

ENVISION

Pasco
2050



Inspire
PLACEMAKING COLLECTIVE

OCTOBER 2023

Envision Pasco 2050 is a community-driven vision for the future of Pasco County

This vision was developed over the course of a six-month public engagement process, which included Countywide public workshops, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, community pop-up events, and an interactive project website, pasco2050.com, with a survey and a discussion forum. The Countywide public workshop series were divided into three parts that built off each other, with multiple public workshops in each series. These series were centered around answering three primary questions, which helped develop the contents of Envision Pasco 2050.

- 1** In part one of the Countywide workshop series, attendees engaged in a series of activities designed to answer the question **'where are we now?'** They identified current conditions and trends that should to be addressed in Pasco 2050 update.
- 2** In part two, attendees worked collaboratively to answer the question **'where do we want to go?'** by identifying vision themes based on feedback from the prior workshop series and input received from the community survey, focus groups, and stakeholder meetings.
- 3** In part three, attendees were asked to answer the question **'how do we get there?'** by collectively providing recommendations and strategies to achieve the community vision identified in the previous public engagements.

The community's responses to each of these questions and what they felt were the most important areas for the plan to address were compiled and turned into the Pasco 2050 Vision Statement. After analyzing the community's input, these vision ideas and recommendations were redefined into an overarching Vision Statement and Vision Themes.



This document reflects Pasco County Community's desires and aspirations for the future prosperity of the County. It contains a long term aspirational working vision that will inform the update of the Comprehensive Plan. An approved updated Comprehensive Plan is not anticipated until 2025 or thereafter.

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WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

This timeline provides a brief historical overview of Pasco County through its formation up through the start of the visioning process.

1887

Pasco County is established on June 2, 1887, after separating from Hernando County and named after Samuel Pasco, a prominent politician and senator from Florida.



1891

The Town of Saint Leo is incorporated, the home of a private Roman Catholic liberal arts university of the same name which is still in operation today.



1914

The City of Zephyrhills, notable for its rolling topography, is incorporated.



1925

The City of Port Richey, the occasional home of several notable country music stars, such as Maybelle Carter (1909-1978), June Carter Cash (1919-2003), and Johnny Cash (1932-2003), is incorporated into Pasco County.



1941

America enters World War II. According to a memorial established in Dade City, 1,860 World War II veterans listed Pasco County as their home of record.

1924

The City of New Port Richey, once nicknamed the 'Hollywood of the East' due to the City's popularity amongst celebrities during the silent film era, is incorporated.

1880

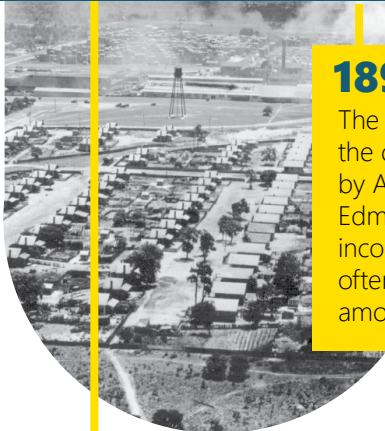
1900

1920

1940

1891

The City of San Antonio, the community founded by American politician Edmund Francis Dunne, is incorporated, and is now often referred to as "San Ann" amongst locals.

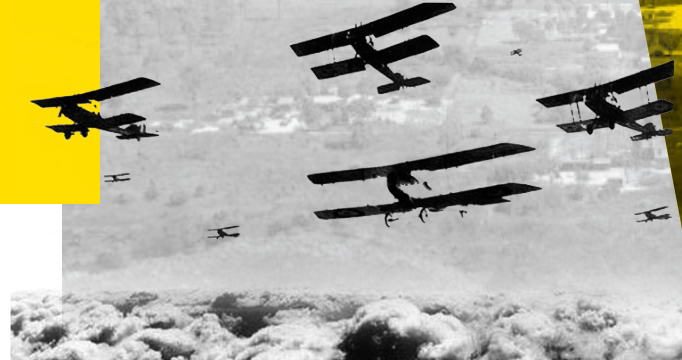


1889

Dade City, the current county seat, becomes the first incorporated municipality in Pasco County.

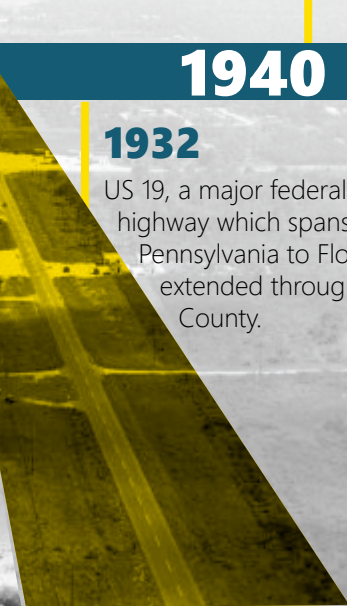
1917

The United States enters World War I and several Pasco County residents register to serve.



1932

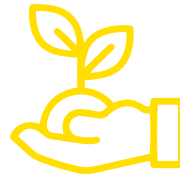
US 19, a major federal highway which spans from Pennsylvania to Florida, is extended through Pasco County.



WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

1979

The West Pasco County Government Center is completed, consolidating several government offices into a single location in New Port Richey.



2004

The Environmental Lands Acquisition and Management Program (ELAMP) is established to purchase environmentally sensitive lands for preservation purposes.

2015

Florida adopts SB 1216 into law, specifically designating Pasco County as the first community to participate in Connected Cities pilot program.

1967

Pasco-Hernando Community College (renamed as Pasco-Hernando State College) is established, offering higher education opportunities in the county.



1991

The first Pasco County Comprehensive Plan formally goes into effect.



1960

1980

2000

2023



1980

Pasco's official population jumps from 75,955 residents in 1970 to 193,643 in 1980—the largest decennial gain in the County's history.

1975

Jay B. Starkey, Sr. donates several hundred acres of land to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, initiating a multi-year project to protect thousands of acres within the County in an area that would eventually become known as the Starkey Wilderness Preserve.

2001

The Suncoast Parkway, a major north-south toll road within the County, opens.



1989

The County's first Comprehensive Plan is adopted.

2021

Pasco County begins its five-year effort to update the contents of its Comprehensive Plan (titled Pasco 2050)—a community-driven master plan designed to guide future growth within the County.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

This snapshot of Pasco County's current demographic, housing, economic, and land use conditions provides a window into past trends that are currently impacting the County.

HOW WE LIVE...

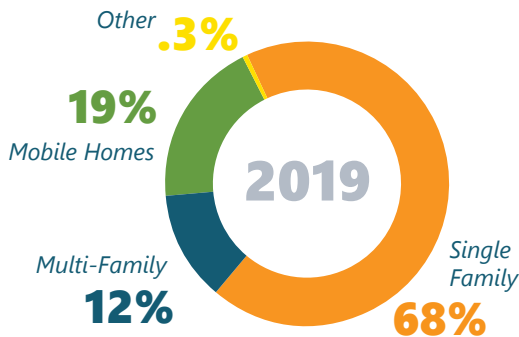
HISTORICAL POPULATION



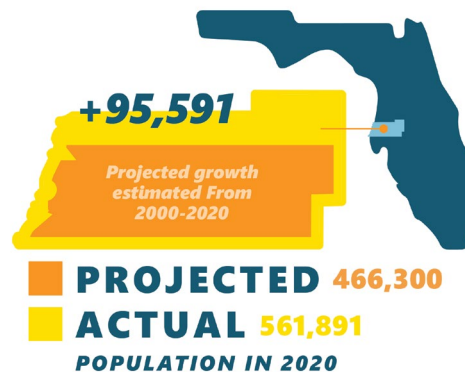
% CHANGE
2000-2020

63%

HOUSING UNITS BY TYPE



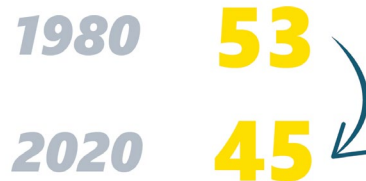
FLORIDA POPULATION % CHANGE FROM 2000-2020



COST BURDENED HOUSEHOLDS (2020)



MEDIAN AGE



PASCO IS GETTING YOUNGER!

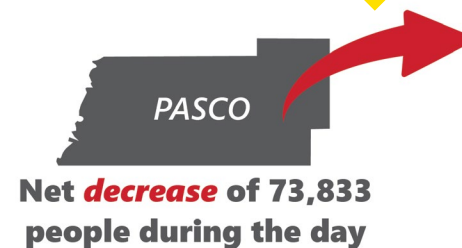
HOW WE WORK...

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



DAYTIME POPULATION (2022)

Commuting data shows residents are leaving the County at a high rate seeking employment elsewhere.



TOP INDUSTRIES (2022)



Educational Services

24,474



Health Care/ Social Assistance

27,099



Accommodation/ Food Service

15,821



Retail Trade

26,906

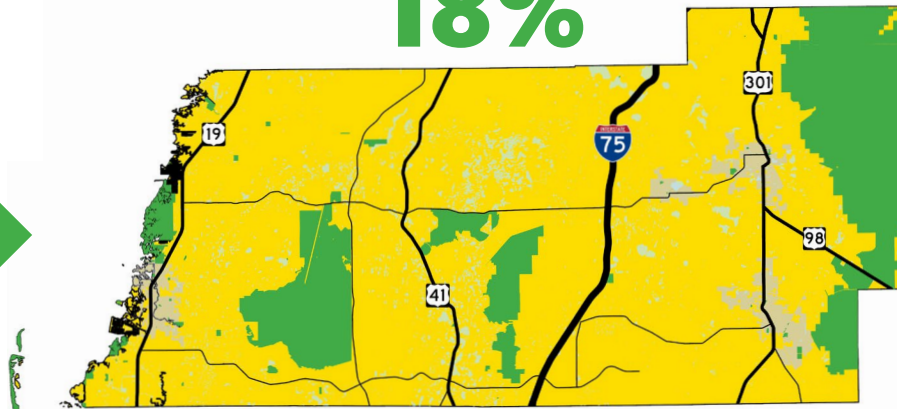
HOW WE PLAY...

PARKLAND

Total Acres

87,588

18%



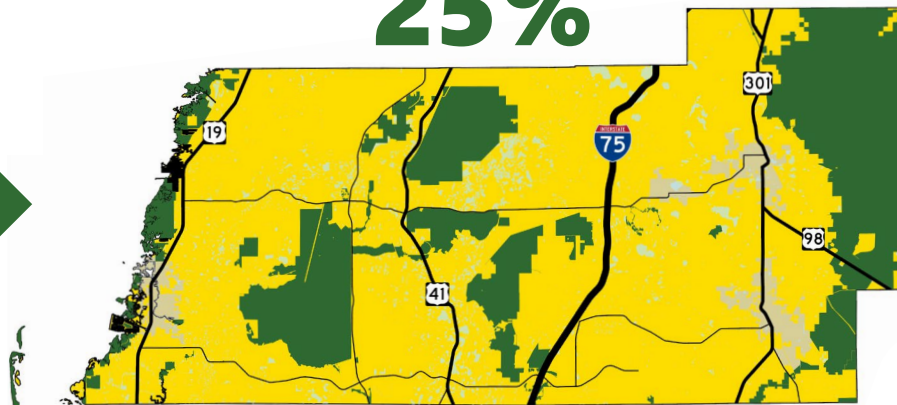
Parkland includes County owned passive and active parks, City parks, State parks, and State preserves that are open to the public.

CONSERVATION

Total Acres

120,245

25%



Conservation includes County owned passive parks, State preserves, ecological corridors, ELAMP lands, lands designated as Conservation on the Future Land Use Map, and other protected lands.

WHERE WE WANT TO GO



4 GROUP
STAKEHOLDER
INTERVIEWS

275+
WORKSHOP
PARTICIPANTS



The community vision was directly derived from the input provided throughout the public engagement process and refined during the second part of the public workshop series.

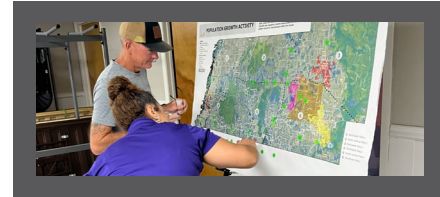
10,000+
WEBSITE VISITS



6
COMMUNITY
LISTENING
SESSIONS



7
FOCUS GROUP
MEETINGS



5
COMMUNITY
EVENTS



6 **1,100+**
SURVEYS TAKEN



8
COUNTYWIDE
WORKSHOPS



Our Pasco, Our Plan

WHERE WE WANT TO GO

In 2050, Pasco's community envisions the following...

**WALKABLE &
VIBRANT PLACES**

**MOBILITY
ENHANCEMENT**

**MORE HOUSING
OPTIONS FOR ALL**

**PARK SYSTEM
EXPANSION**

**PUBLIC &
PRIVATE SPACES
ENHANCEMENT**

RESILIENT PASCO

**RURAL LANDS &
RURAL CHARACTER
PROTECTION**

**NATURAL
RESOURCE
PRESERVATION**

**MORE
EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES**

**MAINTENANCE
OF PUBLIC
FACILITIES**

**COMMUNITY
VISION**



VISION STATEMENT

Pasco County is an inclusive and resilient place to live, work, and play. Our quality of life and economic vitality are rooted in the stewardship of our sense of community, cultural and natural resources. Pasco 2050 reflects the County's ongoing commitment to transparency and collaboration with its municipalities, residents, and businesses to build a sustainable future for Pasco County.

HOW WE GET THERE

The following is a selection of the most popular strategies provided by the community to achieve the community vision.



- Require stronger tree preservation regulations for new development
- Utilize ELAMP to preserve wildlife corridors
- Ensure the protection of aquifer recharge from new and existing development
- Increase efforts to monitor, protect, and increase the County's water supply

Natural Resource Preservation



- Consider a pedestrian bridge over US Highway 19 in locations where other types of potential connections would be infeasible or insufficient
- Identify opportunities to increase the interconnectedness of the County's transportation network
- Plan new transit connections between residential communities and activity centers
- Expand the sidewalk and trail network within the County, particularly around public facilities such as schools and parks

Mobility Enhancement



- Prohibit increases in maximum permitted densities within rural areas
- Work with agricultural property owners to develop incentives for placing portions of their property in conservation easements
- Maintain the development regulations applicable within the Northeast Rural Overlay
- Evaluate and refine standards for solar farming*

Rural Lands & Rural Character Protection



- Identify land acquisition opportunities to expand the County's parks system
- Require the provision of onsite parks and recreation facilities for new, large-scale developments
- Expand programming catered towards youth and senior populations
- Increase the connectivity of multiuse trails within the County

Park System Expansion



- Work with property owners to explore eliminating regulatory barriers and fees for rehabilitating dilapidated homes
- Strategically reduce minimum living areas and lot sizes in select residential future land use categories and zoning districts
- Identify and work with developers to address the local housing shortage for senior citizens
- Explore opportunities for permitting additional housing types (e.g., accessory dwelling units, duplexes, etc.) within low-density future land use categories and zoning districts

More Housing Options for All

HOW WE GET THERE



- Work with developers to establish town centers which act as community gathering spaces and offer goods and services to surrounding neighborhoods
- Permit limited commercial developments within a walkable distance to neighborhoods which can meet their daily needs for goods and services
- Refine landscaping standards for new development to require shade trees, sidewalks, and landscaped parkways within urbanizing areas of the County
- Work with residents to identify opportunities for transitioning existing single-use neighborhoods into vibrant, mixed-use communities

Walkable & Vibrant Places



- Prevent the elimination of mature, native trees from new development
- Revise lighting standards to mitigate light pollution within the County
- Establish design requirements for new commercial and office buildings
- Start a program to identify and address non-ADA compliant developments and infrastructure

Public & Private Spaces Enhancement



- Preserve historical and indigenous sites
- Increase funding and service capabilities of the County's emergency management program
- Improve the amenities available at bus stops
- Increase funding for identifying and repairing dilapidated roadways

Maintenance of Public Facilities



- Limit the proliferation of large and intense development projects in low-lying, coastal areas
- Expand the capacity and reach of the County's stormwater management facilities
- Increase education and outreach efforts regarding natural hazard preparedness
- Consider utilizing vacant public lands for emergency stormwater overflow

Resilient Pasco



- Expand learning and certification opportunities for skilled trades (e.g., automotive, construction, electrical, etc.)
- Support programs for high school students which provide work studies and apprenticeships
- Work with business owners and developers to expand fiber-optic internet services to existing and prospective employment centers
- Evaluate and potentially expand existing incentive programs for business recruitment and retention

More Employment Opportunities

WHAT'S NEXT?

The content of Envision Pasco 2050 is intended to act as the foundation for the forthcoming update to the Pasco County Comprehensive Plan.

The vision laid out herein will be utilized as a framework for reviewing and revising each Element of the Plan. Additionally, many of the community-driven strategies will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, where appropriate, to ensure the vision can be achieved by 2050.



WHAT'S NEXT?

For additional information regarding the community vision and the public engagement process, please visit ***Pasco2050.com*** or contact the Pasco County Planning and Development Department:

E: *pasco2050@pascocountyfl.net*

P: 727-847-8140



SCAN ME





Pasco
2050