

# Orange County, Fl

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## VISIONING WORKSHOPS **SUMMARY REPORT**

**PREPARED BY**  
ACP-VISIONING & PLANNING, LTD.

**IN ASSOCIATION WITH**  
PLACE MATTERS

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# Visioning Workshops Summary Report

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## Introduction

In his 2005 State of the County address, Mayor Richard Crotty revealed a new strategy for Southeast Orange County. Calling this region “Innovation Way,” the Mayor plans to create a corridor linking the University of Central Florida to the Orlando International Airport. Mayor Crotty hopes to introduce additional high-value jobs into this region’s economy to help Orange County continue to lead Central Florida into the 21st century. The northern half of Innovation Way already contains high-quality residential communities, academic institutions, and commercial developments. However, the southern portion of this area is largely undeveloped. Orange County has initiated the Avalon South Economic Development and Environmental Resource Management Study to create a conceptual land use framework that will identify areas of the southern portion where growth may occur, determine appropriate environmental controls, and ensure that high-value jobs and high-tech industries are encouraged for sustainable economic development. (A map of the Study Area can be found at the end of this document.)

To ensure that the framework balances technical studies and public input, the County has involved residents, community leaders, developers and corporate citizens in two visioning workshops.



Over 150 citizens participated in the July 18, 2005 workshop designed to identify a vision for the future of Innovation Way.

## The Visioning Workshops

This document summarizes the results from the two Visioning Workshops. One was held on Monday, July 18, 2005 at the WordSpring Discovery Center, and the second workshop was conducted on Saturday, August 13, 2005 at the University of Central Florida Student Union.

The workshops were designed to integrate facilitated small group activities with electronic polling and wireless electronic note-taking technology. The use of technology in the visioning workshops provided the opportunity to dramatically shorten the “feedback loop”, allowing participants to collectively express preferences and quickly set priorities within the same workshop.

The agenda for both workshops included the following steps:

- Welcome
- Presentation: Overview of the Project and the Process
- Keypad Poll: Who is here today?
- Presentation: Existing Conditions and Trends
- Small Group Activity I: Ideas for the Future Brainstorm
- Presentation: Current Proposals for Avalon South / “Innovation Way” Corridor
- Small Group Activity II: Critical Questions
- Presentation: Summary of Ideas for the Future
- Keypad Poll: Measuring Agreement
- Overview of Evening Results and Next Steps
- Adjourn

Trained facilitators worked with participants on two workshop activities: Ideas for the Future Brainstorm and Critical Questions. The brainstorm was designed to allow participants to generate and share ideas for the future of Southeast Orange County. The Critical Questions activity was designed to engage citizens in a meaningful way to examine key issues affecting communities and to recommend strategies to address those issues. The Critical Questions dealt with economic prosperity, land use and development, the natural environment, and transportation.

In addition to the facilitator, a note taker was present at each table to encode the information into a computer. The groups’ input was processed and presented during the survey portion of the workshop, Measuring Agreement. Participants indicated their priorities through the use of wireless electronic polling technology.

## Visioning Workshop Demographics

This section summarizes the demographic composition of participants at the two Visioning Workshops. In total, there were approximately 200 participants in the workshops – 150 on July 18 and 50 on August 13, 2005, with additional attendees at the July workshop who chose not to participate in the visioning exercises. Close to 44 percent of the participants at the July workshop said they live in the Avalon South study area and over half, 53.5



Citizens worked in small groups to discuss their ideas for the future. Results were entered into a computer and all attendees voted on their preferences.

percent, said they own property in Avalon South. Only 31 percent of the August workshop participants live in the study area and only 44 percent own property there.

In July, most participants (64%) said they live in a suburban area, while 25.7 percent live in a rural area and 10.3 percent in an urban area. The August breakdown was very similar, but with a slightly higher percentage in the suburbs (69%). In general, the July participants have been in the Orlando area longer than the August participants. In July, 18.8 percent indicated they are native to the Orlando area and almost half (44.8%) have lived in the region more than 20 years. Among the August participants, only 33 percent have lived in the region that long.

Participants represent citizens from all sectors of the economy including local, state, or federal government; construction; health care; business; legal; education; non-profit; retired; and unemployed. The largest percentage of participants at the July workshop said they are from the business community (31.4%) or “other area of employment” (24.8%). At the August workshop business also had the largest share, with an even higher representation at 42 percent, followed by government (12.5%), construction (10.4%), and other (10.4%).

A majority of participants (63%) identified themselves as male at both workshops. The participants were predominantly white or Caucasian (85-90%). At the July workshop five percent said they are Latino/Hispanic and 2.2 percent said they are Black or African American. The August workshop was slightly more diverse, with black and Hispanics each accounting for 6.5 percent of participants.

Participation at the July meeting was relatively balanced with regards to age. Over twenty percent of the participants came from each of three age groups – 30-39, 40-49, and 50-59 – accounting for approximately 67 percent of all the participants. In addition, 12 percent were aged 20-29 and 14 percent were 60-69. At the August workshop, 41 percent were aged 50-59 and another 35 percent were aged 40-49; these two age groups accounted for over 75 percent of the participants.

Most participants are highly educated. Over 75 percent of participants at both meetings said they have completed a university or graduate school education.

Workshop Results

Two facilitated discussions were conducted during the Visioning Workshop – Ideas for the Future and Critical Questions. They were followed by an electronic poll – Measuring Agreement. The results of these discussions provide a foundation of ideas for the future of Avalon South and offer approaches to dealing with critical issues related to economic prosperity, land use and development, natural environment, and transportation.

This section is divided into two parts:

- **Draft Goals for the Future of Avalon South** describes the desired future of Avalon South, as articulated by participants during the Visioning Workshops, and an overview of consistent themes across the seven goals;
- **Priorities and Recommendations** presents the results of the Measuring Agreement electronic poll and the recommendations developed during Critical Questions for each of the five following vision statement categories: Economic Prosperity, Land Use, Character of Development, Natural Environment, and Transportation.<sup>1</sup>

**Draft Vision Statements for the Future of Avalon South**

The seven vision statements that follow were developed using ideas submitted during the Ideas for the Future exercise. They depict a desired future that participants envision for Avalon South.

1. **Economic Prosperity:** A healthy, vibrant economy, resulting from the combination of thorough planning efforts, strategic infrastructure investments, appropriate generation and utilization of tax revenue, and competitive attraction and recruitment efforts, that includes a diverse mix of small to large corporate, research, and commercial businesses, provides a range of well-paid job opportunities (from service sector to high-tech), offers short commutes, and supports an overall high quality of life in the area.
2. **Land Use:** A balance of rural, urban, and preserved natural areas achieved through thoughtful long-range planning that promotes connectivity and mobility, identifies infrastructure and institutional investments to precede and guide development, accommodates the needs of high- to low-intensity uses in suitable areas (including manufacturing, corporate campuses, retail, housing, and farms), limits environmental impacts, incorporates community interests, and allows for the appropriate development of the area.

**Ideas for the Future Methodology**

A guided visualization narrative was read from the podium to prompt participants to think about the future of the Avalon South area, and the following question was posed:

*What should be done to make Southeast Orange County the best that it can be in the coming years?*

In total, participants generated 356 ideas for the future. These ideas were encoded verbatim in a computerized database and sorted into applicable categories. After the workshop, the ideas in each category were reviewed, themes were identified for recurring concepts, and vision statements were formulated based on these emerging themes.

**Vision Statement Categories**

The vision statements for the future of Avalon South address the following seven topics:

1. Economic Prosperity (39 ideas)
- Land Use and Development (146 ideas)
  2. Land Use
  3. Character of Development
4. Natural Environment (68 ideas)
5. Transportation (76 ideas)
6. Social Issues (33 ideas)
7. Learning (29 ideas)

<sup>1</sup> Please note that although learning and social issues goals were drafted, these topics were not tested at the Visioning Workshops, because they were not picked as priorities by the small groups during the Ideas for the Future.

3. **Character of Development:** Attractive, quality communities that encourage people to live, work, shop, learn, and recreate nearby, by offering a variety of housing choices; parks, greenways, and open spaces; mixed use town centers with a variety retail and institutional services; attractive and diverse architectural styles that support neighborhood character; and a range of transportation options (including roads, sidewalks, walking trails, bike paths, and public transportation).
4. **Natural Environment:** In stewardship of the environment, protect and preserve unique and environmentally sensitive natural features in the area, such as wetlands, rivers, lakes, uplands, greenway corridors, parks, and open spaces for both wildlife habitat and human recreation; ensure a clean and adequate water supply; preserve old growth trees; landscape public spaces and roadways; appropriately manage waste disposal and recycling; and cumulatively create an environmentally friendly community.
5. **Transportation:** The needs of residents, visitors, and investors alike are accommodated by a safe, efficient, multi-modal transportation system that coordinates land use decisions with automobile, public, and alternative transportation investments to promote connectivity between communities and to the larger region; limits commuting times and distances between home, work, shopping, and recreation; ensures fast and frequent mass transit; provides efficient, attractive, landscaped roadways; provides and connects sidewalks, walking trails, and bike trails to each other and to destinations in the community; manages signage; and takes into account Florida’s climate.
6. **Social Issues:** The community and competent leadership provide for the health, safety, cultural, and spiritual needs of people of all ages and backgrounds by providing accessible healthcare facilities; EMS, police, and fire services; facilities and activities for seniors; social services; schools; libraries; community centers; houses of worship; affordable housing opportunities; and arts and cultural opportunities.
7. **Learning:** Attractive, quality learning opportunities include neighborhood schools, high schools that accommodate existing and new students, an expanded University of Central Florida, research centers, and an excellent library system that combine to create excellence in education and workforce preparation.



The ideas and priorities that came out of both workshops contributed to the formulation of vision statements for the future of Avalon South.



Each table discussed a critical question about the future of Innovation Way, reached consensus, and prepared a summary statement in response to the question.

**Measuring Agreement Methodology**

After the Ideas for the Future brainstorm, each group selected three priority ideas to submit for polling during the Measuring Agreement portion of the program. They were asked to put their idea in one of the following categories: economic prosperity, land use and development, natural environment, transportation, social issues, learning, or other. The entire assembly then voted on the priority ideas by category. During the polling, participants selected their first choice and then chose their second choice. The results of the polling (i.e. the two top scoring ideas) for each goal and each workshop are included below. (For the complete results of the polling exercise, please see the attached PDF.)

**Critical Questions Methodology**

During the second exercise, tables were given a question related to Economic Prosperity, Land Use, Character of Development, Natural Environment, or Transportation. The questions dealt with key issues that will need to be addressed as the formulation of the framework proceeds and were designed to engage participants in a challenging dialogue. Participants shared their individual ideas, then each group worked to reach consensus and prepare a summary statement in response to the question. These statements were presented to the entire assembly during a reporting period. Note that the recommendations presented in the following sections are written verbatim, in order to directly reflect the participants' submissions.

These seven vision statements, when integrated into the framework plan, can have a profound impact on the future of the Avalon South area. Through integration, these separate vision statements can contribute towards the formation of a single, all- inclusive vision for the future, as described below.

*With regard to land use, the visions emphasize creating mixed-use communities, and creating places where people can “live and work” in a walkable environment. People want to be able to move around their neighborhoods and the larger community easily, with short commuting distances, connectivity within and between areas, and linked multimodal transportation options including efficient roadways, sidewalks, walking paths, bike trails, and public transit.*

*They also emphasize protecting natural assets, such as uplands, wetlands, water resources, wildlife habitats, parks, and open spaces, for environmental reasons, for recreation, and to preserve the character of the area.*

*Character and appearance are key concerns for retaining the unique “look and feel” of the area, as well as promoting attractive buildings and landscaping.*

*Planning is seen as a tool to carefully determine where investments in infrastructure and facilities, such as roads, drainage, transportation, and schools, should be made before development occurs.*

*Finally, these visions confirm the role that the Avalon South area can have in invigorating the economy of the region with high tech businesses and well-paying jobs.*

**Priorities and Recommendations**

The following sections present the results of both the Measuring Agreement electronic poll and the Critical Question small group discussion. (The methodology for each is described in the left margin.) The results highlight the relationship between what the public would like to achieve in Avalon South and how it suggests getting there. This section is organized according to the seven vision topics.

**Economic Prosperity Vision**

A healthy, vibrant economy – resulting from the combination of thorough planning efforts, strategic infrastructure investments, appropriate generation and utilization of tax revenue, and competitive attraction and recruitment efforts – that includes a diverse mix of small to large corporate, research, and commercial businesses, provides a range of well-paid job opportunities (from service sector to high-tech), offers short commutes, and supports an overall high quality of life in the area.

Economic Prosperity

**Measuring Agreement: Priority Ideas**

During the two visioning workshops, there were four priority ideas identified for economic prosperity.

July Workshop

- First Priority: Most respondents, 73.3 percent, said “building communities around centrally located innovation industries and bringing high-tech and IT jobs reachable without long commutes” is their first priority.
- Second Priority: Sixty-three percent said creating “incentives to draw high-tech industry to the area” is their second priority.

August Workshop

- First Priority: “Active and passive recreation areas, large regional, small neighborhood parks, more family recreational activities” was identified by 43 percent.
- Second Priority: “Incentivize high paying employers” was a second priority according to 57.9 percent of participants.

**Critical Questions**

Two questions on economic prosperity were posed during the Critical Questions exercise, and are listed below. They are followed by the groups’ recommendations.

Question 1: The University of Central Florida and Orange County’s high-technology industries create high-wage jobs, major capital investments, and increased state and property taxes. What approach would you recommend to create and enhance these high-value jobs and industries in Southeast Orange County?

Question 2: Economic diversification, or many different types of jobs and industries in an area, promotes a healthy economy with many employment and business opportunities in service, manufacturing, high technology, professional services, and other industries. What approach would you recommend for Innovation Way that promotes economic diversification in Southeast Orange County?

**Recommendations**

- Establish community development district to fund multi-modal transportation, business incubators, arts/culture centers, and green space in an effort to create a progressive image that will attract high-tech industries.
- County should establish goals to provide necessary infrastructure (education, fiber optics, roads, executive housing, and arts) to attract businesses.
- Create a quality of life destination by studying the target, marketing the solution, recruiting the industries and giving them a place to go.

- Work with experts to balance zoning and create partnerships with businesses, education, and government to create incentives other than tax breaks to attract business development.
- To create and enhance high value jobs and industries in southeast Orange County we need to:
  1. Well-educated work force
  2. Create a viable mass transit system
  3. Shape the existing planning and zoning documents to facilitate a smooth and expedited transition from current planning categories to our vision
  4. Develop an internship program which will answer the high tech employer demands
  5. WIFI throughout
  6. Encourage flexible work hours and days to minimize off-site trips from UCF
  7. Incentivize new employers with tax breaks on research investments
  8. Develop effective transportation infrastructure
- Development of a Master Plan that recognizes the importance of the area's environment, incorporates adequate zoning for a wide variety of businesses, includes innovative transportation systems, provides selective incentives for business, and considers quality of life issues.

**Land Use Vision**

A balance of rural, urban, and preserved natural areas achieved through thoughtful long-range planning that promotes connectivity and mobility, identifies infrastructure and institutional investments to precede and guide development, accommodates the needs of high- to low-intensity uses in suitable areas (including manufacturing, corporate campuses, retail, housing, and farms), limits environmental impacts, incorporates community interests, and allows for the appropriate development of the area.

**Character of Development Vision**

Attractive, quality communities that encourage people to live, work, shop, learn, and recreate nearby, by offering a variety of housing choices; parks, greenways, and open spaces; mixed use town centers with a variety retail and institutional services; attractive and diverse architectural styles that support neighborhood character; and a range of transportation options (including roads, sidewalks, walking trails, bike paths, and public transportation).

Land Use and Development

By far, more ideas were generated for land use and development than for any other category. Note that due to the large number, two distinct vision statements were developed for this category – Land Use and Character of Development. The first vision deals with the overall approach to how land should be used (or preserved) in the area. The second vision addresses the character (i.e., look, feel, and composition) of communities in the area.

**Measuring Agreement: Priority Ideas**

The sheer number of ideas generated for this category may have made selecting priority ideas more difficult for participants. Therefore, this section provides a more thorough analysis of the priorities for land use and development as compared to other categories in this report.

July Workshop

- First Priority: Approximately 25 percent of the group said the first priority should be to “develop a plan that identifies environmental resources, protects transportation corridors, and development nodes.”
- Second Priority: Almost 31 percent agree that as a second priority, “land use and development should encourage development that allows residents to live and work within the region.”
- In addition, one idea received high scores during both the first and second rounds of voting. “Communities to be mixed use with churches, community centers, schools, retail within walking distance” was also considered an important priority by the group.

August Workshop

- First Priority: “Infrastructure in place before residential development. For example, don’t grow without having schools, roads, and infrastructure” received 20.9 percent of the votes, which was the highest percentage among a large number of choices.
- Second Priority: “Appropriate mix of land uses supported by adequate infrastructure (roads, trails, transit)” received 25.6 of votes.
- Coming in a very close third during both polls in August was “infrastructure to serve for many years into the future so that you have water, utilities, sewage roads, schools, mass transportation.”

Each of these three ideas deals with infrastructure provision, which is clearly a concern for many Florida communities that have been experiencing significant growth in recent years that has placed a strain on infrastructure and services. This trend, combined with the fact that portions of Avalon South (if designated for

development) will need substantial infrastructure investments to accommodate future growth, indicates that the participants' priorities are on target.

The next highest scoring idea, which has a different focus than the prioritized infrastructure-oriented ideas, was “small town feel, like ‘main street’ with restaurants, buses; convenient ‘walk-to’ shopping for neighborhoods to limit need for driving, i.e. Celebration, Baldwin Park.”

**Critical Questions**

The two questions for land use and development relate to housing issues and balancing land uses.

Question 1: Families, singles, the elderly, students, low-income households, and high-income households all have different housing needs and preferences. What approach would you recommend for providing a range of housing in Avalon South / Innovation Way Corridor (e.g. single-family housing, townhouses, apartments, and condominiums)?

Question 2: As Southeast Orange County’s population increases, new and existing residents will need places to live, work, go to school, eat, shop, and obtain goods and services. What approach would you recommend to balance residential, commercial, office, educational, and/or industrial areas in Innovation Way?

**Recommendations**

- Mixed-use housing developments to include all densities and accessory dwelling units placed based on regional infrastructure.
- Diversity of housing types and styles to accommodate different incomes, lifestyles, family types with economic incentives to achieve this. Architectural style should encourage this as well. Needs to be guided by a development plan and standards.
- Incorporate all levels of income, give everyone opportunities for housing - considering architectural and transportation needs.
- Master Plan of Cluster concept that includes residential, educational, retail, professional industrial uses strategically zoned with mass transit and ecological areas with proper funding and scheduling.
- Modify the existing Comprehensive land use plan to include a land use map, which includes natural areas, passive recreation areas, active recreation areas, greenway corridor, and enclaves for low, medium, and high-density areas.
- Cooperative relationship among Orange County, landowners, and developers with the goal of developing a comprehensive plan with specific land uses.



Through small group discussions, participants generated recommendations for how to achieve these visions.

- The strategy that will provide the best balance and compatibility in Innovation Way. To create a global, strategic plan that is flexible with periodic reviews, and will consider walkable mixed-use neighborhood development, preservation and linkage of natural areas, and adequate infrastructure.

**Natural Environment Vision**

In stewardship of the environment, protect and preserve unique and environmentally sensitive natural features in the area, such as wetlands, rivers, lakes, uplands, greenway corridors, parks, and open spaces for both wildlife habitat and human recreation; ensure a clean and adequate water supply; preserve old growth trees; landscape public spaces and roadways; appropriately manage waste disposal and recycling; and cumulatively create an environmentally friendly community.



Participants used keypads to conduct electronic polling and establish their priorities for the future.

Natural Environment

**Measuring Agreement: Priority Ideas**

During the two visioning workshops, there were five clear priority ideas submitted in this category.

July Workshop

- First Priority: Attendees felt that “developing an integrated ecological based natural area plan with both uplands and wetlands being functional 50 years from now” is a top priority.
- Second Priority: Two initiatives tied for second choice priorities: “better connected park systems, protecting wetlands, green-space, and wells;” and “keeping the natural setting, maintaining the preservation, keeping the County look and feel.”

August Workshop

- First Priority: “Identify what is truly environmentally sensitive versus what is not and incorporate in long-range planning, mix of housing that is also affordable” received 37 percent of participants’ votes.
- Second Priority: Forty-five percent agreed that “identify, protect, and increase sensitive environmental areas including watersheds and conservation area” was their second priority.

**Critical Questions**

The two questions in this category relate to protecting and enhancing environmental assets and balancing the character of the area.

Question 1: The Avalon South / Innovation Way Corridor has a number of important environmental assets, such as the Econ River, Lake Mary Jane, Lake Hart, Lake Whippoorwill, Moss Park, Split Oak Nature Preserve, wetlands, ranches and other agricultural areas, and open space. What approach would you recommend to protect and enhance environmental assets in the Avalon South / Innovation Way Corridor?

Question 2: Much of the Avalon South / Innovation Way Corridor has a rural character, mixed with some suburban development. The area also has a number of important environmental assets, such as the Econ River, Lake Mary Jane, Lake Hart, Lake Whippoorwill, Moss Park, Split Oak Nature Preserve, wetlands, ranches and other agricultural areas, and open space. What approach would you recommend to balance suburban, rural, urban, and natural character in the Avalon South/Innovation Way corridor?

**Recommendations**

- Establish policies by the elected officials to continually improve water run-off, water availability, water drainage, and require a certain amount of conservation areas and uplands to be conserved by all new development.

- Provide enough incentives to landowners so they don't feel they have to sell to developers, such as TDR (Transfer of development rights), density bonuses and permit lottery so we can increase the preservation of the environmental assets of the area, with a goal of better definition of green space guidelines and increased percentages.
- Plan and incorporate environmentally sensitive areas into the development process, while allowing human interaction through trails and parks ensuring that the development enhances and protects all environmental assets, provide a monitoring protocol to maintain ecological quality.
- Steps be taken to protect major environmental features with buffers connected to the greenway system and planned long-term land uses through growth control, the use of environmentally friendly methods of construction and development, and the use of efficient high tech transportation.
- Change Innovation Way to Conservation Way to keep the urban aspect to the north and the west by limiting high-density residential and heavy industrial in the area in order to preserve the sensitive rural environment, lake shorelines, and the watershed.
- Incorporate usage of the areas into the Master Plan by:
  - Limiting the development of environmentally sensitive areas/low density growth.
  - Provide a buffer of some sort between the development and the environmentally sensitive areas.
  - Linking them and providing public access for people to enjoy.
- Identify and control, in a regional comprehensive manner, the most critical and desirable parcels- either through purchase or buying development rights.

**Transportation Vision**

The needs of residents, visitors, and investors alike are accommodated by a safe, efficient, multi-modal transportation system that coordinates land use decisions with automobile, public, and alternative transportation investments to promote connectivity between communities and to the larger region; limits commuting times and distances between home, work, shopping, and recreation; ensures fast and frequent mass transit; provides efficient, attractive, landscaped roadways; provides and connects sidewalks, walking trails, and bike trails to each other and to destinations in the community; manages signage; and takes into account Florida’s climate.

Transportation

**Measuring Agreement: Priority Ideas**

Transportation questions received 76 ideas at the workshop, leaving participants with numerous ideas to choose from as priorities.

July Workshop

- First Priority: “Developing a master plan for balanced growth served by an efficient multi-modal transportation system serving OIA, downtown, and the universities” is a priority for 26.4 percent of the group.
- Second Priority: Many people also feel that the “County should construct improvements large enough to handle all projected growth in the area and that good public planning is critical to a quality environment.”

August Workshop

- First Priority: Nearly 37 percent of participants indicated that their priority is to “Create transportation that will facilitate parks, rec., entertainment type area (separating people, etc.)”
- Second Priority: Their next priority is the “need to think about overall density, problem with road traffic” garnering 54 percent of votes.

**Critical Questions**

Mobility is important to any community. Transportation influences economic development, environmental quality, and quality of life. The two questions for this category relate to improving regional mobility and limiting traffic congestion.

Question 1: Transportation options include cars, trucks, public transit, buses, light rail, bicycles, and walking. These options should meet the needs of residents, businesses, students, and visitors. What recommendations do you have for ensuring an efficient transportation system in Avalon South / Innovation Way Corridor?

Question 2: Traffic congestion can be an issue in rapidly growing communities. What recommendations would you have for creating a community with limited traffic congestion?

**Recommendations**

- We need to develop transportation systems to bring environmentally safe new businesses and industries to our area while preserving our quality of life through e-commerce.
- Investing in Multimodal transportation network that incorporates current infrastructure to develop mass transit, while allowing traditional streets and avenues to be used for walking, biking and residential traffic.

- A light-rail system with a green buffer that connects UCF/Airport/Disney, and a complemented park and ride system for mass transportation with more sufficient roads.
- Design and develop communities so people can work, shop, worship and have recreational opportunities close to where they live and develop a fast and frequent mass transit web to and from residential, work, government and cultural hubs.
- Design a detailed transportation plan and limit the development to that plan. The plan to include: 1) capacity, 2) concurrency, 3) signage, and 4) cost.
- Innovative plan for economically viable multimodal transportation system to accommodate the area at build out and connectivity to the region. This involves planning for the walkable communities, preserving corridors and connection economic clusters.
- Mixed use with public transportation with respect for the environment.

**Social Issues Vision**

The community and competent leadership provide for the health, safety, cultural, and spiritual needs of people of all ages and backgrounds by providing accessible healthcare facilities; EMS, police, and fire services; facilities and activities for seniors; social services; schools; libraries; community centers; houses of worship; affordable housing opportunities; and arts and cultural opportunities.

**Learning Vision**

Attractive, quality learning opportunities include neighborhood schools, high schools that accommodate existing and new students, an expanded University of Central Florida, research centers, and an excellent library system that combine to create excellence in education and workforce preparation.

**Social Issues**

Most of the ideas generated at the Visioning Workshops dealt with economic prosperity, physical development, environmental management, and transportation. However, some ideas submitted that relate to social concerns, as well as education (see the Learning section below). In total, thirty-three ideas were generated that relate to social issues. This topic was only tested during the August workshop. No Critical Questions activity was conducted.

**Measuring Agreement: Priorities**

The social issues topic was tested during the August Visioning Workshop. The participants had three ideas to choose from during the polling exercise.

**August Workshop**

- First Priority: Fifty percent of participants selected “adherence to a solid, responsible development plan (leadership).”
- Second Priority: As the next priority, 72.5 percent of participants selected “balance interests of transportation, residential and commercial development, schools and environment.”

**Learning**

As the focus of the Visioning Workshops is the future physical form of Avalon South, learning and education were not tested during Measuring Agreement portions of the workshops or discussed in the Critical Questions segments of the workshop. This does not minimize the importance of educational opportunities and workforce preparation to the public who attended the workshops or to the successful future of the area. There were a total of 29 ideas submitted for learning at the two workshops, warranting a goal for the future. In addition, readers should refer to the Land Use and Development section above, which emphasizes the need for planning for institutional uses such as schools. The Economic Prosperity section also refers to the important role that education and research institutions play in encouraging a health economy.

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## The Avalon South/Innovation Way Planning Effort

### Upcoming events

On October 27-29, the Community Planning Collaborative Summit will take place at the Sheraton World Resort. Alternative land use scenarios will be presented for public feedback. This is an opportunity for the public to provide additional specific direction for the future of the Avalon South area.



On October 27-29, a Community Planning Collaborative Summit will offer another opportunity for members of the public get involved with the Innovation Way planning efforts.

### How can I get more information?

You can follow the progress of the Innovation Way project at the Orange County website (<http://www.ocfl.net/planning>). If you have any direct questions about the Innovation Way project, please contact Andre Anderson at [AAndreAnderson@ocfl.net](mailto:AAndreAnderson@ocfl.net) or 407-836-5600. If you have any direct questions about visioning or the upcoming summit, please contact Alissa Barber Torres at [Alissa.Torres@ocfl.net](mailto:Alissa.Torres@ocfl.net) or 407-836-0924.