

Executive Summary

The *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan* is the chief tool to enable the management of growth and the delivery of public services in a timely and efficient manner. The unincorporated areas of Harrison County have been experiencing significant growth since Hurricane Katrina. As the county continues to grow, the challenge is to direct growth appropriately to retain the qualities that residents have come to cherish. New residents are attracted to the county by a distinctness that is not found elsewhere in the region - the panoramic views of the Mississippi Sound, a rich sense of community, a proud past, and beautiful forested areas. In order to maintain this setting, it is important to plan for the future. This plan strives to create healthy, safe, economically vital, communities of choice.

Planning is a process of formulating goals and the policies necessary to achieve them. The *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan* is a valuable tool to the County government, its citizens and the private sector. It is an articulation of policy from the Board of Supervisors which describes a vision for the future which allows the Board and the Planning Commission to coordinate their policies and actions to guide future development. The major purposes of the Comprehensive Plan are to:

- Provide a guide for the many public and private decisions that create the future of the county;
- Promote the interests of the citizens at-large;
- Enhance the County's environmental resources;
- Develop a coordinated, well-planned system of public services and utilities.

The major issue facing Harrison County today is finding a balance between growth and economic stability, while maintaining the county's rural character. The *Comprehensive Plan* provides policy guidance for addressing future issues within the context of the framework of the Plan, including population, housing and land use; transportation; healthy communities; safe communities; economic vitality; tourism; fiscal plan and intergovernmental cooperation. Further details about

these topics can be found in the respective chapters and in the background assessment chapter.

POPULATION, HOUSING, AND LAND USE

Harrison County began to see significant growth following the legalization of gaming in 1990. By 2005, the County had grown to a population of more than 193,000 people. Hurricane Katrina resulted in the temporary loss of approximately 22,000 people. As housing has been rebuilt people are moving back to Harrison County and the population for 2007 was estimated to be at 181,413. By 2010, the County estimates that the population will have returned to the pre-Katrina level. With the growth of tourism and the gaming industry, the population of Harrison County is expected to grow rapidly, with a population of more than 275,000 by 2030, with more than 96,000 people living in the unincorporated county. The Plan calls for the cities and County to work together to effectively manage the anticipated growth.

The housing stock in the unincorporated county is quickly changing. Before the storm the housing was primarily rural residential with a mix of single-family and manufactured homes. Since the storm there have been a significant number of proposals for urban and suburban development in both master planned communities and in smaller development projects. The County rezoned property to accommodate approximately 37,000 new housing units in the two years following the storm. Development has been slow to occur because of insurance prices, lack of water and sewer, a tightening of the credit market and a slowdown in the national economy. The plan anticipates that urban and suburban development will continue to move into the unincorporated county. The plan calls for concentrating urban and suburban development into Intended Growth (G-3) and Controlled Growth (G-2) sectors, which will allow for the majority of the unincorporated county to maintain its rural character.

Residents have identified the need for further commercial development to provide convenient access to

goods and services. The Plan calls for the development of several types of commercial development. Neighborhood and Crossroads Commercial would service rural and neighborhood areas, providing small scale convenience retail and services focused in Restricted Growth (G-1) sectors. Community commercial would include a mix of businesses and civic uses focused in the Controlled Growth (G-2) sectors. Regional Commercial would be focused in urbanizing areas with convenient access to major transportation routes and be designed to serve customers at a regional scale. Regional Commercial would be focused in Intended Growth (G-3) sectors.

Overall, the future land use map is designed to accommodate the anticipated population growth of more than 50,000 new residents in the unincorporated county. The Plan is designed to guide growth to areas residents have identified as appropriate for an increase in intensity of development.

TRANSPORTATION

Residents of unincorporated Harrison County enjoy living in the rural environment while having a reasonable commute to Gulfport, Biloxi, and other cities. The backbone of the transportation system is the County's road network. During the last twenty years, traffic has increased as more people move to the unincorporated areas. A number of roads will need to be expanded to accommodate growth. Roadways should be designed to incorporate opportunities for walking and biking, creating complete streets.

In addition to expanding the roadway network the Plan calls for expanding public transit, especially in Intended Growth (G-3) sectors. Public transit should provide connectivity between these newly developing areas and the major employment centers along the coast.

This Plan also places an emphasis on providing alternative pedestrian systems such as sidewalks, bikeways, and trail systems.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Harrison County's citizens are interested in creating a healthy environment to live and work. With more than

28 percent of the population not physically active, the Plan calls for increasing recreational opportunities with new parks and through trail networks. The Plan also calls for the inclusion of open and recreational space as part of new developments.

Residents have asked for better access to fresh foods. The Plan calls for the construction of Farmers' Market pavilions to allow shoppers and vendors to be able to conveniently provide produce in the shade. Community gardening and agriculture is promoted throughout the county.

Improving social services is also a priority. The Plan proposes a rotating resource center that would bring social services to residents at the County's community and senior centers. Partnerships with the Coast Transit Authority would increase access for vulnerable populations to transportation.

SAFE COMMUNITIES

Harrison County is committed to resilient growth. This includes focusing development in areas that have water and sewer, and adequate roadway network, and public safety facilities.

Citizens will be engaged in making their communities safer through block watches, partnerships for preparedness, and community cleanups.

Citizens have raised concerns about the safety of people and vehicles. The Plan calls for increasing safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists through crosswalks, sidewalks, and other roadway improvements.

Given the County's susceptibility to floods, wildfires, and hurricanes the Plan promotes the minimization of disruption to essential services during hazard events and protecting people and property from damage. The Plan proposes the incorporation of Firewise principles into new development, to minimize fire risk. The use of low impact development in urbanizing areas can minimize stormwater runoff. Creating energy efficient development will minimize energy costs for residents. In combination these efforts will lead to a safer and more resilient county.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

The economy of Harrison County has changed considerably over the past few decades from one based on seafood, shipbuilding and federal government to one based on tourism and services. More than 87 percent of the new jobs to be created between now and 2014 are expected to be in the service sector.

Harrison County is an ideal location for further tourism development, with its 26-mile Sand Beach, interstate access, and thriving gaming industry. A number of casinos have committed to building additional facilities in the County. In addition the tourism, the County is working to diversify its economy, this includes focusing on small business development, supporting the seafood industry, training youth for future jobs, and creating quality industrial parks.

TOURISM

Each year more than 3.6 million people visit Harrison County. With its Sand Beach, bayous and rivers, vast wetlands, and forests, Harrison County is an ideal location for ecotourism. Residents have emphasized their desire to have more opportunities to interact with the natural environment. The Plan promotes the development of nature-based recreational activities, such as a trails network.

The Plan also promotes providing high quality amenities and facilities to support residents and visitors. For example, making sure that waterways are cleaned, providing docks and walkways, and pavilions. Gaming is a critical element of the tourism industry in the county. The Plan recommends that as casinos develop in the unincorporated County that they use green infrastructure, low impact development, and green building standards to minimize the impact of the casinos on the natural environment, while incorporating nature based recreational activities.

The plan promotes easy and attractive access to tourism activities. For example, implementing a wayfinding system to allow the many visitors to the County to find their way around more easily. Additionally, the Plan calls for increasing marketing of existing tourism activities to

allow resident and visitors to learn about all the County has to offer.

FISCAL PLAN

Residents have requested an increased level of services to create the quality of life they desire. In addition, the increased services from residents, new services will be required to service urban development. In combination these service demands will require additional investment on the part of the County. In order to maintain a stable revenue stream adequate to support the required services, the Plan proposes making informed decisions about the costs and revenues associated with new development.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

The many goals and strategies in the Plan are not achievable without the cooperation of other units of government. The Plan promotes working with the cities, State, and other organizations to achieve a positive future.

Figure EX-1. With more than 50,000 people expected to move into the unincorporated county by 2030, the plan calls for concentrating urban development and expanding the transportation network, while creating healthy, safe, economically vital, communities of choice.



Source: Eric Lowry and Joseph Spires

Chapter 1. Introduction

The *Comprehensive Plan for Harrison County* will guide the County's decisions through 2030 in order to create healthy, safe, economically vital, communities of choice, as illustrated in Figure 1-1. Harrison County has thriving communities, tremendous natural resources, and a quality of life enjoyed by its residents and tourists alike. Harrison County is a growing county of more than 181,000 people with more than 45,000 people living in the unincorporated areas of the county based on estimates from the US Census Bureau and Harrison County. This plan focuses on the unincorporated areas of Harrison County.

The forested landscape, breathtaking sunsets, sandy beach, and scenic rivers have made Harrison County a remarkable place to live and work. These natural features, combined with the county's economic and cultural opportunities attract thousands of tourists every year and create a high quality of life for residents.

Harrison County's citizens have come together, committing their time and energy, to seize opportunities to build a continuously improving county. This plan is the result of a three year effort following Hurricane Katrina to create a clear vision for rebuilding and growing for the future. This plan reflects citizens' interests and efforts.

The *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan* focuses on development that meets the current and future needs for present and future generations.

This chapter provides an overview of the Harrison County comprehensive planning process. This includes the role of citizen participation, the plan's structure and its relationship to other existing and ongoing planning efforts. This chapter also includes a review of the key planning principles and the state requirements.

This plan has been developed in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 17-1-1. A Comprehensive Plan is a "statement of public policy for the physical development of the entire municipality or county adopted by resolution of the governing body, consisting of the following elements at a minimum: goals and objectives for the long range development of the county, a land use plan, a transportation plan, and a community facilities plan."

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The *Comprehensive Plan* creates a shared vision for the future and is based on a foundation of public involvement. Over the last three years, multiple town hall meetings have been held in each of the six planning areas across unincorporated Harrison County. This has been followed by a citizen participation process for the *Comprehensive Plan*. The goal of the participation process is to encourage public awareness, education, and interaction. Ideas Forums were used to capture the creativity and expertise of Harrison County's citizens to develop innovative ideas and transform these ideas into policies that can address the issues Harrison County expects to face in the future. Citizens have said that they want a healthier, safer, more prosperous county that effectively manages growth to create attractive communities of choice. The *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan* sets strategies for achieving what the citizens want.

Between 2006 and 2008, more than 1,600 citizens have attended 27 meetings and volunteered many hours to develop the recommendations in this plan. A project website <http://www.planharrisoncounty.org> received more than 18,000 hits between February and June of 2008. An online discussion forum was used by more than 900 members. Newsletters published regularly were distributed to more than 10,000 households in Harrison County. A 1-800 number allowed citizens to call in with comments, generating more than 200 messages. An online survey about the draft plan resulted in 97 responses. The participation process also included citizen surveys, public meetings, stakeholder meetings,

Figure 1-1. To create a healthier, more resilient, more prosperous county that effectively manages growth to create attractive communities of choice for residents and tourists.



Source: Dottie Machen, Neetika Wabi, Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau, Rickie Yeager, Nathan Leppo, and Sarah Landers

and individual interviews. This mix of participation opportunities allowed the county's population to participate in a variety of ways throughout the planning process.

PLANNING PROCESS

The *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan* is an umbrella plan that recognizes the importance and continuing role of the existing community plans and other plans by incorporating them by reference where appropriate. The umbrella structure is designed to help focus efforts on covering gaps in the existing plans and the county's ability to address regional issues that cross political boundaries.

The structure of this plan recognizes and respects the different units of government in Harrison County. This is reflected specifically through the intergovernmental cooperation chapter. While this plan may include goals and objectives aimed at supporting the efforts of other levels of governments, it recognizes the need for intergovernmental cooperation to achieve these goals. Many of the goals and strategies in this plan will require significant coordination between the county, citizens, and other governments and organizations.

The plan was created over a three year period of time, as noted in Figure 1-3. Following the development of the community plans, the next seven months was spent developing the *Comprehensive Plan* in collaboration with the County. The Planning Team, described in detail later in this chapter, began gathering data and background information in the winter of 2008. The Planning Team traveled to Harrison County in March 2008 to gather additional information and survey the community's opportunities and challenges.

As part of that fieldwork, the Planning Team held two Ideas Forums on March 18th, in the Woolmarket Civic Center, and 19th, at the West Harrison Civic Center. Between the meetings approximately 100 residents participated. During each meeting, citizens completed a written survey voicing their opinions on issues facing Harrison County. The attendees also participated in an electronic voting activity designed to reveal their opinions

regarding the need for additional social services and outdoor recreation among other topics. Attendees then participated in table activities on issues that they wanted addressed in the *Comprehensive Plan*.

The Planning Team drafted community goals based on the vision residents of Harrison County communicated in the community plans, at Ideas Forums and through the survey results and additional comments gathered from a web-based discussion forum and a 1-800 number. The Planning Team researched policies and strategies to enable Harrison County citizens to implement these goals.

In June, a series of citizen and stakeholder meetings were held to solicit feedback on the draft plan. On June 19th and June 21st two citizen meetings were held to gain feedback on the plan, as seen in Figure 1-2. Residents provided positive feedback and additional suggestions for the plan.

Throughout the planning process, the Planning Team consulted with individual citizens, local businesses, developers, and community facility operators to understand the needs of the county, as seen in Figure 1-4.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Harrison County Board of Supervisors appointed a 10-person Steering Committee comprised of planning commissioners and community representatives, to assist the Planning Team in coordinating communication within Harrison County; responding to questions and issues during the planning process.

Mike Andrews is a 35 year resident of the Woolmarket area. He is a former real estate broker with extensive experience working with first time home owner grant recipients and non-profit agencies. Mr. Andrews is a member of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Board of Trustees. He is married to Sissy Andrews who is the broker/owner of Southern Belle Realty in D'Iberville and has a son, Austion and daughter, Ashtin. He is currently employed as a code enforcement officer with the City of Biloxi.

Andrew Balius was born and raised in Harrison County. He has lived in the D'Iberville area since 1969. He graduated from Biloxi High School and attended Jefferson

Figure 1-2. Citizens and stakeholders have participated throughout the comprehensive planning process, including at the March 19th Ideas Forum.



Source: Robert Cowell

Davis Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi. Mr. Balius is a retired supervisor in engineering services from the Biloxi Veterans Administration. He still runs his High Quality Air Filtration Systems business in Biloxi. He has been married to Andrea Balius for 31 years and they have 2 children. Mr. Balius has served on the D'Iberville Port Commission and has been active in the community for most of his life. He loves to fish in his free time.

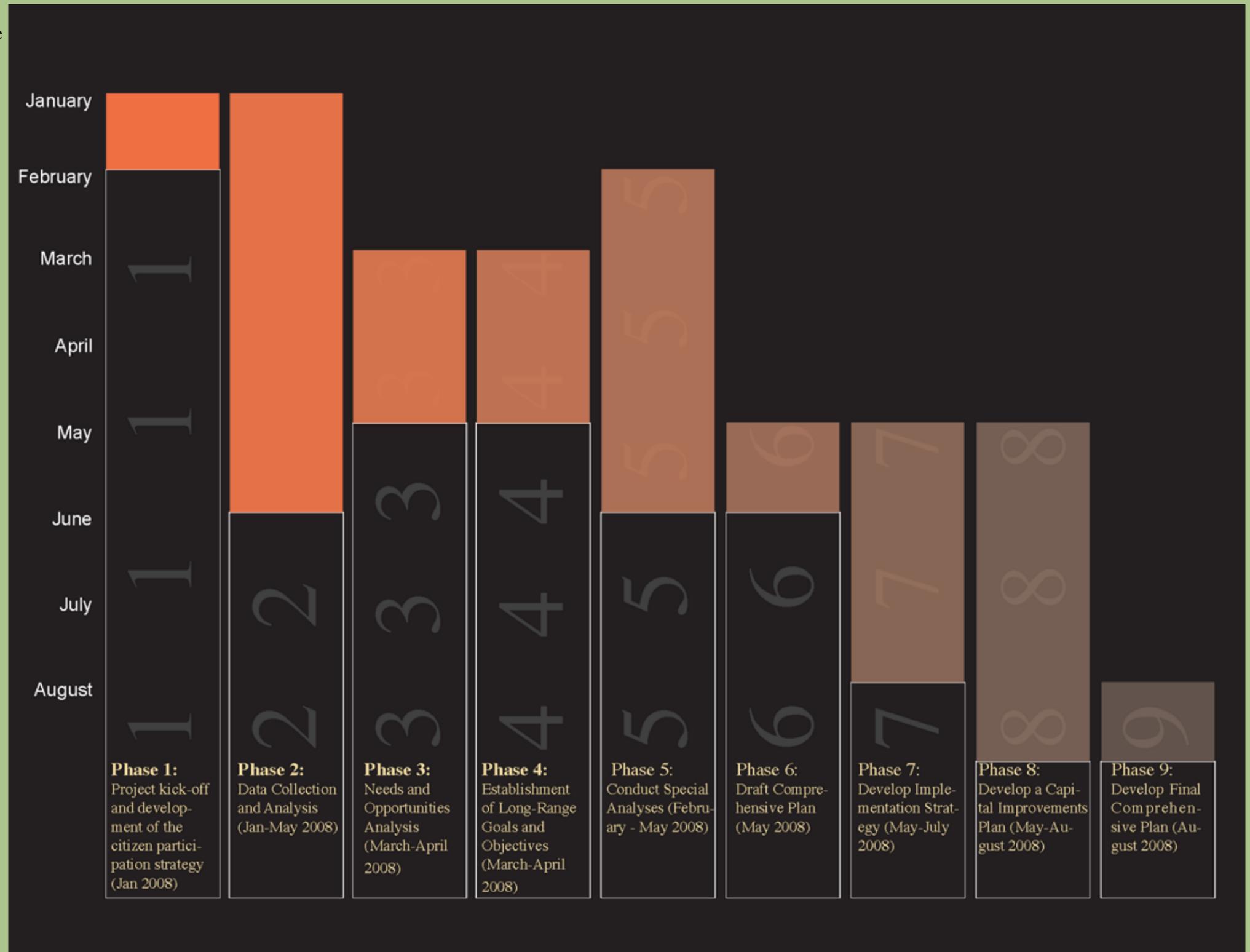
Fred Boykin is a native of the New Hope/Sidecamp community. He served as an army ranger with the United States Army and retired after 28 years of service. He currently serves as a representative of the Retired Veteran's Association in Gulfport.

Warren Doussan, Senior has been a resident of Pineville for more than 15 years. A former vice-president of a customer relations group, he and his wife Linda became builders. They built and managed The Get-a-Way on Johnson's Bayou, a 10-unit seasonal rental resort. Although four of the rentals were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, they have rebuilt their business.

Eddie Hartwell is an original member of the Harrison County planning and zoning commission. He serves as the pastor of the St. James Baptist Church and is chairman of the board for Interfaith Disaster Task Force for South Mississippi. He gets joy out of helping and serving people in his community.

Dan Hensarling is the Chair of the Planning

Figure 1-3. This phasing diagram describes the timeline for the preparation of the comprehensive plan.



Commission. He is a commercial contractor and lives in Western Harrison County.

David Ladner has been a resident of Harrison County his entire life, and currently lives in Dedeaux. He attended Harrison Central High School and the University of Southern Mississippi. He returned to Harrison Central High School and taught there for 30 years. Mr. Ladner has two children, ages 15 and 21, and is happily married to Kathy Ladner. He is currently serving on the Harrison County Planning and Zoning Commission and Harrison County School Board.

Angel Middleton was born and raised in Western Harrison County. She has lived in the area for 41 years. She attended Harrison Central High School and received her nursing degree from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She operates Angel's Autos on State Highway 53.

Sharon Turnipseed is from the community of Success, serves on the Planning Commission, and works for Mississippi Power in the Real Estate Division.

Rondell Young has been employed with the City of Biloxi for 31 years. During his tenure, Rondell was the Deputy Building Official for seven years, and is now the current Code Enforcement Administrator for the City of Biloxi. Since 2000, Rondell has served on the Harrison County Planning Commission, representing residents in District One. He is excited to be serving the residents of Harrison County on this planning effort. Rondell has a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Southern Mississippi, and an AS from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

The comprehensive planning process is designed as an open and inclusive process. In order to better understand the issues from different perspectives, stakeholder meetings were held which focused around key issues including: food access, tourism, the sand beach, outdoor recreation, social services, economic development, and safe communities. Beyond these general topic areas individual stakeholders were consulted about other topics, such as housing. A list of the stakeholders

that participated in the comprehensive planning process is included in the Public Involvement chapter. The stakeholders invited, either by telephone or by letter, to participate in these meetings were selected based on their applicability to the topic area. Stakeholders were invited to attend meetings on a specific topic area and in some cases were interviewed on an individual basis to gather information, solicit input on the topics in this plan, and to confirm information received from other sources.

Economic development stakeholders discussed their views on the intrinsic strengths and weaknesses present in the local economy and outside threats and opportunities present that might affect economic growth. Common themes emerging from their discussion emphasized the shared values the group has for future economic development. Themes included maintaining Harrison County's uniqueness while growing the economy, adding greater diversity to the mix of businesses in the county, promoting the county's assets, remaining forward thinking about economic development, and fostering county and regional cooperation in all economic

development efforts. Coupled with citizen input, these themes guided the development of the goals, strategies, and actions proposed in the *Comprehensive Plan for Harrison County*.

The outdoor recreation stakeholders believe that Harrison County has the potential for a comprehensive system of recreation, including blueways and greenways. They addressed the need for improvements in facilities and services provided, including raising the level of awareness among residents and tourists about the availability of recreation facilities in the County, and the need for installation of basic amenities to all people to engage in recreation activities in a comfortable and easy manner. Participants shared a variety of ideas, such as creating enhanced signage, educating hospitality employees on available activities, and creating tours that allow tourists to participate in multiple activities. To achieve the goal of a successful recreational system across the County, the stakeholders maintain that a common vision needs to be formulated while planning for outdoor recreation.

Safe community stakeholders included Harrison

County departments, the State of Mississippi departments, regional planning organizations, and utility companies. Challenges for creating a safer community were discussed in an effort to identify important goals and objectives for the safe communities portion of the *Harrison County Comprehensive Plan*. Some important challenges include, water and sewer service, fire protection, emergency shelters, funding, and roadway safety.

The primary focus for social services is on vulnerable populations which include senior citizens, the homeless, low-income families, abused and neglected children, and the disabled. Social service stakeholders discussed current services, deficiency in these services, and opportunities for service creation and expansion. As a result, they emphasized the need for adequate transportation for independent living, access to healthy foods, and alternative housing.

THE PLANNING TEAM

Professor Jennifer Cowley, PhD, AICP, served as Project Manager. She worked in conjunction with the

Figure 1-4. Citizens from across Harrison County have volunteered their time to participate in community organizing, town hall meetings, and on steering committees.



Source: Robert Cowell (right and left), Alton Willis (middle)

Figure 1-5. Harrison County has a mix of natural features that have made the unincorporated county a desirable location for residents.



Source: Ryan Pilewski, Michael Curtis and Matthew Hinkle

Harrison County Board of Supervisors and Patrick Bonck, Harrison County Zoning Administrator. Cowley, who teaches planning at The Ohio State University, assembled the following Planning Team to work on the *Comprehensive Plan for Harrison County*.

Students pursuing a Master's in City and Regional Planning were essential to the creation of this plan. Amber Cackler received her undergraduate degree in Agricultural Policy with a minor in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University. Bonnie Demmy-Harbage received her undergraduate degree in Business Administration, emphasizing in Real Estate and Finance, from The Ohio State University. Megan Dunton received her undergraduate degree in civil engineering from the University of Dayton. Alicia Jackson graduated from The Ohio State University with an undergraduate degree in Architecture. Remya Kumar holds an undergraduate degree in Architecture from the University of Kerala, India. Sarah Landers holds an undergraduate degree in Geography and Urban Planning from Ohio University. Amy Miller obtained an undergraduate degree in Agricultural Education from The Ohio State University. Neetika Wahi

received her undergraduate degree in Architecture from Uttar Pradesh Technical University, India. Bridget Walker received her undergraduate degree in Political Science and International Studies specializing in developmental studies from The Ohio State University. Elise Yablonsky obtained an undergraduate degree in Political Science, with a concentration in Environmental Studies and Politics, from Mercyhurst College. The students were assisted by Chris Auffrey a professor at the University of Cincinnati, Bob Cowell the Planning Director for the City of College Station, Texas, Aaron Domini a planner with ACP Visioning, and Christine Godward, a public health planner with the City of Columbus, Ohio.

Ken Holland is a planner with the Gulf Regional Planning Commission and assisted with the transportation chapter of this plan. Paul Barnes with the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District assisted with the maps for this plan. Pattie Brantley with Neel-Schaffer assisted with facilitating the Ideas Forums. Ellen Cowell, AICP prepared the economic development element of this plan. Bringing 13 years of public and private sector experience in community and economic

development, she served as an economic development consultant on the Planning Team. Meghan Gough is a research associate with The Ohio State University's City and Regional Planning Program, and completed the intergovernmental cooperation chapter of the plan. Adam Shriver assisted with the graphic design of this plan. He is a landscape architecture student at The Ohio State University.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A warm thank you goes out to all the citizens of Harrison County, who welcomed the Planning Team into their county and took the time to share their community vision so willingly during a very difficult time. It was truly their vision that guided the Planning Team and made this plan possible.

All steering committee members, who provided crucial information gathering and community feedback, were valuable assets for the Planning Team. A special thank you goes out to all those who provided background information and data for the *Comprehensive Plan*.

The Planning Team would like to extend

acknowledgements to the following people who assisted the Planning Team. They include Patrick Bonck, Kelvin Jackson, Teresa Egerter and Nancy Burton of the Harrison County Zoning Administration Office and Smokey Johnson of the County Engineer's Office, who answered numerous questions and worked patiently with our many requests. Thanks to Harrison County Supervisors Marlin Ladner, William Martin, Connie Rockco, Kim Savant, and Windy Swetman, who coordinated with the Planning Team and steering committee and acted as invaluable sources of information about Harrison County, and to former Supervisors Benefield and Eleuterius.

Community representatives from the Harrison County School District, the Harrison County Development Commission, Harrison County Utility Authority, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Visitors and Convention Bureau, Harrison County Emergency Management, Harrison County Code Administration, Harrison County Sand Beach, the Gulf Regional Planning Commission, the Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain, Mississippi Institute of Forest Inventory, the State of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Mississippi Department

Figure 1-6. Harrison County’s mix of housing types and employment opportunities have made unincorporated Harrison County the community of choice for many residents.



Source: Jennifer Cowley and Michael Curtis

of Transportation, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Department of Health, Tradition Properties Inc., the City of Gulfport Public Works, the City of Biloxi Planning Department, the City of D’Iberville Department of Planning, the Mississippi Home Corporation, De Soto National Forest, Mississippi Forestry Commission, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Singing River Electric Power, Mississippi Power, the Gulf Coast Business Council, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Sterling Properties, the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District, the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, the Mississippi Coast Chamber of Commerce, the Harrison County Tourism Commission, the WIN Job Centers of Gulfport and Biloxi, and community churches were also instrumental in compiling the plan.

The Planning Team must acknowledge the funding sources that made this work possible, especially the Mississippi Development Authority, that provided \$410,000 to support the creation of this plan.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

This plan is organized into several chapters to make it easy to read and reference. The Planning Context provides the key portions of the plan that guide decision making over the next 25 years contained in Chapters One through Ten. The Background Assessment provides the majority of the background research found in Chapter 11. The appendices include public participation, grant resources, and a glossary. A list of tables, maps, and figures is provided in the Table of Contents section of the plan as a reference tool for readers. All superscript numbers reference endnotes located at the end of each chapter.

Planning Context

Chapters One through Ten provides information on each plan element. This starts with an introduction, a summary of relevant survey results, goals, strategies, and actions, followed by more detail on key concepts. Each chapter focuses on a different topics such as health, safety, and land use. This organization is designed to make the plan easy to use.

Background Assessment

Background Assessment provides relevant information on county history and trends and detailed analyses of the characteristics of population, housing, land use, economy, natural resources, community facilities, and infrastructure that have been reviewed and examined as part of this planning process.

Figure 1-7. Residents enjoy a variety of recreation opportunities throughout Harrison County including playgrounds and the Sand Beach.



Source: Megan Dunton and Bonnie Demmy