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## **YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR PLAN.**

### **What is the Comprehensive Plan?**

Adopted by the 1985 Legislature, The Florida's Growth Management Act requires all of Florida's counties and municipalities to adopt Local Government Comprehensive Plans that guide future growth and development of each community. The comprehensive plan serves as the record of the community's vision for the future and sets out the ways the community will act to achieve their vision. The comprehensive plan is the ultimate regulatory document for the community.

### **What is an Evaluation and Appraisal Report?**

Comprehensive plans are not meant to be rigid documents. They are also designed to respond to necessary changes in the world around us. Response to changes comes through a periodic evaluation that leads to amendments to the plan and methods of implementation. This periodic evaluation of the comprehensive plan is required by state law every seven years and results in what is known as an Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR).

Sarasota County is initiating the evaluation and appraisal of its comprehensive plan to assess the performance of the existing plan, provide ways to address changes in state legislation and identify appropriate policies to guide future growth. The EAR is not itself a comprehensive plan amendment, but provides the direction for subsequent comprehensive plan amendments. Sarasota County's EAR is due by July 2011 with the amendments to follow in 2013.

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