

**SANITARY SEWER, SOLID WASTE, DRAINAGE, POTABLE WATER AND
NATURAL GROUNDWATER AQUIFER RECHARGE ELEMENT
Goal, Objectives and Policies**

**City of Avon Park Comprehensive Plan
Adopted December 26, 1990
Amended September 1992**

GOAL: Provide adequate sanitary sewer, potable water, solid waste and drainage facilities in a timely, orderly and efficient manner.

Level of Service

Objective 1:

Avon Park shall provide sanitary sewer, potable water and drainage facilities that comply with the level of service and capacity standards established in this element. [9J-5.011(2)(b)2]

Policy 1.1: Avon Park shall establish a level of service of 90 gallons per capita per day for its sanitary sewer facility. [9J-5.011(2)(c)(2)a]

Policy 1.2 Avon Park shall maintain sanitary sewer treatment facilities that provide an average daily capacity of 1.5 million gallons. [9J-5.011(2)(c)(2)a]

Policy 1.3: Avon Park shall establish an average level of service of 169 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) for potable water connections. Future levels of service for potable water shall also reflect water use limits established by the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board as follows: 150 gpcd by 1993; 140 gpcd by 1997; and 130 gpcd by 2001. [9J-5.011(2)(c)(2)d]

Policy 1.4: Avon Park shall establish a level of service for water pressure of 20 pounds per square inch. [9J-5.011(2)(c)(2)d]

Policy 1.5: Avon Park establishes a drainage level of service for development equal to a 25-year 24-hour storm event. Stormwater treatment and disposal facilities shall meet the design and performance standards established in Section 17-25.025, F.A.C. The first inch of stormwater run-off shall be treated on-site, pursuant to Section 17-3.051, F.A.C. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed such that the receiving water body shall not be degraded below minimum conditions necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 17-3, F.A.C. These standards shall apply to all development and redevelopment.

- Policy 1.6: All structures shall have a floor elevation at or above the 100-year flood elevation.
- Policy 1.7: Avon Park shall include within its development regulation the requirement that prior to permitting a proposed project, the City must have 6.8 pounds per person per day of solid waste capacity at the Highlands County landfill. [9J-5.011(2)(c)(2)b]
- Policy 1.8: Beginning July 1, 1991, Avon Park shall establish and implement a concurrency management system that ensures that necessary sanitary sewer, potable water, solid waste and drainage facilities needed to support development are available concurrent with the impacts of such development. [9J-5.011(2)(c)1]

Sanitary Sewer and Potable Water

Objective 2:

Avon Park shall maintain its sanitary sewer and potable water facilities in a manner that promotes compact urban growth and is a benefit to the health, safety and welfare of the community. The use of existing sanitary sewer and potable water facilities shall be maximized, including the maintenance and improvements of the existing system and the correction of identified deficiencies. [9J-5.011(2)(b)3]

- Policy 2.2: Avon Park shall ensure that all improvements for replacements, expansion or increase in the capacity of sanitary sewer and potable water facilities will be compatible with the established level of service. [9J-5.011(2)(c)1]
- Policy 2.3: Extensions of municipal sanitary sewer and potable water facilities beyond the City limits shall be coordinated with Highlands County and shall be consistent with the Highlands County Comprehensive Plan regarding designated locations for higher density development.
- Policy 2.4: Beginning July 1, 1991, all improvements, including repair, maintenance and expansion of municipal sanitary sewer and potable water facilities shall be prioritized annually. Those improvements required to be included in the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements shall be incorporated into the appropriate semi-annual Comprehensive Plan amendment. Priority for the expansion of municipal facilities shall be given to: legal obligations; existing development that is in or adjacent to the City of Avon Park; new development in or adjacent to the City of Avon Park; and new development that will contribute to the tax base through higher densities or intensities of land use.
- Policy 2.5: New development shall bear a fair share of sanitary sewer and potable water facility expansion costs.

- Policy: 2.6: Avon Park shall follow generally accepted guidelines for the determination of capacity extension of sanitary sewer and potable water facilities, including the provision that requires expansion to be complete and operational by the time that existing facilities are operating at 95% of capacity.
- Policy: 2.7: Permits for development that would require individual water wells may be granted, but only if capacity or line extension of the municipal potable water facility is unavailable. A condition of such permits shall be the requirement that hook-up to the municipal potable water facility be accomplished within one year of its availability to the development, either by capacity or line extension. Avon Park shall coordinate with Highlands County to consider similar requirements regarding potable water for new development outside of the City.
- Policy 2.8: Septic tanks shall be permissible only when municipal sanitary sewer facilities are unavailable, because of capacity or line extension deficiencies, and conditions are favorable to their use, including soils, drainage, and proximity to water bodies or conservation lands. Septic tanks shall be considered temporary, and their use shall be discontinued upon availability of municipal sanitary sewer facilities. Septic tanks shall be considered only for residential uses.
- Policy 2.9: Privately maintained and/or operated package treatment plants shall not be permissible within the City of Avon Park.
- Policy 2.10: Avon Park shall coordinate with Highlands County to ensure that package treatment plans outside of but near to the City shall be compatible with the municipal sanitary sewer system. Such package treatment plants shall be incorporated into the municipal sanitary sewer system when and if possible.
- Policy 2.11: By July 1, 1993, Avon Park shall develop a comprehensive maintenance program for its sanitary sewer and potable water facilities. [9J-5.011(2)(b)1]

Objective 3:

*Avon Park shall establish procedures for the conservation of potable water resources.
[9J-5.011(2)(b)4]*

- Policy 3.1: Avon Park shall provide ongoing training for operational and field personnel. [9J-5.011(2)(c)3]
- Policy 3.2: Avon Park will investigate the feasibility of wastewater reuse by July 1, 1995. [9J-5.011(2)(c)3]
- Policy 3.3: Avon Park shall cooperate with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to develop a Water Shortage Conservation Plan by July, 1, 1992.

[9J-5.011(2)(c)3]

Policy 3.4: Avon Park shall require low volume plumbing fixtures for new construction and retro-fitted buildings. This shall be implemented through the enforcement of the City building code and other permitting programs. [9J-5.011(2)(c)3]

Solid Waste

Objective 4:

Avon Park shall work with Highlands County to ensure adequate landfill capacity.
[9J-5.011(2)(b)2]

Policy 4.1: As mandated by the Solid Waste Reduction Act of 1988, Avon Park, in coordination with Highlands County and the other municipalities of the County, shall ensure that 30% of total solid waste volume is recycled by 1994. Avon Park shall deliver solid waste collected in the City to the anticipated County materials recycling facility. Avon Park shall participate in county-wide public education efforts, including inserts in municipal mailings and public notices or workshops indicating recyclable materials, locations of facilities for the disposal of oil, tires and other recyclables, and other ways of increasing public participation in recycling efforts. [9J-5.011(2)(c)1]

Policy 4.2: Avon Park shall continue to provide the necessary equipment and personnel to dispose of solid waste. Major new equipment needs, such as a garbage truck, shall be considered capital improvements and shall be included in the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements.

Policy 4.3: Avon Park shall continue to participate in "Amnesty Days," and shall cooperate with Highlands County in other efforts, including public education, to properly manage hazardous waste generated in the City.

Policy 4.4: Avon Park shall annually verify capacity at the County land fill, and shall annually inform the County of the projected annual capacity demand attributable to the City.

Drainage and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge

Objective 5:

Through the establishment of impervious surface restrictions and open space requirements, the City of Avon Park shall ensure that future development will allow aquifer recharge.
[9J-5.011(2)(b)5]

Policy 5.1: Avon Park shall cooperate with the Southwest Florida Water Management District

in designating areas of prime recharge to the Floridan aquifer by providing any information the City may have which will assist the SWFWMD in making this designation. [9J-5.011(2)(c)4]

Policy 5.2: To allow aquifer recharge, the City of Avon Park establishes the following guidelines for impervious surface coverage: impervious surfaces in single-family development up to two dwelling units per acre shall not exceed 20 percent of the development site; impervious surfaces in residential development between two and seven dwelling units per acre shall not exceed 30 percent of the development site; impervious surfaces in multi-family development of more than seven units per acre shall not exceed 50 percent of the development site; and impervious surfaces in other types of development, including commercial, industrial and public facilities, shall not exceed 80 percent of the development site. No reduction by new development and redevelopment within a "high recharge area" in the aquifer recharge quality or quantity (volumes and rates) and for Subsurface storage and flow to simulate pre-development conditions. If native vegetative or natural communities, as identified in Conservation Policy 3.4, exist on a proposed development site, preservation or protection criteria as established in Conservation Policies 3.4 through 3.7 shall take precedence over impervious surface criteria as established by this policy. Avon Park shall work with the Soil Conservation Service to monitor the impacts of development on the quantity of aquifer recharge and, in consultation with the Soil Conservation Service shall reevaluate impervious surface standards if the rate of aquifer recharge diminishes. [9J-5.011(2)(c)4]

Policy 5.3: Regulations shall establish criteria regarding the location and extent of impervious surfaces, based on pollution potential to surface and ground waters.

Objective 6:

Avon Park shall manage the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff. Existing deficiencies in man-made or altered natural drainage facilities shall be corrected. New development shall be required to adequately manage stormwater runoff. The functions of natural drainage features shall be maintained.

Policy 6.1: Avon Park shall undertake a stormwater management study to identify water quality and drainage deficiencies for its drainage facilities. The City shall request funding assistance from the Peace River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District to undertake this study. [9J-5.011(2)(c)1]

Policy 6.2: Identified deficiencies shall be corrected. Deficiencies for existing development shall be defined as inability to manage a 25-year 24-hour storm event and/or contributing to the degradation of the receiving body below minimum conditions necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its

classification as established in Chapter 17-3, F.A.C. Drainage improvements shall be prioritized as follows: to fulfill legal obligations; to prevent further degradation of surface or water bodies; to provide adequate drainage for existing development in the City; to provide adequate drainage for new development in the City; and to extend municipal drainage facilities to areas outside of the City.

- Policy 6.3: Avon Park shall consider a stormwater utility district to fund existing drainage deficiencies. The City shall request funding assistance from the Southwest Florida Water Management District or other appropriate state agencies to undertake this study. The City shall coordinate with Highlands County to participate in a County-wide stormwater utility study if warranted.
- Policy 6.4: To reduce direct discharge of stormwater into Avon Park's lakes, the City will request that the Florida Department of Transportation undertake the necessary analysis to determine needed drainage improvements to State Road 64 and United States Highway 27.
- Policy 6.5: Avon Park shall, as is required by the 1982 Stormwater Rule, Chapter 17-25, Florida Administrative Code, establish performance standards that reduce the annual pollutant load of stormwater runoff by 80%, and that best management practices be used to achieve this goal. [9J-5.011(2)(c)4]
- Policy 6.6: Best management practices for stormwater runoff shall be included in a new development's open space and landscaped areas to reduce maintenance and improve aesthetics. [9J-5.011(2)(c)4]
- Policy 6.7: Land development regulations shall provide for the protection of natural drainage features.