



Public Policy Institute of Marion County 2005-2006 Annual Report

Inside the Institute

Karen Jernigan, Executive Director

The **Public Policy Institute of Marion County (PPI)** 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. In the spring of 2006, PPI hosted a seminar entitled **Reshaping Local Government: The Benefits and Disadvantages** to encourage a community conversation on government performance management systems. The first **Quality of Life Progress Report for Ocala/Marion County** was published in April and in June the timely release of the **2006 Affordable Housing Study** provided key recommendations to address the availability of safe, adequate, affordable and workforce housing to meet community needs. The Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) has been established as an outgrowth of the study and will work toward the implementation of study recommendations in order to encourage and facilitate adequate affordable and workforce housing. The **2007 Access to Health Care Study** kick-off is scheduled for September and in October the Institute will host demographer Lance deHaven-Smith as part of the PPI fall seminar on growth management.

Following several years of diverse study and seminar topics, individual and corporate membership revenue is steadily increasing. Likewise, partnerships with local civic organizations and government agencies continue to advance awareness of the vision and mission of the Institute. The coming year will focus on funding the future of the Institute while continuing to encourage citizen involvement through studies and seminars dedicated to advancing public interest, building democracy, enhancing community, and improving the quality of life for the current and future residents of Ocala/Marion County.

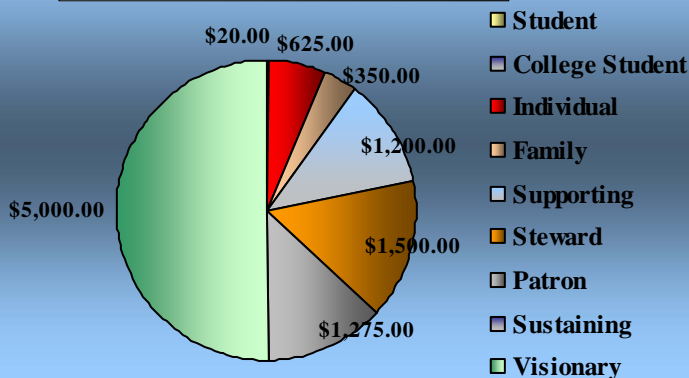
Partnering to Meet Community Needs: 2005 Quality of Life Progress Report



To provide leadership in identifying recommendations for an improved community the PPI initiated a community conversation on quality of life indicators as part of a 2004 seminar series entitled: **Marion Measures: Quality of Life Milestones**. 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. 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, the Community Resources Initiative (CRI) was established within the PPI and organized to address issues that shape community quality of life. As a result of comprehensive data collection and preparation, the **2005 Quality of Life Progress Report** was compiled and released to the community in April. The report contains critical data on community indicators to assist local organizations and in strategic planning for an improved community. The report will be updated periodically and is available for download on the PPI website.

2005-2006 Membership Revenue \$9,950.00



Vision

To provide leadership in developing and implementing short-term and long-term goals and solutions for an improved community

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.

2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE OF MARION COUNTY



Ensuring the Future of the Public Policy Institute
Dr. Charles R. Dassance, Chair

The Public Policy Institute of Marion County was established to provide leadership in identifying recommendations for an improved community. In a continued effort to encourage effective public dialogue the Institute needs you to remain an active member. Please take the time to renew your membership and to invite new leadership to join the PPI. Your contribution is important for the future of the Institute. Thank you for your support.

Charles R. Dassance

A Year in Review: Seminars

2005 Traffic/Transportation Seminar:
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
 November 17, 2005

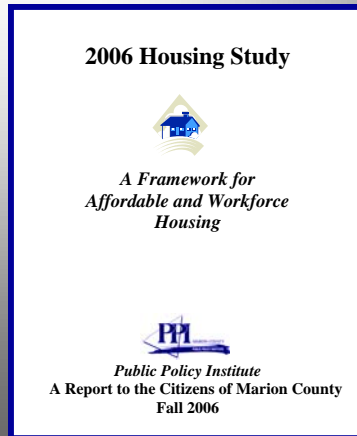
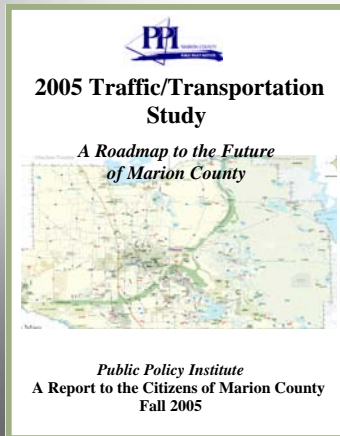
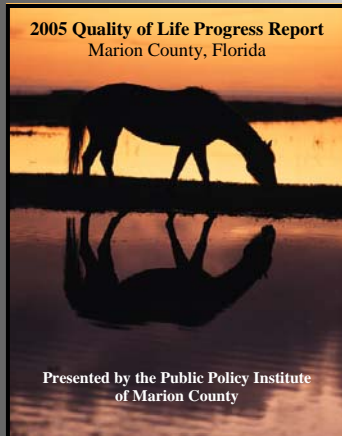
Reshaping Local Government:
The Benefits and Disadvantages
 April, 5, 2006



A Year in Review: Studies

2005 Traffic/ Transportation Study:
A Roadmap to the Future of Marion County

2006 Housing Study:
A Framework for Affordable and Workforce Housing




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All PPI Publications are available online at:
<http://ppiofmarioncounty.cf.edu>