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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 **July 27, 2017**. The meeting will be held at the **Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida**. Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting at **7:00 p.m.**

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

*Please call the Council at 352.955.2200, or 800.226.0690, or email strong@ncfrpc.org by July 24, 2017 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.***

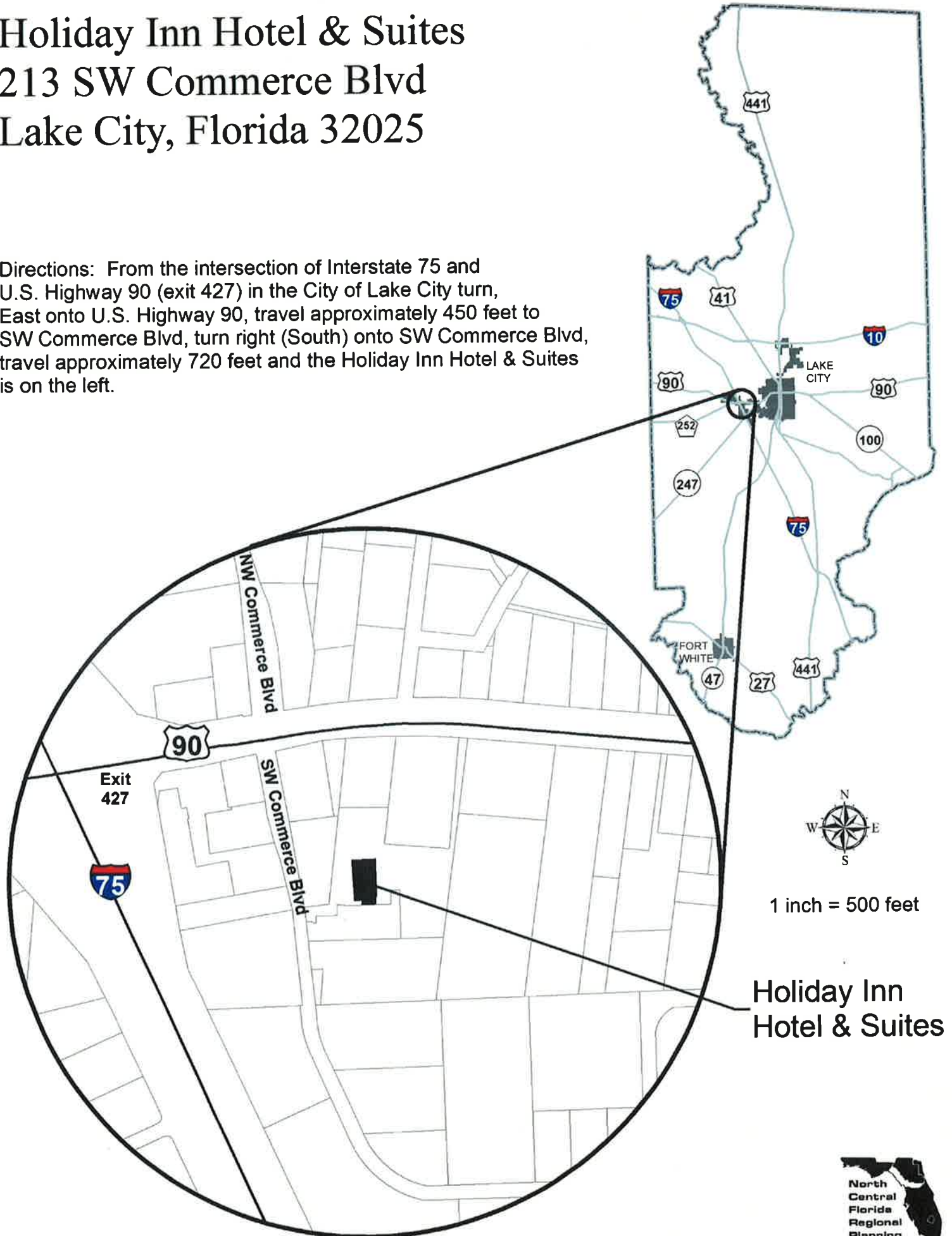
(Location Map on Back)

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.)

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

July 27, 2017
7:00 p.m.

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- * B. Clearinghouse Committee

Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

1. #93 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ER)
2. #94 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
3. #95 - Dixie Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
4. #96 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
5. #97 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-3ESR)

- * C. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee - Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022 33

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

X. 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.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

June 22, 2017
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Harvey Budd, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
James Catron, City of Madison
Rick Coleman, City of Newberry
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
William Hunter, Hamilton County
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Barney Bennett, Florida Department
of Transportation
Russell Simpson, Florida Department
of Environmental Protection
Hugh Thomas, Suwannee River
Water Management District

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

None

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Thomas Dumps, Taylor County
Jason Evans, City of High Springs
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Daniel Webb, Union County
Mike Williams, Madison County

OTHERS PRESENT

Tim Bennett
Sandra Buck-Camp
Thomas Clemens
LJ Johnson
Stew Lilker
Darryl Mortimer
Daniel Penniman
Judy Rice

STAFF PRESENT

Steven Dopp
Scott Koons
Jean Strong
Tara Tucker

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 7:02 p.m. with an invocation given by Mayor Davis and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Thomas stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Tim Bennett, City Manager from the City of Madison; Thomas Clemens, Vice-President for the Economic Development from Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce; Judy Rice, City Clerk from City of Newberry; Sandra Buck-Camp and LJ Johnson, members of the Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Darryl Mortimer, husband of Council member Janice Mortimer and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Thomas asked that the agenda be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

Scott Koons, Executive Director, gave a presentation which reviewed activities of the Florida Regional Councils Association highlighting the purpose and organizational structure of the Association as well as projects and activities undertaken by the ten member regional planning councils. Chair Thomas thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 25, 2017

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the May 25, 2017 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Monthly Financial Report - May 2017

B. Amendment to Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2016-17

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

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

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Member

Chair Thomas stated that there were no new members in attendance.

B. 2017-18 Committee Appointments

Chair Thomas asked that the appointments to the Clearinghouse Committee, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and Representatives to the Florida Regional Councils Association be approved as recommended by the Chair.

ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the appointments to the Clearinghouse Committee, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and representatives to the Florida Regional Councils Association as recommended by the Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Sessions, Clearinghouse Committee Vice-Chair, gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #85 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments
- #86 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments
- #87 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #88 - Town of LaCrosse Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #89 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #90 - City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #91 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #92 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner Sessions stated with regards to these items the Committee finds with the exception of the Hamilton County item, that the local government comprehensive plans as amended, are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, or adjacent local governments. He stated the Committee finds that Item #92, Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment may result in adverse impacts

to the Regional Network as well as adverse extra jurisdictional impacts. Commissioner Sessions stated that the Committee recommends that the County add Transportation Planning Best Practices contained in the regional plan as goals and policies in the County Comprehensive Plan to mitigate adverse impacts to the Regional Road Network as well as to mitigate adverse extra jurisdictional impacts. He stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Commissioner Sessions made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Arreola, to approve the Committee recommendations concerning Item #85 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments; Item #86 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments; #87 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; #88 - Town of LaCrosse Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; #89 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; #90 - City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment; #91 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and #92 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Finance Committee -

1. Fiscal Year 2015-16 Audit
2. Authorize Payment of Auditor

Commissioner Wilford, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening with the auditor and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants. He stated that the auditor issued an unqualified report and that the document contained no findings. Commissioner Wilford also stated, that the overall prevailing conclusion was that the statements provided were found in all material respects, to fairly present the financial position of the Council at the end of the last fiscal year. He stated with respect to revenues collected vs. those budgeted, revenues received were (1.4) percent less than budgeted amounts, with respect to expenditures, funds expended were (1.6) percent less than budgeted amounts.

Commissioner Wilford stated that the general balance of the Council increased by \$2,169. He also stated the audit also contains various reports on compliance, internal control and management and in these reports no material weaknesses or problems were cited. Finally, he stated that overall the Finance Committee was pleased with the report and it is clear from the auditor's findings that the Council is in very sound financial condition.

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cornell, to accept and approve the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cornell, to make final payment to the auditor. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Hugh Thomas, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that Carlos Herd, formerly with the Suwannee River Water Management District, has accepted a position with the Northwest Florida Water Management District. He stated that Noah Valenstein, the former Executive Director of the Suwannee River Water Management District has started his position as Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary. Finally, Mr. Thomas stated that the river grant project applications need to be submitted to the District by August 8, 2017.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, state that the Northeast District is available to assist local governments and individuals concerning permit applications and Department regulatory compliance issues.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten 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 Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the May 2017 activities report 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 related to each of the Six Pillars. 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 June 2017 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2017A Legislative Special Session convened on June 7, 2017 and adjourned on June 9, 2017. He reported that that the Legislature passed legislation concerning an increase in funding for VisitFlorida, establishment of a new Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for infrastructure and job skills training, and implementation the Constitutional medical marijuana amendment.

D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Mobility Enhancement Grant Projects

Mr. Koons reported that MV Transportation, Inc. received a grant of \$55,350 to provide reduced fare bus passes to homeless clients of the GRACE Marketplace in Alachua County; Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. received \$53,866 to continue on-demand same day transportation in Starke for medical, pharmacy and shopping purposes in Bradford County; Suwannee Valley Transit Authority received \$54,416 for on-demand same day transportation in Lake City for medical, pharmacy and shopping purposes in Columbia County; and Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. received \$38,313 to provide on-demand same day transportation to service to Walmart in Chiefland for clients in Dixie and Gilchrist Counties for a one-year period through June 30, 2018.

E. Reassignment of Marion County to East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Mr. Koons reported that the Governor recently signed Executive Order No. 17-128 reassigning Marion County to the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

F. 2020 Census Local Update Addresses Information Sessions

Mr. Koons reported that the U.S. Census Bureau held a promotional information session concerning the Local Update Census Addresses Program for the 2020 Census at the office of the Council on June 14, 2017. He also stated that the session was attended by local government officials from throughout the north central Florida region.

G. Public Records Complaint

Mr. Koons reported that a public records complaint has been filed against the Council concerning planning assistance that the Council is providing to Union County.

H. Financial Disclosure Report Filing

Mr. Koons reported that all members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year. He stated the financial disclosure forms filed by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfill this requirement. Gubernatorial members must file a financial disclosure form with the Supervisor of Elections office in their respective counties to fulfill this requirement. Council members should have received a copy of the financial disclosure form in the mail within the past few weeks.

Mr. Koons presented outgoing Chair Davis with a framed photograph of the Suwannee River and thanked him for his leadership during the past year. Chair Davis thanked the Council for allowing him to serve as Chair for the past year.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on July 27, 2017 starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

7/27/17
Date



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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - June 2017

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for June 2017. The following paragraphs discuss revenues and expenditures to the budget for the month and year to date.

Revenue

The total revenue for the Council for year to date is within budgeted figures. Revenue at the end of nine months is 70 percent of budget.

Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of nine months is 73 percent of budget.

Conclusion

In conclusion, staff is pleased with the financial condition of the Council. 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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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking / Savings	852,169
Accounts Receivable	474,119
Other Current Assets	22,352
Total Current Assets	<u>1,348,640</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,348,640</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	29,831
Other Current Liabilities	297,532
Total Liabilities	<u>327,363</u>
Equity	<u>1,021,277</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,348,640</u>

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017

SUMMARY STATEMENT

	Adopted Budget FY 2016-17	June 2017	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Revenue	1,905,300	376,886	1,335,152	70%
Expenses	1,905,300	160,049	1,393,102	73%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)

June 30, 2017

REVENUE

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2016-17	June 2017	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Program Development	29,800	720	20,842	70%
Regional Planning		0		
State Planning & Review	110,000	0	67,258	61%
		0		
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance		0		
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	58,900	0	0	0%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	129,200	15,686	67,098	52%
Hazards Analyses	18,500	0	16,754	91%
Local Mitigation Strategies	10,500	0	0	0%
Coastal Flooding		0	5,000	
Homeland Security Activities		14,500	16,000	
		0		
Transportation		0		
Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	368,100	92,025	276,075	75%
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	203,300	67,767	135,534	67%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	24,100	7,277	17,883	74%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	192,700	61,768	148,629	77%
		0		
Economic Development		0		
Comp Econ Development Strategy & Tech Assistance	153,000	17,500	105,822	69%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	59,400	5,625	18,825	32%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	274,100	94,018	205,512	75%
Vision North Central Florida		0	2,500	
		0		
Local Government Assistance		0		
General Technical Services	30,000	0	18,357	61%
City & County Planning Services	243,700	0	213,063	87%
Total Revenue	1,905,300	376,886	1,335,152	70%

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)

June 30, 2017

EXPENDITURES

Account	Adopted Budget FY 2016-17	June 2017	Year to Date	Percent of Budget
Audit	18,000	15,500	15,500	86%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	40,000	4,722	25,694	64%
Contractual Services	48,000	18,703	120,971	252%
Dues, Publications & Subscriptions	54,000	356	51,780	96%
Furniture & Equipment	15,000	0	0	0%
Insurance and Bonding	21,000	0	10,623	51%
Legal Costs	14,000	340	6,605	47%
Machine Rental/Maintenance	5,000	984	4,606	92%
Meeting Expenses	19,000	2,444	10,926	58%
Moving Expense	2,000	0	0	0%
Office Supplies	25,000	1,898	13,917	56%
Personnel Costs	1,153,700	97,260	859,874	75%
Postage	6,000	355	3,421	57%
Printing	2,000	0	2,087	104%
Recruiting	2,000	0	0	0%
Reproduction	15,000	1,506	10,744	72%
Telephone	7,000	259	3,492	50%
Travel	83,000	4,313	59,012	71%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	274,100	11,409	193,850	71%
Contingency	101,500	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	1,905,300	160,049	1,393,102	73%



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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lorene Thomas, Chair

SUBJECT: Committee Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the appointment of Thomas Clemens, Vice-President for Economic Development for the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, as Vice-Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, as recommended by the Chair.

BACKGROUND:

The Council has been designated by the U. S. Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District since 1978. As such, the Council is responsible for developing and adopting a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to analyze the regional economy and serve as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies by attracting private investment that creates jobs. The strategy must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process developed by a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee representing both the public and private sector, and must set forth the goals and objectives necessary to solve the economic development problems of the region.

A majority of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee must be private sector representatives and also include representatives of public officials, community leaders, workforce development boards, higher education, and minority and labor groups. The Committee is responsible for the development and maintenance of the strategy and making recommendations concerning the strategy to the Council for adoption.

In response to a request from Susan Davenport, President of the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce and Vice-Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, it is recommended that Thomas Clemens, Vice-President for Economic Development for the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce be appointed Vice-Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee to replace Ms. Davenport.

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: 125th Anniversary of the City of High Springs Resolution

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the City of High Springs.

BACKGROUND:

In recognition of the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the City of High Springs, the attached resolution is recommended for approval by the Council.

The City of High Springs, originally known as Orin, with a population of approximately 5,300 residents was incorporated in 1892 in Alachua County along the Santa Fe River. Hernando de Soto led his Spanish expedition through the High Springs area around 1539 and in the 17th century Native American villages and a large Spanish mission flourished near High Springs.

In 1884, the Savannah, Florida Western Railroad extended its rail line from Live Oak to Gainesville and a post office and railroad station was established in present day High Springs. By the beginning of the 20th century, High Springs was known as an important railroad center. In later years, High Springs became the Antique Capital of north central Florida and today serves as the gateway to north central Florida's springs offering scuba diving, swimming, fishing, canoeing and tubing opportunities for nature-based tourism.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2017-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS

WHEREAS, the City of High Springs, originally known as Orin, with a population of approximately 5,300 residents, was incorporated in 1892 in Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, the City of High Springs is located in northwest Alachua County along the Santa Fe River; and

WHEREAS, Hernando de Soto led his Spanish expedition through the High Springs area around 1539 and in the 17th century Native American villages and a large Spanish mission flourished near High Springs; and

WHEREAS, the City of High Springs became the Antique Capital of north central Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City of High Springs, serves as the gateway to north central Florida's springs offering scuba diving, fishing, canoeing and tubing opportunities for nature-based tourism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the City of High Springs on its 125th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 27th day of July 2017.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair



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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Assigned Fund Balance - Capital Reserve

RECOMMENDATION:

Encumber \$15,000 of the Council's unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs to \$555,000.

BACKGROUND:

During Fiscal Year 2016-17, \$15,073 for depreciation of building and equipment was applied to the capital assets of the Council resulting in a total of \$554,543 accumulated depreciation of fixed assets.

The Capital Reserve Fund is maintained at an amount approximate to the accumulated depreciation of building and equipment to cover one-time capital expenditures for building improvements/repairs and equipment replacement/upgrades. In order to maintain the Capital Reserve Fund at this level, it is recommended that \$15,000 from the Council's unassigned fund balance be encumbered as part of the Capital Reserve Fund assigned fund balance to increase the amount for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from \$540,000 to \$555,000.

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


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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Employee Health Insurance Proposal

RECOMMENDATION:

Review health insurance alternative proposals and either select the replacement plan or select an alternative plan for employee health insurance, for dental insurance and life insurance for the year beginning September 1, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

United Healthcare has offered to continue health insurance coverage for the Council with a decrease in premiums for the coming year beginning September 1, 2017. The total decrease in cost to the Council for the coming year would be (\$117) per month, or a decrease of (1.4) percent. The resulting total monthly cost to the Council would be (\$8,430).

United Healthcare is proposing no change in life insurance premiums for the coming year. United Healthcare is proposing to increase the cost for dental insurance to employees for the coming year by \$3 per month or an increase of 5.0 percent. The resulting total monthly cost to employees would be \$67.

Staff has secured alternative proposals for health insurance from United Healthcare for your consideration. Attached is a summary of the renewal plan and two alternative plans with coverage and costs. The alternative proposals include changes to benefits for employees.

Also, please find attached for your information a graph showing the total cost to the Council and employees for health, life and dental insurance costs from Fiscal Year 2008-09 through Fiscal Year 2017-18.

The Executive Committee will make a recommendation to the Council at its July 27, 2017 meeting concerning employee health insurance, dental insurance and life insurance for the year beginning September 1, 2017.

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

Attachments

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

**SUMMARY OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT PLANS
UNITED HEALTHCARE
July 20, 2017**

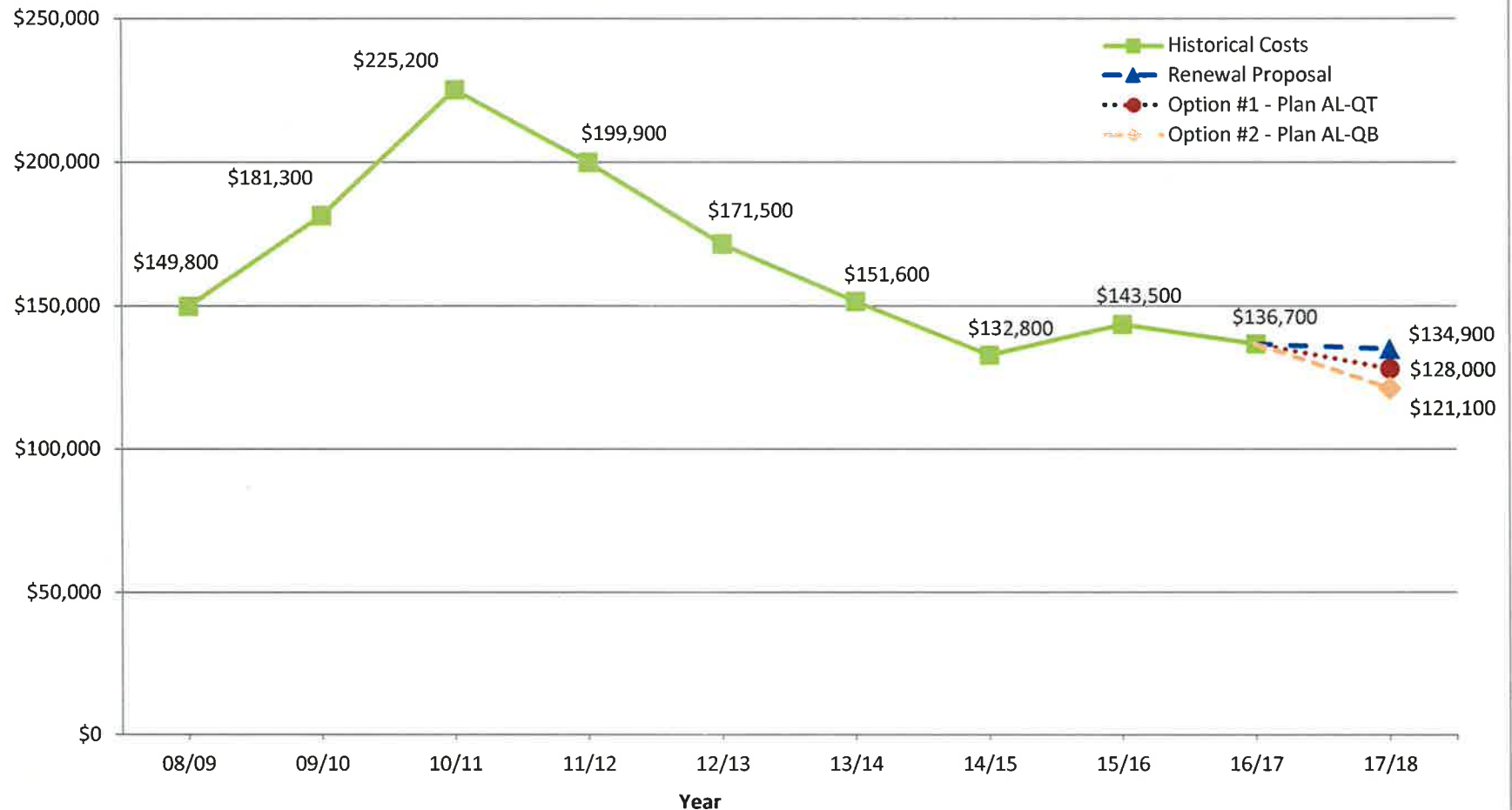
	<u>DEDUCTIBLE</u> (Individual/Family)	<u>CO-INSURANCE</u> (In Network/Out Network)	<u>OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM</u> (Individual/Family)	<u>PRESCRIPTIONS</u> (Generic/Brand/ Non-Preferred)
<u>CURRENT PLAN</u>				
8X-J/RX316	\$2,500/\$4,500	95%/75%	\$6,600/\$13,200	\$10/\$35/\$60
<u>RENEWAL PLAN</u>				
8W-1/RX311	\$2,000/\$4,000	70%/50%	\$6,600/\$13,200	\$15/\$50/\$75
<u>OPTION #1</u>				
AL-QT/RX311	\$2,000/\$4,000	70%/N/A	\$7,150/\$14,300	\$15/\$50/\$75
<u>OPTION #2</u>				
AL-QB/RX311	\$2,250/\$6,750	80%/N/A	\$7,150/\$14,300	\$15/\$50/\$75

Council Cost per Month/Annum

	<u>Month / Annum</u>	<u>Annual Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Current Plan - Existing Cost	\$8,547 / \$102,564	N/A	N/A
Renewal Plan - Proposed Cost	\$8,430 / \$101,160		(1.4%)
Option #1 - AL-QT/RX311	\$8,002 / \$96,024		(6.4%)
Option #2 - AL-QB/RX311	\$7,569 / \$90,828		(11.4%)

N/A - Not Applicable

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Total Health, Life and Dental Insurance Costs 2008-09 to 2017-18



Note: Number of Council employees decreased from 16 employees to 13 employees during Fiscal Year 2013-14.
Number of Council employees decreased from 13 employees to 9 employees during Fiscal Year 2014-15.



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Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: James Montgomery, Chair
Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

I. COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:00 p.m., July 27, 2017 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.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- #93 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ER)
- #94 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
- #95 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
- #96 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-1ESR)
- #97 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 17-3ESR)

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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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-22

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-22 and authorize that it be noticed for a 30-day public comment period as recommended by the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee.

BACKGROUND:

Periodically, 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 10, 2017 to review and recommend to the Council Goals and Objectives and Priority Project Areas. As you know, the Strategy has been organized using the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars for Securing Florida's Future Economy. By organizing the Strategy by the Six Pillars, it is in alignment with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Five-Year Strategic Economic Development Plan and the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars 20-Year Strategic Plan. 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.

Please find attached the draft Executive Summary; Background Statement; Plan of Action; Goals and Objectives; and Vital Project Areas for the Strategy. The proposed priority project areas organized by the Six Pillars as recommended by the Committee are listed below.

1. Talent Supply and Education

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

2. Innovation and Economic Development

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

3. Infrastructure and 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 and Competitiveness

- a. Support streamlining processes at the local level to encourage new businesses to open and help existing businesses thrive.
- b. Educate government and businesses on continuity and recovery plans in the event of natural or man-made disasters to address workforce retention and ensure access to loan and other assistance programs.

5. Civic and Governance Systems

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

6. Quality of Life and Quality Places

- a. Support regional tourism promotional initiatives.

Next, a 30-day public comment period on the draft Strategy will occur subject to Council approval. The final Strategy will be presented to the Council at its September 28, 2017 meeting for adoption. The final adopted Strategy will then be submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration by September 30, 2017.

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

Attachment

North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

2018-2022

September 2017

Grant Period: January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019
This document has been prepared with financial assistance
from the U.S. Economic Development Administration

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603
352.955.2200

Adopted (To Be Determined)

DRAFT 07.27.17

Executive Summary

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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 the municipalities located within those counties are included in the North Central Florida Economic Development District, and 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 Regional Planning Council is a federally designated Economic Development District."

The primary function of the North Central Florida Economic Development District is to create and update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the region. 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 the Strategy Committee which is comprised of a broad range of regional economic development, business, civic, education and workforce development professionals.

"The Strategy is based upon the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy."

The following report provides a description 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 includes a plan of action that outlines the activities necessary to implement the goals and objectives of the Strategy.

The Strategy uses the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy as the organizing framework. The Six Pillars are: Talent Supply & Education; Innovation & Economic Development; Infrastructure & Growth Leadership; Business Climate & Competitiveness; Civic & Governance Systems; and Quality of Life & Quality Places.



Commerce and Retail Center of Region, Gainesville

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Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

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Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

A. Background

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is a continuing regional economic development planning process with broad based community participation designed to help guide the economic growth of the region. The purpose of the Strategy is to create an economic environment that fosters

job creation, a more **resilient and** diversified economy, and improves the quality of life for the residents of the North Central Florida Economic Development District. The Strategy provides a mechanism for coordinating the efforts of local governments, private industry, organizations and individuals concerned with economic development.

"The Strategy is a continuing economic development planning process."



Santa Fe College Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurship Center

The Strategy is developed by a committee appointed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. The members of the Strategy Committee represent a broad spectrum of interests, including: local economic development organizations; private industry; local governments; education and workforce; civic organizations; minority and special interest groups. The Strategy Committee meets to discuss progress on elements of the Strategy, and to make

"The Strategy is developed by a broad spectrum of public and private interests."

recommendations for amendments to the Strategy based on changes to the economic environment.

In addition to providing a cooperative framework for economic development coordination and planning, the Strategy also provides:

- An analysis of economic and community development problems and opportunities that incorporate relevant material from other government sponsored or supported plans;
- A background and history of the economic development situation of the region, with a discussion of the economy, including geography, population, labor force, resources and the environment;
- A discussion of community participation in the planning efforts;
- A section setting forth goals and objectives for taking advantage of the opportunities and solving the economic development problems of the area serviced;
- A plan of action, including suggested projects to implement objectives and goals set forth in the strategy; and
- Performance measures that will be used to evaluate whether and to what extent goals and objectives have been or are being met.

**"The Strategy is required to
qualify for federal
economic development
funds."**

The development and maintenance of the Strategy is required to qualify for U.S. Economic Development Administration assistance under its public works, economic adjustment and planning programs, and is a prerequisite for designation by the U.S. Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District. Since 1978, the North Central Florida Regional Planning

Council has served as the designated planning agency for the North Central Florida Economic Development District.

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council region includes 52 county and municipal governments. The 12 counties include Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union. The 38 municipalities include (by County): Alachua - Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry and Waldo; Bradford - Brooker, Hampton,



North Central Florida Counties and Municipalities

Lawtey and Starke; Columbia - Fort White and Lake City; Dixie - Cross City and Horseshoe Beach; Gilchrist - Bell, Fanning Springs and Trenton; Hamilton - Jasper, White Springs and Jennings; Lafayette - Mayo; Levy – Bronson, Cedar Key, Chiefland, Inglis, Otter Creek, Williston and Yankeetown; Madison - Greenville, Lee and Madison; Suwannee - Live Oak and Branford; Taylor - Perry; Union - Lake Butler, Raiford and Worthington Springs.

The North Central Florida Economic Development District has a total of 7,869 square miles and is bordered on the west by the Gulf of Mexico and on the north by the Florida-Georgia state line. With the exception of Alachua County, the region is primarily rural, with a 2015 Bureau of Economic and Business Research-estimated population of just over 540,000. Just under one-half of the population, 271,732, resides in the Gainesville Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Alachua and Gilchrist Counties.



Suwannee River, Lafayette County

Gainesville is home to the University of Florida, a land grant university, which is the primary economic driver of the region. Unlike many other regions of the state, north central Florida does not have beaches or theme parks, though it has a growing nature and eco-tourism base that takes advantage of the abundant presence of springs and rivers that flow through the region.

The regional climate is very temperate with summer high temperatures averaging in the low to mid nineties and winter low temperatures averaging in the low to mid forties. Record high temperatures have reached the low hundreds. Hard freezes are infrequent, with record low temperatures in the low teens. Average annual rainfall is approximately 50 inches. Hurricanes are a major source of concern throughout Florida. The remote coastal communities of the region are at the greatest risk for storm surge related flooding. However, the primary hurricane threats to most of the population centers of the region are from wind damage and rain induced local flooding.

While largely rural, the region benefits from an extensive transportation network. Interstate 75 is the primary north/south transportation artery that connects the region to central and south Florida, as well as the Southeastern U.S. and Midwest U.S. to the north. Interstate 10 is the east/west transportation artery that connects the region to Jacksonville on the east and the Florida panhandle and Alabama to the west. Rail service in the region is provided by CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern and other providers. Although the region is not home to a

"The region benefits from an extensive transportation network."

deepwater port, Columbia County will be host to an inland port facility that will be part of the Port of Jacksonville's international trade zone. There are numerous airport facilities in the region with substantial runway infrastructure. Currently, the Gainesville Regional Airport is the only airport with scheduled commercial service.

The economy of the region has proven relatively stable in relation to other areas of the state and nation. While the region has been negatively affected by the national economic downturn, overall it has fared better than many other areas, with lower unemployment rates, rising trade exports and steadily rising Gross Domestic Product. State and local government, especially in education and prisons, remains a significant though declining share of employment in the region. Health care is the second largest employment cluster in the region, followed by retail trade.



Forestry Products, Suwannee County & Taylor County

"The region is becoming known as an innovation center."

The region is rapidly becoming known as an innovation center due to the success of the Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator in Alachua and the emergence of the Florida Innovation Hub at the University of Florida in Gainesville. A 2006 study by the Milken Institute identified

the University of Florida as the top performing public institution at transferring its research to the marketplace, and fifth in the nation overall. Companies launched at the Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator have attracted over one-half billion dollars in private investments, contracts and grants. An estimated 16 percent of all biotech companies in Florida got their start at the Sid Martin facility.



Florida Gateway College, Lake City



North Central Florida Tropical Storms

hurricanes and tropical storms. The 2011 North Central Florida Economic and Disaster Resiliency Study completed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council indicates that a Category 5 hurricane striking the region from the Gulf of Mexico could potentially result in a 46.6 percent loss to regional capital structure (building damage), a 38.8 percent regionwide job loss and a 34.0 percent population loss.

Each local government within the region has adopted an Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan which provides a detailed description of the process to be followed at the local level whenever an emergency or disaster occurs as a result of natural or manmade causes.

"The economy of the region is vulnerable to both natural and man-made disasters."



Hazardous Materials Training

programs, conducting emergency response exercises, providing public information campaigns and other activities aimed at minimizing risks from hazardous materials releases.

Under contract with the Florida Division of Emergency Management, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council serves as staff to the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee. The Committee is responsible for the preparation of local emergency response plans for hazardous materials releases for the district. In addition to the emergency response plan, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee is also involved in establishing training

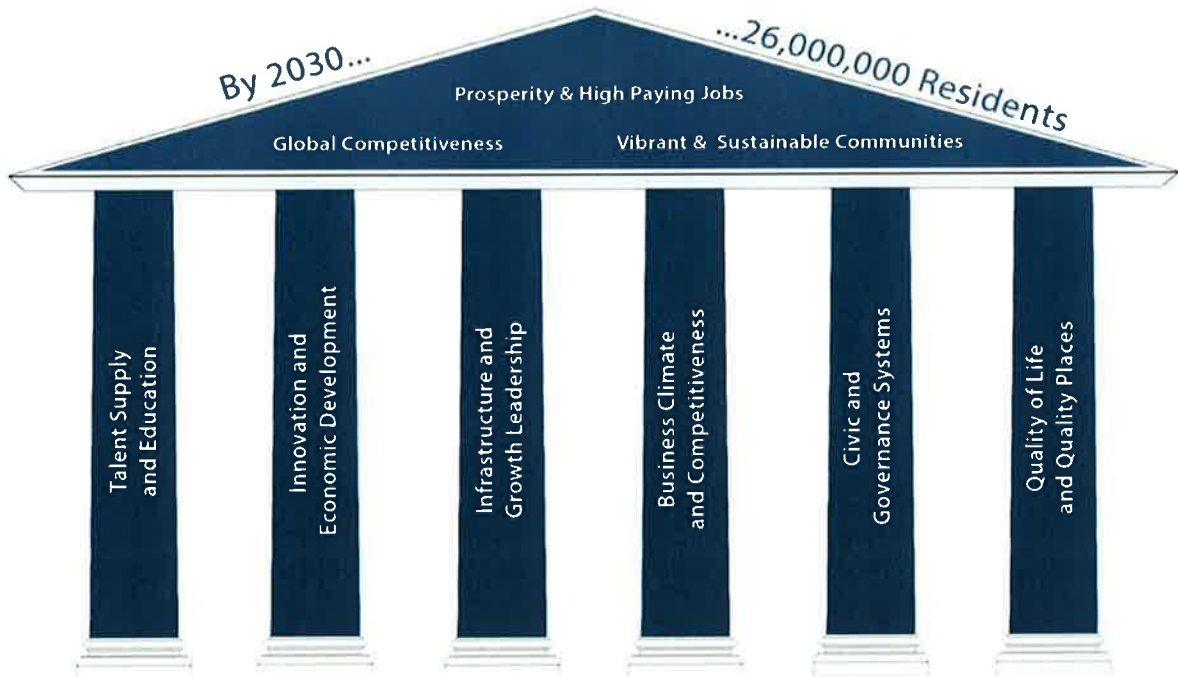
B. Goals and Objectives

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy establishes the goals and objectives necessary to solve the economic problems and capitalize on the resources of the region. Strategic projects, programs and activities identified in the Strategy are designed to fulfill these goals and objectives. The goals and objectives are organized using the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy.

"Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars is organizing framework for Goals and Objectives."

- Goals are broad, primary regional expectations.
- Objectives are more specific than goals, clearly measurable, and stated in realistic terms considering what can be accomplished over the five-year time frame of the Strategy.

THE SIX PILLARS OF THE FLORIDA ECONOMY



The table below is the, "at-a-glance," version of the North Central Florida Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

North Central Florida Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (2013-2017)

October 2013 - September 2017

Vision					
North central Florida will become the leading rural region within Florida by creating a business environment that is a viable alternative to the urban areas of Florida. The region will be recognized as one of the best places to live, learn, work and do business in the state and nation.					
Goals					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the region's competitiveness as a location for business, investment, talent, innovation and tourism. Expand north central Florida's intermodal transportation and communication systems to enhance the region's economic growth and prosperity. Promote the region as a unique tourism destination, while preserving and enhancing the region's natural environment and quality of life. 					
Objectives					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve employment opportunities and resiliency in North Central Florida. Foster opportunities for prosperity. Grow local businesses. Expand global commerce. Increase north central Florida's attractiveness to employers, workers, residents and visitors. 					
Cross-Cutting Strategies					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen collaboration and alignment among north central Florida's public, private and non-profit entities toward a shared economic vision. Develop regional talent and innovation clusters using global best practices. Position north central Florida as a globally competitive region by integrating economic development, infrastructure and other resources in support of regional economic development initiatives. Diversify the regional economy by expanding existing industry clusters and supporting emerging innovation clusters. 					
Area-Specific Strategies					
Talent Supply & Education	Innovation & Economic Development	Infrastructure & Growth Leadership	Business Climate & Competitiveness	Child & Governance Systems	Quality of Life & Quality Places
1. Connect and align education and workforce development programs to develop the region's current and future talent supply chain and meet employer needs.	1. Grow, sustain and integrate efforts related to research and development, technology commercialization, and seed capital to create, nurture and expand regional innovation businesses.	2. Modernize the region's transportation, telecommunications, energy, water and wastewater systems to meet future demand and respond to changing business needs.	2. 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.	12. Support and sustain regional partnerships to accomplish the region's economic and quality of life goals.	12. 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.
1.a. Expand options for high school students to become industry certified while still in high school, as an alternative to college path.	1.a. 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 and Progress Park in Alachua.	2.a. Support the development of diverse, reliable and cost effective energy sources and systems to meet the region's economic and environmental goals.	2.a. Reduce barriers to small business and entrepreneurial growth.	12.a. 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.	12.a. Create and sustain vibrant, healthy communities that attract workers, businesses, residents and visitors to the region.
1.b. Integrate education, training and workforce development to develop a strong supply chain.	1.b. Support the development of existing and new business incubators and accelerators throughout the region such as the Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurship Center, the Santa Fe Center for Innovation and Economic Development in Gainesville and the St. Martin Biotechnology Incubator in Alachua.	2.b. 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.	2.b. Develop a government revenue structure that encourages business growth and development.	12.b. Work with the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities to add economic development information to their curriculum for newly elected officials.	12.b. Promote and incentivize local government in the development of vibrant city centers.
1.c. 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.	1.c. Support the development of existing and new industrial parks throughout the region such as Commerce in Gainesville.	2.c. 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.	2.c. Ensure local government agencies provide collaborative, seamless, consistent and timely customer service to regional businesses.	12.c. Invest in strategic regional economic development priorities.	12.c. Promote, develop, and leverage the region's natural and cultural assets in a sustainable manner.
1.d. Support the creation of electronic medical records education and training programs utilizing a regional community adaptive health information technology model.	1.d. Increase the number of regional businesses engaged in selling goods and services internationally and the diversification of the markets they serve.	2.d. Develop and maintain multimodal, interconnected trade, logistics and transportation systems to enhance freight mobility in support of a prosperous, competitive economy.	2.d. Work with water management districts in the region to simplify permitting process for new and expanding businesses.		12.d. Support the efforts of the Original Florida Tourism Trail Force and other regional tourism marketing organizations to develop sustainable tourism-based economic development programs and increase the entrepreneurial capacity of the hospitality industry.
2. Expand access to education and training programs for talent in distressed markets (e.g., rural, urban core) throughout the region.	2.a. Provide educational opportunities to regional businesses interested in international trade on the advantages of exporting their goods and services.	2.a. 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.	2.a. Create a database of capital sources available to regional businesses.		12.e. 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.
2.a. Support the creation of online and distance learning programs for students that lack other means of obtaining necessary training.	2.a. Brand and market the north central Florida region as the best location for business.	2.b. Improve coordination of economic development, land use, infrastructure, water, energy, natural resources, workforce and community development decision-making and investments at the regional level.	2.b. Enhance the resiliency of the North Central Florida economy in the face of natural disasters and changes to the national and state economies through increased awareness and preparation for businesses, for environmental risks.		12.f. Promote and support the more parts within the region and improve branding and awareness of the parts as a tourist destination.
	2.b. Support the development of the Enterprise (Florida/Rural Economic Development Initiative Catalyst Sites located in Columbia County and Duval County by providing funding sources for the infrastructure necessary to develop the catalyst sites to desired ready status.				
	2.c. Promote the continued viability of military installations in close proximity to the region.				
	2.d. Improve collaboration between local government and military leaders to utilize best management practices that ensure successful economic partnerships.				
Priority Project Areas					
Talent Supply & Education	Innovation & Economic Development	Infrastructure & Growth Leadership	Business Climate & Competitiveness	Child & Governance Systems	Quality of Life & Quality Places
Support the development of educational programs to increase the labor force in the healthcare and life sciences industry.	Support the development of the catalyst sites for the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern.	Support continuing improvements to multi-modal infrastructure, including highway interchanges along interstate corridors, railway corridors, airport facilities and broadband infrastructure.	Support streamlining processes at the local level to encourage new businesses to open and help existing businesses thrive.	Support programs to educate local government officials in the fundamentals of economic development.	Support regional tourism promotional initiatives.
	Support the development and expansion of regional business incubators and research parks.		Advocate government and businesses on assistance and recovery plans in the event of natural or man-made disasters to address workforce retention and ensure access to loans and other assistance programs.		

1. Talent Supply & Education

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.

**"Connect and align
education and workforce."**

Objective 1.1 - Expand options for high school students to become industry certified while still in high school, as an alternative to college path.

Objective 1.2 - Integrate education, training and workforce development to develop a strong supply chain.

Objective 1.3 - Support efforts by Florida Gateway College, North Florida Community College, **and** Santa Fe College, **CareerSource Crown, CareerSource North Florida and CareerSource North Central Florida** to expand education programs in healthcare related fields and create a marketing strategy to promote enrollment in health professions programs.

Objective 1.4 - Support the creation of electronic medical records education and training programs utilizing a regional community-adaptive health information technology model.



University of Florida Infinity Hall, Gainesville

GOAL 2 - Expand access to education and training programs for talent in distressed markets (e.g., rural, urban core) throughout the region.

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

GOAL 3 - Grow, sustain and integrate efforts related to research and development, technology commercialization, and seed capital to create, nurture and expand regional innovation businesses.

"Integrate research and commercialization to nurture innovation."

Objective 3.1 - 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 **and Progress Park in Alachua.**

Objective 3.2 - Support the development of existing and new business incubators and accelerators throughout the region **such as the Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurs Center, the Santa Fe Center for Innovation and Economic Development in Gainesville and the Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator in Alachua.**

Objective 3.3 - Support the development of existing and new industrial parks throughout the region such as Cornerstone in Gainesville.

GOAL 4 - Increase the number of regional businesses engaged in selling goods and services internationally and the diversification of the markets they serve.

Objective 4.1 - Provide educational opportunities to regional businesses interested in international trade on the advantages of exporting their goods and services.

GOAL 5 - Brand and market the north central Florida region as the best location for business.

Objective 5.1 - Support the North Florida Economic Development Partnership asset mapping and geographic information system projects in the region.

Objective 5.2 - 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.



**Florida Innovation Hub at
the University of Florida, Gainesville**

GOAL 6 - Promote the continued viability of military installations in close proximity to the region.

Objective 6.1 - Improve collaboration between local government and military leaders to utilize best management practices that ensure successful economic partnerships.

3. Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

GOAL 7 - Modernize the region's transportation, telecommunications, energy, water and wastewater systems to meet future demand and respond to changing business needs.

**"Modernize infrastructure
of region."**

Objective 7.1 - Support the development of diverse, reliable and cost effective energy sources and systems to meet the region's economic and environmental goals.

Objective 7.2 - 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.

Objective 7.3 - Develop and maintain a cutting-edge telecommunications infrastructure by supporting ~~the North Florida Broadband Authority's~~ initiatives to bring high-speed internet service to the rural areas of the region.

Objective 7.4 - Develop and maintain multimodal, interconnected trade, logistics and transportation systems to enhance freight mobility in support of a prosperous, competitive economy.

Objective 7.5 - 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.

GOAL 8 - Improve coordination of economic development, land use, infrastructure, water, energy, natural resources, workforce and community development decision-making and investments at the regional level.



Interstate I-75 Bridge, Gainesville

Objective 8.1 - Improve collaboration and alignment between regional and local agencies and business leaders through a regional vision.

4. Business Climate & Competitiveness

GOAL 9 - 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.

"Streamline permitting to provide predictability."

Objective 9.1 - Reduce barriers to small business and entrepreneurial growth.

Objective 9.2 - Develop a government revenue structure that encourages business growth and development.

GOAL 10 - Ensure local government agencies provide collaborative, seamless, consistent and timely customer service to regional businesses.

Objective 10.1 - Work with water management districts in the region to simplify permitting process for new and expanding businesses.

GOAL 11 - Expand opportunities for access to capital for businesses throughout their life cycle.

Objective 11.1 - Create a database of capital sources available to regional businesses.

Goal 12: To enhance the resilience of the North Central Florida economy in the face of natural disasters and changes to the national and state economies through increased awareness and preparation by businesses for environmental risks.



Innovation Hub Phase 2 Construction, Gainesville

Objective 12.1 Educate government and businesses on continuity and recovery plans in the event of natural or man-made disasters to address workforce retention and ensure access to loan and other assistance programs.

5. Civic & Governance Systems

GOAL 123 - Support and sustain regional partnerships to accomplish the region's economic and quality of life goals.

"Support and sustain regional partnerships."

Objective 123.1 - 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.

Objective 123.2 - 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.

Objective 123.3 - Invest in strategic regional economic development priorities.



Suwannee County Courthouse, Live Oak

6. Quality of Life & Quality Places

GOAL 134 - 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.

**"Create and sustain
vibrant, healthy
communities."**

Objective 134.1 - Create and sustain vibrant, healthy communities that attract workers, businesses, residents and visitors to the region.

Objective 134.2 - Promote and incentivize local government in the development of vibrant city centers.

GOAL 145 - Promote, develop, and leverage the region's natural and cultural assets in a sustainable manner.

Objective 145.1 - 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.



Bradford County Strawberry Festival, Starke

Objective 145.2 - 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.

Objective 145.3 - Promote and support the state parks within the region and improve branding and awareness of the parks as a tourist destination.

C. Plan of Action

The North Central Florida Economic Development District will coordinate the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy projects and activities with local and state economic development agencies where appropriate. The plan of action will implement the goals and objectives of the Strategy in alignment with the Florida Strategic Five-Year Plan for Economic Development as follows:

1. Conduct regular meetings of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee to monitor the status of regional projects and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy implementation. District staff will actively participate in economic development activities in the region and provide technical assistance when needed.

**"Support Rural Areas of
Critical Economic Concern
Catalyst Sites."**
2. Support the North Florida Economic Development Partnership and the development of the North Central Florida Rural Area of **Critical Economic Concern Opportunity** Catalyst Sites in Columbia and Suwannee Counties by serving on the Partnership's Board of Directors and providing technical assistance when necessary.
3. Promote sustainable economic development through regional tourism promotion, while encouraging the preservation of resources that bring visitors to the area. The North Central Florida Economic Development District will provide professional staffing services to the Original Florida Tourism Task Force to implement their regional marketing strategies.

**"Support regional
tourism promotion."**
4. Identify economic development projects that may qualify for federal and state funding opportunities and provide grant writing and administrative services where needed.



Downtown Redevelopment, Gainesville

5. Provide technical assistance in the form of economic impacts analysis, research, and best practices to local economic development organizations and government agencies.

6. Facilitate coordination between regional economic development strategies and the state's five-year economic development plan.

D. Strategic Projects, Programs and Activities -

Vital Project Areas of the North Central Florida Economic Development District

1. Talent Supply & Education

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

**"Vital Project Areas
focus on strengthening
the regional economy."**

2. Innovation & Economic Development

- a. Support the development of the catalyst sites for the North Central Florida Rural Area of **Critical Economic Concern Opportunity**.
- 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.
- b. **Educate government and businesses on continuity and recovery plans in the event of natural or man-made disasters to address workforce retention and ensure access to loan and other assistance programs.**

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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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten 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 June 2017 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

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

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MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: June 2017

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Organized and distributed the May 2017 Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Newsletter. Began collecting articles and formatting the June 2017 Newsletter.
- Continued to work with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) to maintain and enhance the FRCA website and maintain the email listserv for the more than 2,300 individuals who receive the FRCA Newsletter.
- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in or attended the following meetings and shared information:
 - Florida Planners for Health Round Table Discussion
 - Florida Coastal Management Program Meeting via Webinar
- Supported the RPC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update Committee with webinar and conference call held June 6th.
- Assisted the Economic Development Administration with coordinating a technical workshop to be held in Orlando on August 16, 2017.
- Developed a Facebook page for FRCA.

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared for and participated in the June 29 – 30, 2017, FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee (EDAC) and Policy Board meetings including coordinating logistics with FAC staff, securing speakers, developing agendas and drafting meeting materials.
- Coordinated logistics with the Florida League of Cities staff for the August 17 – 18, 2017 FRCA EDAC and Partners meetings.
- Coordinated with Florida Chamber Foundation staff for the September 28 – 29, 2017 EDAC and Partners meetings.
- Registered for the Florida American Planning Association Annual Conference.
- Shared information regarding funding opportunities when available.



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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

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

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report

The Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board was recently held in West Palm Beach on June 30, 2017.

The Policy Board heard presentations from Erin Deady, Esquire, American Institute of Certified Planners concerning Resiliency Florida; Joe McKinney, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations concerning a federal public policy update; the Honorable Kristin Jacobs, State Representative, District 96 concerning state agency coordination for natural disasters; and John Kaliski, Principal, Cambridge Systematics concerning the 2030 Florida Chamber Foundation Cornerstone Project Update.

The Policy Board also reviewed Assembled Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2015-16, a financial report and adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18. The Policy Board also received an Executive Director report concerning the 2017 Legislative Session.

The Policy Board also reviewed the 2018 Legislative Agenda and elected officers for the 2017-18 Policy Board.

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

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July 20, 2017

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 following Six Pillars.

- Talent and Supply 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 July 2017 Scorecard.

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

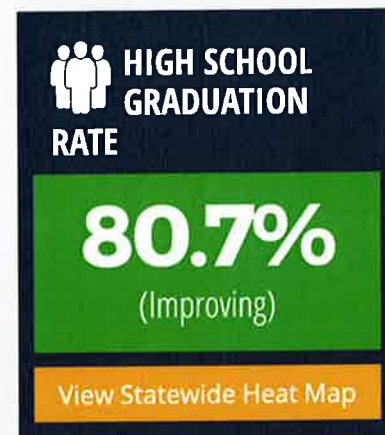
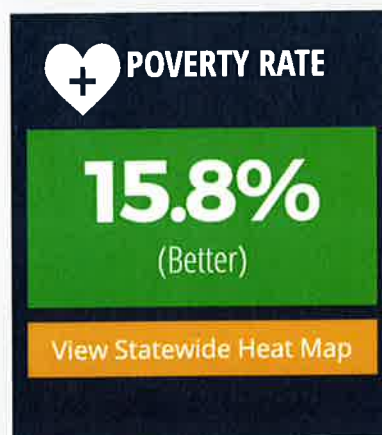
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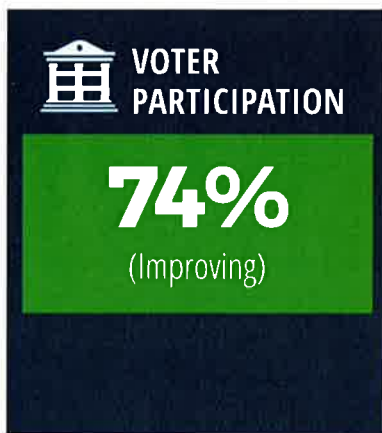
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THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

State of Florida Metrics





THE FLORIDA SCORECARD: THEFLORIDAScorecard.org

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XI.D.

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

Pursuant to Section 288.101, Florida Statutes, the Florida Job Growth Fund is a new economic development program designed to build on Florida's success and economic prosperity since 2010. In its first year, Fiscal Year 2017-18 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018), the Florida Job Growth Fund will provide \$85 million for public infrastructure and job training projects that support growth and employment in Florida's diverse industries.

Public infrastructure projects can include transportation and utilities needed to support economic development. Workforce training projects will provide Floridians with transferable, sustainable workforce skills applicable to many employers.

Project proposals can come from local governments, community colleges, technical centers, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Enterprise Florida, Inc. and Florida Department of Transportation. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and Enterprise Florida, Inc. will make project recommendations to the Governor who can approve projects for funding based on local and regional needs.

Public Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

- Promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification or economic enhancement in a targeted industry;
- Are not for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity; and
- Are for infrastructure that is owned by the public and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.

Workforce Training Grant Eligibility

- Support programs and associated equipment at state colleges and state technical centers;
- Provide participants with transferable and sustainable workforce skills applicable to more than a single employer;
- Are offered to the public;
- Are based on criteria established by the state colleges and state technical centers; and
- Prohibit the exclusion of applicants who are unemployed or underemployed.

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

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: 2016-17 Member Certificate of Outstanding Attendance

An essential component of the ability of the Council to conduct its business is the regular attendance of members at Council meetings. A Council Member Attendance Recognition Program was established by the Council at the May 22, 2008 Council meeting to recognize the commitment of those Council members actively engaged in the organization by regularly attending Council meetings.

A Certificate of Outstanding Attendance will be awarded to the following member at the July 27, 2017 Council meeting in recognition of their attendance at every scheduled Council meeting during Program Year 2016-17.

City

Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

Please join me in recognizing the service and commitment of this Council member as exhibited by his perfect attendance record.

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

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Cup



In furtherance of the Council Member Attendance Recognition Program and to encourage attendance at Council meetings, an Executive Director's Cup is awarded each year to recognize the perfect attendance by either county, city or gubernatorial members during a program year.

For Program Year 2016-17, the Executive Director's Cup will be awarded at the July 27, 2017 Council meeting to city member, Robert Wilford, City of Alachua. The Executive Director's Cup is prominently displayed at the Council office.

Congratulations to Commissioner Wilford for winning the Program Year 2016-17 Executive Director's Cup for the city members.

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

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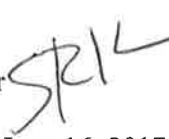


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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Annual City-County Managers Meeting - June 16, 2017

Each year, Council staff meets with city and county managers and their staffs from throughout the region to discuss growth management legislation and review Council programs.

The annual meeting for city and county managers this year was held on June 16, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites located at 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard in Lake City, Florida. A copy of the agenda for the meeting is attached for your information.

Attachment

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AGENDA

CITY/COUNTY MANAGERS ANNUAL MEETING

June 16, 2017

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

10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Scott Koons Executive Director
	Regional Planning Council Update	Scott Koons Executive Director
	Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Programs	Dwayne Mundy Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Programs Director
	Economic Development Programs	Steven Dopp Senior Planner
	Community Planning Programs	Sandra Joseph Senior Planner
	Regional Planning and Review Programs	Steven Dopp Senior Planner
	Closing Remarks	Scott Koons Executive Director
12:00 noon	Lunch	

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July 20, 2017

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: 2016 Annual Report

Each year, the Council publishes an annual report to review programs and services of the Council in fulfilling its mission to improve the quality of life of the regions citizens by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

The annual report highlights accomplishments in the areas of regional activities, public safety and regulatory compliance, economic development, local government assistance and transportation. The annual report also provides a summary of the financial status of the Council and looks at the year ahead. Please find attached a copy of the 2016 Annual Report.

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

Attachment

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2016 Annual Report



North Central Florida
Regional Planning Council



1	Letter To Our Citizens
2	The Region
3	The Council
4	Regional
6	Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance
8	Economic Development
10	Local Government Assistance
12	Transportation
14	Communications
15	Upcoming Activities
16	Financial Report

Letter To Our Citizens

During this past year, the Council continued to be a very successful public agency that provides valuable services in fulfilling our mission to improve 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. The following pages summarize these accomplishments.

The Council, in partnership with economic development organizations and local governments, promotes regional strategies, partnerships and solutions to strengthen the economic competitiveness and quality of life of the 13 counties and 45 incorporated municipalities in the north central Florida region. The Council, whose members are local elected officials and gubernatorial appointees, administers a variety of state and federal programs for north central Florida including Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties.

"The Council promotes regional strategies, partnerships and solutions."

Programs include development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, technical assistance to local governments in development of comprehensive plans, land development regulations and grant management, and administration of local mitigation strategies, hazardous materials, homeland security and economic development programs. In addition, the Council staffs the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team and *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*.

Our successes in these activities have been realized through the dedicated work of the Council staff under the guidance provided by our members and by the leaders of our affiliated organizations, including the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Team and *The Original Florida Tour-*

ism Task Force. All of these groups remain committed to achieving excellence as they continue to pursue ways to improve our region.

Of particular note are the extremely important and beneficial services the Council continued to provide to rural local governments in the areas of comprehensive planning, community development, grant procurement and grant administration. By combining their limited financial resources, small rural jurisdictions have been able to have access to these services of the Council that they would have been unable to afford on an individual basis. Working together as partners, the Council, counties and cities have been able to improve the quality of life in rural north central Florida.

We hope that you find the discussion of our programs in this report to be informative. Also provided is a summary of our financial status and a brief look at the year ahead.

The Council members and staff are most appreciative of the support received from our member local governments and the citizens of the region. We look forward to working together with you in the future for the betterment of north central Florida.

Sincerely,



Rick Davis
Chair



The Region

The north central Florida region includes 13 counties and 45 incorporated municipalities in the north central portion of Florida. Containing nearly 10,000 square miles of area, the region is characterized by its abundant natural resources, which include the world-famous Suwannee River, the marshes of the Gulf Coast, cypress swamps, upland forests and a large number of clear turquoise springs.

According to the University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, the population of the region in the year 2016 was 898,229, an increase of 37,548 persons over the 2006 population of 860,681 representing a 4.4 percent increase over the past ten years.

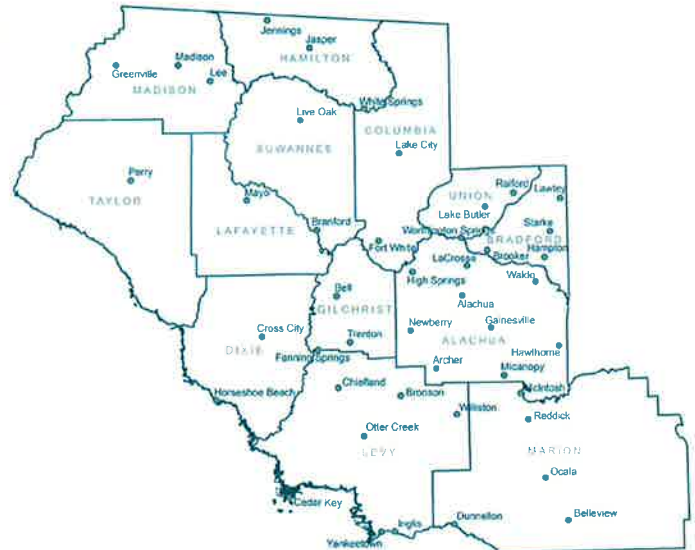
Mission Statement

"To improve 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."

The economic base of the north central Florida region relies heavily on the government and services sectors, with the University of Florida in Gainesville accounting for a major portion of the government employment. The City of Gainesville and City of Ocala are the regional retail centers and, together with Alachua County and Marion County, accounts for 67.1 percent of the total population of the north central Florida region.



North Central Florida Region



North Central Florida Counties and Municipalities

The Council

The Council is an association of 25 general purpose local governments. Membership includes 12 counties and 13 of the municipalities in the region. One-third of the representatives are appointed by the Governor, with the remainder appointed by member local governments. Two-thirds of the representatives must be local elected officials.

The Council meets monthly. At its May meeting, the Council adopts the annual work program and budget. Also at this meeting, the Council elects the officers for the organization: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer from among its ranks.

Council members serve on several standing and ad hoc committees appointed by the Chair. The purpose of these various committees is to advise the Council on administrative and programmatic matters, including community planning activities which come before the Council for review and comment. The Council serves as a forum for the coordination and review of federal/state/local government, community planning

and community development programs and activities affecting the north central Florida region.

**"The Council serves
as a forum for
coordination and review."**

In addition to the regional planning and review activities, the Council provides a variety of services to benefit its local governments. These services include: community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance and economic development activities.

ALACHUA COUNTY

Ken Cornell
Charles Chestnut IV
Robert Hutchinson
* Vacant
* Vacant
* Vacant
* Vacant

Alachua

Robert Wilford

Archer

Fletcher Hope

Gainesville

David Arreola
Harvey Budd
Helen Warren

Hawthorne

Patricia Boule

High Springs

Jason Evans

Newberry

Rick Coleman

Waldo

Louie Davis

BRADFORD COUNTY

Daniel Riddick
* Vacant

Starke

Janice Mortimer

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Tim Murphy
* James Montgomery

Lake City

Stephen Witt

DIXIE COUNTY

Jason Holifield
* Lorene Thomas

GILCHRIST COUNTY

Kenrick Thomas
* Vacant

HAMILTON COUNTY

Beth Burnam
* William Hunter

Jasper

LaBarfield Bryant

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Anthony Adams
* Vacant

LEVY COUNTY

John Meeks
* Vacant

MADISON COUNTY

Rick Davis
* Mike Williams

City of Madison

Jim Catron

SUWANNEE COUNTY

Larry Sessions
* Vacant

Live Oak

Garth Nobles, Jr.

TAYLOR COUNTY

Thomas Demps
* Vacant

Perry

Mike Deming

UNION COUNTY

James Tallman
* Daniel Webb

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Vacant, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Vacant, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
Vacant, Florida Department of
Transportation
Vacant, Southwest River Water
Management District
Vacant, Suwannee River Water
Management District
Vacant, St. Johns River Water
Management District

* Gubernatorial Appointee

Rick Davis, Chair
Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair
Louie Davis, Secretary-Treasurer

Regional

Dealing with issues of growth provides opportunities for regional cooperation and planning. Being an association of local governments with strong ties to state and federal agencies, the Council is uniquely positioned to coordinate the development and implementation of strategies designed to address the problems and opportunities created by growth.

Regional Planning

The North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan is a long-range guide for the physical, economic and social development of the region. The regional plan contains regional goals and policies designed to promote a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving problems identified in the trends and conditions statements contained within each of the strategic regional subject areas: Affordable Housing; Economic Development; Emergency Preparedness; Natural Resources of Regional Significance; and Regional Transportation. The regional plan is the primary policy document of the Council and is the basis for Council comments concerning its review responsibilities.

"The Council is uniquely positioned to coordinate the development and implementation of strategies designed to address the problems and opportunities created by growth."

During 2016, the Council approved proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based amendments to the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan for distribution and review by state and regional agencies. The proposed amendments add natural resources of regional significance and regional facilities located in Levy County to the regional plan. The Council is scheduled to adopt these amendments to the regional plan in 2017.

In 2016, the Council also reviewed several local government comprehensive plan amendments which incorporated transportation planning best practices as policies in the Transportation Element of their local government comprehensive plans.



The Steinhatchee River, Big Bend Salt Marsh and Big Bend Seagrass Beds Aquatic Preserve are recognized as Natural Resources of Regional Significance in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Review Activities

One of the ways in the Council implements the regional plan is through its review responsibilities. The Governor has designated the Council as the area-wide clearinghouse for all federally-funded projects that affect the region, and other review activities undertaken as a result of state legislation. Reviews included the following types.

- Applications for federal assistance totaling \$43,310,190
- Local comprehensive plan amendments
- Environmental impact statements/assessments

The Council reviewed these projects in order to:

- Avoid or mitigate potential adverse impacts to regionally significant resources, regionally significant facilities or neighboring communities or counties;
- Ensure coordination with local government plans; and
- Avoid duplication or conflict with other local or area plans and programs.

Regional

Of the 109 review items in 2016, the Council reviewed 61 amendments to local government comprehensive plans. The Council forwarded its comments on local government comprehensive plans to local governments under the expedited re-

"The Council provided comments on applications for federal assistance, ensuring that federal grants were consistent with local plans and programs throughout the region."

view process and to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for their consideration in determining the consistency of local government comprehensive plans with the State Comprehensive Plan and the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan under the coordinated review process.

The Council also reviewed 21 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant applications, 19 U.S. Federal Transit Administration grant applications for either capital assistance or operating assistance, four U.S. Department of Agriculture grant/loan applications and four other review items. The Council provided comments on applications for federal assistance to the Florida State Clearinghouse, which is housed in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The Florida State Clearinghouse administers the intergovernmental coordination and review process of certain state and federal activities within the State of Florida which involve federal financial assistance and/or direct federal activity.



The Suwannee River, which flows through the heart of the region, is recognized as a Natural Resource of Regional Significance in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance

During 2016, the Council continued working on ongoing public safety and regulatory compliance activities and also started several new projects.

Local Emergency Planning Committee

The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee continued its mission of increasing chemical safety in our communities. The Council has provided staff support to the Committee since 1989.

The Committee's tools included planning, training, reviewing, exercising, offering How-to-Comply assistance to business and industry and educating the public. An updated emergency response plan for the north central Florida region was completed this year.

"The Council provided staff support to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for How-to-Comply seminars for facilities which use or store chemicals."

How-to-Comply workshops were held to assist businesses and government agencies with the best ways to increase preparedness with local and regional emergency responders. The Council distributed over 2,400 copies of the 2016 update to the Emergency Response Guidebook for transportation incidents. The guidebook provides the steps to follow when first responders encounter a chemical spill.



The Council conducted a hazardous materials commodity flow study to identify the most common chemicals transported on highways throughout the north central Florida region.

The Council conducted a hazardous materials commodity flow study for the Local Emergency Planning Committee. This study identified the most common chemicals transported by both rail and highway in the region. This study resulted in increased preparedness for the types of releases that are most likely to occur.

First Responder Training

During 2016, the Council coordinated hazardous materials emergency response training classes. A total of 15 classes were held, training 171 students for a total of 4,564 hours. Approximately 80 percent of the classes were at the technician level and included a variety of hands-on training.

In 2016, the Council started using a new type of training class that makes it more convenient for firefighters to attend advanced hazardous materials training. The technician level training is 160 hours in length. In the new hybrid class, one-half of the training is done on-line. The on-line training is combined with hands-on training over eight ten-hour days.

Pipeline Safety

In 2016, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The grant project consisted of



Council officials received, on behalf of the Council, an Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Training Project. Left to right, Daniel Riddick, Immediate Past Chair of the Council, Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair of the Council, Louie Davis, Secretary-Treasurer of the Council, Jeff Kiley, President of the National Association of Development Organizations, Scott Koons, Executive Director of the Council, and Robert Wilford, Executive Committee Member of the Council.

planning, training, public outreach, and exercising components. The Team conducted two tabletop exercises involving emergency response activities with an odorizing station in Trenton and a compressor station in Brooker. Council staff provided staff support to the Team in implementing this project.

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance

Hurricane Preparedness

During 2016, the Council continued its support of emergency managers by providing them decision-making tools to assist in determining who and when to evacuate in response to an approaching hurricane. Hurricanes Hermine and Matthew both caused damage in the region during the year and the decision-making tools were used by emergency managers to make critical life-saving decisions concerning these storm events.

Council staff served as lead evaluator for the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the 2016 Statewide Hurricane Exercise. The exercise focused on the relocation of the State Emergency Operations Center from Tallahassee to Camp Blanding. The evaluation team included staff from Apalachee Regional Planning Council and West Florida Regional Planning Council.

Hazardous Waste

All counties in Florida are required by law to conduct annual site visits to verify the hazardous waste management practices of 20 percent of the businesses and government agencies in a county.



The Council provided assistance to Levy County and other counties throughout the north central Florida region with small quantity hazardous waste monitoring.

The Council continued to provide compliance assistance to mainly small businesses during the required verification visits. A goal is to help facilities properly manage waste disposal in a cost efficient manner. The overall goal is to keep hazardous waste out of landfills and groundwater.

Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team

The Council continued to provide staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. Members include Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Suwannee and Union Counties as well as the following cities: Gainesville, Lake City, Madison and Starke.

During 2016, a training trailer was deployed at Suwannee County Fire Rescue. The trailer will be used to support training for natural gas pipeline and other hazardous materials transportation incidents.

Hazards Analyses and Hazards Analysis Working Group

Hazardous materials emergency response planning requires an understanding of the chemical hazards and potential threats to nearby communities. In 2016, facilities reported the amounts of extremely hazardous substances which are stored in the region.

"The Council provided staff support to counties to conduct hazards analyses site visits."

Council staff serves as Chair of the State Emergency Response Commission Hazards Analysis Working Group. During 2016, the working group made progress in improving the overall process to ensure that emergency management and first responders have the most accurate and useful information in the case of a toxic chemical release.

Public Health

Council staff assisted the Dixie, Gilchrist and Levy County Health Departments with conducting a tabletop exercise. The scenario involved a disease outbreak where the health departments needed to prescribe and dispense medications to every resident of a county. By conducting this exercise, emergency plans were able to be tested, existing partnerships with community partners were strengthened and potential new partnerships were identified.

Economic Development

The economic development program of the Council strives to promote long-term economic prosperity in the region by conducting comprehensive economic development planning, assisting local governments and economic development organizations with implementation activities and by promoting tourism opportunities of the region as a means of economic development.

"The Council's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy uses the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Economic Future as the organizing framework."

Economic Development Planning

In 1978, the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration designated the north central Florida region as an Economic Development District. Since then, the Council has served as the primary regional economic development planning organization for the north central Florida region. The Council continued to maintain a high level of involvement in 2016 by providing technical assistance to local governments and economic development organizations in order to promote the economic growth of the region.

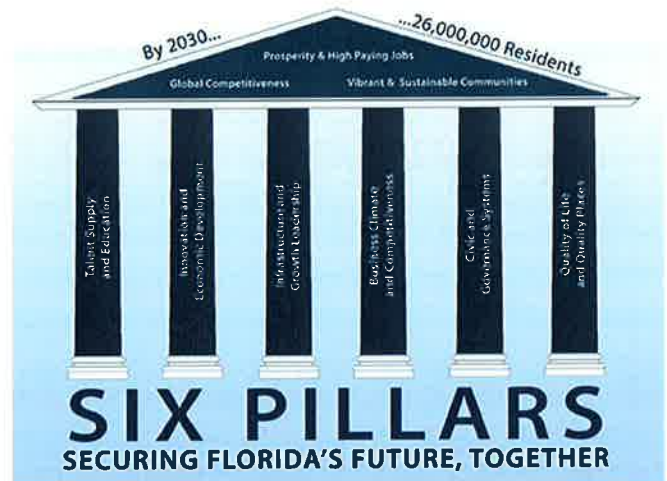
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Council staff continued to promote initiatives that support the five regional priorities identified in the five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy of the Economic Development District, which was submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration in 2012. Those five priorities are: support the two Rural Economic Development Initiative Catalyst Sites in the North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity; promote regional tourism through *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*; create strategies to increase the labor force in the healthcare and life science industries; seek

opportunities to improve the multimodal infrastructure of the region; and expand and support regional business incubators and research parks.

The five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the 2013 to 2017 period utilizes the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Economic Future principles as the underlying Strategy framework. The Goals and Objectives of the Strategy are also coordinated with the State of Florida Five-Year Economic Development Strategy, developed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Council staff continued to support local economic development organizations throughout the region by providing technical assistance in the form of economic impact analysis for potential economic development projects. Utilizing Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. Policy Insite⁺® software, Council staff provided estimated impacts to variables such as population, total employment, personal income and tax revenues, based on the industry, employment and incomes of the proposed project. These estimates are a valuable tool to local governments as they evaluate possible incentives to attract new and retain existing businesses in their communities.



The Council's five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the period 2013 to 2017 utilizes the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Economic Future principles as the underlying Strategy framework.



Economic Development

Visit Natural North Florida (*The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*)

In many rural communities, tourism is often the primary source of economic development activity. Visit Natural North Florida (*The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*) markets the 14-county "Natural North Florida" region by promoting the development of nature-, culture- and heritage-based tourism. Visit Natural North Florida is comprised of representatives from each of the participating counties, appointed by their respective county commissions, to support and direct the regional tourism development effort. Since 1993, the Council has provided staffing services for the Task Force. Council staff assists the Task Force in upgrading and maintaining the VisitNaturalNorthFlorida.com website, coordinating consumer travel show participation, creating proactive publicity campaigns and producing collateral materials to meet the goals of the regional marketing plan.



The Original Florida Tourism Task Force website provided visitors information about outdoor-oriented activities such as the many bicycle trails located throughout the north central Florida region. The website can be found at www.vnnf.org.

Visit Natural North Florida participates in in-state, domestic out-of-state and international consumer travel shows, where members actively engage and provide collateral marketing material to thousands of potential visitors.

Each county in the Natural North Florida region receives extensive exposure on North Florida's premier tourism website, www.VisitNaturalNorthFlorida.com. Potential visitors can find events and festivals, attractions, accommodations, trails, themed itineraries and more.

Visit Natural North Florida members are eligible to receive scholarships to attend educational programs such as the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College and the annual

"The Council provided staff services to *The Original Florida Tourism Task Force* to promote the region for nature-, culture- and heritage-based tourism."

Florida Governor's Tourism Conference. Attendees are taught marketing techniques in all facets of the tourism industry and learn about the latest trends in tourism promotion. In addition, each member county receives exposure in digital as well as print media advertising campaigns. The advertisements are viewed by millions annually.

Visit Natural North Florida maintains several different forms of printed media, including fold-out map brochures that are distributed at the VISIT FLORIDA Welcome Centers, state-wide AAA offices and at hundreds of private business locations along the major highways in Florida and I-75 in Georgia.



The Original Florida Tourism Task Force promoted the north central Florida region for nature-based, heritage-based and culture-based tourism activities such as freshwater and saltwater kayaking opportunities available in the north central Florida region.

Local Government Assistance

During 2016, the Council offered technical assistance to local governments which do not have available staff or expertise for certain activities. These activities ranged from comprehensive planning to community development.

Comprehensive Planning

In response to the requirements of Florida community planning legislation, the Council continued to place a significant emphasis on comprehensive planning assistance for local governments. During 2016, the Council continued to assist counties and cities throughout the region in complying with the requirements of the Community Planning Act.

"The Council assisted counties and cities throughout the region in complying with the requirements of the Community Planning Act."

The Act requires counties and cities to prepare, adopt, update and implement a comprehensive plan to guide future growth and development in their communities. The comprehensive plan must address future land use, transportation, housing, public facilities, including potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm water drainage, conservation of natural resources, recreation and open space, intergovernmental coordination, public school facilities and capital improvements. In addition, the comprehensive plan may include optional elements such as economic development and public buildings and facilities.

The comprehensive plan must be implemented through the adoption of land development regulations governing the subdivision of land, use of land, protection of potable well fields, regulations subject to flooding, protection of environmentally sensitive lands, signage, public facility concurrency and onsite traffic flow and parking. The Act also requires local governments to evaluate their comprehensive plan every seven years to determine whether it complies with all statutory and administrative rule requirements. Such evaluations may result in recommended amendments to the comprehensive plan.

The Council provided ongoing comprehensive planning assistance to local governments to assist with interpretations of comprehensive plans and land development regulations, preparation of comprehensive plan and land development regulation amendments, codification of comprehensive plans and land development regulations, and concurrency assessments of plats and site and development plans.

In particular, the Council assisted six counties and 11 municipalities process 108 development-related applications. This assistance included the review and adoption of 36 comprehensive plan map and text amendments. The Council also assisted these local governments with 64 land development regulation map and text amendments, six land development regulation special exceptions and conditional use permits and two variances.

The Council assisted counties and municipalities in preparing concurrency assessments to evaluate the impacts of development on the level of service for roads, water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, storm water drainage and recreation facilities.



The Council provided assistance to the City of High Springs and other local governments throughout the north central Florida region with comprehensive planning and land development regulation.

Community Development Block Grants

Since 1976, the Council has assisted local governments with applications and administration for the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program. The Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program is a federal program, which is part of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and is administered by the State of Florida. Eligible local governments apply to the State for funding through a competitive process.



Local Government Assistance

The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant program is to help reduce and reverse community decline and restore community vitality. This is done by addressing the housing stock, improving infrastructure and assisting private businesses with infrastructure needs so they can be job creators.

"The Council assisted counties and cities identify community development needs, file grant applications and administer projects."

Though the program ultimately benefits the local governments by providing grants for infrastructure, the beneficiaries of this program are primarily residents whose incomes are within the low- to moderate-income range for their community. The Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program has several different categories which assist local governments with improving infrastructure in neighborhoods and creating jobs for low- to moderate-income residents.

The categories are Housing, Neighborhood Revitalization, Commercial Revitalization and Economic Development. Housing is a direct benefit program, in which funds are used to



Improvements such as renovated kitchen plumbing and new kitchen appliances to meet code requirements were completed for low- to moderate-income owner-occupied dwelling units using Community Development Block Grant funds.



Community Development Block Grant funds were used by the City of Madison to rehabilitate low- to moderate-income owner-occupied dwelling units located throughout the city.

rehabilitate or replace homes of low- to moderate-income families. This helps the individual family, but also helps the community by improving the local housing stock. Neighborhood Revitalization, both a direct benefit program and community-wide benefit, in which funds are used to rehabilitate or provide new infrastructure to primarily low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, such as paving roads, replacing or providing new water or sanitary sewer lines and providing connections to the lines.

Commercial Revitalization is used to improve the public right-of-way through improving sidewalks and lighting as well as building facades of downtown areas or commercial revitalization areas, making areas more attractive and safer, thereby making it more likely that private businesses will locate in the revitalized area and hire local residents. Economic Development funds are used to provide necessary infrastructure for a private business to locate or remain open within the boundaries of a local government. Private businesses that directly benefit from economic development funds agree to hire a certain number of low- to moderate-income residents.

Council staff continued to provide administrative assistance for projects in the City of Madison and the Town of Mayo.

Transportation

Through an interlocal agreement entered into by the Florida Department of Transportation, Alachua County and the City of Gainesville, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area was formed in 1979 to conduct continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning activities in the Gainesville metropolitan area. This planning program is required in order for the area to receive federal funds for transportation projects.

“The Council provided staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area to assist in developing transportation plans and programs.”

The Council provided staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, providing technical and administrative assistance in developing transportation plans and programs. Another major transportation planning activity is the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. This program is required in order for counties to receive state funds for transportation services for low-income individuals, elderly individuals, persons with disabilities and children-at-risk.

Metropolitan Transportation Planning

In 2016, a number of transportation planning activities were conducted, which included the following.

Long Range Transportation Plan

In 2016, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area distributed copies of its adopted multimodal Year 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Final Report to its membership, the legislative delegation and federal and state agencies. Several projects in the Long-Range Transportation Plan were at various stages in 2016. These projects included:

- State Infrastructure Bank loan-funded Celebration Pointe bridge over Interstate 75;
- State Road 24 (Archer Road) Four-Lane Project, Development and Environment Study;



The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area adopted the 2016-17 to 2021-22 Transportation Improvement Program for highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

- State Roads 26 and 26A (West University Avenue and SW 2nd Avenue) at State Road 121 (SW 34th Street) Safety Project Study; and
- State Road 121 (NW 34th Street) Left Turn Lane Study from NW 16th Avenue to U.S. 441.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

In 2016, the Federal Transportation Alternatives Program-funded University of Florida Campus Greenway was completed. In addition several projects within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area were awarded funding, including:

- Federal Transportation Alternatives Program-funded Northwest 19th Lane Bike/Pedestrian Facility Project;
- State Safe Routes to School-funded NE 18th Avenue (Metcalfe Elementary School) Sidewalk Project; and
- State Shared-Use Network Trail-funded State Road 24 (Archer Road) SW 75th Street (Tower Road) Bicycle/Pedestrian Project.



The University of Florida Campus Greenway at Lake Alice which provides pedestrian, bicycle and wheelchair access for students, faculty, staff and visitors was completed in 2016.

Transportation

Transportation Disadvantaged

Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program provides access to employment, health care, education and other life sustaining activities for older adults, persons with disabilities, and persons with low income. Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored services are provided through a network of Community Transportation Coordinators. In 2016, Community Transportation Coordinators provided over 237,000 trips in the north central Florida region. Approximately 50 percent of these trips were for medical purposes.

The 2016 Florida Legislature authorized non-recurring funds to be competitively awarded by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged through a Mobility Enhancement Grant Program. The Florida Commission for the Transportation awarded grant funds to the following Community Transportation Coordinators in the region:

- MV Transportation, Inc., the Community Transportation Coordinator for Alachua County, was awarded funding to provide reduced fare bus passes to the homeless population resided in Gainesville. MV Transportation, Inc. partnered with GRACE Marketplace and the City of Gainesville to implement this project.
- Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., the Community Transportation Coordinator for Bradford County was awarded funding to supplement their existing transportation services by providing same day on-demand transportation service for local medical, pharmacy and shopping purposes within the City of Starke.; and
- Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, the Community Transportation Coordinator for Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties, was awarded funding to supplement their existing transportation services by providing same day on-demand transportation service within the City of Lake City for medical, pharmacy and shopping purposes.

In 2016, Santa Fe College contracted with MV Transportation, Inc. to provide the Santa Fe EXTRA Shuttle service. The EXTRA Shuttle provided round trip service from Alachua, Archer, Newberry, High Springs, Starke and Waldo to the Santa Fe College Northwest campus in Gainesville.

Upcoming Activities

In 2017, the Council will issue request for proposals for the designation of the Madison County Community Transportation Coordinator. The Council will continue to work with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged,

"The Council provided staff support to transportation disadvantaged local coordinating boards to coordinate trips for access to employment, health care, education and other life-sustaining activities for residents in the region."

Community Transportation Coordinators and local Coordinating Boards in the region to increase the provision and coordination of transportation services to disadvantaged individuals.



Community transportation coordinators in the north central Florida region coordinated the provision of public transportation services for persons who are unable to transport themselves because of age, disability or income status.

Communications

In addition to the planning and other technical studies prepared under contract with local governments throughout the region, the Council prepared or maintained the following materials in 2016.

Regional

- Strategic Regional Policy Plan
- Evaluation reports on local comprehensive plan amendments and other Council review items

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance

- Local Emergency Planning Committee Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan Update
- Hazards Analysis Updates for Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Marion and Taylor Counties
- Hazardous Waste Management Summary Reports for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties
- After Action Report for 2016 Statewide Hurricane/Continuity of Operations Plan Exercise
- After Action Reports for the following exercises: Dixie, Gilchrist and Levy County Health Departments Point of Dispensing Tabletop Exercise; Brooker and Trenton Natural Gas Pipeline Tabletop Exercises
- Model Coastal Flooding Vulnerability Assessment.

Economic Development

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2013-2017

Transportation

- Fiscal Years 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program
- Fiscal Years 2018-2022 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area List of Priority Projects
- Annual Report for Regional Transit System Ridership
- Annual Multimodal Level of Service Report for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area
- Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans

"The Council prepared planning and technical studies concerning regional, public safety and regulatory compliance, transportation, and general program activities."

General

- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Annual Report
- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Overall Program Design
- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Regional Directory

The Council also provided general planning assistance and referral services to the public along with the following maps and information resources.

- Existing and Future Land Use Maps
- Zoning Maps
- Census Information



In 2016, the Council prepared planning and technical studies concerning regional, public safety and regulatory compliance, transportation, and general program activities.

Upcoming Activities

In 2017, the Council will continue programs started in 2016 or earlier, and initiate new regional, public safety and regulatory compliance, economic development, local government assistance and transportation projects and activities, as follows.

Regional

The Council will review federal grant and loan applications for consistency with area-wide plans.

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance

Emergency Management

The Council will assist with a tabletop or full-scale exercise to be conducted in the north central Florida region and assist other regional planning councils with exercises as requested. The Council will schedule and teach classes on improving emergency preparedness.

Hazardous Materials

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will continue to promote increasing public safety from chemical releases through planning, training, reviewing, exercising, offering How-to-Comply assistance and educating the public. Hazards analyses will be updated for facilities that handle extremely hazardous substances. The Regional Emergency Response Plan will be updated. The Council will continue to provide staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Hazardous Waste

The Council will continue to provide compliance assistance to facilities that generate hazardous waste while inspecting small quantity generators. The Council will notify businesses when hazardous waste collection events and compliance assistance workshops are scheduled.

Economic Development

The Council will continue to provide assistance to local governments and economic development organizations in securing grant funds to accommodate industrial and business growth. Council staff will also prepare economic impact analyses identifying the multiplier effect on employment, income and ad valorem revenue of economic development projects.

Economic Development Planning

The Council will assess progress toward implementing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Visit Natural North Florida

The Council will continue to staff Visit Natural North Florida (*The Original Florida Tourism Task Force*) in the implementation of its tourism marketing plan.

"The Council will continue existing programs and initiate new activities next year."

Local Government Assistance

Community Development

Community Development Block Grant applications will be prepared for local governments. Other community development assistance, including administrative services, will be provided as requested.

Local Government Community Planning Assistance

The Council will continue assisting counties and cities in complying with the Community Planning Act requirements.

Transportation

Fiscal Years 2018 to 2022

Transportation Improvement Program

Working in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation, Council staff will assist the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area with updating the five-year funding program of transportation projects for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Level of Service Study

Council staff will update level of service information concerning the amount of traffic congestion on arterial and collector roads in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

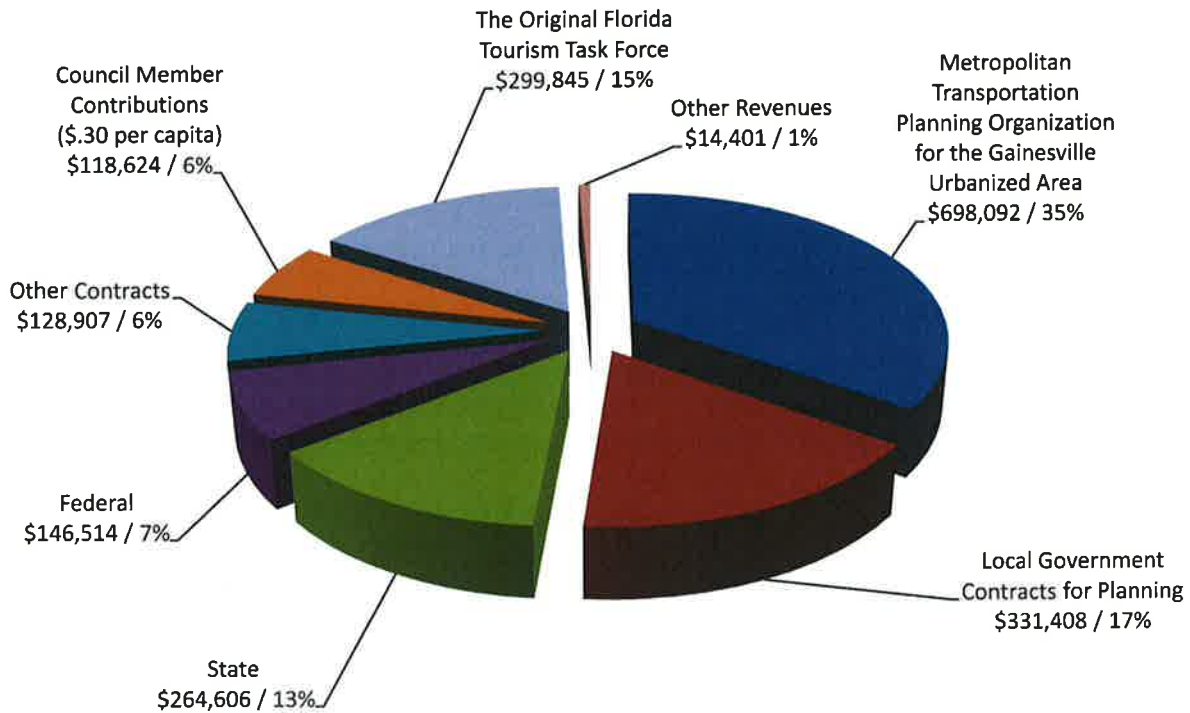
Transportation Disadvantaged

Council staff will work with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, community transportation coordinators and local coordinating boards in the region to continue coordinating transportation services to disadvantaged individuals.

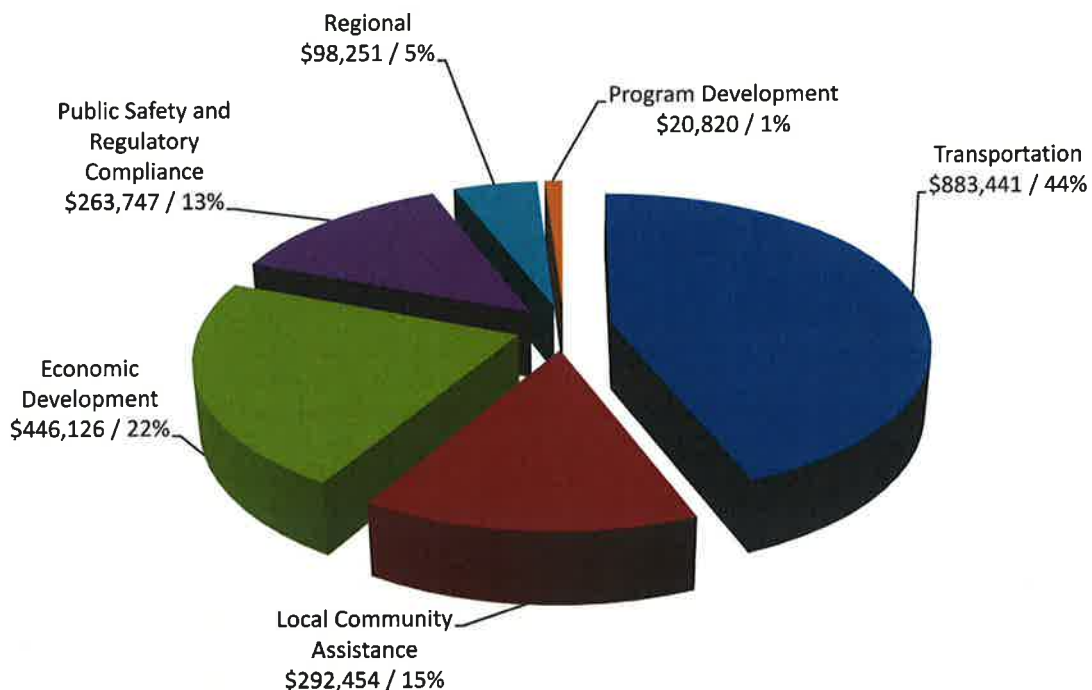


Financial Report

2015-16 Revenues \$2,002,397



2015-16 Expenditures \$2,004,839



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