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MEETING NOTICE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on **March 27, 2025**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Santa Fe Room, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida**, and via Communications Media Technology at **6:00 p.m.**

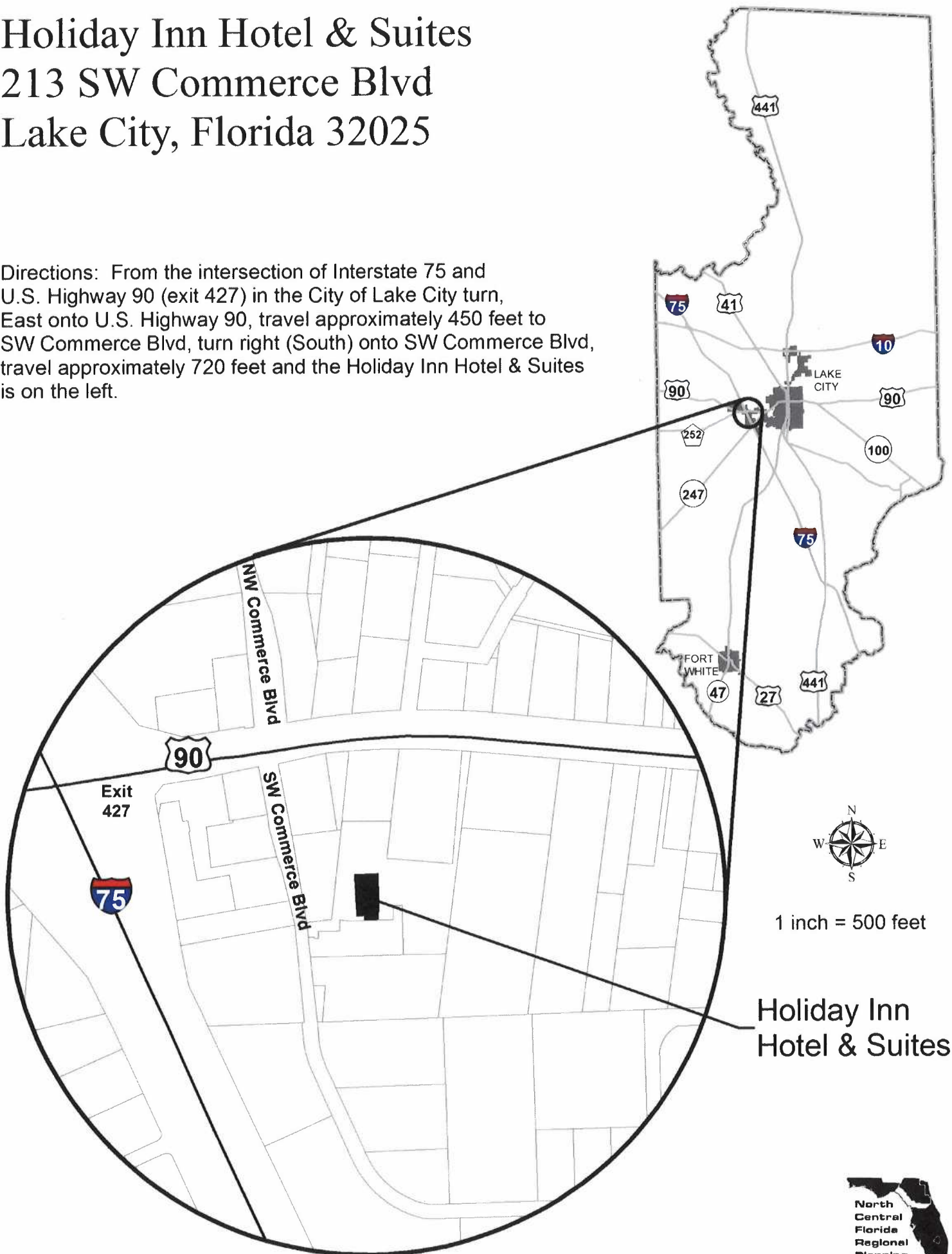
DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll Free 1.888.585.9008

CONFERENCE CODE: 568 124 316

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hybrid Public Meeting
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard
Lake City, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

March 27, 2025
6:00 p.m.

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* E. Resolution No. 2025-13 Concerning Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125	35
V. OTHER BUSINESS - None	
VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS	

The Committee welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the Committee. If you would like to address the Committee, please complete a form, come forward when you are called, and state your name for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than three minutes. Your participation is welcomed.

See Attachments

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by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

February 27, 2025
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
IN PERSON

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary
Fletcher Hope Jr., Chair

VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(FOR QUORUM)

Janice Mortimer, Immediate Past Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

None

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mary Alford, Vice-Chair
Maurice Perkins, Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In Person

OTHERS PRESENT

Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer - In Person
Jonathan Wershow, Council Attorney - Virtual

Noting a quorum being present, Chair Hope called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -JANUARY 23, 2025

ACTION: Councilwoman Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve the minutes for the January 23, 2025 Executive Committee meeting as written and circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

II. CONTRACTS AND APPLICATIONS -

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Program Grant Resolutions
Fiscal Year 2025-26

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Councilwoman Hawkins, to recommend that the Council approve the Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Program Grant Resolutions for Fiscal Year 2025-26. The motion carried unanimously.

III. PROGRAM REPORT -

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointment

ACTION: Councilwoman Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to recommend that the Council appoint Leo Mobley as the Suwannee County Elected Official Representative for the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION -

A. Resolution No. 2025-12 Recognizing 100th Anniversary of Gilchrist County

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Councilwoman Hawkins to recommend that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2025-12 Recognizing 100th Anniversary of Gilchrist County. The motion carried unanimously.

V. OTHER BUSINESS -

Scott Koons, Executive Director, discussed House Bill 1125 concerning regional planning councils and Senate Bill 1246 concerning regional planning councils.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS -

Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer, discussed transportation disadvantaged coordinating board meeting quorums.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

3/27/25
Date



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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Executive Director to sign an amendment to the memorandum of agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council for an additional year as a user of the Regional Economic Modeling, Inc., for a fixed fee amount of \$6,452.25.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005, the Council entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to be a user of the Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. economic impact model. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is a licensed user of the model by Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is authorized to issue user rights to other parties subject to collection of a fee to be paid to Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. At this time, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is proposing to extend the Council's existing memorandum of agreement for a one-year period for a fixed fee of \$6,452.25.

The Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. model is based upon an input-output engine and provides the Council, our local governments, economic development agencies and others with a dynamic tool for economic and demographic analysis and forecasting. It uses national data calibrated for the region, but also can accept local data sets to enhance its accuracy. This model can review system-wide effects over both short- and long-range time horizons, include economic and fiscal impact analyses, policy impact analyses and economic development/redevelopment analyses. The model can be configured to either address the entire region of any number of county-based subsets of the region, as well as including counties in adjacent regions.

Council staff has used this model to evaluate the impact of several projects throughout the region. Examples of projects include a hotel and a redevelopment project in the City of Gainesville, a recreational vehicle resort in the City of Hawthorne, a food processing plant in the City of Newberry, a computer technical support call center, manufacturing facilities and sports complex in Columbia County, a refrigerated container manufacturing plant in Madison County, a manufacturing facility and a sawmill plant in Suwannee County.

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

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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program
 Local Coordinating Board Membership Certifications

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to sign the Bradford County; Columbia Hamilton Suwannee; Dixie County; Gilchrist County; Lafayette County; Levy County; Madison County; and Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Membership Certifications.

BACKGROUND:

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is the designated official planning agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for Bradford County, Columbia County, Dixie County, Gilchrist County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Madison County, Suwannee County and Union County. As the designated official planning agency, the Council is required to annually certify membership of the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards.

The attached forms certify that the membership of the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards is established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3) of the Florida Administrative Code. These forms also certify that the membership of the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards represent, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local communities.

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

Attachments

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**BRADFORD COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Riddick		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	John Wisker	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Libby Murphy	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Reeda Harris	Pamela Hagley	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Christina Brown	Anna Mendoza	No Term
Veteran Services	Barbara Fischer	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Iana Patterson	Vacant	6/30/2028

**COLUMBIA, HAMILTON AND SUWANNEE
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official Hamilton County	Vacant	Not Applicable	No Term
Local Elected Official Suwannee County	Commissioner Mobley	Not Applicable	No Term
Local Elected Official Columbia County	Commissioner Phillips	Not Applicable	No Term
Elderly	John Koch	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Louie Goodin	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Daniel Taylor	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Quana Perry	Stephanie Harden	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Pamela Hagley	Reeda Harris	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Diane Head	Vacant	No Term
Veteran Services	Lee Abersold	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Sandra Buck Camp	Vacant	6/30/2028

**DIXIE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Storey		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	John Wisker	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration		Latarsha Hampton	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Veteran Services	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/202
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Matthew Ferguson	Vacant	6/30/2028

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Langford		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Pastor Ralph Williams	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Reeda Harris	Pamela Hagley	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Veteran Services	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Brittany Keeling	Krishna Stemple	6/30/2028

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Byrd		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Stephen Clark	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Arlene Dix	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Eva Bolton	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Lisa Payne	Latarsha Hampton	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Diane Head	Anthony Jennings	No Term
Veteran Services	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028

**LEVY COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Mills		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Tiffany McKenzie	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Joseph Wain	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	John Wisker	Amy Burton	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Reeda Harris	Pamela Hagley	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Larry Trowbridge	Vacant	No Term
Veteran Services	Olajuwon White	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028

**MADISON COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Moore		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Paula Arnold	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Ferron Perry	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Donna Hagan	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Melinda Richie	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Steve Russell	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Diane Head	Anthony Jennings	No Term
Veteran Services	Kaysona Jones	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	Shanetha Mitchell	Vacant	6/30/2028

**UNION COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner McNeal		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2027
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2026
Public Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Diana Burgos-Garcia	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Angela Gregory	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Libby Murphy	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Reeda Harris	Pamela Hagley	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Veteran Services	Barbara Fischer	Vacant	6/30/2026
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2028
Local Medical Community	John "Dan" Mann	Vacant	6/30/2028



IV.B.

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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming April 2025 as County Government Month

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming April 2025 as County Government Month.

BACKGROUND

County Government Month is celebrated each April by counties across the country to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government.

Counties participate in County Government Month by hosting a variety community outreach events and activities. These include tours of county facilities, recognition ceremonies for county employees and volunteers, distribution of information about county programs and services, sponsoring student essay or art contests, meetings with business and community leaders and adoption of resolutions.

The National Association of Counties encourages counties across the country to actively promote county government programs and services throughout the month.

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

Attachment

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



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 300 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe, vibrant and economically resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, counties move America forward by building infrastructure, maintaining roads and bridges, providing health care, administering justice, keeping communities safe, running election, managing solid waste, keeping records and much more; and

WHEREAS, counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of its residents in effective and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, in order to remain healthy, vibrant, safe and economically competitive, America's counties provide transportation and infrastructure services that play a key role in everything from daily commutes to shipping goods around the world; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties has designated April as County Government Month and encouraged counties across the country to actively promote their programs and services to the public they serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, hereby proclaims April 2025 as County Government Month throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of March 2025.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair



IV.B.

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2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603 • 352.955.2200

March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming April 2025 as Springs Protection Awareness Month

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming April 2025 as Springs Protection Awareness Month.

BACKGROUND

April is Springs Protection Awareness Month in Florida. With over 450 documented springs, the north central Florida region is home to the largest concentration of freshwater springs in North America. The springs of the area have significant environmental, historical, economic and recreational value to local communities.

The north central Florida region is home to 21 of the 33 first-magnitude springs in Florida. First-magnitude springs discharge more than 65 million gallons of water per day. Springs are natural windows into the Floridan Aquifer and reflect groundwater conditions, which serves as the primary source of drinking water in the north central Florida region.

Springs Protection Awareness Month kicks off a month-long outreach initiative by water management districts to bring attention and awareness to one of Florida's most critical ecosystems and what is being done to protect them.

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

Attachment

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



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 2025 AS SPRINGS PROTECTION AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Florida's springs are essential to the environment, economy, and citizens of, and visitors to, this state;

WHEREAS, Florida has one of the most productive aquifers in the world, which supports more than 1,000 natural springs, giving this state the world's highest concentration of springs;

WHEREAS, north central Florida region has the highest concentration of springs in the United States;

WHEREAS, Florida's springs discharge more than eight billion gallons of water each day, which is essential for sustaining spring runs and associated receiving water bodies;

WHEREAS, the north central Florida region has the highest concentration of first magnitude springs in Florida;

WHEREAS, the north central Florida region has 14 Outstanding Florida Springs;

WHEREAS, groundwater in the north central Florida region is the primary source for public, agricultural, business and industrial use and vital to Florida's economy;

WHEREAS, springs are a natural resource that must be protected, as they reflect groundwater conditions and provide an important habitat for wildlife and listed species; and

WHEREAS, springs provide important recreational resources and opportunities that are enjoyed by citizens and visitors alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the month of April 2025 as ***Springs Protection Awareness Month*** throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of March 2025.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair



IV.C.

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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming April 2025 as Water Conservation Month

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming April 2025 as Water Conservation Month.

BACKGROUND

April is Water Conservation Month in Florida. Conserving water year-round is an integral part of managing and protecting the water supply of the north central Florida region today and for future generations. Water management districts proactively develops long-term water supply plans to monitor, evaluate and identify water sources and projects to meet the future water needs.

During Water Conservation Month, water management districts join with local governments to raise awareness about the importance of water conservation and the ways we can reduce our water use all year long.

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

Attachment

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



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 2025 AS WATER CONSERVATION MONTH

WHEREAS, clean, safe and sustainable water resources are vital to north central Florida region residents, visitors, economy and environment;

WHEREAS, droughts, development and population growth serve as reminders that Florida's ground and surface water resources such as rivers, lakes and springs are finite and fragile;

WHEREAS, permanent, year-round water conservation measures are in effect throughout the north central Florida region;

WHEREAS, water conservation is a strategic priority;

WHEREAS, water conservation is encouraged and supported through public awareness efforts;

WHEREAS, water conservation will continue to play an important role in the future protection and preservation of ground and surface water resources;

WHEREAS, every business, industry, school, resident and visitor can help by conserving water and thus promote a healthy economy and community; and

WHEREAS, north central Florida local governments are essential in assisting in promoting water conservation awareness and implementing water conservation measures.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the month of April 2025 as *Water Conservation Month* throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of March 2025.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair



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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming April 21-25, 2025 as Community Development Week

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached proclamation proclaiming April 21-25, 2025 as Community Development Week.

BACKGROUND

Community Development Week has been designated by the National Community Development Association to bring attention to the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. Communities across the north central Florida region have made contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services and economic vitality of their communities using federal funding from these programs.

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

Attachment

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



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 21-25, 2025 AS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, the week of April 21-25, 2025 has been designated as National Community Development Week to recognize and celebrate the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program; and

WHEREAS, since 1975, the Community Development Block Grant Program has provided funding and flexibility to local communities to provide affordable housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, since, 1992, the HOME Investment Partnership Program has created and preserved affordable housing for low-income families; and

WHEREAS, communities across the north central Florida region have made contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services and economic vitality of their communities using federal funding from these two programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims April 21-25, 2025 as National Community Development Week in the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 27th day of March 2025.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair




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March 20, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2025-13 Concerning Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt attached Resolution No. 2025-13 concerning Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125 that Requests the Legislature Remove Language Concerning Regional Planning Councils from this or Similar Proposed Legislation

BACKGROUND:

Regional planning councils are authorized in Florida Statutes, Chapters 163 and 186, with powers and duties described in those chapters and other statutes. Shortly before the beginning of the 2025 Legislative Session, bills were filed in the Senate (SB 1264) and House (HB 1125) that would remove references to regional planning councils from Florida Statutes. A similar effort was undertaken in 2021, which was ultimately defeated before reaching the floor of the Senate (SB 62, 2021).

Unlike 2021 when this measure was a stand-alone bill, this time the language is part of bills that cover several disparate, unrelated topics. Thus, rather than requesting the defeat of these bills, the proposed resolution requests that the language concerning regional planning councils be removed from the bills.

Please find attached a Fact Sheet which describes what regional planning councils do across the state and the value provided to state and local governments, communities, and businesses - at no cost to the State. The work regional planning councils do in the areas of Economic Development, Intergovernmental Relations, Natural Resources, and Emergency Management is impactful across the state.

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

Attachments

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL; OPPOSING ELIMINATION OF STATUTORY REFERENCES TO REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS IN FLORIDA AS PROPOSED IN SENATE BILL 1264 AND HOUSE BILL 1125 OR SIMILAR PROPOSED LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council's 12-county geographical area is comprised of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties and 40 municipalities with over 604,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, the Council is a multi-purpose regional governmental entity with policy responsibilities in the areas of affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources and regional transportation; and

WHEREAS, for more than five decades regional planning councils have served the public as Florida's only multipurpose regional entities that coordinate intergovernmental solutions to multijurisdictional issues identified by their member local governments; and

WHEREAS, the 67 counties in the state are divided into ten regional planning councils which perform functions in Economic Development, Transportation, Emergency Preparedness and Local Government Services to the extent and as directed by their member counties, cities, and gubernatorial appointees; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils bring to Florida federal funds for economic development that would otherwise go to other states; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils receive no general appropriation for operation from the State and, instead, are supported by Federal grant funds, local dues, local contracts, and State contracts for specific programs implemented on behalf of the State; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils do not have any regulatory authority concerning planning and zoning matters; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils serve a critical role in hazardous materials response coordination and training through the local emergency planning committees operated by each Council; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils regularly assist state agencies in implementing their statutory duties and legislative directives, along with coordinating these duties and directives with local input, at no cost to the State; and

WHEREAS, regional planning councils partner with local governments and various agencies to secure grant funding, staff specialized projects, and provide technical support expertise; and

WHEREAS, proposed Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125 would remove all references to regional planning councils from Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council that:

Section 1. The Legislature is urged to remove all references to regional planning councils from Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125 or any similar proposed legislation; and

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 27th day of March 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair