derives all its revenue from tolls collected at the Card Sound Bridge. The Authority maintains the bridge and its approaches, including right-of-way mowing and brush cutting along Card Sound Road and

also operates under state legislation allowing its tolls to be waived under emergency circumstances.

The Authority coordinates with Monroe County Emergency Management, Public Works, Planning, and E.M.S. Services; as well as the Florida Highway Patrol and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

The District is an independent district supported by a share of ad valorem taxes and governed by its own board which is elected at-large. Coordination exists at two levels. The District is subject to oversight by the Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control, Mosquito Control Section, Florida Division of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The District coordinates with the Code Enforcement Department on the issue of the maintenance of private property.

14.3.4 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with Regional Authorities

South Florida Regional Planning Council

The SFRPC approves and oversees all comprehensive plans and developments of regional impact. Comprehensive plans are evaluated based on their consistency with the Council's Regional Policy Plan. The Council also offers conflict mediation services and promotes the completion of interlocal or other agreements between governmental bodies in South Florida.

The SFRPC is assisting the County with a number of planning efforts, including development of the County's *Working Waterfronts Preservation Master Plan* and *Marine Management Master Plan*. Additionally, the SFRPC is updating the South Florida Regional Hurricane Evacuation Model for Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties.

Coordination is generally limited due to the Council's advisory role. However, for projects specific to the County, the SFRPC has coordinated closely with various divisions within the County, including Growth Management and Emergency Services.

South Florida Water Management District

The SFWMD, an agency created by the State, is a multi-county independent special district responsible for flood-control and water conservation within the South Florida Region. As one of Florida's five regional water management districts, SFWMD issues permits for the consumptive use of water, well construction, surface water management, and artificial recharge. Besides its permitting activities, the district is authorized to:

- Construct and operate water control works;

- Engage in water resource planning;
- Participate in technical investigations of water resources;
- Gather water resource data;
- Environmental restoration; and
- Monitor Discharges into waterways.

The District coordinates within the County through its appropriation of water to the FCAA, review of selected drainage plans, technical assistance and provision of funds through various programs.

The Growth Management Division monitors proposed changes to SFWMD plans, policies and regulations, and provides comments.

14.3.5 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with State Agencies

Florida Department of Community Affairs

The Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is headquartered in Tallahassee. A Secretary appointed by the Governor administers the Department. DCA administers a variety of grant programs designed to assist local governments in improving growth management resources, community infrastructure, and service delivery systems. DCA provides technical assistance to local governments in the areas of:

- Housing;
- Resource planning and management;
- Community services;
- Community development;
- Land and water management;
- Public safety;
- Post-disaster recovery; and
- Emergency management preparedness.

The Department of Community Affairs has the additional responsibility under Chapter 380, F.S. to administer the Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC) program. Geographical areas with significant environmental resources, historic resources or sites, or areas having a significant impact on, or being significantly impacted by an existing or proposed major public facility or other areas of major public investment may be designated as an area of critical state concern. The Florida Keys were designated an Area of Critical State Concern in 1972.

Since the County is designated an area of critical state concern, the DCA has an extensive role within the County's borders that includes direct involvement in development review, planning assistance, solid waste, the Land Authority, housing, and emergency preparedness. This work is accomplished through approval of building permits, participation in the County's Development Review Committee, technical assistance and

monitoring, in addition to the review and oversight of all changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan and land development regulations. Monroe County and DCA have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding that is noted in **Table 14.2** of this element.

Florida Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

DCFS provides a wide-range of services in relationship to their mission to “Protect the vulnerable, promote strong and economically self-sufficient families, and advance personal and family recovery and resiliency.”⁸

In the County, the DCFS is responsible for in-home nursing care for vulnerable adults; licenses and inspects child care facilities; serves as a clearinghouse on domestic violence information; and administers food stamps, temporary cash assistance and Medicaid programs.

The DCFS coordinates with the County issues surrounding delivery of rehabilitative, social and medical services for children, family, and elderly, including services directed towards special needs.

Florida Department of Health (DOH)

The DOH is the state agency responsible for health related issues. The County's Health Department provides public health services in the Keys in partnership with Monroe County. Most services are available at no charge or a small fee based upon income.

Additionally, the DOH is charged with septic tank/cesspit inventory and regulation, water quality, and pollution control. The DOH coordinates with the County's Growth Management Department, including Code Enforcement and the Building Departments, the Sheriff's Office and the Development Review Committee relating to land use activities to assure on-site waste disposal systems, e.g. septic tanks and advanced treatment units (ATUs) are constructed as part of the building permitting and Certificate of Occupancy processes.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

The FDOT coordinates with the County regarding planning, design, construction, maintenance, improvement, access management, and traffic control along U.S. 1. FDOT also reviews development and environmental impacts as they relate to U.S. 1. They also provide technical assistance on transport programs involving public transit, aviation, and bicycle paths, among others. Joint participation and interlocal agreements exist regarding many of the items previously mentioned. Permits to operate bicycle paths are also coordinated with FDOT.

⁸ “Our Mission”, (n.d.). Retrieved May 26, 2010 from: <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/admin/>

Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources/Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board

The Preservation Board/Division of Historical Resources identifies and helps to preserve historic sites in the County. They currently coordinate with the County Public Works Division regarding the Historical Florida Keys Foundation's lease of the Armory Building, and with informal contacts, which usually involve sharing of information and/or documentation.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)

The FDEP is the principal agency for the implementation of state environmental policies and law. The FDEP established standards for the protection of natural systems through the permitting process of activities that may impact the environment, including permitting and monitoring potential sources of pollution and discharges for compliance with state standards. In the event of non-compliance or violation, the FDEP can take enforcement action.

The FDEP manages environmental regulatory programs administered mainly through field offices located throughout the state. The functions of the FDEP and its districts are coordinated through using joint application procedures. FDEP permitting programs require coordination with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

The FWC enforces rules to protect fish and wildlife, keep waterways safe for millions of boaters and cooperate with other law enforcement agencies providing homeland security, and provide assistance when natural disasters occur.

The FWC coordinates with the County primarily through the review of projects which may have potential impacts on local fish and wildlife habitat or which may intrude on and disturb habitats of State protected species.

14.3.6 Existing Coordination Mechanisms with Federal Agencies

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

The primary purpose of the ACOE Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources. The ACOE evaluates permit applications for essentially all construction activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill material into the "waters of the United States" (including most wetlands), pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This evaluation is conducted in accordance with ACOE regulations and the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. ACOE permits are also necessary for any work, including

construction and dredging, in the Nation's navigable waters pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

The ACOE provides public notices to the County and coordinates permit review through the Growth Management Division.

U.S. Navy

U.S. Navy facilities are located in 13 different areas of the lower Florida Keys. Boca Chica Field, NAS-Key West's primary site and airfield, is located on Boca Chica Key. Boca Chica Field is approximately 3 miles east of the City of Key West.

The U.S. Navy coordinates with the County on land use activities adjacent to their facilities; a U.S. Navy representative sits as ex-officio member of the County's Planning Commission.

U.S. Coast Guard

The Coast Guard coordinates with the Florida Marine Patrol on law enforcement issues, and with the County regarding hurricane response requirements, oil spill, and some hazard mitigation activities.

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

The NOAA is a science-based federal agency within the Department of Commerce with regulatory, operational, and information service responsibilities. Their mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment and to conserve, protect, and manage coastal and marine resources.

NOAA's five service goals are:⁹

- Ecosystems: Protect, restore, and manage the use of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes' resources through an ecosystem-based approach to management;
- Climate: Understand climate variability and change to enhance society's ability to plan and respond;
- Weather and Water: Serve society's needs for weather and water information;
- Commerce and Transportation: Support the nation's commerce with information for safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation; and
- Supporting NOAA's Mission: Provide critical support for NOAA's mission.

NOAA coordinates with the County through the County's Department of Marine Resources. They manage the Key Largo and Looe Key Marine Sanctuaries with the FDEP, as well as provide weather forecasting services. In addition, NOAA has an agreement with the

⁹ "NOAA's Mission and Vision". (n.d. para.3), Retrieved May 26, 2020 from: <http://www.legislative.noaa.gov/policybriefs/What%20is%20NOAA%202010%20-%20FINAL%20-%20021210.pdf>

Florida Marine Patrol to enforce marine fisheries laws within Florida waters, and manages fisheries beyond those waters but within 200 miles of the coast. NOAA also oversees the following:

- National Weather Service. The National Weather Service provides weather forecasts for the entire Florida Keys, including boating forecasts;
- National Hurricane Center. The National Hurricane Center aids in emergency preparedness by providing watches and warnings through its hurricane tracking services; and
- Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. (FKNMS) manages the Key Largo and Looe Key Marine Sanctuaries as well as a management of off shore waters. The management of off shore waters includes addressing issues such as water quality.

Environmental Protection Agency - Region IV

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) an independent agency of the U.S. Government, with headquarters in Washington, D.C was established in 1970 to reduce and control air and water pollution, noise pollution, and radiation and to ensure the safe handling and disposal of hazardous materials.

The EPA has designated the waters within the boundaries of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary as a no discharge zone. A no discharge zone designation prohibits the discharge of sewage, whether treated or not, from a vessel into state waters of the marine sanctuary.

The EPA coordinates with the County's Emergency Management Division when assistance is needed on clean up of hazardous waste spills. Additionally, although the EPA does not coordinate directly with the County Growth Management Division, it enforces wetland protection and mapping through its Advanced Wetland Identification Program.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA coordinates with Emergency Management and the Growth Management Division of Monroe County on emergency preparedness planning and flood plain management. Flood plain management coordination required County approval of a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance in order to qualify for the National Flood Insurance Program. Consequently, compliance with flood plain management criteria is monitored by FEMA, particularly concerning land use designations in mobile home parks.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The NRCS currently provides soil mapping services in the County.

U.S. Department of Interior (DOI)

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) is a Cabinet-level agency that manages America’s vast natural and cultural resources. Through the National Park Service, the DOI manages the Everglades National Park, Big Cypress Preserve, and Dry Tortuga Keys. Areas of coordination with the County include parks and recreation, and preservation efforts related to land use impacts.

14.4 Needs and Opportunities of Intergovernmental Coordination Inventory

As part of this analysis, a key component is gathering information regarding intergovernmental coordination, to find out the effectiveness of the existing mechanisms and agreements. It is important to note that governmental efficiency and coordination are difficult to measure accurately. One method is to count the number of interlocal agreements or memoranda of understanding. While signing an interlocal agreement may be legally binding and economically beneficial for the parties involved, it needs to be measurable and specific to be effective, and may not be appropriate if the problem involves a simple lack of communication or a temporary duplication of services.

*14.4.1 Effectiveness of Intergovernmental Coordination
[Rule 9J-5.015(2)(a)]*

Comments related to intergovernmental coordination were collected at the Scoping Meeting and through interviews with County staff. Suggestions for coordination activities are provided below.

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

Coordination is extensive considering the District’s oversight of the County’s drainage ordinance and its role as water quality manager; however future opportunities for coordination include:

- The SFWMD will begin the process of updating the Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan next year. The process will be closely coordinated with local governments and FKAA.

United States Army Corps of Engineers

Coordination is adequate; however future opportunities for coordination could be extensive:

- The County should coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers to establish a review to monitor permit compliance.

- The County should coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers to improve the photic zones in over dredged basins.
- The County should coordinate with the FKNMS and Park Service to promote in kind mitigation for resource loss.
- The County should coordinate with appropriate external agencies to develop a response plan for manmade and natural disasters which allow pre-authorizations to restore beaches and clean natural areas.

Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks

The County currently does not coordinate directly with the National Park Service; however, the County's Growth Management Division should incorporate and participate in the National Parks General Management Plans that are currently being operated.

Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning

The County's coordination with Miami-Dade County is adequate, but limited. Additional opportunities for coordination activities include:

- Miami-Dade County staff sharing experiences with Monroe County staff pertaining to the updated AICUZ Report and Joint Land Use Study prepared by Miami-Dade County, City of Homestead, and Homestead Air Reserve Base over the last three years.
- Continue to coordinate transit service between Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties and coordinate hurricane evacuation efforts, especially as the SFRPC's modeling efforts conclude in the next two to three months.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA)

Coordination with the FKAA is currently adequate; however additional coordination activities include:

- The existing Interlocal Agreement for fire hydrants outlines how the FKAA is a partner with Monroe County in development and operation of wastewater facilities in unincorporated lower keys. This agreement is adequate in its effectiveness. It works, however it's not necessary and "*just adds more bureaucracy to the process*".
- Interagency involvement is needed between FKAA, municipalities, neighboring utilities (near the FKAA wellfield) to address wellfield protection issues.
- There is currently a monthly Utility Coordination meeting to address current and future utility work. From that meeting, a GIS user group meeting has evolved to share GIS data.

South Florida Regional Planning Council

Coordination is currently adequate but limited due to the Council's advisory role. However, additional coordination activities could be expanded:

- If issues arise in reviewing the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) for South Florida, the SFRPC is available to coordinate and potentially address regional issues of interest to Monroe County through future updates to the SRPP.

Florida Department of Transportation

Coordination with FDOT is adequate, although presently a conflict exists regarding roadway construction activities. FDOT representation is unfortunately not evident on the County's Development Review Committee. Potential for better coordination is extensive due to the role of U.S. 1 in the County.

- Monroe County must weigh the priority and benefit of the hurricane evacuation as the local desire for livable communities. A potential restriction in the capacity up stream may have an overall impact to the evacuation time for the keys.
- Control coordination regarding road improvement projects.

Naval Air Station-Key West

Coordination with NAS-Key West is fair, but could be strengthened through additional goals, objectives and policies (GOPs) to improve intergovernmental coordination between the County and the military. Policies should include greater coordination during the building permit review process for development adjacent or proximate to military installation, and include the military as an ex-officio member of the Development Review Committee (DRC) since the DRC is a decision making body for development approvals.

NOTE: The above is a direct quote from the written documentation received at the Scoping Meeting. However, for clarification purposes, the Planning Commission is the decision making body (not the DRC) for development approvals.

General Comments

- The County, local municipalities, and agencies should be encouraged to work together to provide the best services to at the lowest costs. Empire building should be avoided at all costs (i.e. recent issues between Islamorada and the Key Largo wastewater district regarding sewer transmission).
- Coordination between Monroe County and Florida Power and Light is important with respect to the proposed project to expand FPL's Turkey Point nuclear facility.

14.4.2 *Effectiveness of Interlocal Agreements*

Comments related to interlocal agreements that are listed in **Table 14.2** of this element were obtained during 2010, through telephone interviews and email correspondence with key individuals, such as Monroe County Department Heads, Monroe County key departmental staff, and regional agencies.

The individuals were asked to provide input on the effectiveness of these agreements and provide recommendations to improve intergovernmental coordination, if needed. A large majority of those interviewed indicated that they were satisfied with the effectiveness of the agreements and intergovernmental coordination. However, there were a few suggestions for improvements. These suggestions are listed below:

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District

The interlocal agreement, as amended, has worked very well. However, there are two issues which have caused continuing problems.

- The agreement provides reimbursement of \$20 million in expenses associated with District capital projects. The County procedure first requires the Administrator’s Engineering Department approval of expenditures submitted for reimbursement, and then approval by the Clerk’s Finance Department before a reimbursement payment is made. Both functions do an extremely detailed analysis of every charge to be sure it complies with County policies. This is a double effort and it delays the review and approval process and typically requires 90 to 120 days to get a reimbursement request processed. In the District’s opinion, the Engineering Department should focus primarily on construction and contract administration issues. Then the Finance Department should focus on details of the accounting and compliance issues. This is duplicate work.
- The agreement provides for certain County expenses associated with bonding the funds and administering the agreement to be charged as expenses to the grant award. The District has tried unsuccessfully for almost two years to obtain an accounting of actual expenses which have been charged to the grant, and an estimate of total expenses to be charged upon completion of the agreement. The County should provide this information to the District.

14.5 Coordination with Other Plan Elements

[Rule 9J-5.015 (2)(b)]

Future Land Use Element

The County should continue coordination with DCA on all requirements related to Ch. 380, F.S., for the Area of State Critical Concern designation.

- Continue coordination with FDOT regarding traffic concurrency on U.S. 1.

- Continue coordination with Collier County regarding land uses adjacent to Big Cypress National Preserve.
- Continue coordination with Miami-Dade County regarding land uses adjacent to the Wellfields.

Conservation and Coastal Management Element

- Regarding abandoned mining sites, additional regulations are needed to more fully address the environmental and public safety issues. The County should undertake coordination with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to review existing State and local mine reclamation standards for consistency and to determine the appropriate revisions to the County Code which will better protect the environment and residents of the County from the impacts of mining. The County should prepare an inventory of abandoned mining sites and, working where possible with landowners, develop plans for the cleanup and productive reuse of these sites.
- The County should continue coordination and participation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) studies and monitoring.
- The County should continue their coordination and partnering with the Florida Keys Invasive Exotics Task Force. Task Force partners include the County, State and federal agencies, non-profits and public utilities.

Traffic Circulation Element

- The County should continue to coordinate with FDOT to assure that the travel speed runs along U.S. 1 are completed each year.
- The County should continue to coordinate with FDOT to assure that if any segments of U.S. 1 are over capacity, that development approvals that would impact these segments would be halted until the necessary capacity improvements are implemented.

Mass Transit Element

- The County should work with Miami-Dade County and the City of Key West in an effort to coordinate the schedules between the Miami-Dade Transit (Route 301 from Homestead to Marathon) and the Lower Keys Shuttle.

Ports, Aviation and Related Facilities Element

- The County should continue to coordinate with the City of Key West and the FAA, in an effort to update the Key West International Airport's master plan. The plan should be updated within the next five years to be consistent with the County's planning horizon of 2030 and to re-assess demand and needs resulting from shifts in the economy and travel habits, and developing trends in aircraft technology.
- The County should coordinate with the City of Marathon and the FAA for periodic annual reviews and more detailed assessments (every 5 years) of operations at the Florida Keys Marathon Airport.
- The County should coordinate with the City of Key West on the Key West Bight Ferry Terminal. Due to the overall economic situation, the service has lost up to 40 percent of its ridership high mark achieved in FY 2006/2007. A detailed evaluation of the ferry operations and physical facilities should be made during the next two-year period. This service should also be included in the next update of the Transit Development Plan.
- The County should continue to coordinate with the U.S. Navy during the update of the 2004 Environmental Assessment and 2007 AICUZ map.
- The County should consider adding a military ex-officio member to the Development Review Committee.

Sanitary Sewer Element

- Coordination between the County and FCAA should continue to pursue a uniform fee structure to enable implementation to less dense areas to level out impact and connection fees.
- The County should coordinate with the State and FCAA on federal grants to supplement sanitary sewer costs.

CHAPTER 14.0 – INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT – COMMENT RESPONSE

Commenter: Commissioner David Rice, through Christine Hurley Comment Received: 2/14/11		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
14.3.5	The Armory Building is leased by the Historic Florida Keys Foundation, not by the County	Corrected.
Commenter: Ron Demes, NAS-Key West Comment Received: Written comments via Email 6/27/11		
14.3.6	Suggests an ex-officio member of the military be added to the Development Review Committee.	Agreed and added.