



## Your region. Your future. Your opportunity.

**Central Florida's growth and prosperity show that our region is a wonderful place to live, raise a family, grow a business and visit. However, growth presents challenges. There are solutions — and good planning leads the way.**

### A Region at the Crossroads

- From 2005 to 2050, our region's population is expected to more than double from 3.5 million to 7.2 million residents.
- If current development trends continue, our water consumption will increase 70 percent, depleting the Florida aquifer — and we'll consume as much land in 45 years (2,577 square miles) as we've developed over the last 440 years.
- The result? Poorer air quality, longer commute times, fewer recreational areas and the loss of irreplaceable wildlife habitat.

### The Choice is Ours: Sprawl or Smart, Quality Growth

- The choices we make today will have a profound effect on our region's livability for our children and future generations.
- Local officials, community leaders and the voting public must make well-informed decisions that discourage sprawl and promote smart, quality growth.

### Planners Shape Our Region

- Planners work as advisers, advocates and leaders at city, regional and state agencies; consulting firms; private developers; and nonprofit groups.
- They identify and recommend actions — involving land use, urban design, environmental protection, transportation, real estate and housing — based on local values and goals, physical constraints and opportunities, economic conditions, social concerns, and political realities.

### Wanted: Planners Trained in Our Own Backyard

- Master's degree programs in planning use the surrounding region as a laboratory for student research and training.
- Graduates employed where they're trained understand the unique challenges facing a region and bring a wealth of relevant knowledge to their jobs.
- Central Florida does not have a single master's degree program in planning, despite the growing need for planners in our region.

### UCF's Vision: A Master's Degree Program in Urban and Regional Planning

- Recognizing the region's need for planning education, the University of Central Florida has been offering two academic programs, a minor and graduate certificate, in urban and regional planning — both popular among students.
- The campus recently approved the process to develop its first degree program in the field: a Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning.
- But, because of limited state funding, UCF can't launch the program without your support.

### An Opportunity for You

- We invite you to help UCF launch this new program by providing support in these areas:
  - Scholarships and Fellowships** - To recruit and retain the best and brightest students to pursue a professional degree in planning
  - Faculty** - To recruit and retain the best faculty members to educate the next generation of planners and conduct vital research
  - Program Support** - To jump-start the program and begin recruitment efforts for the first class of students, expected in fall 2010
- For more information or to make a gift, please contact department Chair Mary Ann Feldheim at **407-823-2604** or **mfeldhei@mail.ucf.edu**.

### A Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning at UCF

A master's degree provides the best training for planners and is required for most entry-level positions.\*

With your help, UCF can launch the first master's degree program in urban and regional planning in Central Florida.

\*Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09 Edition, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2008