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PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE OF MARION COUNTY

PPI PRESS

# PPI In Progress **2006 Affordable Housing Study: Impact on Marion County**



## Scope of Study:

While property values steadily increase, escalating housing costs in Marion County continue to burden the low-wage, elderly, disabled, minority, and homeless populations. Concerns over affordable housing have also become prevalent among higher income populations. The purpose of this study is:

- To determine housing demand and supply and survey the current condition of existing housing
- To examine the roles of public and private organizations in affordable housing development and support
- To identify social and economic factors that affect housing availability and affordability
- To study funding sources and other incentives for affordable housing
- To develop recommendations to address any identified issues

## PPI Study Committee Meetings: Improving Community Quality of Life

The Public Policy Institute of Marion County is currently conducting the 2006 Study: **Affordable Housing**. Pete Tesch, President and CEO of the Ocala/Marion County Economic Development Corporation is the Study Chair. The study committee, comprised of local leaders and members of the community, meets weekly on campus at Central Florida Community

College. Each week a guest speaker provides valuable information on specific areas concerning the current condition of existing housing in Marion County. If you would like to participate in future studies or would like further information or updates on the process, please contact flynn@cf.edu or call 352-854-2322, Ext. 1457.

## 2006 PPI Spring Seminar **Reshaping Local Government: The Benefits and Disadvantages**

To provide leadership in identifying recommendations for an improved community, the Public Policy Institute of Marion County hosted a spring seminar in April entitled: **Reshaping Local Government: The Benefits and Disadvantages**. Panelists Ed Austin and Jerry Newfarmer outlined case studies involving city/county mergers, combined service agreements, and strategic plans for

organizational and financial management.

Austin is a former mayor of Jacksonville, Florida and also served as state attorney for twenty-five years. Newfarmer, a former city manager, founded Management Partners in 1994 to help government leaders develop performance measures, strategic plans, and training programs for performance management systems.

### Mission Statement

*The Public Policy Institute of Marion County is dedicated to advancing public interest, building democracy, enhancing community, and improving the quality of life by involving citizens in the process.*

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## Inside the Institute: Charles Dassance, Chair



Charles Dassance  
Chair

The **Public Policy Institute of Marion County** has facilitated many successes throughout the past year. The **Traffic/Transportation** study was completed in the fall of 2005. As a result of the study, the **Community Traffic Council (CTC)**, a citizen advocacy group, has been established to oversee the

implementation of study recommendations. This summer, the **2006 Affordable Housing Study** is scheduled for release and the 2007 study topic will soon be selected by the PPI Board of Directors. In addition to these activities, the first **Quality of Life Progress Report for Ocala/Marion County** was published in April and recent seminars have addressed hurricane preparedness, traffic and transportation, and reshaping local government.

In a continued effort to encourage effective public dialogue, **The Public Policy Institute of Marion County** hopes you will remain an active member. Please take the time to complete the membership renewal form provided in this newsletter. Your contribution is important for the future of the Institute.

Thank you for your support and for the interest you have taken in the future of Ocala/Marion County.

*Charles R. Dassance*

## 2005 Traffic and Transportation Study: Recommendations in Action

In the recently published **2005 Study: Traffic/Transportation** coordinated by the Public Policy Institute of Marion County, a key recommendation outlined in the **Summary of Recommendations** details the development of a citizen advisory group to be named the **Community Traffic Council (CTC)**.

In an effort to establish a diverse and objective council, the CTC will be

comprised of study committee participants, along with other representatives of the community. This new council will serve as a citizen advocacy group to monitor interagency communication and transportation management strategies outlined by the **Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)**. The CTC will serve as an advocacy group to the TPO agency, the

TPO Board, and the community. Study committee member Paul Truesdell will chair the council.

*If you are interested in serving on the Community Traffic Council, or for more information on this study, please contact the Public Policy Institute at 352-854-2322, ext. 1679 or [jernigak@cf.edu](mailto:jernigak@cf.edu).*

## The Public Policy Institute: An Overview of Accomplishments

### PPI Studies to Date:

<i>Youth Violence</i>	2000
<i>Senior Issues</i>	2002
<i>Growth: Costs and Consequences</i>	2003
<i>Mental Health Services</i>	2004
<i>Traffic/Transportation</i>	2005
<i>Affordable Housing</i>	2006

### PPI Seminars to Date:

<i>A Community Conversation on the Future of Our Children</i>	May 10, 1999
<i>Our Roads: Past, Present, and Future</i>	Dec. 7, 1999
<i>Funding Our Future</i>	April 12, 2000
<i>Seniors: A Community Conversation Looking to the Future</i>	Sept. 29, 2000
<i>Let's Talk Trash</i>	April 19, 2001
<i>Vision the Future, The 2050 Summit (Facilitated by the Askew Institute)</i>	Sept. 22, 2001
<i>Growth: A Community Conversation</i>	Nov. 7, 2001
<i>Taxes- Who Pays for Florida?</i>	April 10, 2002
<i>Homeland Defense: A Report Card on Preparation</i>	April 29, 2003
<i>One Ocala, One America- Let's Talk Diversity</i>	Nov. 3, 2003
<i>Water Outlook: The Future of Marion County</i>	Feb. 24, 2004
<i>Marion Measures: Quality of Life Milestones</i>	Nov. 9, 2004
<i>Weathering the Storms: Preparing for Hurricane Season 2005</i>	June 2, 2005
<i>2005 Traffic/Transportation Seminar: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow</i>	Nov. 17, 2005
<i>Reshaping Local Government: The Benefits and Disadvantages</i>	April, 5, 2006

# Quality of Life Indicator Study: Report Update

To provide leadership in identifying recommendations for an improved community the Public Policy Institute (PPI) of Marion County initiated a community conversation on quality of life indicators as part of a seminar series entitled: *Marion Measures: Quality of Life Milestones*. Community indicators have become a widely used tool to measure the quality of community life and a means to identify progress made toward improving it.

The fall seminar preceded visits to 30 leadership boards throughout Marion County in an effort to establish a primary set of indicators for study that would reflect quality of life in Marion County.

As a result of this process, primary indicators were selected and the study process began.

The initiative to study quality of life in Marion County began with several community organizations coming together as a result of a common need: demographic data that are current, consistent, and easily accessible. This Community Resources Initiative (CRI), an organization established within the PPI, was organized to address issues that shape community quality of life. The CRI is comprised of the United Way of Marion County, Ocala/Marion County Economic Development Corporation, CLM Workforce Connection, Marion

County Children's Alliance, Marion County Health Department, the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, and the Ocala/Marion County Chamber of Commerce.

After a comprehensive process of data collection and preparation, the **2005 Quality of Life Progress Report** is now available online at <http://ppiofmarioncounty.cf.edu>. The information below is a sample of the critical data that is provided in the report. For further information on the report, contact Executive Director, Karen Jernigan.

## Affordable Housing Units

### What does this measure?

The total number of units of affordable housing in Marion County receiving funding from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service (RHS), and/or through the Ocala/Marion County housing finance authority.

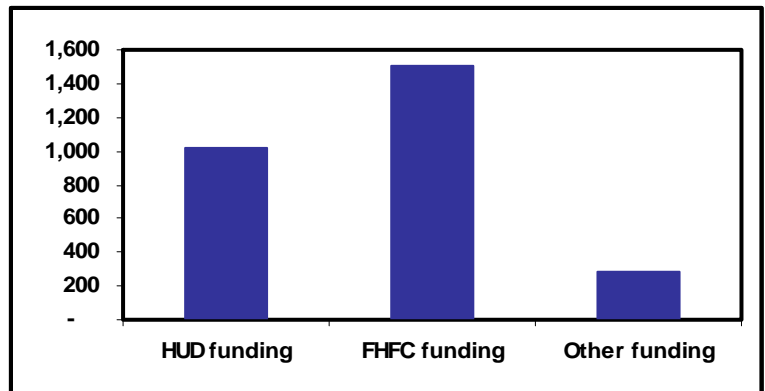
### Why is it important?

Being able to afford housing is essential for someone in the community to enjoy the quality of life. Community social and economic factors affect housing affordability and availability.

### How are we doing?

In 2005, Marion County had 2,815 affordable housing units. Local funding was used to support 376 units (261 in partnership with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation).

Year	HUD fund- ing	FHFC funding	Other funding	Total
2005	1,019	1,507	289	2,815



Source: Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse



The annual membership I have chosen is listed below.

New Membership       Membership Renewal

Send to:  
Public Policy Institute  
PO Box 1388  
Ocala, FL 34478-1388

### Individual/ Family Membership

### Corporate Membership

- Student      \$ 5.00
- College Student      \$ 10.00
- Individual      \$ 25.00
- Family      \$ 35.00
- Supporting      \$ 100.00

- Steward      \$ 250-500
- Patron      \$ 501-1,000
- Sustaining      \$ 1,001-2,500
- Visionary      Over \$2,500

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.



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Please check our website for updates:  
<http://ppiofmarioncounty.cf.edu>

*For Membership Information:  
Please Contact  
Executive Director, Karen Jernigan  
(352) 854-2322, Ext. 1457 or  
jernigak@cf.edu*

## PPI Meeting Calendar

### 2006 Board Meetings

- May 11, 7:30-9:00 a.m
- August 10, 7:30-9:00 a.m
- November 9, 7:30-9:00 a.m

*Board Meetings are held in the  
Webber Center, CFCC unless  
otherwise noted.*

### Study Committee Meetings

The 2006 PPI study– ***Affordable Housing*** is nearing completion. The committee meets weekly on Wednesday, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

The 2007 PPI study topic will be selected at the May Board meeting.

*Updated meeting schedule will be  
available soon. For further information,  
contact the office.*

### Executive Committee Meetings

- June 8, 7:30-8:30 a.m
- September 7, 7:30-8:30 a.m
- October 12, 7:30-8:30 a.m
- December 7, 7:30-8:30 a.m

*Executive Committee meetings are held  
in Bldg. 1, Rm 206, Conference Room,  
CFCC.*