

**Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) Amendment Chronology
Why the Rush?**

2015 – January 2025 Process

The process to update the Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan began in 2015, with sporadic meetings held over the last decade. The Planning Department [Community Engagement Process](#) webpage outlines activities from September 2023 to January 2025, identifying an [educational roadshow](#), vision survey, exploration tour survey, community building blocks survey, “Strengthen, Transform, Enhance, Preserve (STEP) framework, and goals objectives and policies survey. No information is provided on the number of residents participating in the events, the feedback obtained, the results of surveys, or how the feedback shaped the final outcome.

The chronology below starts with the joint City-County Commission workshop on the comprehensive plan held on February 25, 2025, at which the City declined to extend the process by several weeks more for public engagement. Despite two years gathering community input, as described above, **the first chance the public had to see the proposed changes was on March 6, 2025, with numerous updates and voluminous additional materials released on March 26.** The initial schedule was for both the City and County to adopt their respective plan amendments by early summer.

Concerned about the lack of public awareness, the Alliance of Tallahassee Neighborhoods (ATN) held a June 3 public meeting. The level of confusion and concern over the proposed amendments became clearly apparent. In a surprise move, the following week the City slowed the process down by about a year for more input. The County soon followed suit. In another abrupt reversal not on the agenda, on August 20 the City voted 3-2 to speed the process up again. The County sponsored a series of public engagement workshops in September and October. The City and County are now holding their adoption hearings in December, far earlier than the Fall 2026 timeline agreed to earlier.

2025 TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT TIMELINE	
February 25	City and County Commissions split on whether to extend the comprehensive plan (comp plan) amendment process by a few weeks to allow more public input and end up following shorter timeline. At a joint City-County workshop, County unanimously supports extending process by three to four weeks while City on 3-2 vote supports not extending the process to allow for more public input

	after the proposed amendments are released. City moves ahead with shorter timeline, necessitating the county do the same. Local commissioners split on timeline for comprehensive redevelopment plan
March 6	First draft of proposed comp plan amendments and Future Land Use Map (FLUM) released. This is the first opportunity for the public to see what is being proposed.
March 13	Local Planning Agency (LPA) Public Hearing. LPA holds required public hearing before transmitting the document to the City and County for review. As it has for decades, development, land use plan still stokes concern in Tallahassee
March 26	Many changes to the amendment language and voluminous data are released by the Planning Department in preparation for the LPA Transmittal Hearing.
April 1	LPA Transmittal Hearing. The LPA formally launches the comp plan “clock” by transmitting the documents to the City and County for consideration.
April 16	Initial proposed date for City Transmittal Hearing for state review. In this process, local governments hold a public hearing and “transmit” their proposed amendments for state review. The City postpones its Transmittal Hearing
May 13	County votes to hold Transmittal Hearing on amendments. Leon County advances comp plan as city delays decision
May 14	City Transmittal Hearing – continued to June 11. The City had a quorum issue, so postponed the vote. (see article link for May 13).
June 3	Alliance of Tallahassee Neighborhoods (ATN) hosts public meeting. Given the absence of local government-sponsored opportunities to learn about proposed changes and provide input, ATN hosts a meeting with more than 150 people in attendance at the Women’s Club. Tensions flare as meeting on Tallahassee growth plan draws packed crowd
June 11	City Transmittal Hearing – City votes unanimously to postpone adoption of comp plan to 2026. According to Mayor Dailey, “I’ll tell you what I’m not going to do: We’re not going to postpone three months We’re not going to burden this community over the summertime to try to answer every single question that’s going on. We need more time.” Tallahassee City Commission delays hot-button 'comp plan' decision
June 18	State Response to County Transmittal of Draft Plan Amendments. Starting on page 3, Florida Department of Environmental Protection identifies significant concerns with County’s proposed changes to Lake Protection Provisions in June 16 letter. Read the letter.

July 1	County Transmittal Hearing. The County Commission votes to transmit the proposed comp plan amendments and FLUM to the State for formal review.
July 8	County votes to extend comp plan adoption into 2026. This brings the County timeline into alignment with the City’s revised schedule, allowing more opportunity for meaningful input. Leon County joins city in pushing back contentious comprehensive plan into next year
August 16	Progress of comp plan update discussed at Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce Conference in Amelia Island. Chamber Conference workshops: Healthcare boom; Comp Plan will set course of development
August 20	In major and unexpected reversal, City votes to hold Transmittal Hearing in September 2025. After voting in June to delay adoption of plan for a year, Mayor Dailey moves to hold the transmittal hearing in September even though this issue is not on the agenda. His motion passes 3-2. Mayor Dailey: Tallahassee to send comp plan to state after neighborhood deal
September 17	City Transmittal Hearing. The City Commission votes 3-2 to transmit the comp plan amendments and FLUM to the State for formal review. Tallahassee comp plan moves forward after 3-2 city commission vote
September 25 – October 6	Five County Public Engagement Workshops. While proposed maps and amendment language were displayed, there was nothing to highlight significant changes being proposed related to the USA boundaries or Lake Protection provisions. See materials on display.
October 24	State Response to City Transmittal of Draft Plan Amendments. Includes same June 16 Florida Department of Environmental Protection letter outlining concerns about Lake Protection Category as sent to County on page 3)
November 9	Public concern mounts over proposed comp plan changes. ‘Community altering’: Concerns mount over Comp Plan changes allowing Lake Jackson development
November 10	Citizens raise concerns about Carr Cemetery in area proposed for USA expansion. City, county planners back away from Lake Jackson development plans amid concerns
November 13	Friends of Lake Jackson and the Miller Landing neighborhood host community meeting on impacts of comp plan amendments. Friends of Lake Jackson President Sophie Wacogne, Commissioner Rick Minor, and 1000 Friends’ Vivian Young give short updates on the proposal, which is followed by an extensive Q&A session. ‘Remain engaged’: Residents hear latest on Comp Plan proposal affecting Lake Jackson

<p>November 18</p>	<p>Leon County directs staff to remove the property north of Lake Jackson from the USA but does not support addressing other growth and environmental concerns.</p> <p>The County votes to direct staff to amend the proposed USA boundary to remove the property to the north of Lake Jackson but declines to address other environmental concerns. The direction passes 5-2, with Commissioners Minor and O’Keefe opposing due to failure to address other planning and environmental concerns. Leon County commissioners back off Comp Plan changes allowing more Lake Jackson development</p>
<p>December 9</p>	<p>Date for adoption of comp plan amendments and FLUM by Leon County</p>
<p>December 10</p>	<p>Date for adoption of comp plan amendments and FLUM by City of Tallahassee</p>