

# Executive Summary

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## *Bayard Community Plan*

A Community Plan for Bayard has been prepared in response to the critical need to address the impacts of surrounding development activity, as well as the importance of the area as a historically significant community to Jacksonville. This Community Plan acknowledges these factors and recognizes the potential to create a new and revitalized sense of place. The focal point of the Community Plan is a new mixed-use, town center at the intersection of U.S. 1 and Alphons Street. The town center is designed to support a complimentary mix of uses, promote pedestrian activity, transit and multimodal travel, comprise an attractive streetscape, and most importantly create a unique sense of place which links the history of Bayard to the present. The proposed town center has the potential to initiate revitalization activities for Bayard, while creating an attractive gateway into the City of Jacksonville.

Over the past two years, there has been an increase in interest towards new development opportunities and activity in Bayard. In contrast to the built landscape of the past, new developments have already begun to alter the character of the area. As a revitalization strategy for Bayard, the Community Plan promotes and guides development activity in a manner which will maximize the quality of life and enhance the property values of both current and future residents, while discouraging continued scattered and unplanned development.

The Community Plan outlines a concept for the future development of the U.S. 1 corridor and the Bayard community. The purpose of the study was to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the area, defining both deficiencies and opportunities, and formulating recommendations that can be put into action within the Bayard study area, as they specifically relate to the following areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Transportation and Mobility
- Utilities and Infrastructure
- Natural Environment
- Town Center and Transit-Oriented Development Design Concepts
- Implementation Program

The Community Plan emphasizes connectivity, functionality, and creation of a sense of place for the Bayard of tomorrow. The Plan is built upon a strong foundation of community participation, which could not have been achieved without the tireless efforts of residents, business and property owners, community stakeholders, and the Bayard Steering Committee. Through the use of surveys, interviews, and interactive design workshops, the Community Plan reflects and articulates the vision of the Bayard community. It is the hope of the Bayard community that this Plan and the companion SmartCode development regulations will provide a valuable framework for the future of Bayard and will serve as a model for redevelopment opportunities for the entire region, demonstrating how a community vision can become a tangible reality.