GOAL 1: The County shall provide adequate stormwater management, afford reasonable protection from flooding, and protect the quality of surface water and groundwater in the County.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: The County's Land Development Code (LDC) shall implement procedures to ensure that, at the time a development permit is issued, adequate stormwater management facility capacity is available or the developer shall be required to construct stormwater facilities according to County standards.

Policy 1.1.1: The County's LDC shall establish design standards and development Level of Service (LOS) standards, based upon the characteristics of the development site, as follows:

a. For open basins, the minimum design and development LOS standard shall be a 25-year frequency, 24-hour duration design storm; or
b. For closed basins, the minimum design and development LOS standard shall be a 100-year frequency 24-hour duration design storm; or
c. Other best available data may be presented for review and approval consideration, such as data and information provided by the site’s corresponding Watershed Management Plan(s), Basin Management Action Plan(s), when applicable and approved by the County Engineer, or his designee.

Policy 1.1.2: All basin stormwater collection and conveyance, including those discharging to or around natural drainage features, shall meet rate and volume requirements and specifications defined in the County’s LDC. Developers shall also be required to analyze the ultimate effects of stormwater disposal for storm events as specified in the County’s LDCs, up to and including the 100 year, 24-hour duration design storm, or longer duration as necessary to agree with LOS standard established in the Watershed Management Plan(s), Basin Management Action Plan(s) or other best available data. In addition, developers shall comply where applicable with the respective water management districts’ criteria for stormwater quantity and quality.

Policy 1.1.3: The County’s LDCs may contain increased stormwater quantity and quality requirements based upon findings of completed Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) and/or Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs).

Policy 1.1.4: The demand for stormwater facility capacity by new development and redevelopment shall be determined based on the difference between the pre-development and post-development stormwater runoff characteristics (including rates and volumes) of the development site using the applicable design storm LOS standard adopted in Policy 1.1.1 and facility design procedures consistent with accepted engineering practice.

Policy 1.1.5: Stormwater facilities meeting the adopted LOS shall be available concurrent with the impacts of the development.

Policy 1.1.6: The County shall maintain stormwater quality treatment standards and performance criteria aimed at maximizing nutrient removal and attenuation for development, consistent with the Future Land Use Element (FLUE), with particular focus on the Primary Springs Protection Zone (SPZ).
OBJECTIVE 1.2: The County shall maintain County stormwater management systems within the County as further specified by the policies of this Objective.

Policy 1.2.1: The County shall inventory and map the location of the following drainage facilities, easements, and rights-of-way (existing and new):

a. Publicly dedicated facilities that have been accepted for maintenance by the County;
b. County owned and/or acquired facilities deliberately purchased or acquired to be owned and maintained by the County. Facilities indirectly owned or acquired by the County, such as a tax deed purchase, are not subject to this provision; and
c. Facilities that are operated and/or managed by the County in compliance with a legally binding agreement, such as but not limited to, Interlocal Agreement, Drainage Easement, etc.

Policy 1.2.2: The inventory shall identify the functionality, existing condition, size, and type of structure(s) for each of the drainage facilities and document the frequency of maintenance.

Policy 1.2.3: The County shall ensure the proper function of inventoried drainage facilities.

Policy 1.2.4: The County shall establish a maintenance schedule for the inventoried drainage facilities.

Policy 1.2.5: The County shall establish and maintain routine maintenance criteria for all inventoried drainage facilities by December 31, 2015, which shall include but not be limited to:

a. Mowing retention areas;
b. Eliminating garbage;
c. Cleaning and maintaining swales, pipes, structures and/or under drains; and/or
d. Preventing sedimentation and erosion.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: The County shall maintain stormwater management system information for those non-County drainage facilities within the County.

Policy 1.3.1: The County may, when feasible and possible, obtain and maintain information on private and/or public non-County systems (those not identified by prior Policy 1.2.1), including, though not requiring, establishing an inventory and mapping the location of those drainage facilities, easements, and right-of-ways (existing and new). In conjunction with this Policy, the County may establish LDCs that require the submission of suitable data and analysis to identify such drainage facilities as part of the submission documentation for the County’s development review processes.

Policy 1.3.2: Any inventory established under Policy 1.3.1 shall, to the greatest extent practical, identify the functionality, existing condition, size, and type of structure(s) for each of the drainage facilities and document the frequency of maintenance.

Policy 1.3.3: The County may establish LDC provisions requiring the submission of suitable data and analysis to demonstrate the proper function of the drainage facilities identified by the inventory of Policy 1.3.1, particularly when such facilities will support and/or provide for development within the unincorporated County.
Policy 1.3.4: The County may establish LDC provisions requiring the submission of suitable documentation indicating the entity responsible for maintenance, the most recent maintenance activity, and a future maintenance schedule for the drainage facilities identified by the inventory of Policy 1.3.1, particularly when such facilities will support and/or provide for development within the unincorporated County.

OBJECTIVE 1.4: The County shall develop Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) encompassing all of the basins within the County, and basins or portions of basins that are outside the County that affect stormwater management within the County; the County shall update the WMPs as new data and analysis become available.

Policy 1.4.1: The WMPs shall include the following:

a. Evaluation of the County's stormwater management facilities including the system's design capacity, the floodplain level of service provided, the analysis of the general performance of the existing facility, catchments (contributing drainage area), and the predominant land use types served;

b. Identification of water quality and/or water quantity problems for planning units, watersheds, and groundwater;

c. Development of structural and/or nonstructural corrective actions, estimated costs associated with the corrective actions, and a proposed schedule(s) to address identified problems within the County's stormwater management facilities; and

d. Identification of adverse impacts to groundwater within the Primary Springs Protection Zone.

Policy 1.4.2: The County shall develop a schedule for undertaking and updating specific WMPs based on development; giving priority consideration to items such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) issues, and/or areas under the greatest pressure from development such as those areas within the County's identified Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The WMP development schedule shall be reviewed annually and reflected in the Stormwater Implementation Program (SIP) and, when appropriate, reflected in the Capital Improvements Element Schedule of Capital Improvements (CIE Schedule).

Policy 1.4.3: The County shall assist state agencies as appropriate to address water quality issues within the County.

OBJECTIVE 1.5: The County shall establish and maintain a program to correct existing stormwater problems within its stormwater management system.

Policy 1.5.1: The County shall prioritize the correction of existing stormwater problems, including those identified in the WMPs. Priority consideration shall be given to items such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) issues, Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) issues, and/or areas under the greatest pressure from development such as those areas within the County's UGB.

Policy 1.5.2: The County shall continue to document and categorize stormwater complaints to be utilized in prioritizing problem areas which need more frequent maintenance, replacement of existing drainage facilities, or more detailed study.

OBJECTIVE 1.6: The County shall identify, establish, and maintain one or more revenue sources for stormwater management as determined appropriate by the County.
Policy 1.6.1: The County shall continue to support a revenue base for the engineering, construction, operation, and maintenance of County owned, operated, and maintained Stormwater Management Systems.

Policy 1.6.2: The County shall establish and maintain funding mechanisms for stormwater projects that are designed to correct stormwater problems associated with the standards, plans, and/or programs established consistent with the Objectives of this Element, the Aquifer Recharge Element, and the Conservation Element, when deemed appropriate. These funding mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, establishment of special taxing districts, expansion of the County’s current program of collecting availability charges to include fee-in-lieu-of charges, and the expansion of subdivision exactions.

OBJECTIVE 1.7: The County shall implement and maintain LDC provisions to provide protection measures for natural drainage features and other environmentally sensitive areas as specified in the policies of this Element, the Aquifer Recharge Element, and the Conservation Element, when deemed appropriate.

Policy 1.7.1: Natural drainage features are those features defined by § 163, FS, as amended, and further identified within this Element, the Aquifer Recharge Element, and the Conservation Element.

Policy 1.7.2: The County shall assist state and regional agencies as appropriate to update a county-wide sinkhole inventory as data becomes available. Such data may be provided via the development of public facilities by the County or development submittals through the County’s development review processes, or other available reporting mechanisms. In the event the State of Florida establishes or identifies a specific agency or entity responsible for such an inventory, the County shall direct its assistance to that entity.

Policy 1.7.3: The County shall follow the procedures for sinkhole remediation, when applicable, as established by the appropriate water management district in the event a sinkhole develops on a County-owned facility.

Policy 1.7.4: The County shall maintain LDC provisions which require the identification of all sinkholes and karst features onsite. The County shall also maintain LDC provisions which require the identification of existing or potential sinkholes and karst features within proximity of a development site, depending on uses proposed, planned stormwater facility operations, and the availability of information sources, such as but not limited to, USGS data, contour information, and aerial photographs, as determined appropriate through development review processes.

Policy 1.7.5: The County shall promote sinkhole and karst feature protection measures for those areas impacted by new development, and when redevelopment occurs when practicable. Measures shall include but not be limited to the following:

a. Protection measures.
   1. Fencing, or
   2. Filling in.

b. Environmental measures.
   1. Mounding or berming around the sinkhole,
   2. Buffering, or
   3. Filling in.
c. Setbacks or safe distance considerations from the sinkhole to retention areas and structures.

Policy 1.7.6: The County LDC shall regulate dredge and fill activities within the one percent (100-Year) floodplain and require mitigation when fill is placed within the 100-Year floodplain, as indicated on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and Federal Flood Hazard Maps (FHM), in order to decrease the flood potential to County residents. Site plans, as defined by the LDCs, must be submitted prior to any development.

Policy 1.7.7: The County's LDCs shall regulate finished floor elevations for new structures and appurtenances within the established 100-Year floodplain consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan and LDCs.