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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 October 24, 2013. 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](mailto:laine@ncfrpc.org) by October 21st 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)

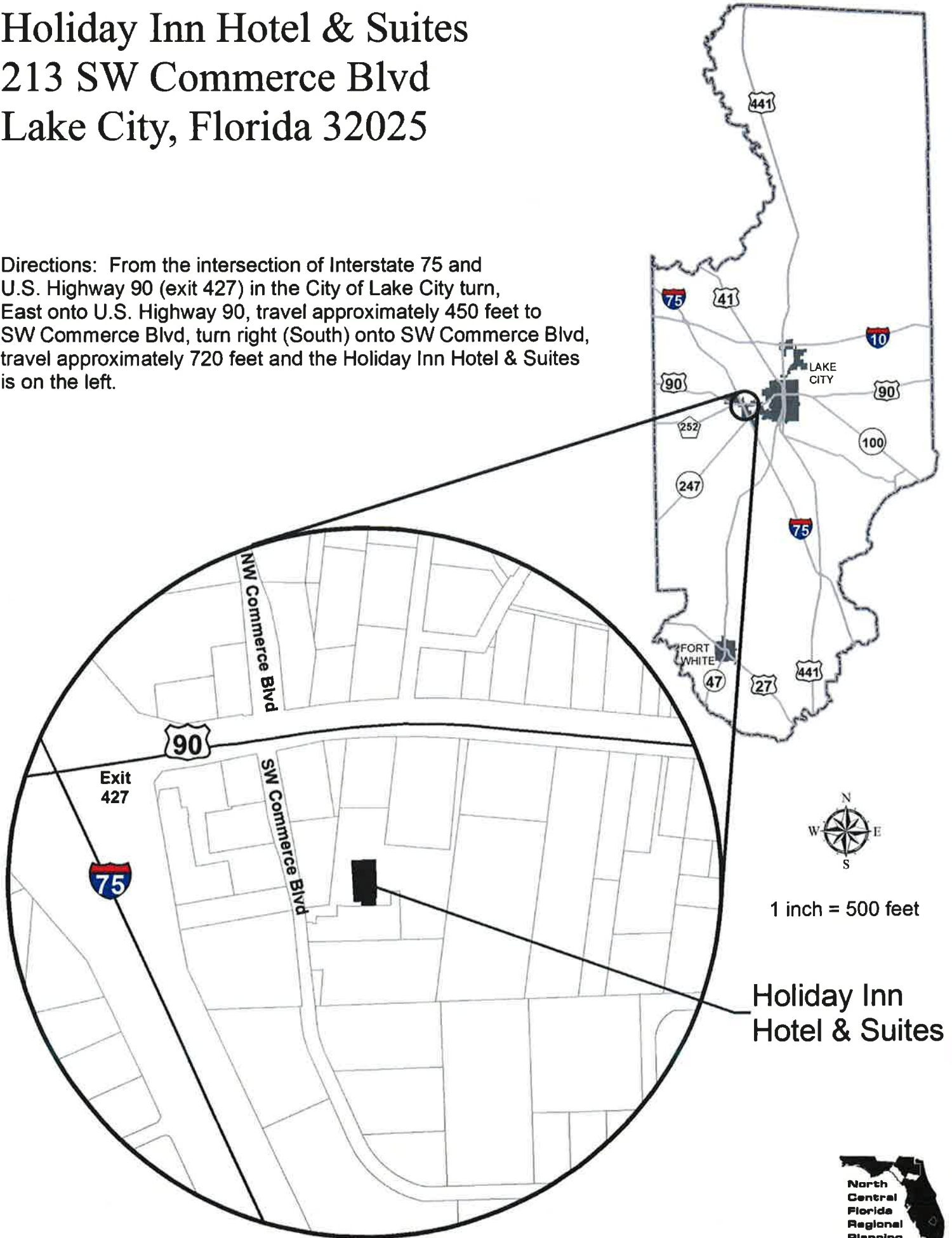
*Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)*

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

October 24, 2013  
7:30 p.m.

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#### Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

1. #1 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
2. #2 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
3. #4 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

#### Sector Plan

#3 - Plum Creek Sector Plan, Council Recommendations for the Long-Term Master Plan

VI. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

This agenda item provides an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on any matter not included on the agenda. The comment period is limited to three minutes for each individual.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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\* See Attachments

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Lake City, Florida

September 26, 2013  
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County  
Susan Bottcher, City of Gainesville  
Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville  
**LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper**  
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County  
Jim Catron, City of Madison  
**Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County**  
Don Cook, City of Perry  
Karen Cossey, Union County  
**Rick Davis, Madison County**  
Rusty DePratter, Columbia County  
**Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County**  
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County  
*James Montgomery, Columbia County*  
**Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak**  
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer  
Patricia Patterson, Taylor County  
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville  
DeLoris Roberts, City of Hawthorne  
**Daniel Riddick, Bradford County**  
**Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke**  
*Lorene Thomas, Dixie County*  
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County  
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua  
*Charles Williams, Hamilton County*

NON-VOTING DELEGATE

None

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp  
Scott Koons  
Carol Laine

MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Baird, Alachua County  
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs  
**Louie Davis, City of Waldo**  
*Sandra Haas, Suwannee County*  
**Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville**  
Jason Holifield, Dixie County  
Timothy Marden, City of Newberry  
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County  
**Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County**  
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville  
*Mike Williams, Madison County*  
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

OTHERS PRESENT

Dave Cobb, Florida Power and Light  
Brian Delburn, Florida Dept. of Transportation  
Jordan Green, Florida Dept. of Transportation  
Doug Jones, Archer City Commissioner  
Sarai King, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority  
Ralph Kitchens, Columbia, Hamilton & Suwannee  
Transportation Disadvantaged Board  
Joseph Riddick

**Board Members names are bolded**

*Gubernatorial Members names are italicized*

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nobles called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Spooner and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Nobles stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

Chair Nobles welcomed and introduced Dave Cobb, Florida Power and Light, Sarai King, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, Ralph Kitchens, a member of the Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and Joe Riddick, past member and former Council Chair from Bradford County. Mayor Ogborn then introduced Commissioner Doug Jones from the City of Archer.

Chair Nobles asked that Item V.B.4., #80 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment and Item V.B.5., #81 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, be added to the agenda.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Wainwright made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wilford to add Item V.B.4., #80 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment and Item V.B.5., #81 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 22, 2013

Chair Nobles asked that the minutes of the August 22, 2013 meeting be approved as written.

**ACTION:** Mayor Ogborn made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Patterson to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2013 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - August 2013
- B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Appointments to Bradford, Madison and Union County Coordinating Boards
- C. U.S. Economic Development Administration Short-Term Planning and State Planning Grant Amendment

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

**ACTION:** Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Catron, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Nobles introduced and welcomed returning member Commissioner Susan Bottcher from the City of Gainesville.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation

1. E. W. Hodges
2. Danny Johnson
3. Jean Rosebrock
4. Myrtle Webb

Chair Nobles asked that Resolutions of Appreciation for past services be approved for E. W. Hodges, who served as the Florida Association for Community Action Representative on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board from July 2000 to August 2013; Danny Johnson, who served as the Citizen Advocate on the Hamilton County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board from June 2013 to September 2013; Jean Rosebrock, who served as the Citizen Advocate on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board from April 2012 to August 2013 and Myrtle Webb, who served as the Florida Association for Community Action Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board from December 2000 to August 2013.

**ACTION: Commissioner Patterson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Bailey, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for past services for E. W. Hodges, Danny Johnson, Jean Rosebrock and Myrtle Webb. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Resolutions of Appreciation

1. Todd Chase
2. Yvonne Hinson-Rawls

Chair Nobles asked that Resolutions of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for Commissioners Todd Chase and Yvonne Hinson-Rawls from the City of Gainesville.

**ACTION: Commissioner Poe made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Bailey, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Commissioner Chase and Commissioner Hinson-Rawls. The motion carried unanimously.**

D. Executive Director Appointed to National Association of Development Organizations Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Steering Committee

Chair Nobles reported that Scott Koons, Executive Director, has been appointed to the National Association of Development Organizations Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Steering Committee. He stated that the National Association of Development Organizations promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery and comprehensive strategies as well as provides advocacy, education, networking and research for the national network of 540 regional development organizations. He stated that the Steering Committee will make recommendations to the U. S. Economic Development Administration concerning the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Content Guidelines. He added that the Council, serving as a federally designated economic development district adopted the most recent five-year update of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy on September 2012 using the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars for Securing Florida's Future as the organizing framework.

No Council action was required on this item.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Amendment to the Council's Organization Policy

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Legislature enacted Chapter 2013-227, Laws of Florida, relating to public comment at public meetings. The Chapter creates Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes, requiring that a member of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard at a public meeting before any official action is taken on a proposition. He further stated that the Chapter also provides for the Council to establish policies concerning the amount of time an individual has to address the Council, procedures for representatives of groups to address the Council, procedures or forms for an individual to use in order to inform the Council of a desire to be heard. The Chapter does not preclude the Council from maintaining orderly conduct or proper decorum at a public meeting. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council adopt an amendment to the Organization Policies adding a new Section 18, entitled Public Participation, which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**ACTION:** Mayor Ogborn made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cossey, to approve an amendment to the Organization Policies of the Council by adding a new Section 18, entitled Public Participation, which is attached to and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Proclamation Declaring October 2013 as Community Planning Month

Mr. Koons stated that the month of October 2013 has been chosen to celebrate National Community Planning Month. He added that 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. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that a Proclamation proclaiming October 2013 as Community Planning Month in north central Florida be adopted, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

**ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to adopt a Proclamation proclaiming October 2013 as Community Planning Month, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation

Chair Nobles stated that 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 and further specifies that the annual review and evaluation of the Executive Director shall be conducted by the Executive Committee. He added that, at its discretion, the Executive Committee is authorized to provide a merit increase to the Executive Director on an annual basis commencing October 1 of each year.

Chair Nobles stated that the Executive Committee has adopted performance standards to review and evaluate the Executive Director and that the performance review was conducted by each Committee member prior to the September 26, 2013 Council meeting. He reported that the review resulted in "exceeds job requirements" for all evaluation standards, with an overall average score of 5.0 on a 5.0 scale. Chair Nobles stated that, based upon this review, the Executive Committee awarded the Executive Director a five percent merit pay adjustment. He reported that since funds have not been appropriated for any other Council staff to receive merit increases during Fiscal Year 2014, Mr. Koons requested that his merit pay increase for Fiscal Year 2014, along with his Fiscal Year 2010, Fiscal Year 2011, Fiscal Year 2012 and Fiscal Year 2013 merit pay increases, be deferred until Fiscal Year 2015. He further reported that the Executive Committee approved Mr. Koons' request concerning his merit pay increase deferment.

No Council action was required on this item.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas and Vice-Chair Thomas Hawkins, Committee member James Montgomery gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening

and reviewed three local government comprehensive plan amendments and one development order proposed amendment.

#71 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment  
#78 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment  
#79 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment  
Advent Christian Village Local Government Development Order Amendment

Mr. Montgomery further reported that subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packets, Council staff received two late-arriving items which require action prior to the next Council meeting.

#80 - Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda)  
#81 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda)

Mr. Montgomery stated that the items would be grouped for presentation purposes. He stated that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, do not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION:**      **Mr. Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Patterson, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #71, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #78, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #79, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #80, Town of White Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda) and Item #81, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Montgomery stated that with regards to the Advent Christian Village Local Government Development Order Amendment, the Committee found that the proposed development order amendment is minor in nature and is not anticipated to result in additional regional impacts. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding this finding to Advent Christian Village, Suwannee County and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION:**      **Mr. Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hamlin, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning the Advent Christian Village Local Government Development Order Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2012-13 Amended Budget

Secretary-Treasurer Daniel Riddick, serving as Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met on September 18, 2013 and agreed upon a budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2012-13. He stated that this budget amendment takes into account action taken by the Council during the past year to accept work under contracts and additional grants which were not anticipated when the original budget was prepared as well as reductions in anticipated revenues. He reviewed the proposed budget amendment and noted that it contained an overall net decrease of (\$76,400), which represents a (3.9) percent decrease. Secretary-Treasurer Riddick stated that the Finance Committee recommended that the Council approve the proposed amended Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget.

**ACTION: Commissioner Riddick made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Jordan Green, Rural Area Transportation Development Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, reported that the Department is currently developing its five-year work program and is in the phase where projects can be added or removed without requiring a program amendment. He further stated that meetings will be scheduled with each county during November 2013 to discuss their five-year work program. He requested that a presentation on the five-year work program be scheduled for the December 2013 Council meeting.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Koons thanked the Executive Committee for their favorable evaluation of his performance and also thanked the Council for the honor and privilege to continue to serve the Council and the north central Florida region as executive director.

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity 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, are reported each month to the Council. He also highlighted several of the accomplishments listed in the August 2013 monthly activity report that was included in the Council meeting packet.

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 reviewed the September 2013 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. North Florida Water Working Group

Mr. Koons reported that the goal of the North Florida Water Working Group is to restore, promote and maintain water flow and quality with a focus on legislation. The first meeting of the Working Group was held in Lake City on July 14, 2013. He stated that the Group outlined their goals and objectives, which were later refined at their second meeting held on July 24, 2013 where they also discussed potential water conservation legislation ideas. The Working Group met with representatives of several law firms to discuss general strategies for addressing various water supply, conservation and allocation concerns on September 11, 2013 in Lake City. The law firm team will propose a legislative strategy which addresses the concerns of the Working Group for the 2014 Legislative Session.

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 and establishes the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership. He stated that ensuring sustainable water supplies and protecting north Florida's waterways and natural systems is a collaborative effort among the water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local elected officials and area stakeholders.

Mr. Koons reported that the Partnership met on August 19, 2013 in Lake City and was updated by Suwannee River Water Management District staff on the Prevention and Recovery Plan for the Lower Santa Fe River, Ichetucknee River and Priority Springs. The Committee was also heard presentations on aquifer recharge projects, the role of evapotranspiration in the water cycle and water use data methodologies.

E. Florida Local Government Coalition Local Works Day

Mr. Koons stated that Local Works Day, sponsored by the Florida Local Government Coalition, is a day to bring attention to the hard work that local government employees do for millions of Floridians each day and about the public works that are easy to take for granted, but which knit our communities together. He then presented a three-minute

video on Local Works Day, which can also be found on the Council website at [www.ncfrpc.org](http://www.ncfrpc.org).

F. Check Fraud Status Report

Mr. Koons reported that on March 20, 2013, a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 that was written on the Council's bank account was processed and paid by Wells Fargo. Also on March 20, 2013, Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo. On March 25, 2013, Council staff filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department. On April 18, 2013, the Council Attorney sent a letter to Wells Fargo requesting that Wells Fargo remit to the Council within 30 days the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's account. He added that on June 3, 2013, attorneys for Wells Fargo responded via letter stating that Wells Fargo will not reimburse the Council for the \$49,523.00 released from the Council's account by Wells Fargo.

Mr. Koons stated that at their meeting on July 25, 2013, the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00, to engage Stanley Cushman from the law firm of Scruggs and Carmichael to serve as co-counsel for the lawsuit and to designate Scott Koons, Executive Director, as the Council's representative concerning all matters related to such lawsuit. He stated that on August 6, 2013, a lawsuit was filed against Wells Fargo to recover the Council's funds.

Mr. Wershow then reported that on September 9, 2013, Wells Fargo responded to the complaint by filing a Motion to Compel Arbitration. He stated that he and Co-Counsel Cushman responded to the motion stating that arbitration does not apply to the dispute and have filed a motion for a hearing on the motion to compel arbitration. He added that a hearing date has not yet been set.

Chair Nobles informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on October 24, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

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Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Chair

10/24/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





## Section 18: Public Participation.

Members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before the Council. The opportunity to be heard need not occur at the same meeting at which the Council takes official action on the proposition if the opportunity occurs at a meeting that is during the decisionmaking process and is within reasonable proximity in time before the meeting at which the Council takes the official action. This provision does not prohibit the Council from maintaining orderly conduct or proper decorum in a public meeting. The opportunity to be heard is subject to policies adopted by the Council as provided herein.

- (1) Policies of the Council which govern the opportunity for members of the public to be heard at public meetings are, as follows:
  - (a) Members of the public shall be allowed three minutes to address the Council;
  - (b) The Council may, at its discretion, require representatives of groups or factions on a proposition to address the Council, rather than allowing all members of such groups or factions to address the Council, at meetings in which a large number of individuals wish to be heard;
  - (c) Forms shall be provided at meetings of the Council for citizens and groups to use in order to inform the Council of a desire to be heard; to indicate support, opposition or neutrality on a proposition; and to indicate designation of representatives to speak for members of the public, groups or factions on a proposition if desired; and
  - (d) The Council shall include an item on the agenda of public meetings for public comment offering members of the public and representatives of groups or factions an opportunity to comment or to be heard on any matter pertinent to the Council not included as an agenda item at such public meeting.





# PROCLAMATION

## DECLARING OCTOBER 2013 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 2013 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 2013 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 26th day of September 2013.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Daniel Riddick, Secretary-Treasurer

Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Chair





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October 17, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2013-14 Technical Assistance Planning Grant Agreement -  
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Chair to sign an agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to prepare economic profile studies for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette and Union Counties for a fixed fee amount of \$25,000.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council proposes to enter into a technical assistance planning grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to prepare economic profile studies for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette and Union Counties.

A high priority of these counties is to promote economic development. The counties are desirous of establishing strategies to expand job opportunities. In order to establish the foundation for these strategies, an Economic Profile Study will be prepared for each of these counties. The studies will serve as the basis for the future development of optional Economic Development Elements of the Comprehensive Plans of each of these counties. The amount of the agreement will be a fixed fee amount of \$25,000.

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

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October 17, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2013-14 Community Redevelopment Area  
Planning Assistance Agreement - City of Madison

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Chair to sign an agreement with the City of Madison to provide Community Redevelopment planning assistance services for a fixed fee amount of \$7,500.**

BACKGROUND:

The Council proposes to enter into a technical assistance agreement with the City of Madison to provide planning assistance to prepare a finding of necessity study to determine if certain areas meet statutory requirements as slum and blighted areas for possible addition to the existing Community Redevelopment Area in the City. This agreement will be funded with City Community Redevelopment Area funds. The amount of the agreement will be a fixed fee amount of \$7,500.

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





## IV.

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October 17, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Chair

SUBJECT: Appointment of Florida Regional Councils Association  
Policy Board Retreat Delegation

### RECOMMENDATION:

**Ratify the appointment of Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Retreat Delegation as recommended by the Chair.**

### BACKGROUND:

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 Florida Regional Councils Association has scheduled a retreat for January 9-10, 2014, to be held in Tallahassee. The purpose of the retreat is to review the roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils in furthering their mission to improve the quality of life in regions throughout Florida. The retreat will be facilitated by the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute. Prior to the retreat, interviews and surveys will be conducted by the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute with regional planning council partners and stakeholders.

Each regional planning council is being afforded the opportunity to be represented by a five-member delegation. The composition of the delegation is to consist of the three Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board representatives from each regional planning council and two other Council members, provided that the delegation at a minimum includes the Chair and Vice-Chair of each regional planning council.

Therefore, it is recommended that the following Council members be appointed to the Florida Regional Councils Association Retreat Delegation.

- Rick Davis, Executive Committee Member
- Garth Nobles, Jr., Chair, Policy Board Representative
- Carolyn Spooner, Vice-Chair
- Daniel Riddick, Secretary-Treasurer, Policy Board Representative
- Lorene Thomas, Immediate Past Chair, Policy Board Representative

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by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources,  
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October 17, 2013

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., October 24, 2013 at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 213 SW Commerce Boulevard, Lake City. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level items which require 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

- #1- City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 13-1ESR)
- #2 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 13-2ER)
- #4 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 14-1ESR)

##### Sector Plans

- #3 Plum Creek Sector Plan, Council Recommendations for the Long-Term Master Plan

***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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October 17, 2013

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 September 2013 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities 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 ACTIVITY REPORT: September 2013**

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### **OUTREACH**

- Met with Melanie Carr, Florida Department of Transportation, and two consultants from CDM Smith, Rob Vickers and Amie Longstreet, to discuss the potential for a more meaningful role for RPCs in the state's rural transportation planning process. Provided contracts and scopes of work between Departments of Transportation and their RPCs from the states of Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, and Tennessee as examples. Discussions are ongoing.
- Conducted activities to qualify FRCA as a "supporting organization" for the Florida Energy Summit taking place in October.
- To assist the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and Florida Division of Emergency Management with a joint initiative to support the National Disaster Recovery Framework, provided a list of RPC Long Term Disaster Recovery Points of Contact and resources RPCs bring to the table to assist with long term recovery efforts.
- Attended the American Planning Association, Florida Chapter's annual conference and staffed a booth in the exhibit hall to promote the local government services offered by the RPCs and the role of RPCs in economic development.
- Distributed information pertaining to and encouraged RPCs to engage in Local Work Days activities, which occurred on September 6. Its purpose was to encourage members of the Local Government Coalition, which includes the RPCs, to "engage, educate and interact with their communities by celebrating the trusted services that local governments provide." This is an initiative of the Florida League of Cities.

### **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING**

- Participated in Enterprise Florida's monthly stakeholders conference call, which focused primarily on the new TEAM FLORIDA marketing campaign and outreach to other states.
- Attended a meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force and shared information with the RPC Executive Directors pertaining to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's top tier sites for acquisition of non-conservation encroachment buffers for military installations, which were presented at the meeting and endorsed by the Task Force.
- Shared with the RPC Executive Directors Bob Romig's regional governance presentation given at the Florida Transportation Commission Workshop, which included policy considerations to address regional planning.

- Participated in a meeting of the Rural Economic Development Initiative where Enterprise Florida's legislative recommendations for rural economic development were distributed and reviewed. A presentation on the North Florida Intermodal Park on Plum Creek's property in Columbia County was also given (see <http://www.ccfledd.com/intermodalpark/>).
- Attended a meeting with Brian Teeple (NEFRC), Manny Pumariaga (TBRPC), Hugh Harling (ECFRPC), Charles Blume (ARPC) and representatives of the Florida Division of Emergency Management to discuss changes to the Regional Domestic Security Task Force contract and scope of work for the 2013-14 Fiscal Year.
- Distributed grant opportunity announcements to the RPC Executive Directors pertaining to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Commerce, Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program.
- Reviewed and provided extensive comments on Enterprise Florida's NEXT LEVEL initiative to better link this proposed local economic development initiative with RPC resources.
- Participated in a SouthEast Regional Directors Institute teleconference to participate in a discussion regarding regional challenges in several member states.

#### **LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT**

- Began a budget data gathering exercise at the request of the Senate Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee, which will be submitted in October.
- Attended a Legislative Dialog Community Meeting in Tallahassee and provided information on the role of RPCs in economic development to Representative Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda (Tallahassee-D) and Representative Alan Williams (Tallahassee-D).
- While at the APA Florida conference, provided Representative Bobby Powell (West Palm Beach-D), who was also in attendance, with the same information described in the bullet point above.
- Reviewed newly filed bills for the 2014 Legislative Session and attended legislative committee meetings the week of September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Prepared meeting summaries from the August FRCA meetings and identified speakers and developed the agendas for the October FRCA meetings.
- Developed the 2014 FRCA meeting calendar, which will be approved in October.
- Finalized hotel and catering contract negotiations for the October and December 2013 and February, March, and April 2014 FRCA meetings and January 2014 FRCA strategic planning retreat.



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October 17, 2013

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 October 2013 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

Search the Scorecard

Log-In to Your Scorecard

HOME

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES

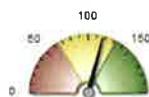
BLOG



Talent Supply & Education



Innovation & Economic Development



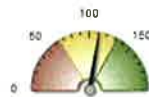
Infrastructure & Growth Leadership



Business Climate & Competitiveness



Civic & Governance Systems



Quality of Life & Quality Places

Current News

2030 Metrics

County Data

Interactive Chart

My Metrics

Tourism Indicators

## A Growing Need for Energy

Florida, already the nation's third largest energy consumer, faces a mounting need for more energy.

Consider the facts leading to Florida's growing energy needs:

Six million more residents will call Florida home by 2030. Four to five million new licensed drivers will traverse on Florida roads and highways by 2030. Each year, more than 70 million passengers are flying in larger planes, and New, larger ships are being constructed to transport cargo to and from Florida ports. Across the nation, local, state and federal officials have sought to effectively assess, plan and execute sound energy policies. In Florida, Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam is the leading advocate for ensuring that Florida is prepared to take advantage of future economic opportunities within the energy sector.

Given Florida's climate, its dynamic demographics and future trends, a sound energy policy that leverages our existing resources, while planning for upcoming projections and needs, will be essential to securing Florida's Future. As Florida prepares to surpass New York to become the third largest state in the nation, smart planning to help ensure our state has adequate energy for positive economic growth and competitiveness.

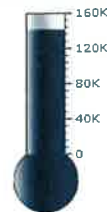
### Consider These Facts:

Florida's oil and natural gas industry supports 286,000 jobs and contributes \$23 billion to Florida's gross state product (3.1 percent of its wealth). Florida was second only to Texas in 2011 in net electricity generation from natural gas, which accounted for 62 percent of Florida's net generation. Coal, nuclear and other resources accounted for 23, 9.8 and 5.2 respectively. In 2011, renewable energy accounted for 2.2 percent total net electricity generation, and Florida ranked third in the nation in net electricity generation from solar energy.



Energy Prices

### Florida Net 12-Month Job Creation



143.7K



FLORIDA JOBS



### SCORECARD NEWSLETTER

Provide your email address to receive monthly Scorecard updates

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## Ranking Florida



### Key Indicators



#### Home Foreclosures

As Florida continues to recover from the housing market collapse, trends in home foreclosures provide insight into Florida's progress through the extended recovery.



#### Consumer Confidence

The Florida Consumer Confidence Index measures residents' perceptions of personal finances now compared to a year ago and expectations of U.S.



#### Population

Florida has the 4th largest population in the U.S., estimated at just over 19 million in April 2012.



#### Unemployment Rate

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

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October 17, 2013

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: National Association of Development Organizations Innovation Awards

The National Association of Development Organizations is a Washington, D.C.-based association that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery and comprehensive strategies. The Association's Innovation Awards program recognizes regional development organizations and partnering organizations for improving the economic and community competitiveness of local communities throughout the region.

The Association recently awarded the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council two 2013 Innovation Awards. The first award was for the Fish Natural North Florida Regional Marketing Campaign and the second award was for the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Exercise. The 2013 slate of awardees includes 93 projects representing National Association of Development Organizations members from 25 states.

"For nearly 30 years, the National Association of Development Organizations' Innovation Award has provided regional development organizations the opportunity to be recognized for their hard work and dedication to promoting economic development in rural and small metropolitan communities across the country. Building on the unique strengths and challenges of each region and community, award recipients continue to promote sustainable economic growth not only now, but for many years to come. And I am pleased to announce that this year over 100 regional development organizations were selected to receive National Association of Development Organizations' 2013 Innovation Award," said President John Leonard, Executive Director of the Southern Georgia Regional Commission in Valdosta, Georgia.

#### Fish Natural North Florida Regional Marketing Campaign

The first Innovation Award was for the Fish Natural North Florida Regional Marketing Campaign. To capitalize on the \$7 Billion spent annually on fishing related activities in Florida, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, in conjunction with *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*, implemented a region-wide promotional campaign titled, "Fish Natural North Florida," designed to elevate the status of the region as a prime fishing destination. The focus of the campaign was the southeastern United States, the most likely drive market for the region.

The campaign began with the launch of the Fish Natural North Florida website, [www.fnnf.org](http://www.fnnf.org). The website features all the information that a visiting angler needs about fishing in the region, from species characteristics to boat ramps, marinas and lodging. Next, 100,000 fishing maps/placemats were printed for distribution to local restaurants and visitor centers throughout the region. The maps/placemats were designed to pique the interest of diners in fishing opportunities in the region, as well as drive traffic to the fishing website for more information. In addition, two press familiarization tours were conducted throughout the region to expose fishing and travel writers to the abundant opportunities for anglers in the region. The first tour focused on saltwater fishing, while the second focused on freshwater.

#### North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Exercise

The second Innovation Award was for the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Exercise. Florida has established regional Local Emergency Planning Committees under the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The North Central Florida (District 3) Local Emergency Planning Committee conducts hazardous materials emergency response planning, training, compliance assistance and exercising for the north central Florida region.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee, with staff support from the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, conducted a full scale hazardous materials emergency response exercise. This exercise involved a variety of different departments and combined many different objectives addressing both hazardous materials response and interoperable communications to increase the learning opportunities for participants. The exercise was conducted on the Council office property. A portion of the Council office property is used for hazardous materials training and includes hazardous materials training props, such as a gasoline tanker truck and an anhydrous ammonia nurse tank.

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



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October 17, 2013

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Check Fraud Status Report

On March 20, 2013, a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 that was written on the Council's bank account was processed and paid by Wells Fargo. Also on March 20, 2013, Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo. On March 25, 2013, Council staff filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department.

On March 28, 2013, Council Attorney Jonathan Wershow and Council staff briefed the Executive Committee concerning this matter. On April 18, 2013, the Council Attorney sent a letter to Wells Fargo requesting that Wells Fargo remit to the Council within 30 days the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's account. On April 25, 2013, Council staff briefed the Council concerning this matter. On June 3, 2013, attorneys for Wells Fargo responded via letter to Mr. Wershow's letter stating that Wells Fargo will not reimburse the Council for the \$49,523.00 released from the Council's account by Wells Fargo.

On July 25, 2013, the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00 and designate Scott Koons, Executive Director, as the Council's representative concerning all matters related to such lawsuit. In addition, the Council authorized the Council Attorney and the Executive Director to contact federal and state law enforcement agencies to discuss the fraudulent check processed and paid out of the Council's bank account by Wells Fargo.

On August 5, 2013, Council Attorney Wershow and I met with Mr. William Cervone, State's Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida to discuss the check fraud incident. Mr. Cervone offered the assistance of his staff to work with the Gainesville Police Department to secure the bank records relating to the check fraud incident.

On August 6, 2013, Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Council Stanley Cushman filed a five-count lawsuit in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida, against Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's bank account.

On September 9, 2013, Wells Fargo responded to the complaint by filing a Motion to Compel Arbitration. Wells Fargo alleges that disputes related to the Council's checking account are to be resolved by an arbitrator. Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Counsel Stanley Cushman responded to the motion stating arbitration does not apply to the dispute.

A hearing has been scheduled for October 30, 2013 in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida on the Motion to Compel Arbitration filed by Wells Fargo to resolve the dispute between the Council and Wells Fargo.

Please find attached a summary of legal fees incurred to date concerning the lawsuit.

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

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
Wells Fargo Lawsuit  
Legal Fees

October 17, 2013

<u>Month</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 2013	\$1,833
September 2013	<u>\$2,508</u>
Total	\$4,341

