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MEETING NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on September 27, 2012. The meeting will be held at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida. Dinner will start at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

*Please call the Council at (352) 955-2200, or (800) 226-0690, or email laine@ncfrpc.org by September 24th to let us know if you will be attending the meeting. (You can call after hours and leave a message on voice mail too.) **THANK YOU.***

(Location Map on Back)

Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)

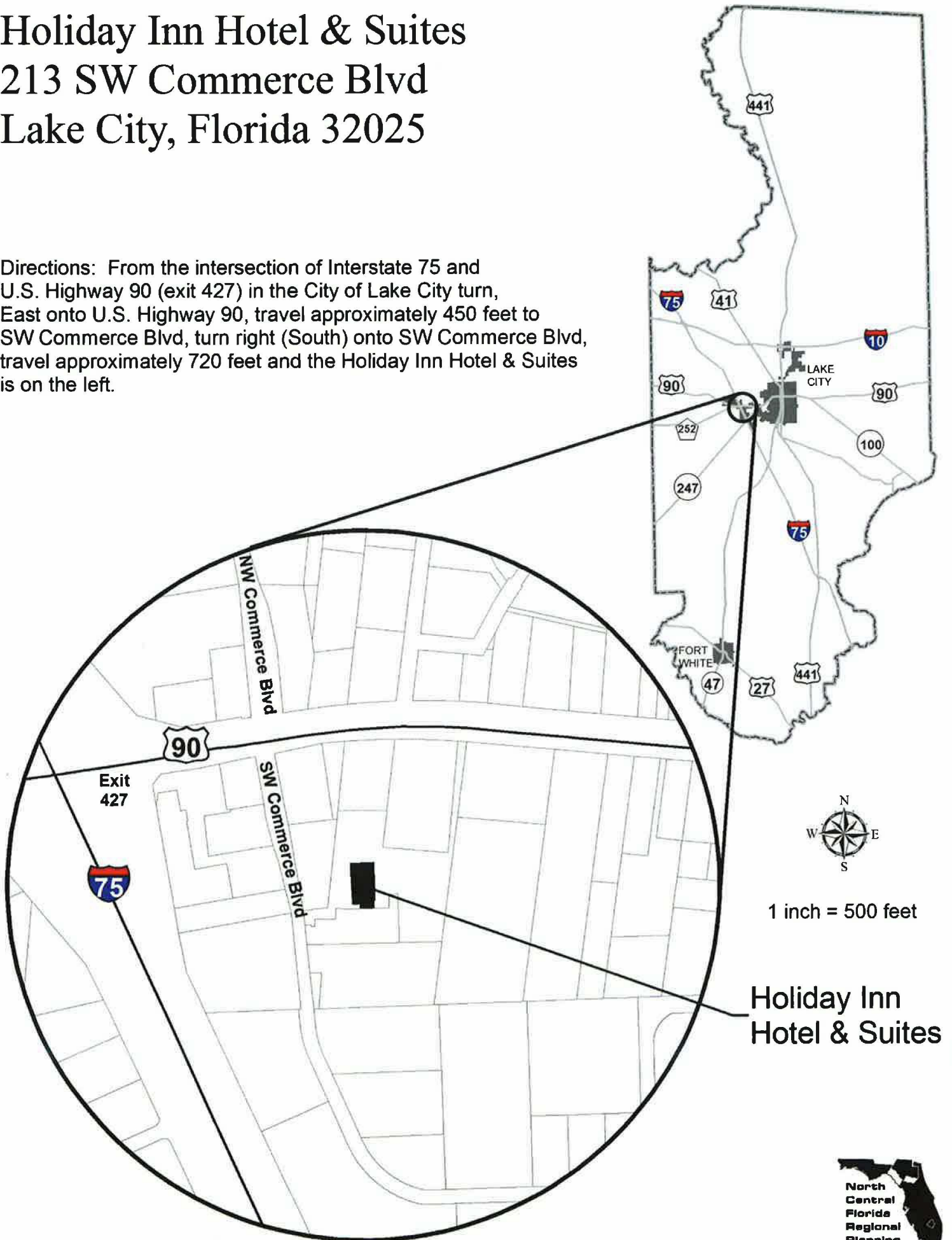
Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites

213 SW Commerce Blvd

Lake City, Florida 32025

Directions: From the intersection of Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 90 (exit 427) in the City of Lake City turn, East onto U.S. Highway 90, travel approximately 450 feet to SW Commerce Blvd, turn right (South) onto SW Commerce Blvd, travel approximately 720 feet and the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites is on the left.





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AGENDA

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard
Lake City, Florida

September 27, 2012
7:30 p.m.

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

August 30, 2012
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Jim Catron, City of Madison
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rusty DePratter, Columbia County
Alphonso Dowdell, City of Perry
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Ronny Morgan, Hamilton County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Charles Williams, Hamilton County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Michael Escalante
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jean Strong

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Baird, Alachua County
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Todd Chase, City of Gainesville
Thomas Collett, Alachua County
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, City of Gainesville
Jordan Marlowe, City of Newberry
Charles Maulsby, Taylor County
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County
Mark Wiggins, Taylor County
Mike Williams, Madison County

OTHERS PRESENT

Sylvia Catron
Diana Davis
Jon Dinges, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Dr. Barbara Foster, Florida Dept. of
Economic Opportunity
Bill Henderson, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer
Dug Jones, Santa Fe College
Eddie Martin
Joe Riddick

Board Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Catron and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. She stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee member Dug Jones, Associate Vice-President for Economic Development, Santa Fe College. She also introduced and welcomed Jon Dinges, Director of Water Supply and Resource Management, Suwannee River Water Management District, Stew Lilker, Publisher of the Columbia County Observer, former Council members Eddie Martin and Joe Riddick, who both previously served as Council Chairs, Sylvia Catron, wife of Council member Jim Catron and Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis.

Chair Thomas asked members and staff present to please stand and introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 26, 2012

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the July 26, 2012 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Spooner made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2012 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Local Government Comprehensive Planning Assistance Services Agreements - Fiscal Year 2012-13
- B. Hazardous Waste Monitoring Verification and Notification Services Agreements - Fiscal Year 2012-13
- C. Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management to Update Hazards Analyses - Fiscal Year 2012-13
- D. Agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council for Energy Assurance Study
- E. Financial Transactions Authorization Resolutions

Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wells, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

- Chair Thomas reported that there were no new members present to introduce.

B. Employee Certificate of Service - Michael Escalante

Mr. Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Michael Escalante, who joined the Council staff on July 6, 1987. Mr. Escalante currently serves as Senior Planner in the Transportation Planning Program. Chair Thomas presented a 25-year Certificate of Service and a 25-year service pin to Mr. Escalante. Mr. Koons and Chair Thomas thanked him for his years of dedicated service to the Council.

V. GUEST SPEAKER - Barbara Foster, Ph.D., Coordinator for Planning, Program Evaluation and Partnerships, Division of Strategic Business Development, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

Mr. Koons introduced and welcomed Dr. Barbara Foster, Coordinator for Planning, Program Evaluation and Partnerships, Division of Strategic Business Development, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Dr. Foster gave an overview of the Five-Year Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development which uses the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars for Florida's Future Economy: Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places as the organizing framework for the Plan. Chair Thomas thanked Dr. Foster for her presentation.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Employee Dental Insurance

Mr. Koons reported that at the July 26, 2012 Council meeting, the Council voted to change dental insurance to a voluntary insurance premium for both employee and dependent coverage with the employees paying 100 percent of the premium effective September 1, 2012. He added that for the period beginning September 1, 2011, United Healthcare dental coverage was under Plan P3416, which required a minimum of 75 percent of employees to be enrolled in the Plan. Since less than 75 percent of employees opted to renew dental coverage with Plan P3416, alternative plans with comparable coverage were reviewed for dental insurance that only require at least two employees to enroll. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that Plan F5430 be offered as the voluntary dental plan for the period beginning September 1, 2012.

ACTION: Commissioner Wells made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Thomas to approve offering United Healthcare dental insurance Plan F5430 as a voluntary option for both employee and dependent coverage with the employees paying 100 percent of the premium effective September 1, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Medicare Insurance

Mr. Koons reported there are three Council employees that will reach the age of 65 during the 12-month health insurance plan year that begins September 1, 2012. He added that once individuals reach the age of 65, they are required to register for Medicare health insurance. Mr. Koons stated that Medicare Part A Hospitalization Coverage has no premium cost associated with it. He added that Medicare Part B Physician Coverage has a cost of \$99.90 per month, Medicare Part D Medication Coverage offered by United Healthcare has a cost of \$40.80 per month cost and Medicare Part F Supplemental Coverage offered by United Healthcare has a cost of \$161.75 per month with the total cost for Parts B, D and F being \$302.45 per month.

Mr. Koons stated that since 100 percent of Medicare premiums are less than 75 percent of United Healthcare Insurance Plan 9FU premiums, the Executive Committee recommended that the Council offer employees 65 years of age or older the option of enrolling in the Council United Healthcare Insurance Plan 9FU with the Council paying 75 percent of the premium and the employee paying 25 percent of the premium for employee or employee and spouse coverage or enrolling in Medicare Part B and Medicare Part D and F offered by United Healthcare and having the Council pay 100 percent of the premium for employee coverage.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Spooner made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant to offer employees 65 years of age or older the option of enrolling in the United Healthcare Insurance Plan 9FU with the Council paying 75 percent of the premium and the employee paying 25 percent of the premium for employee or employee and spouse coverage or enrolling in Medicare Part B and Medicare Part D and F offered by United Healthcare and having the Council pay 100 percent of the premium for employee coverage. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Chair Sandra Haas gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum present and reviewed one local government comprehensive plan amendment.

#83 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Ms. Haas stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the comprehensive plan, as amended, does not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional

Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the City and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

ACTION: Ms. Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hawkins, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #83, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. He stated that the accomplishments of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven, will be reported each month at the Council meeting. He added that the July 2012 report included in the Council meeting packet addresses outreach, resource development/capacity building, legislative and administrative activities. He also highlighted several of the accomplishments listed in the report.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to develop a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. He further stated that the Scorecard reports metrics for each of the Six Pillars benchmarked to the other 49 states. The Six Pillars are Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places. He added that the Scorecard will be presented each month at the Council meeting. He reviewed the August 2012 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Energy in North Florida Workshops

Mr. Koons reported that regional planning councils in Florida, in association with the U.S. Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Energy and the Florida Office of Energy, are reviewing energy issues in their regions and identifying recommendations for goals, strategies and measures to be assembled into a statewide energy resiliency strategy. Two workshops are being hosted jointly by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Northeast Florida Regional Council on August 13, 2012 and August 29, 2012, respectively. Mr. Koons stated that the Council hosted Workshop One at the Gainesville Regional Utilities Eastside Operations Center in

Gainesville, Florida on August 13, 2012. He added that participants learned about the current state of energy and vulnerabilities in north Florida.

Mr. Koons further reported that Workshop Two will be hosted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council on August 29, 2012 in Jacksonville. An overview will be given of the August 15-17, 2012 Florida Energy Summit. He added that breakout groups from Workshop One will reconvene and discuss goals, strategies and measures recommended for north Florida. All participants will then prioritize the recommendations and discuss next steps.

D. North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

Mr. Koons reported that in September 2011, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection entered into an agreement that formalizes the coordination of water resource management in north Florida. He added that the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, which was formed in May 2012, serves as an advisory body to offer viewpoints from stakeholder groups to the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to help address the water supply issues of north Florida. He stated that Stakeholder Committee representatives closely coordinate with the constituencies they represent, as well as being responsive to the interested public.

Mr. Jon Dinges, Director of Water Supply and Resource Management, Suwannee River Water Management District briefly reported on the August 28, 2012 meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee which was held in the City Commission Chambers in the Alachua City Hall. He added that another meeting will be held in September 2012. He reported that Committee meetings are open to the public so that stakeholders beyond the Committee membership can attend and participate.

E. Our Water Our Future Seminar

Mr. Koons stated that Florida Gateway College and the Lake City - Columbia County Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring an evening to discuss our water, our future where community leaders will share their vision for a water ethic that can be taken to heart. Featured speakers include nature photographer John Moran who will share his images and Dr. Robert Knight, Director of the Florida Springs Institute. He stated that the event is being held on September 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Alfonso Levy Performing Arts Center at the Florida Gateway College, 149 Southeast College Place, Lake City, Florida.

F. Tropical Storm Debby - Post-Disaster Redevelopment

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the Florida Division of Emergency Management are meeting with local officials and community representatives in Live Oak and Suwannee County to develop a post-disaster redevelopment to address the impacts of Tropical Storm Debby. He stated that on July 24, 2012, Hunting Deutsch, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and several staff from the Department and the Florida Division of Emergency

Management toured the flood damage in downtown Live Oak and surrounding residential neighborhoods, and met with local officials and community representatives. On August 20, 2012, Department staff held a second meeting in Live Oak to continue discussions to identify stakeholders and develop a year-long plan redevelopment process. Mr. Koons stated that at the August 20, 2012 meeting, the Council was identified as a stakeholder participant for the preparation of the post-disaster redevelopment plan.

G. Florida Transportation Commission Governance Workshop

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Transportation Commission was created in 1987, under Section 20.23, Florida Statutes, to serve as an oversight board for the Florida Department of Transportation. He stated that the mission of the Florida Transportation Commission is to provide leadership in meeting Florida's transportation needs through policy guidance on issues of statewide importance and by maintaining oversight and public accountability for the Department and other statutorily specified transportation authorities

Mr. Koons reported that the commissioners represent transportation needs of the state as a whole and may not subordinate state needs to those of any particular area. The Commission is prohibited from involvement in day-to-day operations of the Department. The Commission's primary functions are to:

- Review major transportation policy initiatives or revisions submitted by the Department pursuant to law;
- Recommend major transportation policy to the Governor and Legislature (Commission has recommended policies related to public transit, funding, road jurisdiction and distribution of funds to Department District offices);
- Serve as an oversight body for the Department (review performance, review work program, monitor highway safety, monitor financial status, and review budget requests and long-range plan);
- Serve as an oversight body for transportation authorities and monitor and report on the efficiency, productivity and management of those authorities created under Chapters 343 and 348, Florida Statutes; and
- Serve as nominating Commission in the selection of the Secretary of Transportation (Governor appoints Secretary from among three candidates nominated by the Commission).

Mr. Koons reported that at its meeting held on July 12, 2012, the Commission decided to review transportation regional governance. He added that they will examine the transportation planning roles and responsibilities of the Department, metropolitan transportation organizations and regional planning councils as well as regional geographic boundaries of each of these entities. The Commission has invited the Florida Regional Councils Association to make a presentation concerning the transportation planning roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils at its workshop to be held in Tallahassee

on September 19, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Florida Department of Transportation headquarters in Tallahassee, Florida.

H. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Outstanding Coordinating Board of the Year Award - Alachua County

Mr. Koons reported that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area is the designated official planning agency, pursuant to the Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, for Alachua County. He added that the designated official planning agency's responsibilities include Transportation Disadvantaged Program planning and providing the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards with staff support and resources to enable them to fulfill their responsibilities. The Council provides staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area and the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Mr. Koons stated that on August 1, 2012, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged awarded the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board the Outstanding Coordinating Board of the Year Award at the 20th Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Awards Dinner held in Orlando, Florida.

I. Regional Directory

Mr. Koons stated that, pursuant to Council authorization, staff prepared an updated regional directory of local governments in the region and state and federal agencies. He reported that earlier this week, the 2012 Regional Directory was mailed to local, regional, state and federal officials, and planning and related agencies. He added that a downloadable version of the 2012 Regional Directory in pdf format is also available on the Council website at www.ncfrpc.org.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on September 27, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

9/27/12

Date



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Guest Speaker

In 2006, the Florida Department of Transportation, in cooperation with partners and stakeholders throughout the state, developed the Future Corridors Action Plan, which provided policy direction for a statewide network of high-speed, high-capacity corridors critical to the continued growth and development of the state over the next 50 years. In addition, the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan calls for Florida to make its most significant transportation decisions in the context of long-range visions about the future growth and development of Florida's regions, and the state as a whole.

Bob Romig, State Transportation Development Administrator, Florida Department of Transportation, will be the guest speaker for the September 27, 2012 Council meeting. He will be making a presentation on Florida's Future Corridors Initiative.

Attachments

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What is the goal?

To plan and develop a transportation system that maintains Florida's economic competitiveness by meeting current and future mobility needs by:

- Coordinating long-range transportation and development plans and visions.
- Providing solutions for or alternatives to major highways that are congested today.
- Planning new corridors to meet growing demand for moving people and freight, support economic development opportunities, and improve regional connectivity.

Why is this important?

Florida's population is expected to increase 37 percent by 2040, visitors 44 percent by 2040, and freight tonnage 39 percent by 2035. If current development and investment patterns continue, it is anticipated that by 2035 virtually all of Florida's major highway corridors in our urban, transitioning, and rural areas will be congested during peak periods.

Corridor study areas

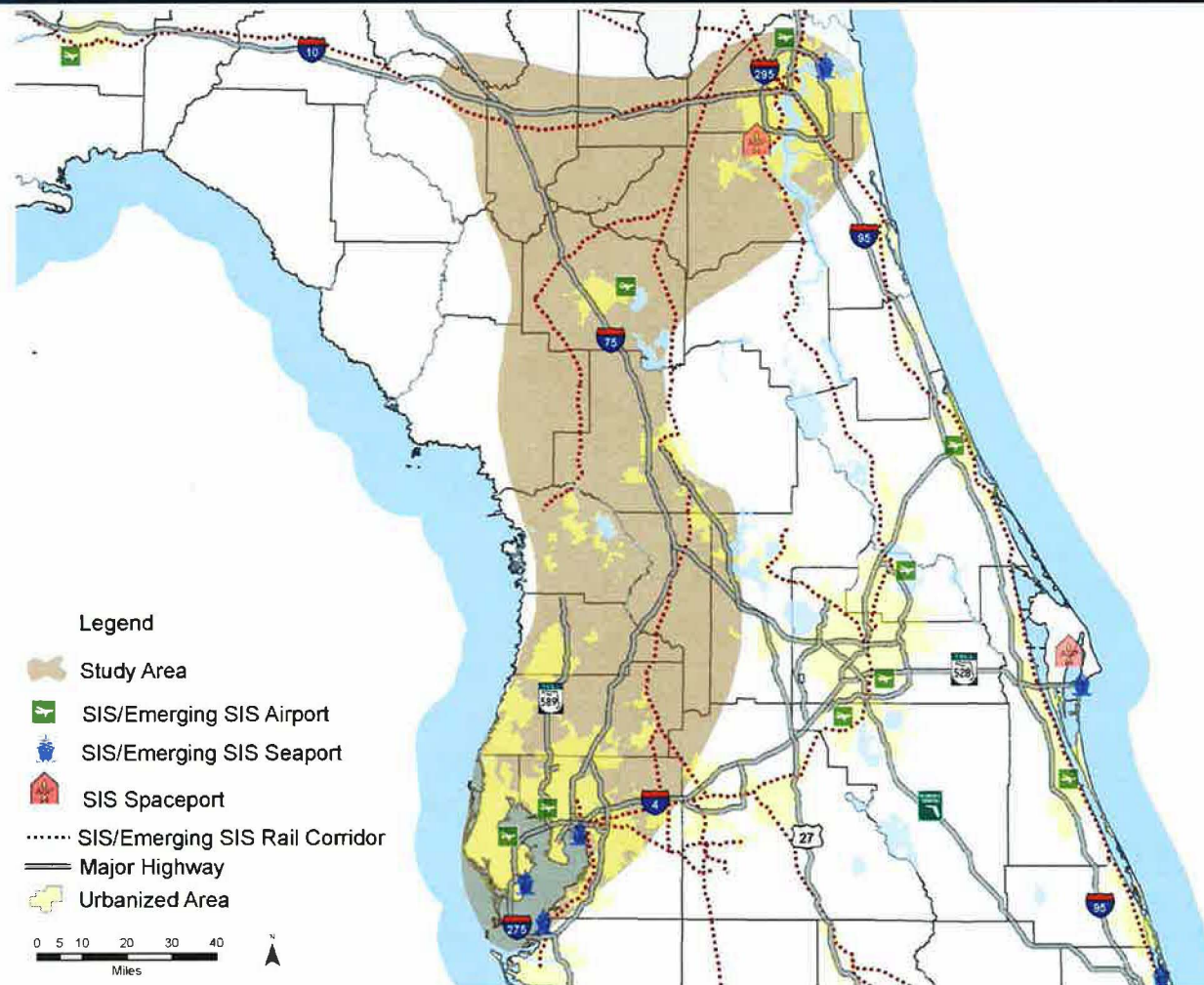
Study areas have been identified where FDOT could increase the capacity of the transportation system by improving existing corridors or, where feasible, developing new corridors. These study areas represent regions that are not well connected today, or where existing facilities do not have the capacity to support anticipated growth in demand over the next 50 years. The initial study areas include:

- Tampa Bay to Northeast Florida: The need for this study is based on increasing safety and congestion concerns along I-75 north of Wildwood and the need to improve connectivity for people and freight between two large regions that are not directly connected today.
- Tampa Bay to Central Florida: This study area will explore ways to better connect Tampa Bay to Central Florida and the Space Coast. This emerging "superregion" is now the 10th largest region in the United States, with forecasts of strong growth over the next 50 years.
- Southeast Florida through the Heartland to Central Florida: The Heartland region has potential for great change over the next few decades. In particular, there is potential for increased freight flows from the Southeast Florida ports, connections to major freight/distribution sites including the development of manufacturing sites and Intermodal Logistics Centers (ILC), and enhanced access to other markets in Florida and other states.
- Southwest Florida through the Heartland to Central Florida: This study area will examine the need for a more direct connection between Southwest Florida and Central Florida. As the economy recovers there may be a need to provide an alternative to I-75 to improve connectivity and mobility for both people and freight. Future investment will be guided by the Heartland 2060 visioning process and other long-range planning efforts.

Key activities

- Supporting on-going statewide and regional visioning processes.
- Continuing to coordinate with agencies and conducting outreach to stakeholders including environmental/land use advocates, local governments, business community, economic development organizations, public and private landowners, utilities, etc.
- Conducting alternatives studies on existing corridors and developing concept reports for the priority study areas. The department will also conduct pilot evaluation studies to test the corridor planning process at a regional level and explore potential partnerships with local governments, landowners, and utilities.
- Working with public and private landowners to understand future development and conservation needs and to develop example agreements for reservation or dedication of right-of-way for future corridors.

Tampa Bay-Northeast Florida Study Area





Posted on Wed, Aug. 08, 2012

Getting the most from our transportation system

BY ANANTH PRASAD

www.dot.state.fl

How can Florida have the best transportation system in the nation? Last summer I unveiled Florida's Transportation Vision for the 21st Century — our state's roadmap for the future. This plan recognized that for our state to maintain its competitive edge in the nation's economy, we must not only maintain our existing system at the highest levels, but we must also have a transportation network to address our growing needs for many decades to come.

To further this vision, the state Department of Transportation began a "Future Corridors" initiative which will include existing transportation improvements, as well as new transportation corridors to accommodate highways where feasible and appropriate.

As we emerge from the recession, Florida is expected to regain its position as one of the nation's fastest growing states. Population, visitors and freight tonnage are projected to grow 35 percent or more between 2010 and 2040.

This means our transportation system will need to move more people and freight over the next several decades to support our economic growth and quality of life. Clearly, our existing highway system will not be able to keep up with this increase in demand.

The core of our approach is to get the most we can from our existing highway corridors, which are the backbone of our economy. Our highly successful managed lanes project called 95 Express in South Florida benefits all users.

It makes I-95 a better experience for drivers, residents, and transit users alike by creating more travel options and encouraging the use of ridesharing and transit alternatives.

We want to expand managed lanes in Florida, so our travelers in other areas of the state can see those same benefits.

Our transportation corridors will need to accommodate not just automobiles, but rail facilities, gas and electric transmission lines, fiber optics and other technologies to minimize the impact on adjacent lands. We may need better connections between some regions, such as Tampa Bay to Jacksonville or between Southeast Florida and Central Florida.

FDOT is engaging all its stakeholders by working with our state agency partners such as the Department of Economic Opportunity, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to coordinate our plans and determine what critical statewide assets need to be protected.

We are also reaching out to major landowners in the state to understand their plans and visions for growth in the future. In addition, we are talking to environmental organizations, business organizations, gas and electric utilities, local governments, and land use advocates to better understand how they envision the future of Florida. It is a long-term view — a multi-tiered approach to planning our next steps.

We can accomplish this vision only if we work together to meet our transportation challenges by meeting our future mobility needs and supporting appropriate development patterns while also protecting our fragile environmental assets. Transportation doesn't drive growth, but when growth happens, we need to be there with the transportation infrastructure to support it. We invite the input of all Floridians as we continue to develop our transportation vision

Ananth Prasad is secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant Fiscal Year 2011
 Administrative Services Agreement - Suwannee County

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to sign an agreement with Suwannee County to provide Community Development Block Grant administrative technical assistance services for their Economic Development Project for a fixed fee amount of \$58,000.

BACKGROUND:

The Council proposes to enter into a technical assistance agreement with Suwannee County to provide assistance with the administration of their Fiscal Year 2011 Community Development Block Grant Economic Development Project. This agreement will be funded with Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The amount of the administrative technical assistance services agreement with the County will be a fixed fee amount of \$58,000.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Purchase Order with Northeast Florida Regional Council
to Assist with Interoperable Communications Exercise Support

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Council to assist the Northeast Florida Regional Council with interoperable communications exercise implementation, planning and documentation pursuant to a purchase order for an estimated fixed fee amount of \$20,000.

BACKGROUND:

As you know, Council staff periodically works with other regional planning councils assisting with emergency preparedness exercises. In October 2012, the Northeast Regional Council and Apalachee Regional Planning Council are conducting a multijurisdictional interoperable communications exercise involving both Regional Domestic Security Task Force Region 2 (Tallahassee) and Region 3 (Jacksonville). The exercise will involve communications during a slow-speed law enforcement chase across north Florida and two Georgia counties, as well as coordinated communications efforts at fixed locations, including Columbia County.

The Council has been asked to provide assistance for exercise support for this emergency preparedness exercise. The Council will be paid an estimated fixed fee amount of \$20,000 by the Northeast Florida Regional Council for these services.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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IV.C.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Chambers of Commerce and Florida Chamber Foundation Membership

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the payment of membership fees annually for the Council to be a member of the 16 chambers of commerce in the north central Florida region and the Florida Chamber Foundation.

BACKGROUND:

Chambers of commerce are the voice of businesses in the north central Florida region and the Florida Chamber Foundation, the research organization affiliated with the Florida Chamber of Commerce, works to secure Florida's future economy. Through research and leadership, the Florida Chamber Foundation, in partnership with state business leaders, is developing a long-term strategic plan for the state.

The Foundation's Six Pillars Caucus System is a qualitative research program aimed to engage the best and brightest minds in the state to develop a plan for Florida's future economy that includes high-wage jobs, global competitiveness and vibrant communities by the year 2030. As you know, I was appointed to the Foundation's Six Pillar Caucus System in 2011 and currently participate as a member of the Innovation and Economic Development Pillar.

In order to increase the Council's engagement with the business community across the north central Florida region and the state, it is recommended that the Council become a member of the 16 chambers of commerce (see attached list) in the north central Florida region and the Florida Chamber Foundation at an estimated annual cost of \$6,700.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR AREA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

September 27, 2012

Alachua County

Alachua Chamber of Commerce
Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce
Hawthorne Area Chamber of Commerce
High Springs Chamber of Commerce
Micanopy Chamber of Commerce
Newberry/Jonesville Chamber of Commerce

Bradford County/Union County

North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce

Columbia County

Lake City/Columbia County Chamber of Commerce

Dixie County

Dixie County Chamber of Commerce

Gilchrist County

Gilchrist County Chamber of Commerce

Hamilton County

Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce

Lafayette County

Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce

Madison County

Greater Madison County Chamber of Commerce

Suwannee County

Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce

Taylor County

Taylor County/Perry Chamber of Commerce
Steinhatchee River Chamber of Commerce

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Engagement Letter for Fiscal Year 2011-12 Audit

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to execute an engagement letter with the auditing firm of Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants, of Lake City to conduct the Fiscal Year 2011-12 audit of the Council's accounts and the Council's Employee Pension Plan for a lump sum fee for this service of \$14,295.

BACKGROUND:

As you know, the Council selects an auditor for a three-year period, with the condition that an engagement letter be approved each year to ensure that the auditor is conducting the audits in an acceptable manner. The current auditor was selected in 2010 and has conducted two audits under this series. Therefore, it is recommended that a third engagement letter be entered into for the audit of Fiscal Year 2011-12.

The proposed letter of engagement is attached for your information. The lump sum fee has been set at \$14,295 in accordance with the proposal made by the auditor to adjust the fee each year in an amount equal to the percent increase/decrease of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, not to exceed five percent each year. This fee is \$199 more than the fee charged for the Fiscal Year 2010-11 audit.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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Powell & Jones
Certified Public Accountants

Richard C. Powell, Jr., CPA
Marian Jones Powell, CPA

1059 S.W. Main Blvd.
Lake City, Florida 32025
386 / 755-4200

Fax: 386 / 719-5504
cpowellandjones@bellsouth.net

August 28, 2012

**North Central Florida Regional
Planning Council
2009 N.W. 67th Place, Suite A
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603**

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (the Council) for the year ended September 30, 2012. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, which collectively comprise the entity's basic financial statements, of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council as of and for the year ended September 30, 2012. The scope of the audit will also include the Council's Employee Pension Plan Trust, its component unit. The following supplementary information accompanying the basic financial statements is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited.

1. Management's Discussion and Analysis

Also, the following additional information accompanying the basic financial statements will be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements upon which we will provide an opinion in relation to the basic financial statements.

2. Schedule of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance

Audit Objectives

The objective of our audit is the expression of an opinion as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the additional information referred to in the first paragraph when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and will include tests of the accounting records of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. If our opinion on the financial statements is other than unqualified, we will fully discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or to issue a report as a result of this engagement.

We will also provide a report (that does not include an opinion) on internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements as required by *Government Auditing Standards*. The reports on internal control and compliance will each include a statement that the report is intended solely for the information and

use of the audit committee, management, and specific legislative or regulatory bodies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control and for compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related cost of the controls. The objectives of internal control are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorizations and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management is responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us. We understand that you will provide us with such information required for our audit and that you are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Management's responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the representation letter that effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the fair presentation in the financial statements of the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and its component unit, and the respective changes in financial position in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud, or illegal acts affecting the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud, or illegal acts affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws and regulations and for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud, illegal acts, violations of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse that we may report.

As part of the audit, we will prepare a draft of your financial statements and related notes. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, you will be required to review and approve those financial statements prior to their issuance and have a responsibility to be in a position in fact and appearance to make an informed judgment on those financial statements. Further, you are required to designate a qualified management-level individual to be responsible and accountable for overseeing our services.

Audit Procedures – General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of

transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect material misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform you of any material errors and any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform you of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council's attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from management about the financial statements and related matters.

Audit Procedures – Internal Controls

In planning and performing our audit, we will consider the internal control sufficient to plan the audit in order to determine the nature, timing, and extent of our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council's financial statements.

We will obtain an understanding of the design of the relevant controls and whether they have been placed in operation, and we will assess control risk. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Tests of controls are required only if control risk is assessed below the maximum level. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify reportable conditions. However, we will inform the governing body or audit committee of any matters involving internal control and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of

management in the financial statements. We will also inform you of any nonreportable conditions or other matters involving internal control, if any, as required by *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit Procedures – Compliance

Identifying and ensuring that North Central Florida Regional Planning Council complies with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants is the responsibility of management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion.

Audit Administration, Fees, and Other

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Powell & Jones, CPAs and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to grantor agencies or their designees for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Powell & Jones, CPAs personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of six years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by grantor agencies. If we are aware that a federal or state awarding agency or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the parties contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

We expect to begin our audit on approximately December 1, 2012, and to issue our report on approximately February 1, 2013, in accordance with your requested schedule.

Compensation

The fees for this engagement will be as follows:

	<u>09-30-12</u>
Basic Services	
Prior year fee	\$ 14,096
CPI-U adjustment - 1.41%	199
	<u>\$ 14,295</u>

If unusual circumstances are encountered making it necessary for us to do added work in the year, we shall immediately report such conditions to the Council and both parties may negotiate such additional compensation as appears justified.

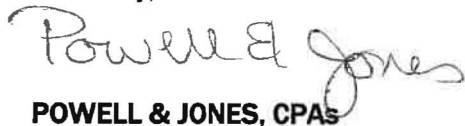
Periodic progress billings shall be submitted as actual work is completed on the audit, but not more often than monthly. Progress billings shall be submitted in such form as to provide the Council with sufficient information to ascertain that at any point total billings will not exceed the proportional fee earned for the audit.

This agreement is specifically renewable based upon our proposal submitted to you.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our 2011 peer review report and letter of comments have been previously furnished to you, and is also available on our website at PowellandJonesCPA.com.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Sincerely,


POWELL & JONES, CPAs

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

By: _____
 Lorene J. Thomas

Title: Chair

Date: _____



V.B.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Certificate of Service for Council Employee

As you know, the Council amended its Personnel Regulations to establish an Employee Length of Service Program.

The strength and stability of an organization is based upon the experience and institutional knowledge of its senior, long-serving employees. Marlie Sanderson has been an employee of the Council since August 8, 1977 and currently serves as Assistant Executive Director and Director of Transportation Planning. As a token of appreciation for 35 years of service to the Council and in recognition of his dedicated service to the Council, the attached certificate of service is being presented to Mr. Sanderson.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

certificate sanderson 35 years mem.docx

Certificate of Service

has been awarded to

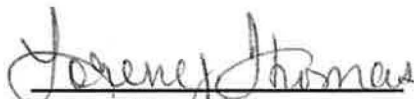
Marlie J. Sanderson


as an expression of appreciation for 35 years of dedicated service as an employee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
from August 8, 1977 to August 8, 2012.

35 Years

Witness the Seal of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
and the signatures of its duly authorized officers thereunto affixed.

Given this Twenty-Seventh day of September in the year Two Thousand Twelve.


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair


Kenrick Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer





V.C.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Roy Ellis

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Roy Ellis.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for his service on the Council since January 2010 and in recognition of his commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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September 28, 2012

Honorable Roy Ellis
6156 Southeast Farm Road
Lee, FL 32059

Dear Roy:

On behalf of the entire Planning Council, I want to express our regret that you will no longer be representing Madison County on the Council. Certainly your interest in the organization and your concern for growth and development in the north central Florida area has made you a valuable asset to the Council.

As a token of our appreciation for your service, the Council, at its regular meeting on September 27, 2012, unanimously approved the enclosed resolution. I hope this adequately expresses the feeling we have for the loss of your leadership as a Council member.

Sincerely,

Lorene J. Thomas
Chair

Enclosure

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Resolution

OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Roy Ellis has been representing Madison County on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since January 2000;

WHEREAS, Roy Ellis has ably discharged his duties throughout his association with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Roy Ellis for the dedicated service he has rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and for his concern for the future growth and development of this area and the State of Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for all citizens of the region to view and recognize the accomplishments and service of Roy Ellis.

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

ATTEST:

Kenrick Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2012.





V. D.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

SUBJECT: Executive Director Re-elected Chairman of
Florida Regional Councils Association
Executive Directors Advisory Committee

The executive directors of the 11 regional planning councils in Florida recently elected our executive director, Scott Koons, for a fourth consecutive one-year term as Chairman of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee.

The Florida Regional Councils Association is a joint organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The purpose and intent of the organization is to:

- Ensure regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the State of Florida, its local governments and the citizens they serve;
- Ensure regional planning councils are consensus builders and problem solvers, and serve as conveners of the region by helping to articulate those multi-jurisdictional issues that need resolution;
- Encourage and promote opportunities for regional planning councils to become partners in state programs and initiatives, while promoting the unique themes of each region within the state and legislative environments;
- Monitor substantive state and federal legislative issues for the benefit of its members and promote mutually supportive policy positions among the regional planning councils;
- Represent Florida's regional planning councils in national organizations, such as the National Association of Regional Councils, National Association of Development Organizations, and SouthEast Regional Directors Institute; and
- Foster relationships and partnerships with the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, Small County Coalition, Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council, Water Management Districts, Governor's Office, state agencies and other appropriate organizations which share mutual goals, interests and programs with the regional planning councils.

Council Members
September 20, 2012
Page 2

The 11 regional planning council executive directors serve as an advisory committee to the Policy Board. The Committee meets throughout the year at different locations around the state. Its primary function is to inform and advise the Policy Board on issues and problems that require action. The Committee also serves as a resource, provides a central point of communication for state agencies and other statewide organizations, resolves problems, and addresses issues of statewide importance that may affect regional planning councils, the regions and Florida's local governments.

Congratulations to Scott.




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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Resolution Recognizing Service of
 Philip T. Trader as Florida Economic Development Representative,
 Atlanta Region, U.S. Economic Development Administration

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution recognizing the service of Philip T. Trader as Florida Economic Development Representative, Atlanta Region, U.S. Economic Development Administration.

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the service of Philip T. Trader as Florida Economic Development Representative, Atlanta Region, U.S. Economic Development Administration from 2001 to 2012, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

Mr. Trader has been a long-time advocate for the U.S. Economic Development Administration mission in support of the region's economically distressed communities and the work the Council performs as a U.S. Economic Development Administration designated economic development district.

Under his leadership, the U.S. Economic Development Administration has made significant investments in creating jobs in Florida. From Fiscal Year 2000 to Fiscal Year 2011, the U.S. Economic Development Administration has invested \$125,874,580 in 213 projects in the State of Florida to help create/retain an estimated 25,507 jobs and generate an estimated \$2,128,513,120 in private investment.

Recent U.S. Economic Development Administration investments in the north central Florida region have included \$1.4 million for the Gainesville Technology Enterprise Center, with \$255 million total economic impact benefiting 17 companies, \$2.0 million for the City of Perry wastewater system resulting in 555 retained jobs and \$32.3 million in private investment, \$8.2 million for the Innovation Hub at the University of Florida resulting in an estimated 300 jobs, and \$1.7 million for the Santa Fe College Perry Center for Emerging Technologies resulting in the training of 120 healthcare and life sciences professionals per year.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2012-

**RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF
PHILIP T. TRADER
AS
FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
ATLANTA REGION,
U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION**

WHEREAS, Philip T. Trader has recently completed a 35-year career in the public and private sector, including serving as an Economic Development Specialist for the Southeast Georgia Area Planning and Development Commission;

WHEREAS, Philip T. Trader has provided 11 years of distinguished service as an employee of the Atlanta Region, U.S. Economic Development Administration;

WHEREAS, Philip T. Trader also served as Florida Economic Development Representative, Atlanta Region, U.S. Economic Development Administration;

WHEREAS, Philip T. Trader is a graduate of the University of London with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics;

WHEREAS, Philip T. Trader retired as the Florida Economic Development Representative of the Atlanta Region of the U.S. Economic Development Administration on August 31, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby recognizes the outstanding contributions made to the communities and citizens of north central Florida by Philip T. Trader as a dedicated public servant.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of September 2012.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

Kenrick Thomas.
Secretary-Treasurer

Lorene J. Thomas
Chair




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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Proclamation Declaring October 2012 as Community Planning Month

RECOMMENDATION:

Proclaim October 2012 as Community Planning Month by adopting the attached proclamation.

BACKGROUND:

The month of October 2012 has been chosen to celebrate National Community Planning Month. The American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, endorse National Community Planning Month as an opportunity to highlight the contributions sound planning and plan implementation make to the quality of life in communities and the environment.

It is recommended that the Council join in the celebration of National Community Planning Month by designating October 2012 as Community Planning Month to recognize the valuable contributions made by professional community and regional planners and to extend its thanks for the continued commitment to public service by these professionals (see attached Proclamation).

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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PROCLAMATION

DECLARING OCTOBER 2012 AS COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

WHEREAS, change is constant and affects all cities, towns, suburbs, counties, rural areas, regions, and other places; and

WHEREAS, community planning and plans can help manage this change in a way that provides better choices for how people work and live; and

WHEREAS, community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in making choices that determine the future of their community; and

WHEREAS, the full benefits of planning requires public officials and citizens who understand, support, and demand excellence in planning and plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, the month of October 2012 is designated as National Community Planning Month throughout the United States of America and its territories; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Community Planning Month provides an opportunity to publicly recognize the participation and dedication of the members of planning and zoning boards and other citizen planners who have contributed their time and expertise to the improvement of the north central Florida region; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Community Planning Month provides an opportunity to publicly recognize the many valuable contributions made by professional community and regional planners in the north central Florida region and extend our heartfelt thanks for the continued commitment to public service by these professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council that the month of October 2012 is hereby proclaimed as ***Community Planning Month*** throughout the north central Florida region in conjunction with the celebration of National Community Planning Month.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of September 2012.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Kenrick Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members
 FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
 SUBJECT: Regional Visioning Process

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize staff to convene and coordinate a regional visioning process for north central Florida.

BACKGROUND:

Regional visioning initiatives bring together elected officials, economic development organizations, workforce boards, educational institutions, environmental and community representatives to develop a vision for the future based upon shared core values. A regional visioning process provides a framework for working together to accommodate growth, protect resources, maintain economic vitality and enhance quality of life while adding value to communities within a region.

Over the past decade, the following nine regional visioning processes have been completed, are currently underway or have been proposed (see attached map).

- First Coast
- Heartland 2060
- How Shall We Grow?
- One Bay
- Our Region Tomorrow
- People Prosperity Preservation
- Seven Counties 50 Years
- Sustainable Emerald Coast
- Sustainable Treasure Coast

Regional visioning processes have taken place in all major metropolitan regions and some small metropolitan/rural regions. However, due to the lack of financial resources, a regional visioning process has not occurred in north central Florida.

As you know, the Florida Department of Transportation has reinitiated its Florida's Future Corridors initiative. This initiative will

- Transform Strategic Intermodal System facilities to provide multimodal options for moving people and freight;
- Improve connectivity to existing and emerging regional employment centers and economically productive rural lands; and
- Make responsible decisions about where transportation facilities are located.

A guiding principle of the Department's future corridors initiative is that it be based upon regional visions throughout the state. Since a regional vision does not currently exist for the north central Florida region, the Department has asked the Council to be the convener and coordinator for a regional visioning process.

The Department has authorized the use of one of its general planning assistance consultants, Cambridge Systematics, Inc. to assist with this effort. Cambridge Systematics, Inc. has been involved in several of the regional visioning initiatives throughout Florida and played a significant role in assisting the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in the preparation of the recently completed Five-Year Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

At the July 26, 2012 Council meeting, staff was authorized to work with the Florida Department of Transportation to develop a scope, schedule and funding mechanism for a regional visioning process. Please find attached a scope, including purpose, outcomes, approach, geographic area, organizational structure, schedule and budget for the regional visioning process.

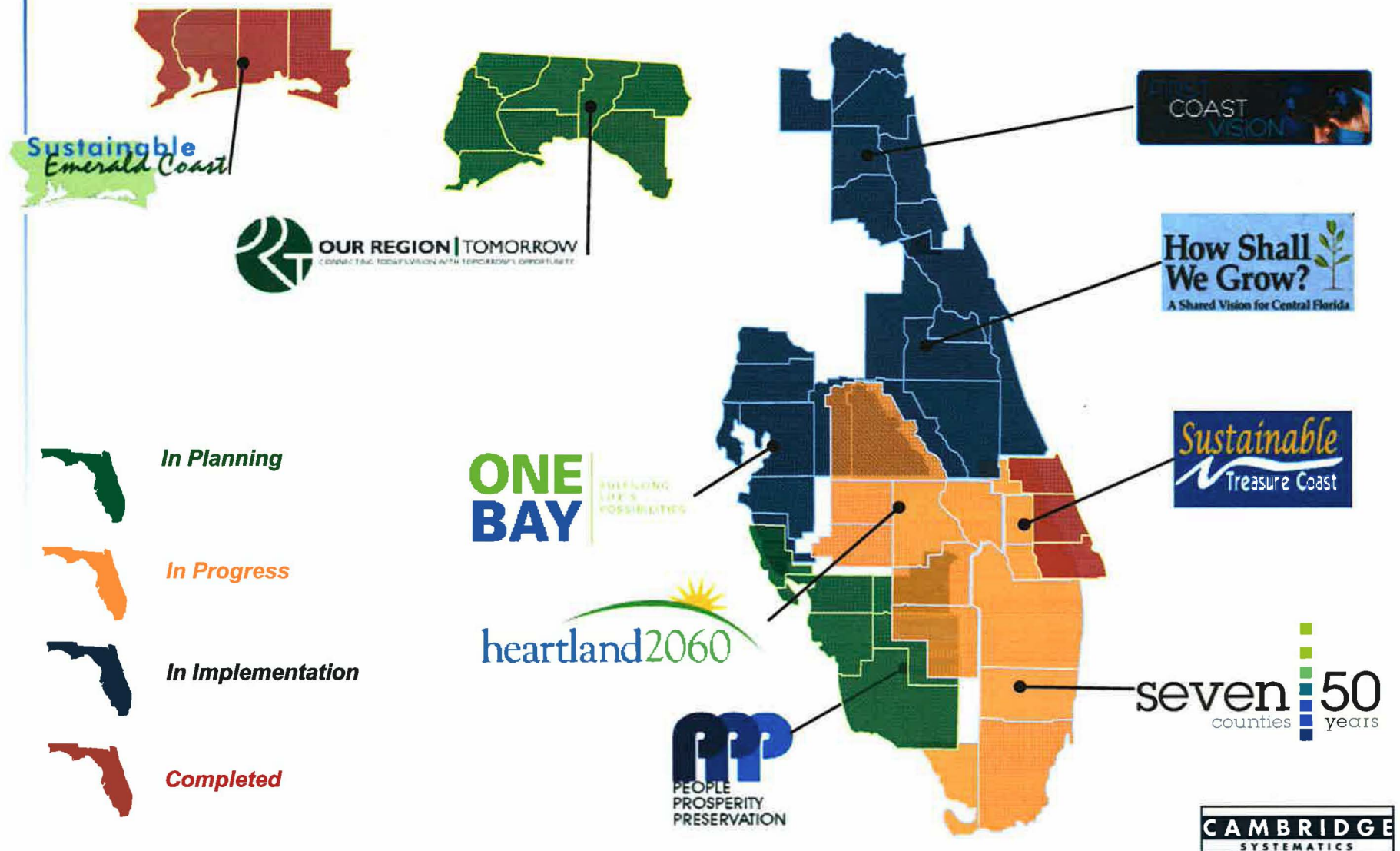
The regional visioning process would advance the Council's mission of *improving the quality of life of the region's citizens, by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments*. Therefore, it is recommended that the Council authorize staff to convene and coordinate a regional visioning process for north central Florida.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachments

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Florida's Regional Visioning Processes



Envision North Central Florida Regional Visioning Process

September 27, 2102

Purpose

- Develop a regional vision and action plan to guide the future growth and development of North Central Florida

Desired Outcomes

- Regional Vision, which includes values, principles, descriptive text and images outlining the region's desired direction for future growth and development of the region
- Policy Framework, which defines goals, objectives and strategies to inform future decision-making
- Action Plan, which includes specific projects and initiatives to guide state, regional and local agencies
- Consensus among residents, elected officials, business and community leaders, and governing agencies in support of the Vision and its implementation

Overview of Approach

- Organize using the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy™
- Link to existing statewide, regional and community visioning and strategic planning initiatives
- Engage elected officials and community and business leaders in the visioning process, while providing opportunities for public input
- Develop a policy-level vision focusing on regional values, principles, goals, objectives and strategies (rather than producing detailed scenarios or future investment plans)
- Follow the visioning process with an implementation stage that may include:
 - Integration of the vision into Strategic Regional Policy Plans and local government comprehensive plans
 - One or more pilot projects to demonstrate collaboration toward the Vision

Visioning Area

The visioning area would encompass 13 counties, as shown in the following table.

County	Proposed Visioning Area	North Central Florida Regional Planning Council	North Central Enterprise Florida Region	North Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern	Natural North Florida
Alachua	•	•	•		•
Bradford	•	•	•	•	
Columbia	•	•	•	•	
Dixie	•	•	•	•	•
Gilchrist	•	•	•	•	•
Hamilton	•	•	•	•	•
Lafayette	•	•	•	•	•
Levy	•		•	•	•
Madison	•	•	•	•	•
Marion	•		•		
Suwannee	•	•	•	•	
Taylor	•	•	•	•	•
Union	•	•	•	•	•

This area would encompass all of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council counties, plus two counties included in the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (Levy and Marion Counties); the remaining counties in the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council have been affiliated with either the OneBay or How Shall We Grow visioning processes). It would correspond to the Enterprise Florida North Central economic region. This region would include 11 of the 14 counties in the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (excluding Baker, Jefferson and Putnam Counties, which have been included in either the First Coast Vision or Our Region Tomorrow regional visioning processes), plus the two counties with urbanized areas (Alachua County and Marion County). It would include nine of the 10 counties in Natural North Florida (excluding Jefferson County).

Given the overlap in boundaries and economic ties to adjacent regions, stakeholders from surrounding counties could participate in public meetings related to this process.

Organizational Structure

- Steering Committee (10-15) members to guide overall development and adoption of the regional Vision
 - 2 co-chairs: 1 public, 1 private
 - Chair(s) of 6 working groups
 - At-large members as needed to achieve balance among geographic areas within the region, as well as across topics and types of partners (public, private, civic)
- 6 Task Forces (10-15 members)
 - Organized by the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy:
 - Talent Supply & Education
 - Innovation & Economic Development
 - Infrastructure & Growth Leadership
 - Business Climate & Competitiveness
 - Civic & Governance Systems
 - Quality of Life & Quality Places
 - Membership by invitation
 - Responsible for reviewing trends and conditions for each pillar and recommending goals, objectives and strategies to the Steering Committee
- Regional Summits, open to all interested stakeholders and the public
- Staff support provided by North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, with consultant assistance

Process and Schedule

Date	Milestone	Notes
January 2013	1st Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce process and review approach and schedule
February 2013	1st Regional Summit (Gainesville) 1st Six Pillars Task Force meetings (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce process Review the state of the region (regional profile to be developed by North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff/consultants) Review best practices from other regions in Florida and nation Six concurrent Task Force meetings to review trends, conditions, issues, and opportunities in each pillar; identify additional data/research needs
March 2013	2nd Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review feedback from regional summit Review work of Task Force meetings
April 2013	2nd Six Pillars Task Force meetings (Gainesville) 3rd Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Task Force members on process Six concurrent Task Force meetings to review additional data requested by each task force; develop initial goals, objectives and strategies for each pillar Review progress, discuss issues
May 2013	2nd Regional Summit (Gainesville) 4th Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report from each Task Force on trends, issues and opportunities Present initial goals, objectives and strategies for each pillar and vote on goals, objectives and strategies Review progress, discuss issues
June 2013	Community Forums (Lake City & Ocala)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forums to involve stakeholders who have not been able to attend the regional summits Review work to date, seek input on goals, objectives and strategies for each pillar
July 2013	Community Forums (Madison & Starke)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forums to involve stakeholders who have not been able to attend the regional summits Review work to date, seek input on goals, objectives and strategies for each pillar

August 2013	5th Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review community forum stakeholder input, provide guidance for completion of draft Vision documents
September 2013	3rd Regional Summit (Gainesville) 6th Steering Committee meeting (Gainesville)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review community forum stakeholder input Endorse final Vision Discuss next steps; provide call to action Final meeting to review and adopt final Vision and Action Plan document; discuss next steps

Budget

Estimated Cost: \$300,000

Proposed Sources of Funding:

Regional Planning Councils

- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council

Florida Department of Transportation

- Florida Department of Transportation Central Office
- Florida Department of Transportation District 2
- Florida Department of Transportation District 5

Water Management Districts

- Southwest Florida Water Management District
- St. Johns Water Management District
- Suwannee River Water Management District

Workforce Boards

- Florida Crown Workforce Board
- FloridaWorks
- North Florida Workforce
- Workforce Connection

Universities and Colleges

- University of Florida
- College of Central Florida
- Florida Gateway College
- North Florida Community College
- Santa Fe College

Metropolitan Planning Organizations

- Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area
- Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization

Airports

- Gainesville Regional Airport
- Ocala International Airport

Economic Development Organizations

- Gainesville Council for Economic Outreach, Inc.
- Columbia County Economic Development Department
- Dixie County Board of County Commissioners
- Gilchrist County Chamber of Commerce
- Hamilton County Development Authority
- Lafayette County Development Authority
- Madison County Development Council
- Nature Coast Business Council, Inc.
- North Florida Economic Development Partnership
- North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Ocala/Marion County Economic Development Corporation
- Suwannee County Economic Alliance
- Taylor County Development Authority



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

SUBJECT: Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation

The employment contract between the Executive Director and the Council specifies that the Executive Committee shall adopt performance standards to annually review and evaluate the Executive Director. It further specifies that the annual review and evaluation of the Executive Director shall be conducted by the Executive Committee. It also specifies that at its discretion, the Executive Committee is authorized to provide a merit increase to the Executive Director on an annual basis commencing October 1st of each year.

The Executive Committee has adopted performance standards to review and evaluate the Executive Director. An evaluation form incorporating these performance standards was mailed to each Executive Committee member to be completed prior to the September 27, 2012 Council meeting. The results of this evaluation have been tabulated by Council administrative staff and will be reviewed by the Executive Committee at their meeting on September 27, 2012. The action of the Executive Committee concerning the Executive Director annual performance evaluation and merit pay adjustment will be reported to the Council at the September 27, 2012 meeting.

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VI.B.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Sandra Haas, Chair
Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:00 p.m., September 27, 2012 at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 213 SW Commerce Boulevard, Lake City. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level item which requires Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- #87 - City of Waldo Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 12-ESR1)
- #88 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DEO No. 12-ESR4)
- #89 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 12-ESR1)

Please be advised that the Clearinghouse Committee meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on Clearinghouse Committee Full Packet).

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by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.




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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report - 2013-17

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report 2013-17 and authorize that it be submitted to the U. S. Economic Development Administration and counties in the region.

BACKGROUND:

Every five years, the Council prepares an update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for submission to the U.S. Economic Development Administration to meet our contractual obligations with that agency, and to qualify our counties for funding under its economic development program.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee met July 17, 2012 to prioritize priority project areas. As applications are prepared for projects, they can be removed from the list and new projects can be added to the list. The projects must be regional in nature, must be connected to jobs (usually 100 jobs or more) and must include private investment, and can be funded through either planning grants or construction grants from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. A 30-day public comment period on the draft Strategy ended on September 10, 2012. No comments were received concerning the draft Strategy.

Please find attached the Executive Summary, Goals and Objectives, and Priority Project Areas for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The priority project areas recommended by the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee are listed below.

1. Talent Supply & Education

Support the development of educational programs to increase the labor force in the healthcare and life sciences industries.

2. Innovation & Economic Development

- a. Support the development of the catalyst sites for the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern.
- b. Support the development and expansion of regional business incubators and research parks.

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by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

3. Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

Support continuing improvements to multi-modal infrastructure, including highway interchanges along interstate corridors, railway corridors, airport facilities and broadband infrastructure.

4. Business Climate & Competitiveness

Support streamlining processes at the local level to encourage new businesses to open and help existing businesses thrive.

5. Civic & Governance Systems

Support programs to educate local government officials in the fundamentals of economic development.

6. Quality of Life & Quality Places

Support regional tourism promotional initiatives.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

o:\carol\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\ceds final report 2013-17.docx

North Central Florida Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

For the 2013-2017 Planning Period

September 27, 2012

Executive Summary

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has served as the North Central Florida Economic Development District since January 1978, when the Council received its district designation from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Counties that are members of the Council, and thereby included in the North Central Florida Economic Development District, are designated by the U. S. Economic Development Administration as redevelopment areas and are eligible for financial assistance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

The primary function of the North Central Florida Economic Development District is to create and update the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy provides the framework by which economic development projects in the region qualify for grant funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The Strategy is developed by a strategy committee comprised of a broad range of regional economic development, business, civic, education and workforce development professionals.

The following report provides an outline of current economic and demographic conditions of the region, an analysis of regional strengths and weaknesses and an analysis of regional industry clusters. The report also lists the economic development goals and objectives as well as the Priority Project Areas developed by the Strategy committee. The report then summarizes a plan of action that outlines the activities necessary to implement the goals and objectives of the Strategy.

The Priority Project Areas of the 2013-2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

1. Talent Supply & Education

- a. Support the development of educational programs to increase the labor force in the healthcare and life sciences industry.

2. Innovation & Economic Development

- a. Support the development of the catalyst sites for the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern.
- b. Support the development and expansion of regional business incubators and research parks.

3. Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

- a. Support continuing improvements to multi-modal infrastructure, including highway interchanges along interstate corridors, railway corridors, airport facilities and broadband infrastructure.

4. Business Climate & Competitiveness

- a. Support streamlining processes at the local level to encourage new businesses to open and help existing businesses thrive.

5. Civic & Governance Systems

- a. Support programs to educate local government officials in the fundamentals of economic development.

6. Quality of Life & Quality Places

- a. Support regional tourism promotional initiatives.

North Central Florida Economic Development District
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
Goals and Objectives

1. Talent Supply and Education

- a. Goal 1 - Connect and align education and workforce development programs to develop the region's current and future talent supply chain and meet employer needs.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Expand options for high school students to become industry certified while still in high school, as an alternative to college path.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Integrate education, training and workforce development to develop a strong supply chain.
 - iii. Objective 1.3 - Support efforts by Florida Gateway College, North Florida Community College and Santa Fe College to expand education programs in healthcare related fields and create a marketing strategy to promote enrollment in health professions programs.
 - iv. Objective 1.4 - Support the creation of electronic medical records education and training programs utilizing a regional community-adaptive health information technology model.
- b. Goal 2 - Expand access to education and training programs for talent in distressed markets (e.g., rural, urban core) throughout the region.
 - i. Objective 2.1 - Support the creation of online and distance learning programs for students that lack other means of attaining necessary training.

2. Innovation & Economic Development

- a. Goal 1 - Grow, sustain and integrate efforts related to research and development, technology commercialization, and seed capital to create, nurture and expand regional innovation businesses.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Support development of the Innovation Square research and development park in Gainesville, and the integration of the University of Florida's research enterprise and commercialization programs into the fabric of the Innovation Square project through the Florida Innovation Hub at the University of Florida.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Support the development of existing and new business incubators/accelerators throughout the region.
- b. Goal 2 - Increase the number of regional businesses engaged in selling goods and services internationally and the diversification of the markets they serve.

- i. Objective 2.1 - Provide educational opportunities to regional businesses interested in international trade on the advantages of exporting their goods and services.
- c. Goal 3 - Brand and market the north central Florida region as the best location for business.
 - i. Objective 3.1 - Support the North Florida Economic Development Partnership asset mapping and geographic information system projects in the region.
 - ii. Objective 3.2 - Support the development of the Enterprise Florida/Rural Economic Development Initiative Catalyst Sites located in Columbia County and Suwannee County by pursuing funding sources for the infrastructure necessary to develop the catalyst sites to shovel ready status.
- d. Goal 4 - Promote the continued viability of military installations in close proximity to the region.
 - i. Objective 4.1 - Improve collaboration between local government and military leaders to utilize best management practices that ensure successful economic partnerships.

3. Infrastructure & Growth Leadership:

- a. Goal 1 - Modernize the region's transportation, telecommunications, energy, water and wastewater systems to meet future demand and respond to changing business needs.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Support the development of diverse, reliable and cost effective energy sources and systems to meet the region's economic and environmental goals.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Ensure the future supply and quality of water to meet the region's economic and quality of life goals by encouraging the use of the groundwater resources of the region in a sustainable manner and by strengthening local control of area surface and groundwater systems and supplies.
 - iii. Objective 1.3 - Develop and maintain a cutting-edge telecommunications infrastructure by supporting the North Florida Broadband Authority's initiative to bring high-speed internet service to the rural areas of the region.
 - iv. Objective 1.4 - Develop and maintain multimodal, interconnected trade, logistics and transportation systems to enhance freight mobility in support of a prosperous, competitive economy.
 - v. Objective 1.5 - Support the continued development of the Gainesville Regional Airport as part of the State's Strategic Intermodal System and promote the designation of the Lake City Municipal Airport as part of the State's Strategic Intermodal System.

- b. Goal 2 - Improve coordination of economic development, land use, infrastructure, water, energy, natural resources, workforce and community development decision-making and investments at the regional level.
 - i. Objective 2.1 - Improve collaboration and alignment between regional/local agencies and business leaders through a regional vision.

4. Business Climate & Competitiveness

- a. Goal 1 - Streamline permitting, development and other regulatory processes at the local level to meet changing business needs and provide a predictable legal and regulatory environment in the region.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Reduce barriers to small business and entrepreneurial growth.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Develop a government revenue structure that encourages business growth and development.
- b. Goal 2 - Ensure local government agencies provide collaborative, seamless, consistent and timely customer service to regional businesses.
 - i. Objective 2.1 - Work with water management districts in the region to simplify permitting process for new and expanding businesses.
- c. Goal 3 - Expand opportunities for access to capital for businesses throughout their life cycle.
 - i. Objective 3.1 - Create a database of capital sources available to regional businesses.

5. Civic & Governance Systems

- a. Goal 1 - Support and sustain regional partnerships to accomplish the region's economic and quality of life goals.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Utilize the North Florida Economic Development Partnership's Economic Development Academy as a vehicle to provide a functional understanding of economic development concepts to local elected officials.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Work with the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities to add economic development information to their curriculums for newly elected officials.
 - iii. Objective 1.3 - Invest in strategic regional economic development priorities.

6. Quality of Life & Quality Places

- a. Goal 1 - Ensure future growth and development decisions maintain a balance between sustaining the region's environment and enhancing the region's economy and quality of life.
 - i. Objective 1.1 - Create and sustain vibrant, healthy communities that attract workers, businesses, residents and visitors to the region.
 - ii. Objective 1.2 - Promote and incentivize local government in the development of vibrant city centers.
- a. Goal 2 - Promote, develop, and leverage the region's natural and cultural assets in a sustainable manner.
 - i. Objective 2.1 - Support the efforts of the Original Florida Tourism Task Force and other regional tourism marketing organizations to develop sustainable tourism-based economic development programs and increase the entrepreneurial capacity of the hospitality industry.
 - ii. Objective 2.2 - Improve the branding and awareness of the region as a tourism destination by leveraging regional resources with VISIT FLORIDA, the State's official tourism marketing organization.
 - iii. Objective 2.3 - Promote and support the state parks within the region and improve branding and awareness of the parks as a tourist destination.

North Central Florida Economic Development District
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
Priority Project Areas

1. Talent Supply & Education

- a. Support the development of educational programs to increase the labor force in the healthcare and life sciences industry.

2. Innovation & Economic Development

- a. Support the development of the catalyst sites for the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern.
- b. Support the development and expansion of regional business incubators and research parks.

3. Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

- a. Support continuing improvements to multi-modal infrastructure, including highway interchanges along interstate corridors, railway corridors, airport facilities and broadband infrastructure.

4. Business Climate & Competitiveness

- a. Support streamlining processes at the local level to encourage new businesses to open and help existing businesses thrive.

5. Civic & Governance Systems

- a. Support programs to educate local government officials in the fundamentals of economic development.

6. Quality of Life & Quality Places

- a. Support regional tourism promotional initiatives.



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2011-12 Amended Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Fiscal Year 2011-12 amended budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The Council takes action during each year to accept work under contracts and additional grants which were not anticipated when the original budget was prepared. In addition, because the Council adopts the budget 16 months prior to fiscal year end, generally a number of conditions change which cause the expenditure levels to vary from the original figures.

To amend the budget, by taking into account both the contractual changes made during the year and variations in expenditure levels, the Council annually considers a fiscal year-end amendment. Consistent with that practice, staff has proposed budget changes for the current year budget which reflect an overall net increase of \$10,500. This includes both increases and decreases in revenue for various program areas with associated changes in Direct and Indirect expenses.

The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed budget changes and recommends that the Council approve the Fiscal Year 2011-12 amended budget.

For your information, please find attached a copy of the budget as adopted last year and the amended budget for this year. In addition, the paragraphs below provide an explanation for the most significant changes.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

The total revenue increase in the budget is made up of a number of changes which are both positive and negative. The most significant of these are discussed in the following paragraphs by major program areas.

- Program Development - The net decrease in revenues for this category is (\$8,000). The net decrease results primarily from the reallocation of member dues to Economic Development activities.

- Regional Planning - The net decrease in revenues for this category is (\$17,000). The net decrease primarily results from a reduction of (\$20,000) in anticipated development of regional impact review fees.
- Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance - The net decrease in revenues for this category is (\$44,300). The net decrease results primarily from a reduction of (\$39,000) for regional hurricane evacuation activities.
- Transportation - The increase in revenues for this category is \$23,400. The increase primarily results from an increase in projected revenue in the amount of \$19,900 from the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area.
- Economic Development - The net increase in revenues for this category is \$69,300. The net increase primarily occurred as a result of an increase of \$60,600 for the Energy Resiliency Study.
- Local Government Assistance - The net decrease in revenues for this category is (\$12,900). The net decrease primarily occurred as a result of a decrease of (\$23,600) in local government planning assistance contracts.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

As indicated previously, the sum of all of these changes, plus others listed in the attached tables represent a total increase in Council activities of \$10,500. This represents a 0.6 percent increase. Thus, Council finances overall remain in sound condition.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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TABLE I
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BUDGET - Adopted May 26, 2011
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

EXPENSES	INDIRECT EXPENSES	DIRECT EXPENSES	REVENUE	
Audit	\$15,000		Program Development	\$48,600
Building Debt Service	\$44,600			
Building Occupancy & Grounds	\$50,400		Regional Planning	
Contractual Services	\$5,000	\$73,000	State Planning & Review	\$40,000
Depreciation	\$0		Developments of Regional Impact Review	\$60,000
Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$32,000	\$6,000		
Furniture & Equipment		\$15,000	Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance	
Insurance & Bonding	\$20,000		Homeland Security Activities	\$73,000
Legal Services & Public Notices	\$6,000	\$3,000	Hazardous Waste Monitoring	\$42,400
Machine Rental & Maintenance	\$6,000		Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$88,100
Meeting Expenses	\$17,000	\$2,000	Hazards Analyses	\$10,100
Moving Expenses	\$2,000		Regional Hurricane Evacuation Study	\$50,000
Office Supplies	\$39,000	\$1,000		
Personnel	\$549,100	\$803,800	Transportation	
Postage	\$6,000	\$15,000	Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	\$468,000
Printing	\$4,000		Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	\$170,000
Recruiting	\$2,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	\$22,000
Reproduction	\$13,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	\$157,900
Telephone	\$8,000			
Travel	\$24,000	\$68,000	Economic Development	
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$48,000	Comp Econ Development Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$83,100
Contingency		\$16,400	Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	\$35,000
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force	\$48,000
			Local Government Assistance	
			General Technical Services	\$25,000
			City & County Planning Services	\$316,000
			Community Development Block Grant Administration	\$157,100
Total Indirect Expenses	\$843,100			
Total Direct Expenses		\$1,051,200		
TOTAL EXPENSES (Direct & Indirect)		\$1,894,300	TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,894,300

TABLE II
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
REVENUE BY PROGRAM - Adopted May 26, 2011
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

REVENUE	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	MEMBER DUES	MTPO* FUNDS	DEV OF REGIONAL IMPACT FEES	SERVICE CONTRACTS	TOURISM TASK FORCE FUNDS	OTHER INCOME	TOTAL	TOTAL BY PROGRAM	% TOTAL BY PROGRAM
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT			\$38,600					\$10,000	\$48,600	\$48,600	3%
REGIONAL PLANNING											
State Planning & Review			\$40,000						\$40,000		
Developments of Regional Impact Review					\$60,000				\$60,000		
										\$100,000	5%
PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COM											
Homeland Security Activities						\$73,000			\$73,000		
Hazardous Waste Monitoring						\$42,400			\$42,400		
Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$47,200	\$40,900							\$88,100		
Hazards Analyses		\$10,100							\$10,100		
Regional Hurricane Evacuation Study						\$50,000			\$50,000		
										\$263,600	14%
TRANSPORTATION											
Gainesville Urbanized Area Trans Planning				\$468,000					\$468,000		
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit				\$170,000					\$170,000		
Trans Disadvantaged - Alachua Co				\$22,000					\$22,000		
Trans Disadvantaged - Region		\$157,900							\$157,900		
										\$817,900	43%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT											
Comp ED Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$63,100		\$20,000						\$83,100		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing		\$35,000							\$35,000		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$5,000					\$43,000		\$48,000		
										\$166,100	9%
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE											
General Technical Services			\$25,000						\$25,000		
City & County Planning Services						\$316,000			\$316,000		
Comm Dev Block Grant Administration						\$157,100			\$157,100		
										\$498,100	26%
TOTAL	\$110,300	\$248,900	\$123,600	\$660,000	\$60,000	\$638,500	\$43,000	\$10,000	\$1,894,300	\$1,894,300	100%

* Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area

TABLE III
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM - Adopted May 26, 2011
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

			REGIONAL PLANNING			PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE				ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			TRANSPORTATION		LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE				
			STATE PLANNING & REVIEW	DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT REVIEW	HOMELAND SECURITY	HAZARDOUS WASTE MONITORING	LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE	HAZARDS ANALYSES	REGIONAL HURRICANE EVACUATION STUDY	COMP ED STRATEGY & TECHNICAL ASSIST	TOURISM TASK FORCE STAFFING	TOURISM TASK FORCE	TRANS DISADVANT	GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANS PLANNING	GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA MASS TRANSIT	GENERAL TECHNICAL SERVICES	LOCAL PLANNING SERVICES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADMIN	TOTAL
TOTAL	EXPENSES	PROGRAM DEVELOP																	
\$73,000	Contractual Services						\$32,000							\$41,000					\$73,000
\$6,000	Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$1,000					\$5,000												\$6,000
\$15,000	Furniture & Equipment	\$15,000																	\$15,000
\$3,000	Legal Services & Public Notices						\$1,500						\$1,500						\$3,000
\$2,000	Meeting Expenses	\$500					\$1,500												\$2,000
\$1,000	Office Supplies	\$1,000																	\$1,000
\$803,800	Personnel		\$17,800	\$28,900	\$31,700	\$19,800	\$19,800	\$4,000	\$23,800	\$39,000	\$16,300		\$84,800	\$199,700	\$82,200	\$11,000	\$151,600	\$73,400	\$803,800
\$15,000	Postage		\$100	\$400	\$100	\$300	\$1,000			\$300	\$500		\$2,800	\$3,700		\$500	\$3,600	\$1,700	\$15,000
\$68,000	Travel	\$29,000	\$2,500		\$7,000	\$1,500	\$6,500	\$1,000		\$2,800			\$1,500	\$12,200		\$600	\$500	\$2,900	\$68,000
\$48,000	Original FL Tourism Task Force											\$48,000							\$48,000
\$16,400	Contingency	\$2,100	\$930	\$387	\$950	\$32	\$32	\$904	\$1,236	\$93	\$1,103		\$354	\$1,936	\$1,581	\$1,362	\$1,288	\$2,112	\$16,400
\$843,100	Indirect Costs*		\$18,670	\$30,313	\$33,250	\$20,768	\$20,768	\$4,196	\$24,964	\$40,907	\$17,097		\$88,946	\$209,464	\$86,219	\$11,538	\$159,012	\$76,988	\$843,100
\$1,894,300	TOTAL	\$48,600	\$40,000	\$60,000	\$73,000	\$42,400	\$88,100	\$10,100	\$50,000	\$83,100	\$35,000	\$48,000	\$179,900	\$468,000	\$170,000	\$25,000	\$316,000	\$157,100	\$1,894,300

* See Table I for line item expenses of Indirect Costs. Total indirect expenses are distributed among programs at the rate of 104.89% of Direct Personnel costs.

TABLE IV
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENT DUES - Adopted May 26, 2011
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

	POPULATION*		DUES @ .30** PER CAPITA
	JURISDICTION	TOTAL COUNTY	
Alachua County		253,785	
County Government	100,639	(28,076)	\$20,000
Alachua	8,837		\$2,651
Archer	1,204		\$750
Gainesville	130,898	(12,046)	\$27,223
Hawthorne	1,456		\$750
High Springs	4,844		\$1,453
Newberry	5,098		\$1,529
Waldo	809		\$750
Bradford County		24,500	
County Government	18,726		\$5,618
Starke	5,774		\$1,732
Columbia County		63,594	
County Government	52,624		\$15,787
Lake City	10,970		\$3,291
Dixie County		15,099	
County Government	15,099		\$4,530
Gilchrist County		16,805	
County Government	16,805		\$5,042
Hamilton County		11,776	
County Government	10,116		\$3,035
Jasper	1,660		\$750
Lafayette County		6,596	
County Government	6,596		\$1,979
Madison County		18,283	
County Government	15,020		\$4,506
Madison	3,263		\$979
Suwannee County		40,022	
County Government	33,245		\$9,974
Live Oak	6,777		\$2,033
Taylor County		20,052	
County Government	13,283		\$3,985
Perry	6,769		\$2,031
Union County		10,991	
County Government	10,991		\$3,297
TOTAL	481,503		\$123,675

*Official State estimates used for Revenue Sharing purposes: April 1, 2010.

**Minimum dues paid by any member local government is \$750.

Membership dues are reduced by one percent of the funds expended by a member local government for in-house planning activities provided such reduction shall not reduce the total dues to an amount less than \$20,000.

TABLE I
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BUDGET - Proposed Amendment September 27, 2012
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

EXPENSES	INDIRECT EXPENSES	DIRECT EXPENSES	REVENUE	
Audit	\$15,000		Program Development	\$40,600
Building Debt Service	\$44,600			
Building Occupancy & Grounds	\$31,000		Regional Planning	
Contractual Services	\$5,000	\$63,000	State Planning & Review	\$43,000
Depreciation	\$0		Developments of Regional Impact Review	\$40,000
Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$35,000	\$3,000		
Furniture & Equipment		\$35,000	Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance	
Insurance & Bonding	\$18,000		Homeland Security Activities	\$62,500
Legal Services & Public Notices	\$8,000	\$3,000	Hazardous Waste Monitoring	\$39,500
Machine Rental & Maintenance	\$6,000		Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$96,200
Meeting Expenses	\$18,000	\$2,000	Hazards Analyses	\$10,100
Office Supplies	\$34,000	\$1,000	Regional Hurricane Evacuation Study	\$11,000
Personnel	\$576,000	\$853,500		
Postage	\$5,000	\$9,000	Transportation	
Printing	\$3,000		Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	\$487,900
Reproduction	\$11,000		Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	\$168,700
Telephone	\$6,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	\$22,500
Travel	\$54,000	\$35,000	Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	\$162,200
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$28,600		
Contingency		\$2,100	Economic Development	
			Comp Econ Development Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$115,600
			Energy Resiliency Strategy	\$60,600
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	\$30,600
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force	\$28,600
			Local Government Assistance	
			General Technical Services	\$10,000
			City & County Planning Services	\$292,400
			Community Development Block Grant Administration	\$182,800
Total Indirect Expenses	\$869,600			
Total Direct Expenses		\$1,035,200		
TOTAL EXPENSES (Direct & Indirect)		\$1,904,800	TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,904,800

TABLE II
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
REVENUE BY PROGRAM - Proposed Amendment September 27, 2012
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

REVENUE	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	MEMBER DUES	MTPO* FUNDS	DEV OF REGIONAL IMPACT FEES	SERVICE CONTRACTS	TOURISM TASK FORCE FUNDS	OTHER INCOME	TOTAL	TOTAL BY PROGRAM	% TOTAL BY PROGRAM
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT			\$25,600					\$15,000	\$40,600	\$40,600	2%
REGIONAL PLANNING											
State Planning & Review			\$43,000						\$43,000		
Developments of Regional Impact Review					\$40,000				\$40,000		
										\$83,000	4%
PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COM											
Homeland Security Activities						\$62,500			\$62,500		
Hazardous Waste Monitoring						\$39,500			\$39,500		
Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$52,600	\$43,600							\$96,200		
Hazards Analyses		\$10,100							\$10,100		
Regional Hurricane Evacuation Study						\$11,000			\$11,000		
										\$219,300	12%
TRANSPORTATION											
Gainesville Urbanized Area Trans Planning				\$487,900					\$487,900		
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit				\$168,700					\$168,700		
Trans Disadvantaged - Alachua County				\$22,500					\$22,500		
Trans Disadvantaged - Region		\$162,200							\$162,200		
										\$841,300	44%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT											
Comp ED Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$70,600		\$45,000						\$115,600		
Energy Resiliency Strategy						\$60,600			\$60,600		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing		\$30,400				\$200			\$30,600		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force							\$28,600		\$28,600		
										\$235,400	12%
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE											
General Technical Services			\$10,000						\$10,000		
City & County Planning Services						\$292,400			\$292,400		
Comm Dev Block Grant Administration						\$182,800			\$182,800		
										\$485,200	26%
TOTAL	\$123,200	\$246,300	\$123,600	\$679,100	\$40,000	\$649,000	\$28,600	\$15,000	\$1,904,800	\$1,904,800	100%

* Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area

TABLE III
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM - Proposed Amendment September 27, 2012
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

		REGIONAL PLANNING			PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE					ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT				TRANSPORTATION			LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE			
TOTAL	EXPENSES	PROGRAM DEVELOP	STATE PLANNING & REVIEW	DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT REVIEW	HOMELAND SECURITY	HAZARDOUS WASTE MONITORING	LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE	HAZARDS ANALYSES	REGIONAL HURRICANE EVACUATION STUDY	COMP ED STRATEGY & TECHNICAL ASSIST	ENERGY RESILIENCY STUDY	TOURISM TASK FORCE STAFFING	TOURISM TASK FORCE	TRANS DISADVANT	GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANS PLANNING	GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA MASS TRANSIT	GENERAL TECHNICAL SERVICES	LOCAL PLANNING SERVICES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADMIN	TOTAL
\$63,000	Contractual Services						\$24,300								\$38,700					\$63,000
\$3,000	Dues, Pubs , Subs & Training	\$2,000					\$1,000													\$3,000
\$35,000	Furniture & Equipment	\$35,000																		\$35,000
\$3,000	Legal Services & Public Notices						\$1,000							\$2,000						\$3,000
\$2,000	Meeting Expenses	\$1,600			\$300		\$100													\$2,000
\$1,000	Office Supplies	\$800									\$100								\$100	\$1,000
\$853,500	Personnel		\$20,000	\$19,700	\$28,400	\$17,900	\$32,600	\$4,200	\$4,600	\$55,200	\$29,500	\$15,100		\$89,000	\$217,900	\$83,500	\$3,600	\$143,700	\$88,600	\$853,500
\$9,000	Postage			\$100	\$100	\$400	\$200	\$100		\$100	\$100	\$100		\$1,200	\$3,400		\$300	\$1,600	\$1,300	\$9,000
\$35,000	Travel		\$2,600	\$100	\$4,700	\$2,900	\$3,700	\$1,500	\$1,600	\$4,000	\$800			\$1,800	\$5,800		\$2,400	\$600	\$2,500	\$35,000
\$28,600	Original FL Tourism Task Force												\$28,600							\$28,600
\$2,100	Contingency	\$1,200	\$23	\$28	\$64	\$62	\$85	\$21	\$113	\$59	\$44	\$15		\$21	\$90	\$125	\$32	\$89	\$29	\$2,100
\$869,600	Indirect Costs*		\$20,377	\$20,072	\$28,936	\$18,238	\$33,215	\$4,279	\$4,687	\$56,241	\$30,056	\$15,385		\$90,679	\$222,010	\$85,075	\$3,668	\$146,411	\$90,271	\$869,600
\$1,904,800	TOTAL	\$40,600	\$43,000	\$40,000	\$62,500	\$39,500	\$96,200	\$10,100	\$11,000	\$115,600	\$60,800	\$30,600	\$28,600	\$184,700	\$487,900	\$168,700	\$10,000	\$292,400	\$182,800	\$1,904,800

* See Table I for line item expenses of Indirect Costs Total indirect expenses are distributed among programs at the rate of 101.89% of Direct Personnel costs

TABLE IV
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENT DUES - Proposed Amendment September 27, 2012
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2011 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

	POPULATION*		DUES @ .30** PER CAPITA
	JURISDICTION	TOTAL COUNTY	
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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives.

The Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying-out the following objectives.

- Ensure regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the State of Florida, its local governments, and the citizens they serve;
- Ensure regional planning councils are consensus builders and problem solvers, and serve as conveners of the region by helping to articulate those multijurisdictional issues that need resolution;
- Encourage and promote opportunities for regional planning councils to become partners in state programs and initiatives, while promoting the unique themes of each region within the state and legislative environments;
- Monitor substantive state and federal legislative issues for the benefit of its members, and promote mutually supportive policy positions among the regional planning councils;
- Represent regional planning councils in national organizations, such as the National Association of Regional Councils, National Association of Development Organizations, and SouthEast Regional Directors Institute; and
- Foster relationships and partnerships and coordinate with state, regional, and national associations and organizations; non-profit entities; public-private partnerships; the Governor's Office; state agencies; and others, on issues of mutual interest and concern, and with whom the Association shares mutual goals and programs.

Please find attached the August 2012 Monthly Accomplishments Report highlighting the accomplishments of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven. The report addresses outreach, resource development/capacity building, legislative and administrative activities.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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MONTHLY ACCCOMPLISHMENTS: Aug, 2012

OUTREACH

- Worked with David Cruz at the Florida League of Cities to complete arrangements for five concurrent sessions on economic development, which took place at its annual conference in late August, including securing speakers from the Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida, Inc., along with five regional planning council panelists; participating in conference calls; addressing many details leading up to the event; and, attending the sessions.
- Participated in a Florida Transportation Commission teleconference related to the Commission's intent to examine regional boundaries at a September 19 workshop in Tallahassee.
- Worked with staff at the Division of Emergency Management to resolve a contract-related misunderstanding between the Division and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.
- Sent an announcement to FRCA's 100+ interested parties regarding the regional planning councils' on-line energy survey and to date, secured commitments for further distribution from the following entities:
 - 1000 Friends of Florida;
 - American Planning Association, Florida Chapter;
 - Florida Association of Counties;
 - Florida City and County Management Association;
 - Florida League of Cities;
 - Florida Local Government Coalition;
 - Florida Transit Association; and,
 - Future is Now Foundation.
- Continued to work with the Florida Department of Transportation's District Five to determine why certain funds from the Federal Highway Administration could not be used to pay the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council's indirect rate.
- Designed and produced a retractor banner and table runner for use at various meetings and in conference exhibit halls, beginning with the Florida Energy Summit, which was held in August.
- Processed the paperwork to make FRCA an Associate Member of the National Association of Development Organizations; a member of the Sadowski Housing Coalition; and an Affiliate Member of the Florida City and County Management Association.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- Reviewed and provided comments on the state's draft Five-Year Strategic Plan for Economic Development.
- Participated in the August meeting of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, which included presentations from the Florida Department of Management Services pertaining to the Community Connect Grant and Telehealth Network grants.
- Participated in a meeting of the state agency Economic Development Liaisons, hosted by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to review and discuss the draft Five-Year Strategic Plan for Economic Development and instructions issued by the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, linking agency Legislative Budget Requests pertaining to economic development to the strategies in the Strategic Plan.
- Participated in a teleconference of the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan Committee to review and edit the draft plan and submitted revisions to a section focused on economic development to recognize the plans of regional economic development organizations (in addition to it already recognizing the plans of state and local economic development organizations).
- Participated in the monthly Enterprise Florida, Inc., conference call, which delved into open records and confidentiality laws and discussed the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's new incentives portal (see: <http://www.floridajobs.org/incentivesportal>).
- Participated in the August FRCA meeting and made a presentation at the August FRCA Policy Board meeting.

LEGISLATIVE

- Monitored Lobbytools emails and distributed information as appropriate.
- Provided pertinent information to Ron Book, Executive Director, pertaining to the development of the Five-Year State Strategic Plan for Economic Development

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Updated the FRCA website to change the way all links on the site opened (originally they opened in the same tab, replacing the web page being viewed; now they open in an adjacent tab); added a link to the energy survey as part of the header on every page; and, posted the Policy Board meeting agenda and summary.
- Worked with the Florida Association of Counties to update its Affiliates webpage to link with the FRCA website (see http://www.fl-counties.com/Pages/About_FAC/Affiliates.aspx).
- Conducted research pertaining to advertorials in the Florida Trend magazine.
- Worked with Scott Koons (NCFRPC), Chair, to develop the August FRCA meeting agendas and complete the June meeting summaries, and secured and helped prepare presenters for the August Policy Board meeting.

- Negotiated and signed contracts and banquet event orders with the Westin Hotel for the August FRCA meetings and worked with Rana Brown (Ronald L. Book, P.A.) to make arrangements for the October FRCA meetings in Aventura.
- Rescheduled the December FRCA meetings to November 27-28, signed a new rooming contract with the DoubleTree Hotel, advised the 100+ FRCA interested parties of the date change, and updated the FRCA website to reflect the new date.
- Entered expenses through August in the Intergovernmental Affairs Expense Budget spreadsheet and submitted it to the FRCA Treasurer to be reconciled with his records.
- Developed a 2013 draft FRCA Meeting Schedule for consideration at the August FRCA Business meeting and updated and distributed the Annual Events Calendar.
- Monitored email blasts from key federal agencies for grant opportunities and shared findings as appropriate.



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report

Chair Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair Garth Nobles, Jr. and I attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Hollywood on August 24, 2012.

Howard Glassman, Executive Director, Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council, addressed the Policy Board. He reported on the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council Revenue Study.

Barbara Foster, Coordinator for Planning, Program Evaluation and Partnerships, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, addressed the Policy Board. She gave an update on the State Strategic Economic Development Plan.

David Armstrong, President of Broward College and Chair of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, addressed the Policy Board. He discussed the economic development initiatives of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance.

Deborah Cox, Director of Government Relations and Legislative Affairs of the National Association of Development Organizations reported on legislative affairs at the national level.

Jose Gonzalez, Vice-President of Flagler addressed the Policy Board concerning the Florida East Coast Railway "All Aboard Florida" project.

The Policy Board also received a report from Ron Book, Executive Director and Sheri Coven, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, reviewed a financial report of the Association, approved the Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget and elected officers for Fiscal Year 2012-13.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

The Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to developing a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan.

The Scorecard reports metrics for each of the Six Pillars benchmarked to the other 49 states. The Six Pillars are Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places. Please find attached the September 2012 Scorecard.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

The Metrics that Help Florida Leaders Secure Florida's Future

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Florida Consumer Confidence Flat in August, Outlook Improves

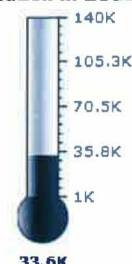
Floridians have several reasons to feel a sense of uncertainty about the future state of the national economy. The outcome of the 2012 General Election in November, the approaching "fiscal cliff," and stubbornly high unemployment rates are a few major issues for Florida's consumers. Despite these concerns, consumer confidence amongst Florida residents, provided by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, remained unchanged in August with an overall value of 77. Although this index value moved sideways in August, consumer confidence is significantly higher than the year-ago reading of 61 recorded in August 2011. In addition, Floridians appear to be more optimistic in their expectations of future economic conditions. In fact, Floridians' expectations for the national economy over the next five years improved by four points in August. Interestingly, those making under \$30,000 per year are much less optimistic about current and future personal finances when compared to those with annual incomes greater than \$30,000.



Consumer Confidence

Nationally, consumer sentiment, provided by the University of Michigan/Thomson Reuters survey, increased from 72.3 in July to 73.6 in August. Although the national economic recovery remains modest, U.S. consumer confidence continues to advance with an over-the-year increase of 18.3 points. Improving consumer confidence, a recent post-recession high for the S&P 500 Index, and growing retail sales suggest a moderately expanding U.S. economy for the third quarter of 2012. The national economy will be a major determinant of consumer confidence for Floridians in the months ahead.

Florida Net Job Creation in 2012



FLORIDA JOBS

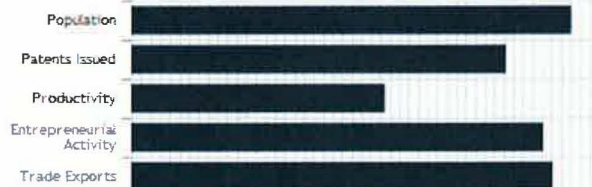


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NEWSLETTER

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Ranking Florida



Key Indicators



Home Foreclosures

Foreclosure activity is falling in Florida, but the state ranks second highest among all states in total foreclosure activity...



Consumer Confidence

Florida consumer confidence indices measure perceptions of personal finances now compared to a year ago and perceptions of U.S....



Population

Florida has the 4th largest population in the U.S., estimated at 18.8 million in 2010...



Unemployment Rate

Florida has a labor force of over 9 million, ready to meet the workforce needs of businesses...



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director *SRK*

SUBJECT: Quarterly Financial Report - Quarter Ending June 30, 2012

Please find attached a copy of the Financial Report for the Council's activities through June 30, 2012. The following paragraphs discuss expenditures to the budget for that period. Status of the adjusted general fund balance of the Council at the end of the quarter is also provided on the attached Financial Report.

Expenditures

The overall expenditures for the Council for the first nine months of the fiscal year are within budgeted figures. However, the rate of expenditures has exceeded budgeted revenue in five areas. This situation is not anticipated to be a concern by the end of the fiscal year.

Over expenditures have been experienced in the areas of "Regional," "Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance," "Economic Development," "Program Development" and "Transportation." Changes in distribution of staff resources and unanticipated revenue during the next three months should result in expenditures being within budgeted revenue by the end of the fiscal year.

In summary, while total expenditures at the end of nine months is 75.7 percent of budgeted funds, there are five individual programs where the rate of expenditures has exceeded budgeted amount. However, it is anticipated that the year should end with revenues exceeding expenditures.

Fund Balance

The adjusted general fund balance of the Council was \$1,519,688 at the end of the last fiscal year. At the end of the first nine months of this fiscal year, it is \$1,575,697.

Conclusion

In conclusion, staff is pleased with the financial condition of the Council. In those instances where there are over or under rates of expenditures as compared to budget, changes in distribution of staff effort and increases and decreases in program budgets will address these situations. Also, the adjusted general fund balance should remain at an acceptable level at the end of the fiscal year.

Overall, as is regularly reported, the financial condition of the Council is sound. Staff is not aware of anything in the current fiscal year that will change this situation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

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Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
 by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources,
 promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES: BUDGET VS. ACTUAL
OCTOBER 1, 2011 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2012

Program Area	Budget Adopted FY 11/12	Proposed Budget FY 11/12	Expenditures Oct 2011 - June 2012	Budget Percent Expended
Regional	100,000	83,000	68,882	83.0
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance	263,600	219,300	186,368	85.0
Local Technical Assistance	498,100	485,200	335,560	69.2
Economic Development	166,100	265,800	202,141	76.1
Transportation	817,900	841,300	633,999	75.4
Program Development	48,600	40,600	37,362	92.0
Total	1,894,300	1,935,200	1,464,312	75.7

RECAP OF GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2012

Nonspendable General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	53,159
Assigned General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	
Unemployment Claim Fund	30,000
Legal Defense Fund	100,000
Capital Reserve Fund	450,000
Unassigned General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	939,688
Total General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	1,572,847
Less Nonspendable General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	(53,159)
Adjusted General Fund Balance, 10/01/11	1,519,688
Member Dues, Year to Date	123,675
Misc. Income, Year to Date	
Sales	378
Depreciation Charges	15,253
Interest Income	4,378
Proceeds from Loan Portfolio Sale	3,316
Other	3,585
Expended Regional Support	(28,944)
Expended General Technical Service	(2,748)
Expended Member Support to Econ Develop.	(25,522)
Expended Program Development	(37,362)
Adjusted General Fund Balance, 06/30/12	1,575,697



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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Transportation Commission Governance Workshop

The Florida Transportation Commission was created in 1987, under Section 20.23, Florida Statutes, to serve as an oversight board for the Florida Department of Transportation. The Commission is assigned to the Department for administrative and fiscal purposes; otherwise, it functions independently of the control and direction of the Department. Composed of nine commissioners appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate for four-year terms, the Commission is required to meet at least four times per year. The Commission usually meets around seven times per year, in locations throughout the state in order to receive local input.

The mission of the Florida Transportation Commission is to provide leadership in meeting Florida's transportation needs through policy guidance on issues of statewide importance and by maintaining oversight and public accountability for the Department and other statutorily specified transportation authorities

The commissioners represent transportation needs of the state as a whole and may not subordinate state needs to those of any particular area. The Commission is prohibited from involvement in day-to-day operations of the Department. The Commission's primary functions are to:

- Review major transportation policy initiatives or revisions submitted by the Department pursuant to law;
- Recommend major transportation policy to the Governor and Legislature (Commission has recommended policies related to public transit, funding, road jurisdiction and distribution of funds to Department District offices);
- Serve as an oversight body for the Department (review performance, review work program, monitor highway safety, monitor financial status, and review budget requests and long-range plan);
- Serve as an oversight body for transportation authorities and monitor and report on the efficiency, productivity and management of those authorities created under Chapters 343 and 348, Florida Statutes; and
- Serve as nominating Commission in the selection of the Secretary of Transportation (Governor appoints Secretary from among three candidates nominated by the Commission).

At its meeting held on July 12, 2012, the Commission decided to review transportation regional governance. In particular, they will examine the transportation planning roles and responsibilities of the Department, metropolitan transportation organizations and regional planning councils as well as regional geographic boundaries of each of these entities. The Commission has invited the Florida Regional Councils Association to make a presentation concerning the transportation planning roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils at its workshop to be held in Tallahassee on September 19, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Florida Department of Transportation, Hayden Burns Building located at 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida.

On September 19, 2012, I, serving as Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee, Brian Teeple, Chief Executive Officer, Northeast Florida Regional Council, serving as Vice-Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee, Patricia Steed, Executive Director, Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as Immediate Past Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee and Sheri Coven, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for the Florida Regional Councils Association, attended the Florida Transportation Commission Workshop in Tallahassee to make a presentation to the Commission concerning the transportation planning roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils. I spoke about the organizational structure of regional planning councils, and the staffing and planning services provided by regional planning councils to metropolitan planning organizations. Mr. Teeple spoke about linking regional transportation with economic systems and Ms. Steed spoke about regional transportation governance systems.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.




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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Leaders Organized for Water

As previously reported, the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners hosted a tri-county public meeting and forum in Lake City with the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners and the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners to discuss north Florida water issues on November 29, 2011. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners took action to establish a multi-county work group to engage a hydrologist and discuss what steps need to be taken and what studies need to be conducted to potentially challenge the consumptive water use permit issued to Jacksonville Electric Authority by St. Johns River Water Management District in May 2011. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also took action to appropriate \$250,000 to fund the work group and pay for environmental monitoring services and other needed services. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also asked other counties and local governments in the region to join in the effort.

On September 10, 2012, the seventh meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The Board of Directors for Florida Leaders Organized for Water heard reports from the Science, Legislative, Legal and Public Information working groups. The Board of Directors agreed to develop a legislative proposal, in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities, to address water issues.

The current local government members of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water are: Alachua County, Bradford County, Clay County, Columbia County, Dixie County, Gilchrist County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Suwannee County, Taylor County, Town of Branford, City of Keystone Heights, City of Lake City, Town of Lee, City of MacClenny and Town of White Springs. Council members Commissioner Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County and Commissioner Wesley Wainwright from Suwannee County are serving as representatives for their respective counties to the organization.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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September 20, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: City of Live Oak Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the Florida Division of Emergency Management are meeting with local officials and community representatives in Live Oak and Suwannee County to develop a post-disaster redevelopment plan to address the impacts of Tropical Storm Debby.

On July 24, 2012, Hunting Deutsch, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and several staff from the Department and the Florida Division of Emergency Management toured the flood damage in downtown Live Oak and surrounding residential neighborhoods, and met with local officials and community representatives. On August 20, 2012, Department staff held a second meeting in Live Oak to continue discussions to identify stakeholders and develop a year-long plan redevelopment process. Council staff has participated in these meetings. At the August 20, 2012 meeting, the Council was identified as a stakeholder participant for the preparation of the post-disaster redevelopment plan.

On September 11, 2012, Department staff held the first stakeholder meeting in Live Oak to discuss the development of post-disaster redevelopment plan and to identify issues associated with the following six areas.

- Community Planning/Land Use
- Economic Redevelopment
- Housing
- Infrastructure and Public Facilities
- Health and Social Services
- Environment

If you have questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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