



## Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board

Planning and Zoning Division

May 12, 2021



The update of the Plan will be presented to the Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board over the course of several months with one or more elements on each Board agenda. The Council will then consider each element in a similar fashion prior to being transmitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Once the Plan (all elements) have been approved at first reading by Council, transmitted to DEO, and ready for adoption, the full Plan will be presented to Council for adoption. The one exception is the Capital Improvement Element, which will be adopted once a response is received from DEO, to ensure Wellington meets its requirement to annually update the element to incorporate the annual capital budget.

### **Element Update Summary**

The Conservation, Sustainability, and Resiliency Element addresses the conservation, use, and protection of natural resources. Wellington resources includes, but not limited to, air, water supply, wetlands, soils, lakes, forests and wildlife, and other natural and environmental resources. Wellington has grown over the past 20 years, with most new residential and commercial development occurring along the State Road 7 corridor. As future growth and redevelopment continues to occur, it is important that policies be provided to mitigate potential impacts on the natural environment and climate change. This element is intended to implement policies for the long-term protection of the natural resources as required by Section 163.3177(6)(d), Florida Statutes and address activities that contribute to climate change.

The element goals, objectives, and policies have been reorganized into five goals, and associated objectives and policies. The goals vital in preparing for Wellington's future include:

- Air quality and water supply protection
- Soils, minerals, land, and habitat protection
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Sustainable and equitable community
- Resilience and emergency preparedness

### **Statutory Compliance**

Chapter 163.3177, Florida Statutes, requires a "conservation element for the conservation, use, and protection of natural resources" shall be identified and analyzed for the protection natural and environmental resources. Wellington's current Comprehensive Plan refers to this element as the "Conservation Element" and is proposed to be renamed the "Conservation, Sustainability & Resiliency Element". Exhibit D of the staff report demonstrates the statutory compliance of the proposed element.

### **Planning and Zoning Division Recommendation**

The Planning and Zoning Division recommends approval of Ordinance No. 2021-04 to repeal the Conservation Element and replace with the Conservation, Sustainability, and Resiliency Element.

### **List of Exhibits**

- Exhibit A: Current Conservation Element (to be repealed)
- Exhibit B: Proposed Conservation, Sustainability, & Resiliency Element (to be adopted/with revision notes)
- Exhibit C: Conservation, Sustainability, and Resiliency Element Data and Analysis (for information and reference)
- Exhibit D: Statutory Compliance Checklist