

Sponsored By: Willams
Planning Commission Public Hearing Date: February 23, 2026
City Council Public Hearing Date: March 10, 2026
June 9, 2026
Enactment Date: June 9, 2026

**CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA
ORDINANCE 2026-05**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF MARATHON’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MODIFYING CHAPTER FOUR, “CONSERVATION AND COASTAL ELEMENT,” AND INTENDING TO MODIFY POLICY 4-1.2.14, “ESTABLISH AND COORDINATE ACQUISITION PROGRAMS,” PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSMITTAL OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AFTER THE FIRST HEARING BY THE CITY COUNCIL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, provides for comprehensive plan implementation through the enactment of certain ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City of Marathon is located within an Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC), pursuant to Sections 380.05 and 380.0552, Florida Statutes, hereinafter referred to the “Keys ACSCs”; and

WHEREAS, Keys’ Local Governments have adopted state-mandated Comprehensive Plans and Land Development Regulations pursuant to both Chapters 163 and 380.055, Florida Statutes, which have been approved by the State, as required by law, and;

WHEREAS, Chapter 166, *Florida Statutes*, grants the City of Marathon (the “City”) broad municipal home rule powers to provide for the health, safety and welfare of its residents, business owners and visitors by enacting regulations for the protection of the public; and

WHEREAS, in 2024 the legislature amended Section 20.60 of the Florida Statutes rebranding the State Land Planning Agency as the Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance, thus introduced, provides for the updates to the Comprehensive Plan based upon the renaming of the State Land Planning Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed this Ordinance on February 23, 2026, providing a recommendation of approval to the City Council with no proposed changes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council reviewed this Ordinance on March 10, 2026, and again on June 9,

2026 adopting the Ordinance in its second hearing and directing staff to transmit the Ordinance to the Florida Department of Commerce for final approval; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the same legislative provision, the City Council accepted the ORC Report, considered the recommendation of the Planning Commission, accepted additional public input, and deliberated on the proposed amendment to the Land Development Regulations on June 9, 2026 at a duly noticed public hearing, and directed that the amendment be transmitted to the Florida Department of Commerce as formally adopted by the City,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA THAT

~~Strikethrough~~ = deletion **bold underline** = addition

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true, correct, and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. Chapter 4, is hereby amended as attached in Exhibit A.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance but they shall remain in effect, it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

SECTION 4. The provisions of this Ordinance constitute an amendment to the Land Development Regulations as defined by State law. Accordingly, the City shall forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Florida Department of Commerce for review and approval pursuant to Sections 380.05(6) and (11), Florida Statutes.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon approval by the Florida Department of Commerce pursuant to Chapters 163 and 380, Florida Statutes.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, THIS 9TH DAY OF JUNE 2026.

THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA

Lynny Del Gaizo, Mayor

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

¹Additions to existing text are shown by underline/red print; deletions are shown as ~~strikethrough~~

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Diane Clavier, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE
AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA ONLY:**

Steven Williams, City Attorney

Chapter 4 - Conservation And Coastal Element Goals, Objectives And Policies

Policy 4-1.2.14 Establish And Coordinate Acquisition Programs

The City shall maintain a land acquisition program and prepare a Capital Investment Plan for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive land, land for affordable housing, open space, parks and recreation, and the purchase of development rights in coordination with regional, State, Federal and private programs, including but not limited to the DEP, the Monroe County Land Authority, the ~~Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)~~State Land Planning Agency and other agencies with an interest in conservation lands. This Capital Investment Plan shall be incorporated into the City's Capital Improvement Program.
