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folin, Alabama 36535

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March 18, 2022

Mayor and City Council City of Foley 407 East Laurel Avenue Foley, Alabama 36535

RE: SW and NE Quad Comprehensive Plan Update

Dear Mayor Hellmich and City Council Members,

The City of Foley Planning Commission held a meeting on March 16, 2022 and the following action was taken:

# Comprehensive Plan- Update to the SW & NE Quad of the Comprehensive Plan

Commissioner Hinesley made a motion to adopt the SW and NE quad Comprehensive Plan updates. Commissioner Mixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to adopt the SW and NE quad Comprehensive Plan updates passes.

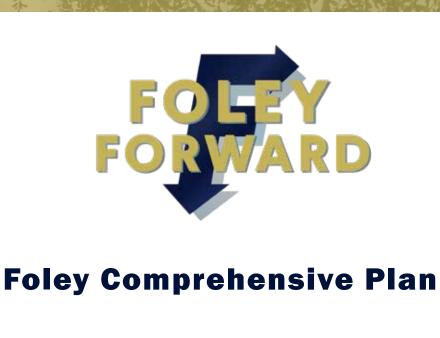
Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Melissa Ringler

Planning & Zoning Coordinator

mringler@cityoffoley.org





# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich

City Council J. Wayne Trawick

Vera J. Quaites Richard Dayton C. Rick Blackwell Charles J. Ebert, III

City Administrator Mike Thompson

Community Development Miriam Boone, AICP

Melissa Ringler Amanda Cole

Charlie Ebert

Downtown Plan Advisory Committee

John Foley Ralph Hellmich Phillip Hinesley Frances Holk-Jones Glenn Manning Sue Steigerwald

Sherry Sullivan James Wallace Chad Watkins

Southeast Quadrant Advisory Committee Henry Baroco
Leslie Gahagan
Phillip Hinesley
Jimmy Peavy
Sue Steigerwald
David Thompson
David Vosloh
James Wallace

**Chad Watkins** 

Southwest Quadrant Advisory Committee

Darrelyn Dunmore
Charlie Ebert
Larry Engel
Leslie Gahagan
Phillip Hinesley
Bob Irwin
Sue Steigerwald
Ashley Thompson

Miriam Boone

**Chad Christian** 

Northeast Quadrant Advisory Committee

Chad Christian
Amanda Cole
Michael Delaney
John Foley
Leslie Gahagan
Ralph Hellmich
Melissa Ringler
Mike Thompson
Wayne Trawick
Allen Woerner

The Citizens of Foley who participated through the planning process.

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# INTRODUCTION AND **BACKGROUND**

Foley Forward planning process

## PART 1 Research

- »Review changing community conditions
- »Assess community assets and opportunities



## PART 2 **Engage**

- »Engage Advisory Committee
- »Community Open House
- »Planning Commission



## PART 3 **Develop Plan**

- »Develop Goals, Policies and Projects for the Quadrant
- »Prioritize Action Plan





Foley, a community of 18,288 people, is centrally located in southern Baldwin County, Alabama. The City is named for John B. Foley of Chicago, who bought land in the area in 1901 and then formed Magnolia Springs Land Company. He persuaded the Louisville and Nashville Railroad (L&N) to run a spur to the area by promising to pay for the crossties needed for the line.

The city was incorporated in 1915 and, with its rail service in place, became the economic hub of South Baldwin County, warehousing and shipping local farm products, notably potatoes. Through the years, the agricultural economy has remained strong. Although the railway service was discontinued in the 1970s, Foley's location - convenient to interstate highways, international shipping and air service - has remained a driving force in its development.

While much of this coastal region is heavily tourism-dependent, the City of Foley has maintained a broader economic base. Along with the addition of attractions and businesses in the hospitality industry, the city and the entire South Baldwin area continue to see tremendous growth in all industries, both in the expansion of established businesses and the addition of new businesses into the community.

#### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROCESS**

In 2018, the City of Foley embarked on a process to update the 2008 Comprehensive Plan. Over the course of the previous ten years, the City underwent a tremendous change from the growth and development across southern Baldwin County. As a result, the City began the process to review the 2008 Comprehensive Plan and consider updates to the plan. The planning process for the Southeast Quadrant is based upon the chart below.

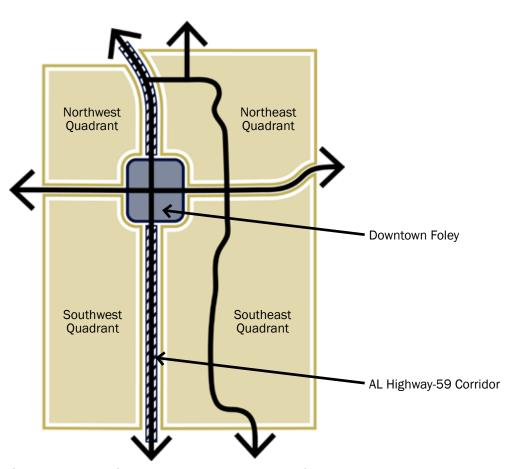
Comprehensive Plans are long-range policy guides for communities for the purpose of preparing for future growth and development. As such, a series of tasks are undertaken during the planning process to ensure a thorough understanding of the community. Because communities are continually evolving, Comprehensive Plans should be treated at 'living documents' and should be regularly reviewed by City Staff, the Planning Commission, and the City Council.



# STRUCTURE PLANS

The development of the Foley Forward: Comprehensive Plan is based upon an understanding and review of the City as a series of sectors. These sectors were determined through discussions within the City leadership to effectively understand and study the City based on different geographies. Each sector within Foley has a unique set of assets and opportunities that will be carefully considered in the development of future plans, and each sector will relate back to a unified vision and the guiding principles for the City. During the development of each subsequent sector plan, the vision and guiding principles will be reviewed as well as any unique analysis that needs to occur within the sector. As demonstrated in the following figure, the City was divided into six unique sectors. Through on-going plan development, each of the sectors will ultimately be included in Foley Forward.

- » Downtown Foley
- » Southeast Quadrant
- » Southwest Quadrant
- » Northeast Quadrant
- » Northwest Quadrant
- » AL Highway-59 Corridor



General diagram of the Foley area and sector plans for Foley Forward.

The Citywide vision for Foley is to...

Create a city that has sense of place, protects and preserves its natural environment, celebrates its agricultural history and context, and accommodates anticipated growth and development for the area.

Foley Forward strives to advance the vision that was setforth by the citizens of the community through careful reflection of the Guiding Principles and consideration of goals, policies and projects.

# VISION AND GUIDING **PRINCIPLES**

Now and into the future, these five principles statements outline our core values. These are what we believe in...



The plan should in every way protect, promote and ensure the unique sense of place that defines and reflects Foley including its landscape, its built environment, its history, and its culture.

#### Strategies:

- » Develop downtown as a destination
- » Preserve historical context
- » Preserve agricultural context in rural areas
- » Enhance neighborhoods through traditional neighborhood standards
- » Protect and enhance corridors through the City



The plan should suggest "raising the bar" with regard to development standards to guide future developments and redevelopments including residential and mixed use.

#### Strategies:

- » Promote quality design in future developments and redevelopments
- » Encourage inclusion of green infrastructure as an amenity
- » Enhance walkability and bikeability through infrastructure improvements and community design



# Preserve Environmental Features

The plan should protect the environment and capitalize on the City's natural features. Including development of greenways, parks and open space, tree canopy, and landscape standards for all future development and redevelopment within the City of Foley.

#### Strategies:

- » Pursue stream mitigation strategies
- » Enhance stormwater management through regional opportunities
- » Preserve agricultural context in rural areas
- » Expand recreational opportunities in natural areas



The plan should in every manner possible define and recommend actions to facilitate the City's desire to serve as a principal partner in support of regional growth and development. Context sensitive development, historical preservation, nature-based tourism, community public health, industrial recruitment and support for the school system are key issues with regional impacts that should be supported throughout the plan.

#### Strategies:

- » Provide transportation infrastructure for efficient travel routes for residents and tourists
- » Provide residential housing options that meet the needs of the growing region
- » Enforce access standards along Foley Beach Express
- » Promote natural-based tourism opportunities

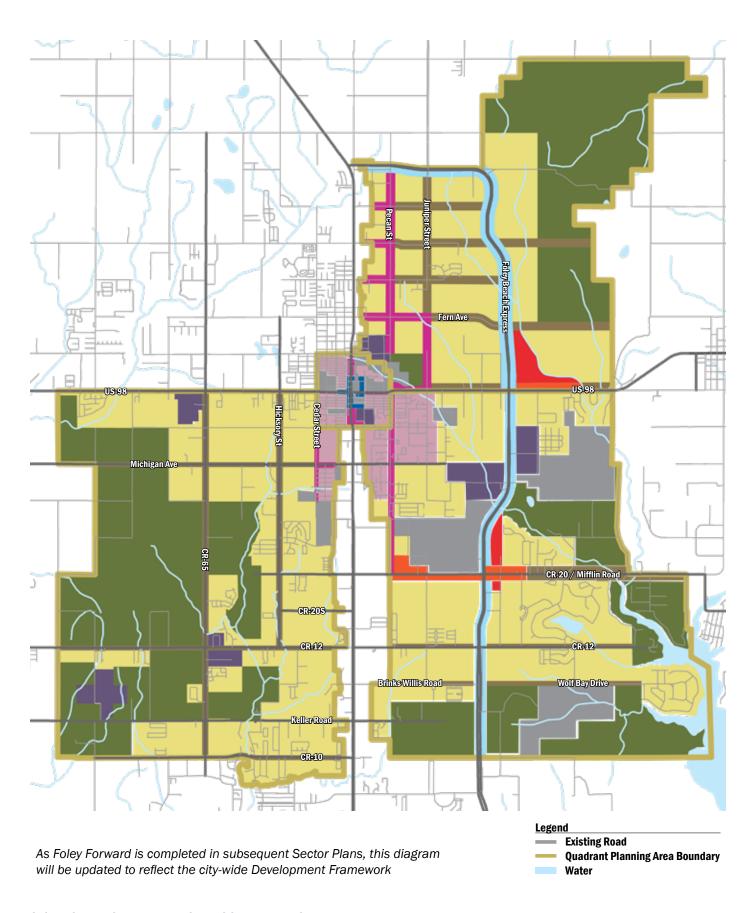


# Enhance Local Infrastructure

The plan should encourage the development of community and public infrastructure that addresses currents issues and forecasted future needs. Through local and regional partnerships, infrastructure providers should be are aware of the growth and development of the region so facilities can accommodate future growth.

#### Strategies:

- » Seek opportunities to leverage improvements and upgrades
- » Pursue regional approaches to infrastructure
- » Consider 'cutting-edge' technologies to improve efficiencies and outcomes



# **DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

The Development Framework outlines the form that development should occur along the major corridors and in the centers and development areas, acting similarly to a more traditional future land-use map by laying a foundation for future zoning changes and landuse decisions. The development areas are classified as corridors, centers, neighborhoods and areas and follow a continuum from urban to traditional to suburban to almost rural.

The Development Framework Maps lay the foundation for future land-use decisions and regulations, directing development activity to occur not strictly according to use but according to character.

# DOWNTOWN

#### Intent

- » Infill development that complements the existing character and enhances the pedestrian-friendly urban environment
- » Fewer surface parking lots more structured parking
- » Increased streetscaping, including improved sidewalks, street furniture and lighting along corridors
- » Greater mix of uses retail, restaurant, office, residential

#### **Preferred Character**



## TRADITIONAL CORRIDOR

#### Intent

- » Emphasize retaining historic buildings and creating appropriate, infill development of similar density
- » Encourage mixed housing types including small multi-family structures along the corridor
- » Combine and close driveways to create a continuous pedestrian friendly environment
- » Auto, bicycle, transit and pedestrian traffic are accommodated

#### **Preferred Character**



#### TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

#### Intent

- » Better connectivity to downtown with accessibility to retail and services
- » Appropriately scaled and designed infill development, including housing in a variety of configurations
- » More sidewalks and streetscaping
- » Protections for historic properties

#### **Preferred Character**



#### SUBURBAN CENTER

#### Intent

- » Accommodation of all users: automobile, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit
- » Encourage redevelopment of existing strip centers into mixed-use development or green space
- » Enhanced standards, buffers and stormwater management
- » Emphasis on adding density, mixing uses and promoting walkability and connectivity to other areas of the City

#### **Preferred Character**



#### **SUBURBAN CORRIDOR**

#### Intent

- » Accommodation of all users: automobile, bicycle, pedestrian and transit
- » Greater connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods
- » Increased streetscaping
- » Improve traffic flow

#### **Preferred Character**



#### **SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD**

#### Intent

- » Emphasize connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods and close services and retail
- » Accommodation of pedestrian and bicycle traffic in addition to automobiles
- » Appropriate scaled infill development to complement existing character of neighborhoods

#### **Preferred Character**



#### RURAL CORRIDOR

#### Intent

- » Retain natural character to emphasize the transition from the rural to more developed areas
- » Connect to other nearby areas through sidewalks, bike routes, and / or trails
- » Minimize leapfrog development that is not connected to other development

#### **Preferred Character**



## RURAL NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Intent

- » Emphasize large parcel agricultural, conservation/ preservation or residential
- » Appropriate scaled development to complement existing rural character

#### **Preferred Character**



#### **EXPRESSWAY CORRIDOR**

#### Intent

- » Retain natural character between developed areas
- » Connect to other nearby areas through bike routes / trails at developed intersections
- » Minimize development that is not connected to other developments or designated access points

#### **Preferred Character**



# INDUSTRIAL

#### Intent

- » Minimize impacts to adjacent properties
- » Connect to major infrastructure for ease of major industry
- » Better streetscaping and aesthetic improvements between adjacent uses

## INSTITUTIONAL

#### Intent

- » Better connectivity to surrounding areas and uses, especially neighborhoods
- » Encourage compatible uses in immediately adjacent areas
- » Minimize impact to existing neighborhoods

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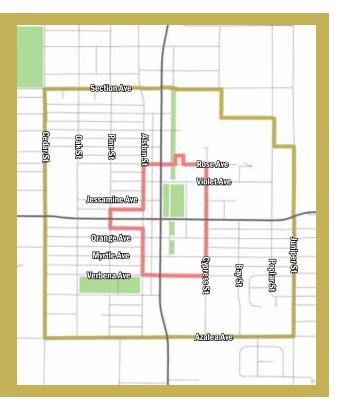
# **DOWNTOWN PLAN**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Downtown Foley has been the heart of the City since it was founded in 1902. At the center of downtown is the original location of John B. Foley's railroad station which became the point by which everyone would arrive. Over time, downtown has undergone considerable changes and redevelopment, but the area has remained the vibrant core of south-central Baldwin County. In the past few years, downtown has seen a resurgence of activity with the opening on new businesses, restaurants and community activities. To support and foster continued activity, this downtown plan was developed through public outreach and discussions with the Downtown Plan Advisory Committee.

Through plan development, a series of goals were developed based on input from the community and the advisory committee. These goals strive to reinforce the vision and guiding principles of Foley in manner to support and foster the vibrancy of downtown. Enhancing and promoting the unique sense of place within Foley is important as the entire community has significant growth over the past ten years, and prepares for future growth as well. Downtown should also have the opportunity to capitalize on mixed-use infill redevelopments as well as promoting new traditional residential developments within Foley.

For the purpose of this plan, downtown Foley is represented by gold boundary in map on the left. The boundaries include Section Avenue to the north, Juniper Street to the east, Azalea Avenue to the south and Cedar Street to the west. Also important to the downtown plan is Main Street Foley at the core of downtown as represented by the light red boundary. The Main Street Foley boundary includes properties at the center of downtown. For more information on this specific area, please contact Main Street Foley.



# **GOAL D.1: PROMOTE DOWNTOWN THROUGH ITS UNIQUE SENSE OF PLACE**

#### **Policies**

D.1.1	Encourage and support the improvement of substandard structures in downtown based on code enforcement of substandard structures or needed demolitions.
D.1.2	Create opportunities downtown for mixed-use infill development.
D.1.3	Redevelop vacant and underutilized lots in the Downtown core to fill gaps in storefronts while maximizing Downtown's economic potential.
D.1.4	Encourage a mix of building uses Downtown to allow people to live and work as well as shop and eat.

## **Projects**

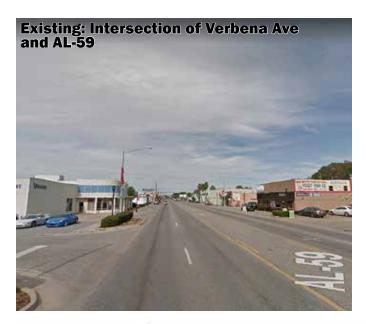
Develop gateways into downtown at key intersections using scaled tower structures that replicate visual elements of the pedestrian bridge to formalize and expand Downtown's sense of place.

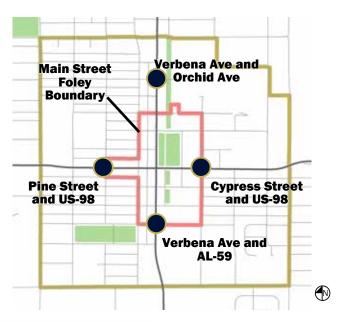
Work with ALDOT to implement treed medians to beautify AL-59 through Downtown Foley with a unique character.

Add Downtown Foley Signage to the pedestrian bridge to reinforce this successful landmark's connection to Downtown Foley.

The graphic below is from the "Alabama Highway 59 Access Management Plan" written by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The plan includes the installation of medians along selected segments of AL-59 through downtown. These medians could allow for the planting of trees and other vegetation to improve the quality of space downtown as well as provide shade and reduce stormwater runoff.







**Proposed: Intersection of Verbena Ave** and AL-59



Important to promoting the unique sense of place in downtown Foley is the arrival sequence for people who travel along AL-59. At the boundaries of downtown, new 'gateway signage' could be constructed which has a similar architectural style as the pedestrian bridge. These gateways are noted on the map above.



The pedestrian bridge across AL-59 in downtown represents a unique opportunity to brand and promote downtown Foley. Consideration should be given to including signage along the bridge that is consistent with other Foley branding and messaging.

# GOAL D.2: INCREASE DIFFERENT TYPES RESIDENTIAL LIVING OPPORTUNITIES DOWNTOWN

#### **Policies**

D.2.1	Encourage residential development adjacent to the Rose Trail to maximize trail use and connectivity.
D.2.2	Consider residential opportunities in the area adjacent to the redeveloped Public Works site as it outgrows its current location.
D.2.3	Encourage strategic residential infill throughout downtown in undeveloped or vacant parcels.
D.2.4	Encourage residential stabilization through code enforcement or needed demolitions.

#### **Projects**

Infill vacant and underutilized land around Heritage Park with residential units to support downtown business and to frame this important park.

Consider the future expansion or creation of other historic districts within downtown based on residential character.



The parking lot along AL-59 between US-98 and Orange Avenue represents an excellent infill site for a mixed-use building downtown. This vacant lot along the main corridor can improve the perception of downtown Foley by bringing new activity to gap in the façade of downtown. New buildings, such as in this location, should include a second story for downtown lofts and apartments.



# **GOAL D.3: CREATE OPPORTUNITIES DOWNTOWN FOR** MIXED-USE INFILL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Policies**

D.2.1	Redevelop vacant and underutilized lots in the Downtown core to fill gaps in
	storefronts while maximizing Downtown's economic potential.
D.2.2	Encourage a mix of building uses Downtown to allow people to live and work
	as well as shop and eat.

# **GOAL D.4: CREATE A MORE USER-FRIENDLY WAY OF NAVIGATING DOWNTOWN**

#### **Policies**

D.4.1	Consider streetscape additions that improve pedestrian connections at
	crosswalks, mid-block crossings at the alleys, and include design elements
	that encourage connections at appropriate locations.
D.4.2	Seek to reduce signage clutter throughout downtown by consolidation and
	enhanced signage standards.

## **Projects**

Develop and implement a complete wayfinding package for both vehicles and

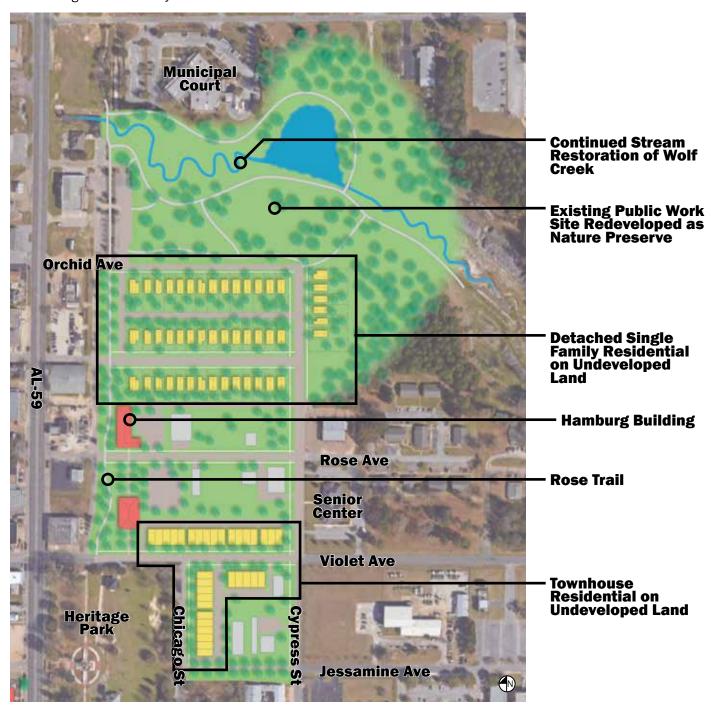
Add signage to assist visitors in finding and using public parking Downtown.

Reconfigure connections between Poplar Street and Juniper Street to prioritize through traffic's use of the Juniper Street/US-98 intersection.



On the western side of downtown, traffic circulates north and south along the Juniper Street and Poplar Street corridors. When these two roads intersect with Laurel Ave (US-98) they are at offsetting intersections. To improve safety and access to North Poplar Street, a new street connection should be constructed that follows the existing right-of-way around Riviera Utilities. This new connection will allow for safe left turns onto Laurel Avenue at a signalized intersection.

Between Heritage Park and Wolf Creek in downtown Foley are several undeveloped parcels and the existing Public Works site for the City. These areas represent significant opportunities for redevelopment that could provide new and diverse type housing. Immediately adjacent to Heritage Park, new townhouses could be constructed that would provide a smaller scale home with downtown. These homes would be very walkable to all the amenities of downtown. To the north, near the existing public works site and Wolf Creek, could be single-family detaches homes. These smaller footprint homes would be accessible to a proposed park and the Rose Trail, and similar to the other existing neighborhoods surrounding downtown Foley.



# **GOAL D.5: ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACTIVITY DOWNTOWN**

#### **Policies**

D.5.1	Add pedestrian wayfinding to identify Downtown's community and commercial assets.
D.5.2	Encourage a continued connection of the Rose Trail north, beyond downtown, to provide other communities pedestrian access to Downtown.
D.5.3	Implement a "complete streets" policy/ordinance in downtown to ensure the longevity of pedestrian and bicycle-oriented benefits.
D.5.4	Reinforce strong pedestrian connections for Griffin Park, local schools, the football stadium, adjacent residential, and downtown businesses.

#### **Projects**

Develop a pedestrian/bicycle trail connection in the Undeveloped E Jessamine Avenue right-of-way between E Jessamine Avenue and Heritage Park.

Add artistic bicycle racks throughout Downtown to increase bicycle infrastructure and to beautify the streetscape.

Complete the missing segment of the Rose Trail to broaden potential connectivity, use, and access.







Bicycles are a common site around downtown Foley. As a result of the bicycle infrastructure built throughout downtown and all of Foley, people are riding bicycles more frequently. To support those that ride bicycles, and to reduce their clutter on the street, racks should be installed at appropriate locations throughout the downtown. These racks should be fun and creative to reflective of the community similar to these examples from other places.



# GOAL D.6: ENHANCE AND EXPAND IMPORTANT COMMUNITY FACILITIES

#### **Policies**

D.6.1 Consider redevelopment of the Public Works site as it outgrows its current location. Redevelopment could become the Wolf Creek Nature Preserve and have complementary programming to Graham Creek Nature Preserve.

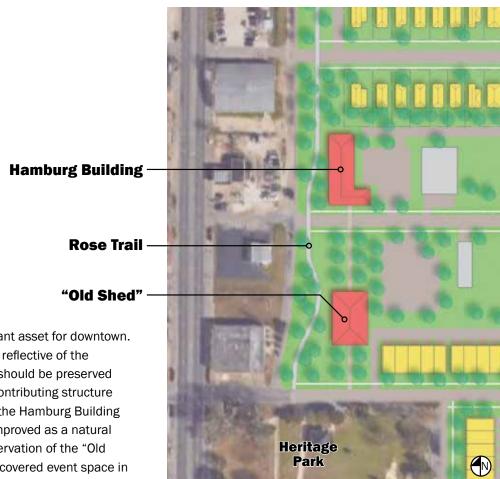
#### **Projects**

Preserve and redevelop the Hamburg Building to ensure that its unique character becomes a community attraction.

Redevelop the "Old Shed" into an open-air community facility to highlight the connection of the redeveloped Hamburg Building, Heritage Park, and the Rose Trail.

Renovate, expand or replace the Max Griffin Pool Complex based on community needs.

Expand Foley Senior Center based on continued growth and need.



The Hamburg Building is a significant asset for downtown. and the Foley community, which is reflective of the community's history. The building should be preserved and improved so that it can be a contributing structure into the future. The area between the Hamburg Building and Heritage Park could also be improved as a natural connection between the two. Preservation of the "Old Shed" would also add an open-air covered event space in downtown.



Throughout Foley, considerable efforts have been made through wayfinding. To further these efforts, a full wayfinding plan could be created that includes a variety of signage scales, types, and uses to brand and identify elements downtown. This plan could be implemented across the whole community; however, efforts should be focused initially in downtown. The example above, from Decatur, Alabama, represents the multitude of signage options in their wayfinding plan based on different scales (automobile or pedestrian) as well as signage types.





Following the historic railroad bed through the center of Foley, the Rose Trail is a multi-use path that connects many of the downtown assets. The trail has been implemented over several years with one segment remaining to be completed between Laurel Avenue (US-98) and Orange Avenue. This final segment of the trail includes the conversion of several parking space which should have been offset by the new parking lot at the Foley Dog Park.

# GOAL D.6: USE CREATIVE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DOWNTOWN TO IMPROVE STORMWATER CONDITIONS

#### **Policies**

D.6.1

Work with property owners to implement low-impact development techniques on future developments or redevelopments.

#### **Projects**

Introduce planting beds in downtown alleys to alleviate storm water challenges while providing visual enhancement.

Reduce parking in strategic locations along AL-59 to add landscaping to improve storm water management and pedestrian desirability on AL-59.

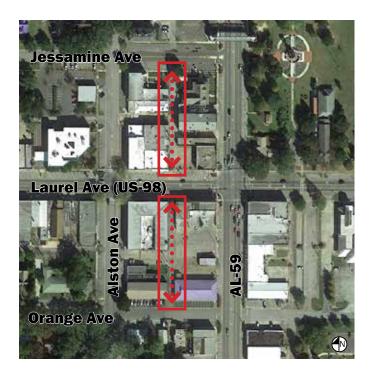
Tree plantings in future medians along AL-59 would allow for natural storm water filtration and set the downtown district apart from the surrounding corridor.

Extend Wolf Creek's stream restoration to the old public works site and develop a natural preserve that would be connected to Downtown by the Rose Trail.





The parking lot along AL-59 between US-98 and Orange Avenue represents an excellent infill site for a mixed-use building downtown. This vacant lot along the main corridor can improve the perception of downtown Foley by bringing new activity to gap in the façade of downtown. New buildings, such as in this location, should include a second story for downtown lofts and apartments.



They alleys between Jessamine Ave / Laurel Ave, and Laurel Ave / Orange Ave are prime locations to consider for alley improvements. These alleys connect retail and dining areas in downtown and would be a viable alternative for pedestrian circulation that was away from AL-59. They also help with pedestrian connections to the parking lots and storefronts.



The images to the right represent how the alleys in downtown Foley could be converted to green alleys with additional plantings and greenscapes. The center aisle of the alley would remain in place for needed service and circulation. These alleys would also be more pedestrian friendly as the result of reduced traffic speeds.

In the section below, the dimensions are included to illustrate how the space in the ally could be used for a service lane, planting strip and building service apron.

# **DOWNTOWN ACTION PLAN**

The following Action Plan was created during the planning process for Downtown as a series of recommended policies and projects for implementation which are reflective of the guiding principles of Foley Forward, along with the goals of the Downtown Plan. Policies and projects included within the Action Plan should be integrated into the on-going budgeting and capital planning of the City to ensure a commitment to implementation.

For each of the plan recommendations, there are action steps that should be considered in order to implement recommendations. These action items may change, over time; however, it is important to identify these necessary steps. Each year, the Action Plan should be reviewed and updated to remain consistent with the needs of Downtown.

The associated timelines for these recommendations are:

On-going	Currently Active or Continuous
Short-term	1-3 Years
Mid-term	3-7 Years
Long-term	8+ Years

	T	ī
Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Redevelop vacant and underutilized	City Council, Planning Commission,	On-Going
lots in the Downtown core to fill	Community Development, Main	
gaps in storefronts while maximizing	Street Foley, Property Owners	
Downtown's economic potential.		
Encourage strategic residential infill	Planning Commission, Community	On-Going
throughout downtown in undeveloped	Development	
or vacant parcels.		
Encourage a mix of building uses	City Council, Planning Commission,	On-Going
Downtown to allow people to live and	Community Development, Main	
work as well as shop and eat.	Street Foley, Property Owners	
Consider the future expansion or	City Council, Planning Commission,	On-Going
creation of other historic districts	Community Development, Historic	
within downtown based on residential	Commission, Main Street Foley	
character.		
Reinforce strong pedestrian	City Council, Engineering	On-Going
connections for Griffin Park, local		
schools, the football stadium, adjacent		
residential, and downtown businesses.		
Add signage to assist visitors in finding	Engineering, Public Works, Visit	On-Going
and using public parking Downtown.	Foley	

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
	-	
Consider reconfiguring connections	Engineering, Riviera Utilities	Short-Term
between Poplar Street and Juniper		
Street to prioritize through traffic's		
use of the Juniper Street/US-98		
intersection.	Other Course it Mark Follow	Ob ant Tama
Add Downtown Foley Signage to the	City Council, Visit Foley,	Short-Term
pedestrian bridge to reinforce this	Engineering, Public Works	
successful landmark's connection to		
Downtown Foley.	Oite Occupail Bardes Baranton and	Ob and Tames
Extend Wolf Creek's stream	City Council, Parks Department	Short-Term
restoration to the old public works site		
and develop a natural preserve that		
would be connected to Downtown by		
the Rose Trail.		
Develop gateways into downtown	City Council, Engineering,	Short-Term
at key intersections using scaled	Community Development, Visit	
tower structures that replicate visual	Foley, Main Street Foley	
elements of the pedestrian bridge to		
formalize and expand Downtown's		
sense of place.		
Complete the missing segment of	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term
the Rose Trail to broaden potential		
connectivity, use, and access.		
Preserve and redevelop the Hamburg	City Council, Historic Commission,	Short-Term
Building to ensure that its unique	Community Development	
character becomes a community		
attraction.		
Add artistic bicycle racks throughout	Public Works, Visit Foley, Main	Short-Term
Downtown to increase bicycle	Street Foley	
infrastructure and to beautify the		
streetscape.		-
Implement a "complete streets"	City Council, Engineering,	Short-Term
policy/ordinance in downtown to	Community Development	
ensure the longevity of pedestrian		
oriented benefits.		
Develop a pedestrian/bicycle trail	City Council, Engineering,	Short-Term
connection in the Undeveloped	Community Development	
E Jessamine Avenue right-of-way		
between E Jessamine Avenue and		
Heritage Park.		

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Develop and implement a complete wayfinding package for both vehicles and pedestrians.	City Council, Engineering, Public Works, Visit Foley, Main Street Foley	Short-Term
Add pedestrian wayfinding to identify Downtown's community and commercial assets.	City Council, Engineering, Public Works, Visit Foley, Main Street Foley	Short-Term
Renovate, expand or replace the Max Griffin Pool Complex based on community needs.	City Council, Parks Department	Mid-Term
Redevelop the "Old Shed" into an open-air community facility to highlight the connection of the redeveloped Hamburg Building, Heritage Park, and the Rose Trail.	City Council, Historic Commission, Parks Department	Mid-Term
Consider redevelopment of the Public Works site as it outgrows its current location. Redevelopment could become the Wolf Creek Nature Preserve and have complementary programming to Graham Creek Nature Preserve.	City Council, Public Works, Parks Department	Mid-Term
Infill vacant and underutilized land around Heritage Park with residential units to support downtown business and to frame this important park.	Community Development, Property Owners	Mid-Term
Introduce planting beds in downtown alleys to alleviate storm water challenges while providing visually enhancement.	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term
Reduce parking in strategic locations along AL-59 to add landscaping to improve storm water management and pedestrian desirability on AL-59.	City Council, Engineering, ALDOT	Mid-Term
Expand Foley Senior Center based on continued growth and need.	City Council	Mid-Term
Work with ALDOT to implement treed medians to beautify AL-59 through Downtown Foley.	City Council, Engineering, ALDOT	Long-Term
Encourage residential development adjacent to the Rose Trail to maximize trail use and connectivity.	Community Development, Property Owners	Long-Term

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Consider residential opportunities in	Community Development, Property	Long-Term
the area adjacent to the redeveloped	Owners	
Public Works site as it outgrows its		
current location.		
Encourage a continued connection	Community Development	Long-Term
of the Rose Trail north, beyond		
downtown, to provide other		
communities pedestrian access to		
Downtown.		

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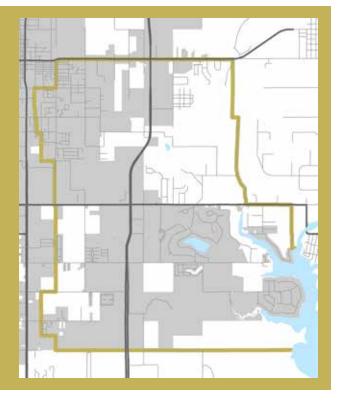
# **SOUTHEAST QUADRANT PLAN**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Southeast Quadrant of Foley is one of the most dynamic areas of the City considering the amount of growth and activity which has taken place over the past ten years. This growth has been manifested through the development of several large neighborhoods, the creation of Graham Creek Nature Preserve, and the activity and development of OWA. Coupled with this local growth has been the significant growth across south Baldwin County that has added to the region other residences and remarkable tourism.

Through plan development, transportation and connectivity across the Southeast Quadrant have been the most significant issues to address. These issues are the direct result of the significant growth which has occurred over the past ten years, as well the planned growth which is still on-going. Through public outreach and discussions with the Southeast Quadrant Advisory Committee, transportation was the highest identified priority and strategic improvements to east and west connectivity in transportation system will greatly improve conditions. These improvements should focus on facilitating improved flow at intersections, diversifying connections across the quadrant with new streets, and widening projects to increase capacity.

Effort should continue for annual legislative annexations to in-fill islands within the current city boundaries. The map to the right includes the current city boundaries, in gray, and the unannexed areas in white. The Southeast Quadrant study boundary, in gold, includes all of the planning jurisdiction for Foley and any willing owner should be annexed into the City.



### **FUTURE LAND USE**

Within Foley, defining future land use will have the largest impact on the built environment. Land use consists of the human-made spaces in which citizens live, work and play on a dayto-day basis. It encompasses public and private buildings, parks, transportation systems, streets, sidewalks, etc.

#### Goals

SE.LU.1	Buildings and sites designed to enhance and contribute to surroundings and
	neighborhoods
SE.LU.2	Well-designed infill development in strategic locations
SE.LU.3	A built environment that focuses more on people to create more desirable,
	higher quality-of-life places
SE.LU.4	More mixed-use with less separation of uses – create more activity in given
	areas
SE.LU.5	Better suburban development – minimize additional sprawl to maximize
	growth in existing areas through infill
SE.LU.6	More connections among developed areas and neighborhoods

#### **Policies**

SE.LU.1	Ensure regulations that affect the built environment such as zening
SE.LU.I	Ensure regulations that affect the built environment such as zoning
	ordinances and subdivision regulations align with the vision, principles and
	policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan
SE.LU.2	Encourage designs that enhance a sense of place, such as traditional design
	elements in building materials, placement of structures, and site construction
SE.LU.3	Encourage infill and redevelopment in strategic locations that provide
	accessibility and a mix of uses
SE.LU.4	Encourage private property owners and developers to find sites on
	underutilized property with existing infrastructure instead of approving
	development on greenfield locations
SE.LU.5	Focus on annexation of internal islands within the current city limit

#### **Projects**

Review and update zoning ordinance to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan

Review and update subdivision regulations to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan

Consider implementing a form-based overlay for large parcel development opportunities

Consider adopting conservation subdivision regulations to protect natural and agricultural land. [See graphic on the right page]

Continue annual legislative annexation efforts to in-fill areas within the existing city limits



This graphic illustrates two different development patterns using the same area and the same number of homes. The subdivision on the left represents a suburban subdivision with proportional parcel sizes and private greenspace. The subdivision on the right represents a conservation subdivision with smaller lot sizes and preserved neighborhood greenspace.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

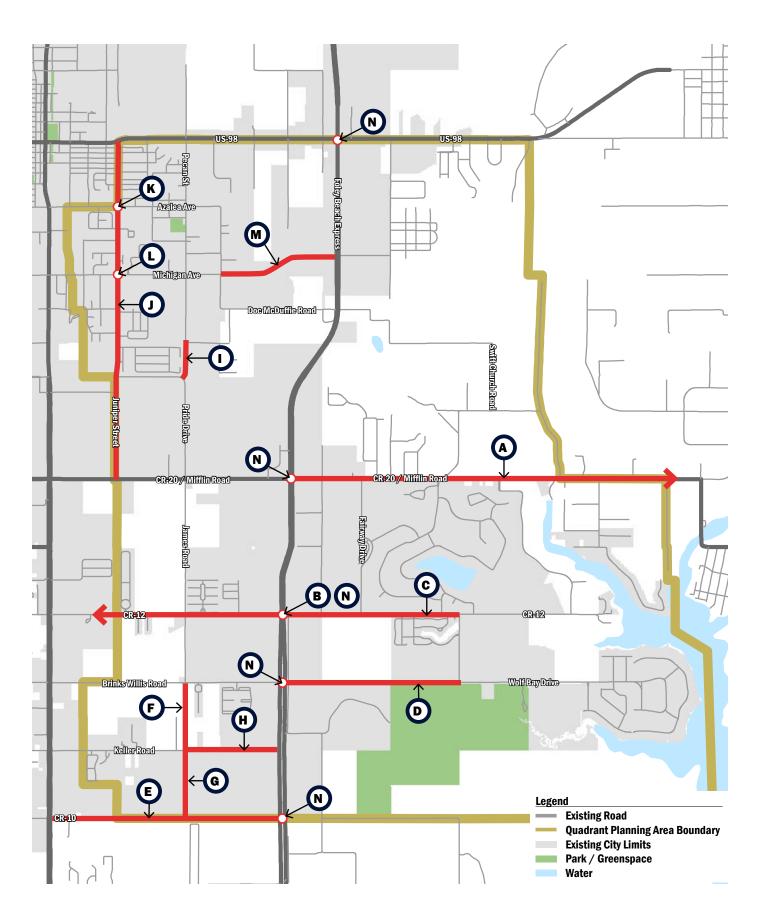
Considering the development patterns of the City, transportation is a critical factor in how citizens nav-igate their daily lives. Transportation improvements should be considered based upon the modes which are active in the community; vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and transit. Improvements to the transportation system should focus on increasing and diversifying connections across the quadrant as well as increasing capacity when warranted. Land use and transportation are intrinsically linked which results in transportation influencing future land use decisions. The goals, policies and projects outlined as followed should be considered during the review of existing regulatory tools as well as the creation of future tools by the City Council.

#### Goals

SE.T.1	Improve the safety and efficiency of all modes of transportation
SE.T.2	Develop transportation alternatives to motorized vehicles
SE.T.3	Increase connectivity across the quadrant with stratgic improvements to the
	street network

#### **Policies**

SE.T.1	Improve the condition and continuity of sidewalks and other pedestrian ways
	throughout the community
SE.T.2	Develop opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian facilities between
	destinations, residential neighborhoods and other locations in the community
SE.T.3	Work with property owners, neighborhoods, developers and others to create
	new street connections



Letters included on Transportation Projects are keyed to the map on the following page.

#### **Projects**

Expand the existing system of bicycle trails and lanes

» This should include a hierarchy of off-street lanes, dedicated on-street bicycle lanes and appropriately signed shared road situations

Based on increased demand and traffic, consider widening County Road-20 / Mifflin Road as needed based on increased demand and traffic (A)

Improve the County Road-12 and Foley Beach Express intersection with appropriate turning lanes and signage (B)

Based on increased demand and traffic, consider widening County Road-12 between AL Highway-59 and Wolf Bay Drive as needed based on increased demand and traffic (C)

As the result of continued residential growth, the connection between Wolf Bay Drive and Foley Beach Express at Brinks Willis Drive is important to improving circulation (D)

Extend CR-10 from Alabama-59 to Foley Beach Express as part of future planned developments occur in the area (E)

Continue the improved extension of James Road, based upon development needs:

- » Segment 1 Brink Willis to Keller Road (F)
- » Segment 2 Keller Road to CR-10 (G)

Improve Keller Road between Capri Lane and Foley Beach Express as needed (H)

To improve local circulation, connect South Pecan Street to the Pride Drive Roundabout (I)

Focus on South Juniper Street as being an internal local street to improve circulation through complete street improvements (J) (See graphic below)

- » Appropriate travel lanes and turn lanes (as needed) along with bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or multi-use trails where appropriate
- » Roundabout at Azalea Avenue and South Juniper Street. (K)
- » Roundabout at East Michigan Avenue and South Juniper Street. (L)

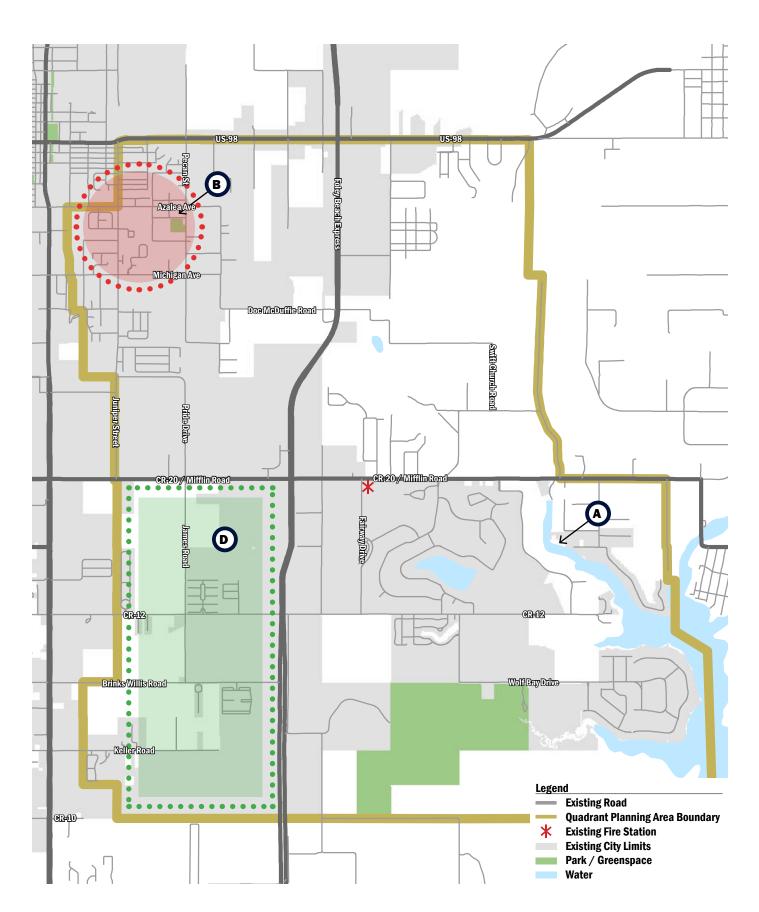
Extend Michigan Avenue from Maple Street to Foley Beach Express and connect at Industrial Parkway (M)

Continue to improve and maintain major intersections along Foley Beach Express as the "front-porch" entrances to the community (N)

- » County Road-20 / Mifflin Road
- » County Road-12
- » County Road-10 [Future Connection]
- » US Highway-98 / Laurel Avenue

This graphic on the right illustrates how a complete street could be implemented on Juniper Street. In this scenario, appropriate travel lanes are maintained with the addition of sidewalk and a planted strip as a buffer.





# **COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

Within the Southeastern Quadrant, there are significant community-wide assets which are provided to all the citizens of Foley and are accessible to the greater region. Improvements and investments in these assets should consider the local and regional impacts.

#### Goals

SE.CFS.1	Provide diverse recreational opportunities for residents in the quadrant
SE.CFS.2	Provide upgrades to existing recreational facilities to continue to maintain
	high standards
SE.CFS.3	Promote and enhance medical facilities within the community
SE.CFS.4	Facilitate regular coordination with public and private utility providers to
	ensure facilities are prepared for future growth
SE.CFS.5	Improve storm water management in the quadrant to mitigate local flooding
	and protect surrounding water and wetlands

#### **Policies**

SE.CFS.1	Develop a system of parks and greenspaces that are accessible throughout
	the quadrant
SE.CFS.2	Continue to support quality fire services and protection within the quadrant
SE.CFS.3	Support Graham Creek Nature Preserve as the premiere eco-tourism
	destination in south Baldwin County

Letters included on Community Facilities and Services Projects are keyed to the map on the adjacent page.

#### **Projects**

Expand the community way-finding signage system to identify important locations within the quadrant

Expand access to Wolf Creek with new or improved launch locations

Continue improvements to Wolf Creek Park (A)

Develop local storm water management strategy to reduce current and future flooding (B)

Continue growth and development of Graham Creek Nature Preserve consistent with the Master Plan (C)

As residential growth occurs south of CR-20 / Mifflin Road and west of Foley Beach Expressway, consider a future park facility with active and passive elements (D)

# **SOUTHEAST QUADRANT ACTION PLAN**

The following Action Plan was created during the planning process for the Southeast Quadrant as a series of recommended projects for implementation which are reflective of the guiding principles of Foley Forward, along with the goals and policies of the Southeast Quadrant. Projects included within the Action Plan should be integrated into the on-going budgeting and capital planning of the City to ensure a commitment to implementation. For each of the plan recommendations, there are action steps that should be considered in order to implement recommendations. These action items may change, over time; however, it is important to identify these necessary steps. Each year, the Action Plan should be reviewed and updated to remain consistent with the needs of the Southeast Quadrant.

The associated timelines for these recommendations are:

On-going	Currently Active or Continuous
Short-term	1-3 Years
Mid-term	3-7 Years
Long-term	8+ Years

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Review and update subdivision regulations to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	On-Going
Review and update zoning ordinance to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	On-Going
Improve and maintain major intersections along Foley Beach Express as the "front-porch" entrances to the community	Parks Department, Graham Creek Nature Preserve, Friends of Graham Creek Nature Preserve	On-Going
Expand access to Wolf Creek with new or improved launch locations	Parks Department, Graham Creek Nature Preserve, Friends of Graham Creek Nature Preserve	On-Going
Continue growth and development of Graham Creek Nature Preserve consistent with the Master Plan	City Council, Parks Department	On-Going
Expand the existing system of bicycle trails and lanes	City Council, Public Works	On-Going
Continue annual legislative annexation efforts to in-fill areas within the existing city limits	City Council, Community Development, Baldwin County Legislative Delegation	On-Going
Expand the community way-finding signage system to identify important locations within the quadrant.	City Council, Public Works, Visit Foley	On-Going

		1
Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Improve the County Road-12 and Foley Beach Express intersection with turn lanes	City Council, Baldwin County, Engineering	Short-Term
Connect Wolf Bay Drive with Brinks Willis Drive	City Council, County Commission, Engineering	Short-Term
Widen County Road-12 between AL Highway-59 and Wolf Bay Drive	City Council, County Commission, Engineering	Short-Term
Widen County Road-20 / Mifflin Road as needed based on increased demand and traffic	City Council, County Commission, Engineering, ALDOT	Short-Term
Develop and implement a storm water management strategy in existing neighborhoods (near Pecan Street / Juniper Street / Azalea Avenue / Michigan Avenue area) to reduce flooding and erosion	City Council, Engineering, Public Works	Short-Term
Consider adopting conservation subdivision regulations to protect natural and agricultural land	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	Short-Term
Continue improvements to Wolf Creek Park	Parks Department, Graham Creek Nature Preserve, Friends of Graham Creek Nature Preserve	Short-Term
Extend CR-10 from Alabama-59 to Foley Beach Express	City Council, Baldwin County, Engineering	Mid-Term
Complete street of South Juniper Street – between US Highway-98 and Pride Drive	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term
Develop Roundabout at Juniper Street and Azalea Avenue	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term
Develop Roundabout at Juniper Street and Michigan Avenue	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term
Extend James Road from Brinks Willis to Keller Road	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term
Consider implementing a form-based overlay for large parcel development opportunities	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	Mid-Term
Connect South Pecan Street to the Pride Drive Roundabout	City Council, Engineering, OWA	Mid-Term
Extend James Road from Keller Road to CR-10	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Extend Michigan Avenue from Maple	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term
Street to Foley Beach Express		
As residential growth occurs south of	City Council, Parks Department	Long-Term
CR-20 / Mifflin Road and west of Foley		
Beach Expressway, consider a future		
park facility with active and passive		
elements		

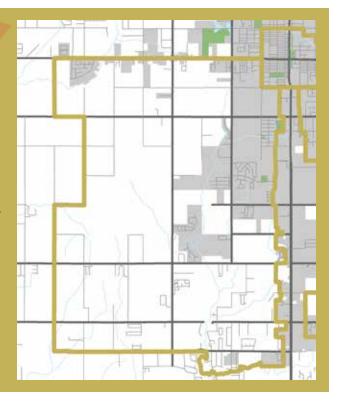
# **SOUTHWEST QUADRANT PLAN**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Southwest Quadrant of Foley is characterized by the rolling agricultural fields of south Baldwin County. The Bon Secour River and tributaries reach up into the quadrant as green swaths of land between the fields and homes. Over the past several years, this quadrant of the City has seen steady and incremental growth through the conversion of these agricultural fields into new subdivisions. The general growth of the quadrant, Foley, and south Baldwin County has begun to present challenges through infrastructure and quality of

Through plan development for the Southwest Quadrant, transportation and connectivity have been some of the most significant issues to address along with stormwater management. These issues are the direct result of the growth which has occurred over the past ten years, as well the planned growth which is still on-going. Through public outreach and discussions with the Southwest Quadrant Advisory Committee, a series of strategic recommendations have been assembled for this quadrant. These improvements should focus on facilitating improved transportation flow and diversifying connections across the quadrant with new connections mixed with determining strategic opportunities to manage stormwater.

Effort should continue for annual legislative annexations to in-fill islands within the current city boundaries. or consider annexation of adjacent land from interested parties. The map to the right includes the current city boundaries, in gray, and the unannexed areas in white. The Southwest Quadrant study boundary, in gold, includes all of the planning jurisdiction for Foley and any willing owner should be annexed into the City.



# **FUTURE LAND USE**

Within Foley, defining future land use will have the largest impact on the built environment. Land use consists of the human-made spaces in which citizens live, work and play on a day-to-day basis. It encompasses public and private buildings, parks, transportation systems, streets, sidewalks, etc.

#### Goals

SW.LU.1	Buildings and sites designed to enhance and contribute to surroundings and
	neighborhoods
SW.LU.2	Well-designed infill development in strategic locations
SW.LU.3	A built environment that focuses more on people to create more desirable,
	higher quality-of-life places
SW.LU.4	More mixed-use with less separation of uses – create more activity in given
	areas
SW.LU.5	Better suburban development - minimize additional sprawl to maximize
	growth in existing areas through infill
SW.LU.6	More connections among developed areas and neighborhoods

#### **Policies**

SW.LU.1	Ensure regulations that affect the built environment such as zoning
	ordinances and subdivision regulations align with the vision, principles and
	policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan.
SW.LU.2	Encourage designs that enhance a sense of place, such as traditional
	design elements in building materials, placement of structures, and site
	construction.
SW.LU.3	Encourage infill and redevelopment in strategic locations that provide
	accessibility and a mix of uses.
SW.LU.4	Encourage private property owners and developers to find sites on
	underutilized property with existing infrastructure instead of approving
	development on greenfield locations.
SW.LU.5	Focus on annexation of internal islands within the current city limit.

## **Projects**

Review and update zoning ordinance to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan.

Review and update subdivision regulations to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan.

Consider implementing a form-based overlay for large parcel development opportunities.

Consider adopting conservation subdivision regulations to protect natural and agricultural land. [See graphic to the right]

Continue annual legislative annexation efforts to in-fill areas within the existing city limits and manage future growth in the quadrant.



This graphic illustrates two different development patterns using the same area and the same number of homes. The subdivision on the left represents a suburban subdivision with proportional parcel sizes and private greenspace. The subdivision on the right represents a conservation subdivision with smaller lot sizes and preserved neighborhood greenspace.

# **TRANSPORTATION**

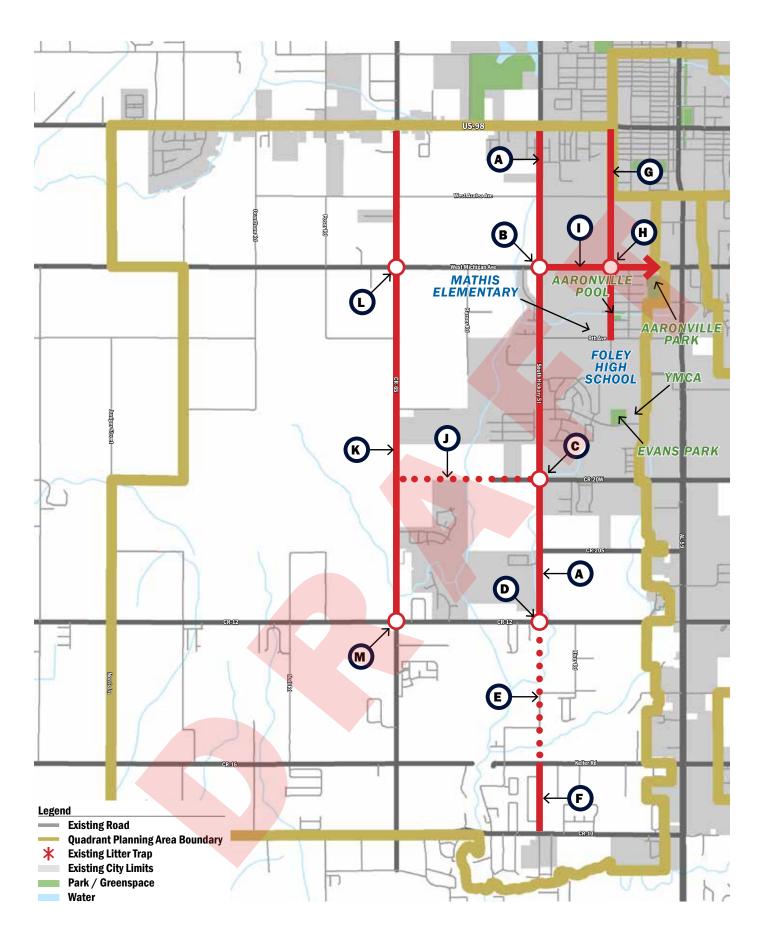
Considering the development patterns of the quadrant, transportation is a critical factor in how citizens navigate their daily lives. Transportation improvements should be considered based upon the modes which are active in the community; vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and transit. Improvements to the transportation system should focus on increasing and diversifying connections across the quadrant as well as increasing capacity in strategic locations when warranted. Land use and transportation are intrinsically linked which results in transportation influencing future land use decisions. The goals, policies and projects outlined as followed should be considered during the review of existing regulatory tools as well as the creation of future tools by the City Council.

#### Goals

SW.T.1	Improve the safety and efficiency of all modes of transportation.
SW.T.2	Develop transportation alternatives to motorized vehicles.
SW.T.3	Increase connectivity across the quadrant with strategic improvements to the
	street network.

## **Policies**

SW.T.1	Improve the condition and continuity of sidewalks and other pedestrian ways
	throughout the community.
SW.T.2	Develop opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian facilities between
	destinations, residential neighborhoods and other locations in the community.
SW.T.3	Work with property owners, neighborhoods, developers and others to create
	new street connections.
SW.T.4	Enhance bicycle and pedestrian connections between existing and planned
	residential developments near Mathis Elementary School and Foley High
	School.



#### **Projects**

Focus on South Hickory Street, between US-98 and CR-12, as being an internal local street to improve circulation through complete street improvements. (See graphic below) This could be accomplished over several individual projects as opposed to one major project. (A)

- » Appropriate travel lanes and turn lanes (as needed) along with bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or multi-use trails where appropriate
- » Roundabout, or other appropriate intersection, at Michigan Avenue and South Hickory Street. (B)
- » Roundabout, or other appropriate intersection, at CR-20W and South Hickory Street.
- » Roundabout, or other appropriate intersection, at CR-12 and South Hickory Street. (D)

Extension of South Hickory Street from CR-12 to Keller Road. (E)

Improve Helton Drive between Keller Road and CR-10. (F)

Focus on South Cedar Street, between US-98 and 9th Avenue, as being an internal local street to improve circulation through complete street improvements. (See graphic below) This could be accomplished as addition residential development occurs in the future. (G)

- » Appropriate travel lanes and turn lanes (as needed) along with bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or multi-use trails where appropriate to connect existing and future neighborhoods to the schools.
- » Roundabout, or other appropriate intersection, at Michigan Avenue and South Cedar Street. (H)

Improve Michigan Avenue (CR-26) between CR-65 and Doc McDuffie (outside of this quadrant). This includes resurfacing and wider lanes. (I)

Extension of CR-20 between South Hickory Street and CR-65. (J)

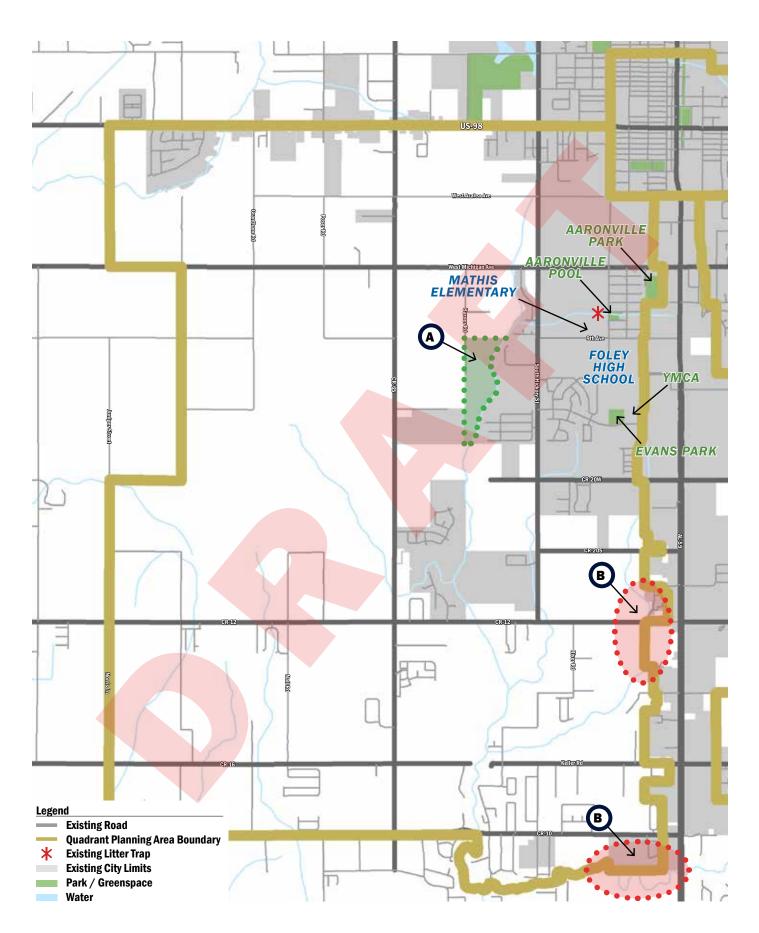
In partnership with Baldwin County, improve CR-65 between US-98 and CR-12 as residential development and growth occurs, and City Limits grow to the west. (K) Consider intersection Improvements at:

- » Michigan Avenue and CR-65 (L)
- » CR-12 and CT-65 (M)

Expand the existing system of bicycle trails and lanes.

This graphic on the right illustrates how a complete street could be implemented on South Hickory Street or South Cedar Street. In this scenario, appropriate travel lanes are maintained with the addition of sidewalk and a planted strip as a buffer.





## **COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

Within the Southwest Quadrant, there are significant community-wide assets which are provided to all the citizens of Foley and are accessible to the greater region. Improvements and investments in these assets should consider the local and regional impacts.

#### Goals

SW.CFS.1	Provide diverse recreational opportunities for residents in the quadrant
SW.CFS.2	Provide upgrades to existing recreational facilities to continue to maintain
	high standards
SW.CFS.3	Promote and enhance medical facilities within the community
SW.CFS.4	Facilitate regular coordination with public and private utility providers to
	ensure facilities are prepared for future growth
SW.CFS.5	Improve storm water management in the quadrant to mitigate local flooding
	and protect surrounding water and wetlands

#### **Policies**

SW.CFS.1	Develop a system of parks and greenspaces that are accessible throughout
	the quadrant
SW.CFS.2	Consider opportunities to increase vegetated buffers along waterways

# **Projects**

Expand the community way-finding signage system to identify important locations within

Develop and implement a stormwater management plan to reduce flooding and erosion. This should include an assessment of all drainage channels and roadside swales and establishing routine for maintenance.

Implement regional stormwater management facility to help manage stormwater run-off in the Bon Secour watershed. (A)

Develop local storm water management strategy to reduce current and future flooding by installing an additional regional stormwater management facility as needed.

Study the consideration of litter trap(s) on the Bon Secour River to collect trash and debris. This is consistent with the Management Measures of the Bon Secour, Oyster Bay, and Skunk Bayou Watershed Management Plan. (B)

Explore opportunities for new or enhanced access to the Bon Secour River for nonmotorized boats.

Continue growth and development of Graham Creek Nature Preserve consistent with the Master Plan (C)

As residential growth occurs south of CR-20 / Mifflin Road and west of Foley Beach Expressway, consider a future park facility with active and passive elements (D)

# **SOUTHWEST QUADRANT ACTION PLAN**

The following Action Plan was created during the planning process for the Southwest Quadrant as a series of recommended projects for implementation which are reflective of the guiding principles of Foley Forward, along with the goals and policies of the Southwest Quadrant. Projects included within the Action Plan should be integrated into the on-going budgeting and capital planning of the City to ensure a commitment to implementation. For each of the plan recommendations, there are action steps that should be considered in order to implement recommendations. These action items may change, over time; however, it is important to identify these necessary steps. Each year, the Action Plan should be reviewed and updated to remain consistent with the needs of the Southwest/ Quadrant.

The associated timelines for these recommendations are:

On-going	Currently Active or Continuous	
Short-term	1-3 Years	
Mid-term	3-7 Years	
Long-term	8+ Years	

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Review and update zoning ordinance to be consistent with the Development	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	On-Going
Review and update subdivision regulations to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	On-Going
Continue annual legislative annexation efforts to in-fill areas within the existing city limits	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development, Baldwin County Legislative Delegation	On-Going
Consider adopting conservation subdivision regulations to protect natural and agricultural land	City Council, Planning Commission, Community Development	On-Going
Implement regional stormwater management facility to help manage stormwater run-off in the Bon Secour watershed.	City Council, Environmental Department	On-Going
Expand the existing system of bicycle trails and lanes	City Council, Engineering Department , Community Development	On-Going
Expand the community way-finding signage system to identify important locations within the quadrant	Community Development, Chamber of Commerce, Visit Foley	On-Going

Action Hom Population Timelin			
Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline	
Develop and implement a storm water	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term	
management plan to reduce flooding	Department, Environmental		
and erosion	Department		
Develop local storm water	Engineering De <mark>partmen</mark> t,	Short-Term	
management strategy to reduce	Environmental Department		
current and future flooding			
Widening of South Hickory Street	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term	
between US-98 and CR-12.	Department		
Intersection Improvements at	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term	
Michigan Avenue and South Hickory	Department		
Street			
Extension of CR-20 between South	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term	
Hickory Street and CR-65.	Department		
Intersection Improvements at South	City Council, Engineering	Short-Term	
Hickory Street and CR-12	Department		
Intersection Improvements at	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term	
Michigan Avenue and South Cedar	Department		
Street			
Intersection Improvements at South	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term	
Hickory Street and CR-20	Department		
Study the consideration of a litter trap	Environmental Department	Mid-Term	
on the Bon Secour River to collect			
trash and debris.			
Consider implementing a form-based	City Council, Planning Commission,	Mid-Term	
overlay for large parcel development	Community Development		
opportunities			
Improve Michigan Avenue (CR-26)	City Council, Engineering	Mid-Term	
between CR-65 and Doc McDuffie	Department		
(outside of this quadrant). This			
includes resurfacing and wider lanes.			
Improvements to CR-65 between US-	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term	
98 and CR-12	Department, County Commission		
Intersection Improvements at	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term	
Michigan Avenue and CR-65	Department, County Commission		
Extension of South Hickory Street from	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term	
CR-12 to Keller Road.	Department, County Commission		
Improve Helton Drive between Keller	City Council, Engineering	Long-Term	
Road and CR-10	Department, County Commission		
TOUG GITG OIL TO	Dopartmont, County Commission		

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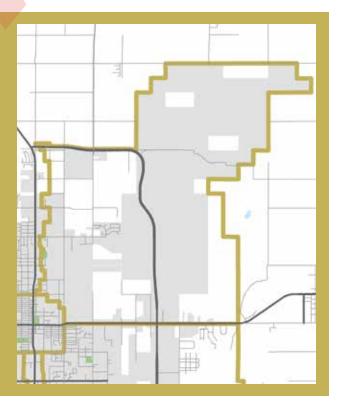
# **NORTHEAST QUADRANT PLAN**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Northeast Quadrant of Foley is least developed quadrant of the City. It is characterized by agricultural fields along Foley Beach Express and the headwaters of Sandy Creek. The Sandy Creek tributaries reach up into the quadrant as green swaths of land between the fields and few residential developments. Across this quadrant, much of the natural and undeveloped areas of the quadrant are owned by relatively few land owners who have expressed interest in future development that is respectful to the of the area and land.

Through plan development for the Northeast Quadrant, transportation and connectivity have been some of the most significant issues to address. The issues are about helping to insure conectivity for future growth and to provide alternative mobility, other than automobile. Input focused on this quadrant and improving existing connectivity and strategic improvements to provide alternative routes that include facilities for pedestrians, bicycles, golf carts and automboile. Through public outreach and discussions with the Northeast Quadrant Advisory Committee, a series of strategic recommendations have been assembled for this quadrant. These improvements should focus on facilitating improved transportation flow and diversifying connections across the quadrant with new connections mixed with determine strategic opportunities to manage stormwater.

Effort should continue for annual legislative annexations to in-fill islands within the current city boundaries. or consider annexation of adjacent land from interested parties. The map to the right includes the current city boundaries, in gray, and the unannexed areas in white. The Northeast Quadrant study boundary, in gold, includes all of the planning jurisdiction for Foley and any willing owner should be annexed into the City.



# **FUTURE LAND USE**

Within Foley, defining future land use will have the largest impact on the built environment. Land use consists of the human-made spaces in which citizens live, work and play on a day-to-day basis. It encompasses public and private buildings, parks, transportation systems, streets, sidewalks, etc.

#### Goals

NE.LU.1	Buildings and sites designed to enhance and contribute to surroundings and
	neighborhoods
NE.LU.2	Well-designed infill development in strategic locations
NE.LU.3	A built environment that focuses more on people to create more desirable,
	higher quality-of-life places
NE.LU.4	More mixed-use with less separation of uses – create more activity in given
	areas
NE.LU.5	Better suburban development – minimize additional sprawl to maximize
	growth in existing areas through infill
NE.LU.6	More connections among developed areas and neighborhoods

#### **Policies**

NE.LU.1	Ensure regulations that affect the built environment such as zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations align with the vision, principles and policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan.
NE.LU.2	Encourage designs that enhance a sense of place, such as traditional
	design elements in building materials, placement of structures, and site
	construction.
NE.LU.3	Encourage infill and redevelopment in strategic locations that provide
	accessibility and a mix of uses.
NE.LU.4	Encourage private property owners and developers to find sites on
	underutilized property with existing infrastructure instead of approving
	development on greenfield locations.
NE.LU.5	Focus on annexation of internal islands within the current city limits.

## **Projects**

Review and update zoning ordinance to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan.

Review and update subdivision regulations to be consistent with the Development Framework and the Foley Forward Plan.

Consider implementing a form-based overlay for large parcel development opportunities.

Consider adopting conservation subdivision regulations to protect natural and agricultural land. [See graphic to the right]

Continue annual legislative annexation efforts to in-fill areas within the existing city limits and manage future growth in the quadrant.



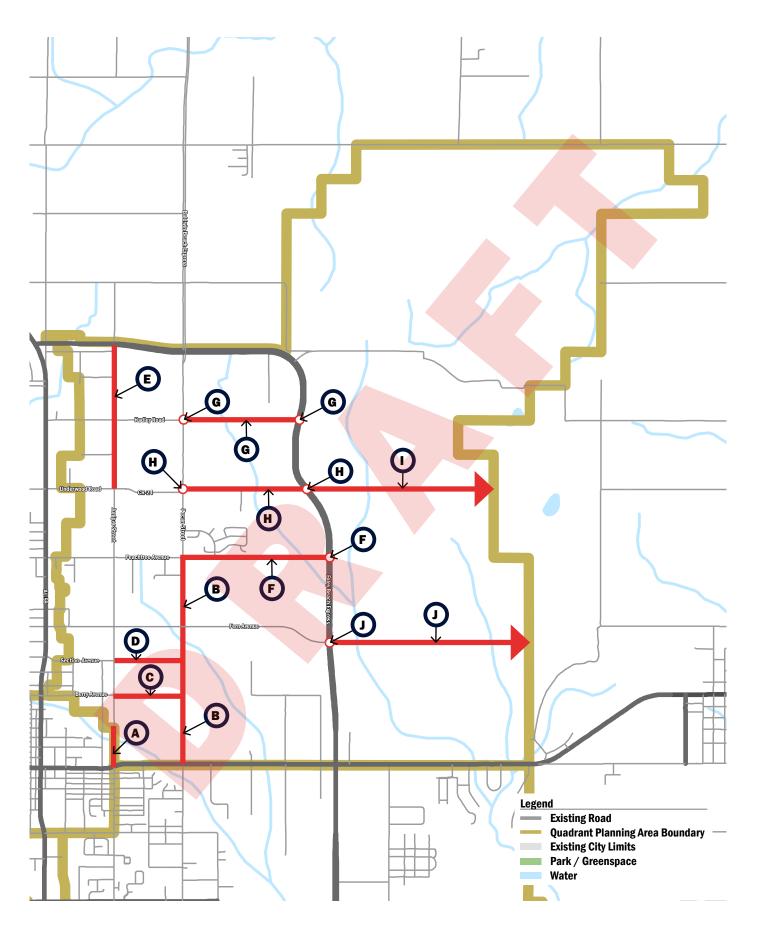
This graphic illustrates two different development patterns using the same area and the same number of homes. The subdivision on the left represents a suburban subdivision with proportional parcel sizes and private greenspace. The subdivision on the right represents a conservation subdivision with smaller lot sizes and preserved neighborhood greenspace.

# **TRANSPORTATION**

Considering the development patterns of the quadrant, transportation is a critical factor in how citizens navigate their daily lives. Transportation improvements should be considered based upon the modes which are active in the community and those the community wishes to improve; vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and transit. Improvements to the transportation system should focus on increasing and diversifying connections across the quadrant as well as increasing capacity in strategic locations when warranted. In the Northeast Quadrant, these connections are currently limited, however, as future development occurs there will be opportunities to engage with land owners and developers to improve connectivity through mutlitple modes of transportation. Land use and transportation are intrinsically linked which results in transportation influencing future land use decisions. The goals, policies and projects outlined as followed should be considered during the review of existing regulatory tools as well as the creation of future tools by the City Council.

#### Goals

NE.T.1	Improve the safety and efficiency of all modes of transportation.
NE.T.2	Develop transportation alternatives to motorized vehicles.
NE.T.3	Increase connectivity across the quadrant with strategic improvements to the
	street network.



## **Policies**

NE.T.1	Improve the condition and continuity of sidewalks and other pedestrian ways throughout the community.
NE.T.2	Guide future development through completing transportation connections in the quad.
NE.T.3	Mange access to Foley Beach Express consistent with the Access  Management Plan.
NE.T.4	Develop opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian facilities between destinations, residential neighborhoods and other locations in the community.
NE.T.5	Consider alternative modes of transportation, such as golf carts, through separate multi-use paths within the Quad.

## **Projects**

Connect N. Juniper Street to S. Juniper Street at US Highway-98. (A)

» An alternative option could be to cross at the N. Poplar Street bridge over Wolf Creek and loop around the Riviera Utilities facility.

Connect N. Pecan Street to S. Pecan Street at US Highway-98 from Peachtree Avenue. This will utilize existing right-of-way. (B)

Extend Section Avenue to Pecan Street. (C)

Improve East Berry Avenue from Juniper Street to Pecan Street. (D)

Improve N. Juniper Street from Foley Beach Express to CR-24. (E)

Extend Peachtree Boulevard / Perfection Road to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design. (F)

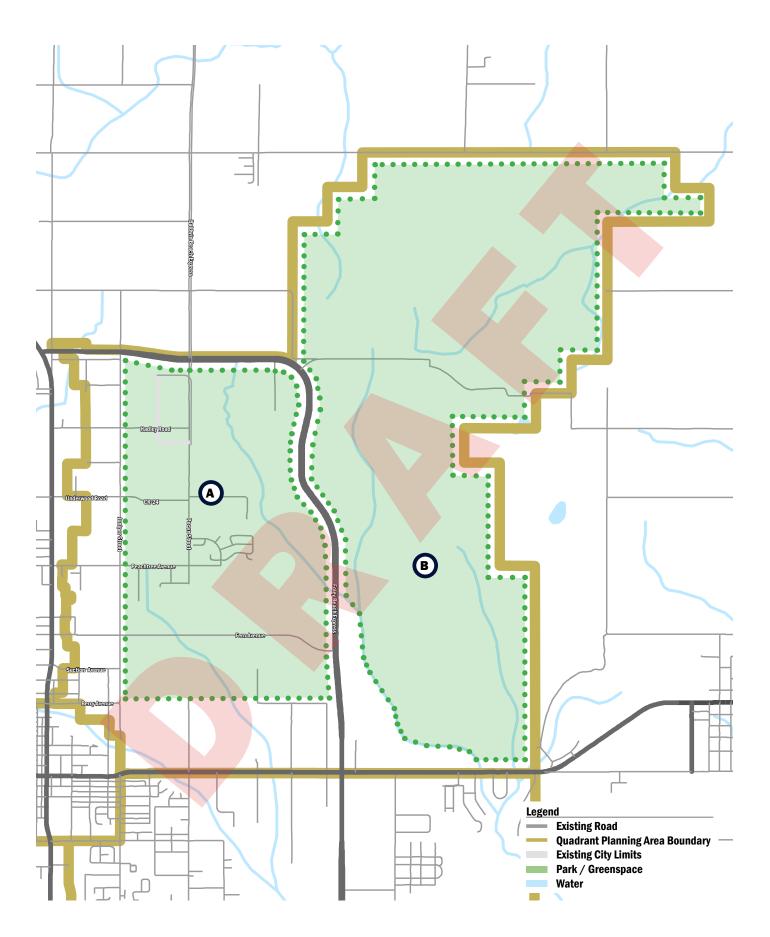
Extend Hadley Road from Pecan Street to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design. This should include intersection updates at Hadley Road and Pecan Street. (G)

Extend CR-24 from Pecan Street to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design. This should include a intersection alignment for CR-24 at the Pecan Street intersection. (H)

Extend CR-24 across Foley Beach Express as future development occurs to the east. This could connect to Kichler Circle North. (I)

Extend Fern Avenue across Foley Beach Express as future development occurs to the east. This could connect to Kichler Circle South. (J)

Improve north and south connectivity to the east of Foley Beach Express and new developments occur. These connections could be defined in development plans. Limit the number of 'cul-de-sacs' in these development to encourage connectivity.



#### **COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

Within the Northeast Quadrant, there are few community-wide assets for the citizens of Foley. This is mostly a direct result of the lower population density which exists in this quadrant. As future development occurs and population increases in the quadrant, new community facilities and services should be considered, such as new park and recreational facilities. Recreational amenities could be developed based on existing natural assets such as Wolf Creek and Sandy Creek. Improvements and investments in these assets should consider the local and regional impacts.

#### Goals

NE.CFS.1	Provide diverse recreational opportunities for residents in the quadrant.
NE.CFS.2	Improve storm water management in the quadrant to mitigate local flooding
	and protect surrounding water and wetlands.

#### **Policies**

NE.CFS.1	Develop a system of parks and greenspaces that are accessible throughout
	the quadrant.
NE.CFS.2	Continue to support quality fire services and protection within the quadrant.

#### **Projects**

Expand the community way-finding signage system to identify important locations within the quadrant.

Develop and implement a storm water management plan to reduce flooding and erosion.

Expand access to Sandy Creek and Wolf Creek with new or improved launch locations.

These launches could in conjunction with other recreational facilities.

Study the consideration of a litter traps on the Wolf Creek and Sandy Creek to collect trash and debris.

As residential growth occurs to the west of Foley Beach Expressway, consider a future park facility with passive elements. This park should be designed to serve the needs of the residential neighborhoods and include elements such as playgrounds, walking trails, open space, etc. (A)

As residential growth occurs to the east of Foley Beach Expressway, consider future park(s) facility with active and passive elements. These parks should be designed to serve the needs of the residential neighborhoods. (B)

# **NORTHEAST QUADRANT ACTION PLAN**

The following Action Plan was created during the planning process for the Northeast Quadrant as a series of recommended projects for implementation which are reflective of the guiding principles of Foley Forward, along with the goals and policies of the Northeast Quadrant. Projects included within the Action Plan should be integrated into the on-going budgeting and capital planning of the City to ensure a commitment to implementation. For each of the plan recommendations, there are action steps that should be considered in order to implement recommendations. These action items may change, over time; however, it is important to identify these necessary steps. Each year, the Action Plan should be reviewed and updated to remain consistent with the needs of the Northeast Quadrant.

The associated timelines for these recommendations are:

On-going	Currently Active or Continuous
Short-term	1-3 Years
Mid-term	3-7 Years
Long-term	8+ Years

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Review and update zoning ordinance	City Council, Planning Commission,	On-Going
to be consistent with the Development	Community Development	
Framework and the Foley Forward		
Plan.		
Review and update subdivision	City Council, Planning Commission,	On-Going
regulations to be consistent with the	Community Development	
Development Framework and the		
Foley Forward Plan.		
Consider implementing a form-based	City Council, Planning Commission,	Short-Term
overlay for large parcel development	Community Development	
opportunities.		
Consider adopting conservation	City Council, Planning Commission,	Short-Term
subdivision regulations to protect	Community Development	
natural and agricultural land. [See		
graphic to the right]		
Continue annual legislative annexation	City Council, Community	On-Going
efforts to in-fill areas within the	Development, Baldwin County	
existing city limits and manage future	Legislative Delegation	
growth in the quadrant.		

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Improve north and south connectivity	City Council, Public Works, Private	On-Going
to the east of Foley Beach Express	Developers	On-doing
and new developments occur. These		
connections could be defined in		
development plans. Limit the number		
of 'cul-de-sacs' in these development		
to encourage connectivity.		
Expand the community way-finding	City Council, Public Works, Visit	On-Going
signage system to identify important	Foley	
locations within the quadrant.		
As residential growth occurs to the	City Council, Recreation, Private	On-Going
west of Foley Beach Expressway,	Developers	
consider a future park facility with passive elements. This park should		
be designed to serve the needs of the		
residential neighborhoods and include		
elements such as playgrounds,		
walking trails, open space, etc.		
As residential growth occurs to the	City Council, Recreation, Private	On-Going
east of Foley Beach Expressway,	Developers	
consider future park(s) facility		
with active and passive elements.		
These parks should be designed to		
serve the needs of the residential		
neighborhoods. (B)		
Connect Pecan Street between	City Council, Public Works, County	Short-Term
Peachtree Avenue and Fern Avenue	Commission	
Develop and implement a storm water	City Council, Community	Short-Term
management plan to reduce flooding	Development, Public Works	
and erosion.	City Council Depretion	Chart Tarna
Study the consideration of a litter traps on the Wolf Creek and Sandy	City Council, Recration  Department, Environmental	Short-Term
Creek to collect trash and debris.	Dopartment, Environmental	
Expand access to Sandy Creek and	City Council, Recration	Mid-Term
Wolf Creek with new or improved	Department, Environmental	IVIIG-IGIIII
launch locations.		
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Connect Pecan Street between Fern	City Council, Public Works, County	Mid-Term

Action Item	Responsible Parties	Timeline
Connect N. Juniper Street to S. Juniper Street at US Highway-98.	City Council, Public Works, County Commission	Mid-Term
Extend Section Avenue to Pecan Street.	City Council, Public Works	Long-Term
Improve East Berry Avenue from Juniper Street to Pecan Street.	City Council, Public Works	Long-Term
Improve N. Juniper Street from Foley Beach Express to CR-24.	City Council, Public Works	Mid-Trem
Extend Peachtree Boulevard / Perfection Road to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design.	City Council, Public Works	Long-Term
Extend Hadley Road from Pecan Street to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design. This should include intersection updates at Hadley Road and Pecan Street.	City Council, Public Works	Long-Term
Extend CR-24 from Pecan Street to Foley Beach Express with needed turn lanes and appropriate cross over design. This should include a intersection alignment for CR-24 at the Pecan Street intersection.	City Council, Public Works	Long-Term
Extend CR-24 across Foley Beach Express as future development occurs to the east. This could connect to Kichler Circle North.	City Council, Public Works, County Comission, Private Developers	Long-Term
Extend Fern Avenue across Foley Beach Express as future development occurs to the east. This could connect to Kichler Circle South.	City Council, Public Works, County Comission, Private Developers	Long-Term

# NORTHWEST QUADRANT PLAN

This page is a placeholder for the future Northwest Quadrant Plan as defined in the Structure Plans section. The plan will be undertaken at a time defined by the City Council and Community Development Department.

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# **ALABAMA HIGHWAY-59 CORRIDOR PLAN**

This page is a placeholder for the future Alabama Highway-59 Corridor Plan as defined in the Structure Plans section. The plan will be undertaken at a time defined by the City Council and Community Development Department.

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# IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS **AND ACTION PLANS**

# CRITICAL STEPS IN IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of Foley Forward requires several critical steps, including:

- » A commitment to improving the community;
- » Adoption of Foley Forward by the Planning Commission and acknowledgment by the City Council:
- » The formation of a public-private implementation team to implement the plan strategy;

# PLAN ADOPTION, ONGOING AND PROJECT PLANNING

Adoption of the Plan by the Planning Commission and acknowledgment by the City Council are an important step in implementation. With the adoption and recognition of Foley Forward by these two official bodies represents a commitment to implementation of the goals and policies included throughout the plan. As with any long-range plan, continuous review of Foley Forward is essential to responsible implementation of the plan over time. Updating should be done as needed, and, at least every five to seven years. Annual reports should be made by the Planning Commission, to the Mayor, the City Council and others on the status of the Plan. Regular meetings of an implementation team should also be considered to provide input to the Planning Commission as needed.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Foley has organizations, committees, and government departments that have some role in the development, promotion, and improvements of downtown, neighborhoods, and other districts. However, none of these entities have a mission that includes all aspects necessary for growth and development. While some of these organizations, committees and government departments work efficiently together, there needs to be one organization responsible solely for the growth and development of downtown and other districts. The City should consider using internal Project Managers as the lead facilitators for the implementation team. The team should include needed stakeholder committees that have various responsibilities for implementing the revitalization plan.

The implementation team should include:

- » City Council, Mayor and Departments
- » Foley Planning Commission
- » Quadrant Advisory Committee Members
- » Chamber of Commerce
- » Other engaged and concerned Citizens

The mission of the implementation team should include:

- » Coordination of agencies and responsibilities
- » Ongoing plan review, reporting, updating and specific project planning
- » Management of downtown and neighborhood planning and revitalization

#### **ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Implementation of Foley Forward requires an effective and assertive partnerships to leverage public and private resources and facilitate development projects. There are many economic restructuring tools and incentives that should be considered to support the implementation of the revitalization plan. Tools and incentives that should be considered include:

- » Historic Tax Credits
- » Façade Rehabilitation Grant or Loan
- » Revolving Loan Fund or other loan programs
- » Urban Redevelopment Authority and District
- » Business Improvement District (BID)
- » Tax Increment Financing District (TIF)
- » Cooperative Improvement District
- » Brownfield/Department of Revenue Grants and Loans
- » State Land Banking Program
- » Transportation Alternative Program Grants
- » CDBG, USDA, EDA Grants Subject to availability

An explanation of these implementation tools follows.

# **IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS**

Implementation of Foley Forward could benefit from the following economic tools and incentives:

- » Urban Redevelopment Authority and District Foley could create redevelopment authority with broad authority to acquire property, sell, etc. This authority could be considered for issuing tax exemptions, bond financing, land acquisitions and re-selling to developers, etc.
- » Business Improvement District (BID) The City and property owners can adopt a self-improvement Business Improvement District. A BID can create a special tax for specific improvements or services agreed to by a consensus of property owners.
- » Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) Foley can consider a Tax Increment Financing district. This district can be used to finance improvements through a delay in the incremental increase in property tax.

- » Cooperative Improvement District This type of district allows the City to invest in public/private projects through tax repayments to the city from return on private development.
- » Historic Tax Credits Historic properties can be improved using a 20% federal tax credit. Properties can also take advantage of the Wallace-Cater Act to reduce state tax that allows historic property owners to be eligible for an additional 20% State of Alabama Property Tax Reduction on top of the Federal income tax credit.
- » Brownfield/Department of Revenue Programs Certain properties may be eligible for Brownfield tax credits and/or grants for assessments of properties that have environmental questions. These programs are administered through the Alabama Department of Revenue, ADEM and EPA.
- » Façade Rehabilitation Grant or Loan A Façade Rehabilitation Program can be used to provide funds for renovations to facades. These funds can also be used to remove signs, abandoned parts of buildings, etc. The fund must be established using federal or private funding and used as a grant or part of a revolving loan.
- » State Land Banking Programs The state land bank can be used to acquire property and hold it for re-sell to a private developer who will improve the property. The cost of the land can be negotiated to "make" the deal feasible.
- » Transportation Alternative Program Grants These funds can be used for streetscape improvements, as well as sidewalks, bicycle facilities, etc.

# **ACTION PLANS**

Each geographic sector within Foley Forward contains an Action Plan for on-going plan implementation. As each sector plan is created, or updated, these Action Plans should reflect the implementation of goals, policies and projects developed during the planning process. Projects included within the Action Plan should be integrated into the on-going budgeting and capital planning of the City to ensure a commitment to implementation.

For each of the plan recommendations, there are action steps that should be considered in order to implement recommendations. These action items may change, over time; however, it is important to identify these necessary steps.

#### **Priorities and Time Frame**

Priorities may be considered short-term, mid-term and long-term. These designations take into account the importance of a recommendation as well as a sense of time sensitivity or urgency. Such priorities are reflected in the Plan and should be included and updated as part of the implementation matrix.

# Financing and Funding Public/Private Investments/Public Improvements/ Property Acquisition

The Plan cannot be funded by city resources alone. Many of the Plan recommendations will be implemented by the private sector. The City and redevelopment authority's goal is leveraging and supporting private sector resources to accomplish the desired results. Plan implementation should also be seen as an investment strategy and not just the spending of public funds. Cooperation with other agencies, organizations, non-profit and philanthropic groups is critical to Plan implementation as well. Consideration should be given to creation and use of a land banking or assembly program providing for conversion of vacant or underused properties to new businesses or mixed-use projects.

Financing and funding of city initiatives for public improvements and property acquisition should include the use of city funds, bond issues, grants, loans and special funding generated through related development authorities such as the Redevelopment Authority, Industrial Development Board, etc.

Partnering with Federal, State, and Regional Agencies for funding is critical as well as partnering with organizations such as Alabama Power, investment partners, environmental organizations, tourism projects, and others.

#### **Regulatory Tools**

Certain regulatory tools are important to the implementation of Foley Forward, including enforcing the zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, property maintenance ordinances and others. A mechanism for design review through the Planning Commission or other entity should be considered for downtown, especially relative to some form of façade rehab program.

A critical step to undertake upon the completion of any comprehensive/ master plan process is a thorough review and update of the City's major regulatory tools, including, but not limited to, the zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, transportation, property maintenance codes, design guidelines, etc. These regulatory tools allow for the enforcement of goals, policies and projects promoted in the Comprehensive Plan.