- Promotion of Agriculture/Forestry/Conservation Areas as passive-use tourism and recreational destinations.
- Parks, open spaces, and a strong pedestrian environment to be focal points of all Activity Centers.
- Blending residential development with schools, parks, recreation, retail businesses and services, with strong pedestrian/bicycle connectivity between developments.

Section IX. Transportation Element helps support many of the aspirations by noting that the VLMPO will encourage investment in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

A report of accomplishments (projects pursued/completed to realize these goals - through FY 2016) is listed in section VI. Community Work Program, followed by an update of projects and accomplishments provided through FY 2021.

## 2. Lowndes County Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) (2015)

The ULDC contains development codes, regulations, and design standards, and describes local government administrative and development procedures. It applies only to the unincorporated areas of Lowndes County. Its purpose includes assuring the provision of space for recreational, educational, and other public purposes, as well as the promotion of desirable living conditions and the sustained stability of neighborhoods. A primary aim of the document is also to assure that land is developed in conformity with the Comprehensive Plan.

Codes, regulations, and standards particularly relevant to the CPRMP include the following.

## **Protection of Natural Features & Resources**

- River Corridor Protection Districts have been established for the Alapaha, Little, and Withlacoochee rivers, inclusive of all land within 100 feet horizontally on both sides of the river, as measured from the riverbanks.
   Natural vegetative buffers should be maintained at all times in these river corridors. Recreational Uses are permitted in the river corridors, provided that passive recreation (including paths and walkways) maintains a natural vegetative buffer. Boat ramps could be allowed; parking lots are not.
- Wetlands Protection Districts have also been established, as mapped as wetlands by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory Maps, and depicted on the Water Resources Protection Districts Overlay Map. The following are permitted in wetland areas, provided that the uses do not have impacts on a navigable waterway that would necessitate acquisition of an individual 404 permit:
  - Conservation or preservation of soil, water, vegetation, fish, and other wildlife;
  - Outdoor passive recreation activities (including fishing, bird watching, hiking, boating, horseback riding, and canoeing); and
  - Education, scientific research, and nature trails (subject to USACE regulations).

## Site Design Standards

- According to the Valdosta Regional Airport Overlay District regulations, Nature Facilities, Picnic Areas, Parks,
  Trails, Indoor Recreation, and Outdoor Recreation uses are prohibited within the runway protection zones of the
  airport.
- Outdoor Recreation facilities may be free standing, or two or more facilities may be combined in a unified
  development site. They may contain accessory uses such as snack shops or ice cream stands, provided that
  these uses are not open to the general public. Table 4.03.23(D). Standards for Outdoor Recreation Facilities