

## Annexation

Typically land area changes because of annexation (increases the City area and decreases the County area). Annexations can produce alterations in anticipated development patterns. As identified in the existing Plan, as the community matures and approaches build-out, annexations will become increasingly more important to continue economic viability. In 2006 the City Council requested staff study potential areas of annexation. The resulting study, *Annexation Study of 2006*, identified fourteen (14) areas for annexation and defined criteria to be used for consideration.

After reviewing the analysis of the study, City Council provided staff with a direction for a strategy to pursue annexations based on an established set of goals. It is anticipated that annexations will be an ongoing effort of the City of Punta Gorda. Future growth and other conditions will impact any specific actions. However, the overall policy is to examine annexation based on the economic opportunities presented by annexations. In accordance with the 2006 Annexation Area Study (Map 25), the City of Punta Gorda actively pursues annexations in areas based on location within the existing Utility Services Area, the availability of existing infrastructure, and the potential for development that is supportive of the community vision.

