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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 **January 25, 2024**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Suwannee Room, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida**, and via Communications Media Technology at **7:00 p.m.**

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://meet.goto.com/177139773>

DIAL IN NUMBER: **Toll Free: 1.877.309.2073**

ACCESS CODE: **177-139-773**

### MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

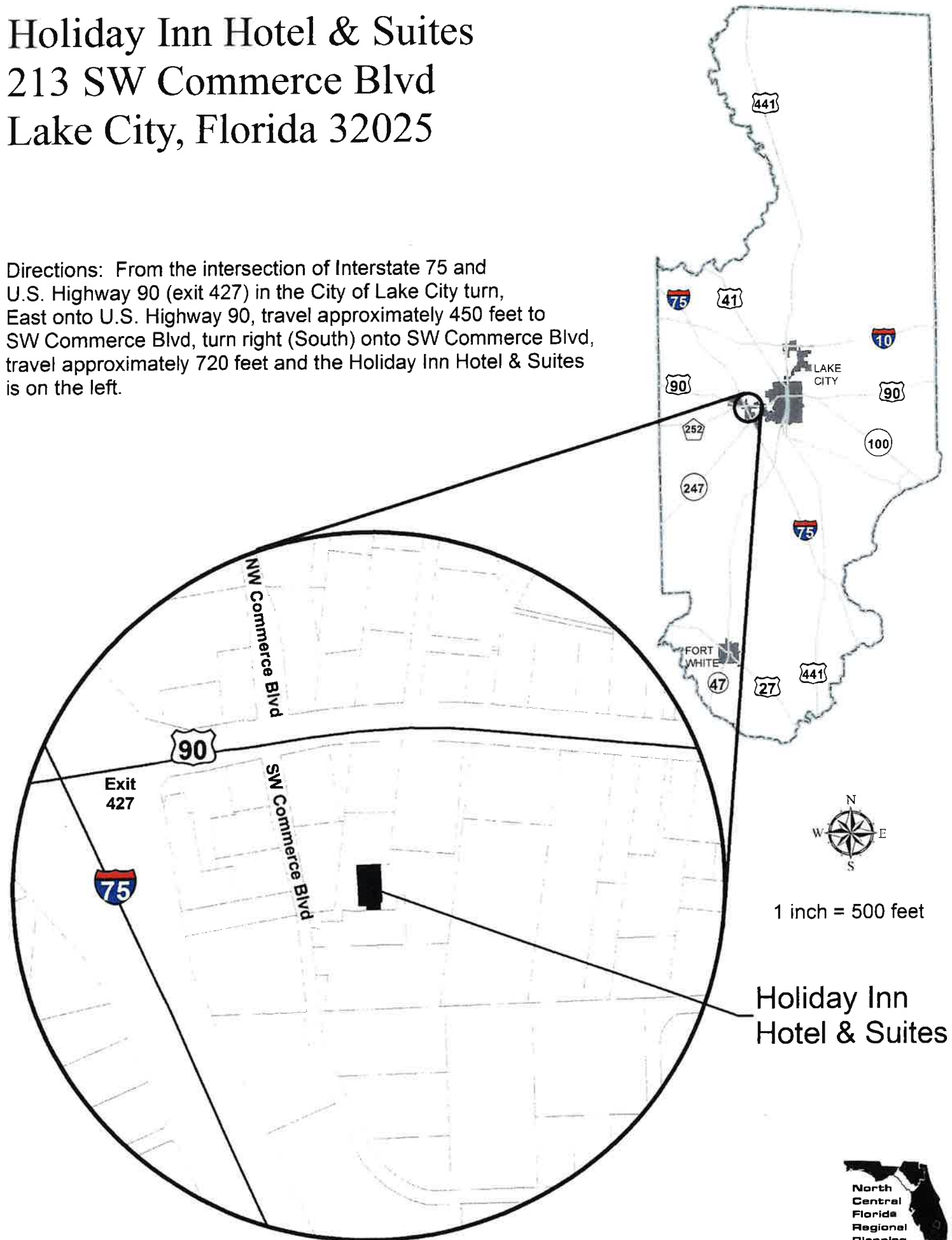
*Please call the Council at 352.955.2200 or email [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org) by January 24, 2024 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting either **in-person** or **via communications media technology** at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. **THANK YOU.***

*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.



Holiday Inn  
Hotel & Suites





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## AGENDA

### NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

January 25, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

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A. Executive Committee -

- \* 1. Proclamation Proclaiming February 19-25, 2024 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week 47

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Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

1. #10 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 23-2ESR)
2. #11 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 23-4ESR)
3. #12 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 23-5ESR)
4. #13 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 24-1ESR)

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Council welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the Council on any matter not included on the agenda. This is not a question or answer time, it is not a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations or derogatory remarks to or about Council personnel. If you would like to address the Council, please complete a form, come to the podium when you are called, speak into the microphone and state your name and address for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than three minutes. Your participation is welcomed.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- \* A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report 53
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XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This agenda item provides an opportunity for Council members to make announcements concerning community events and local government projects.

XIII. NEXT MEETING - February 22, 2024

- \* See Attachment

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

**IV.A.**

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

December 14, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT  
IN PERSON

**Anthony Adams, Lafayette County**  
**Robert Brown, Hamilton County**  
Thomas Demps, Taylor County  
**Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer**  
**John Meeks, Levy County**  
Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County  
Edward Potts, City of Alachua  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County  
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County  
*Lorene Thomas, Dixie County*  
Donnie Waldrep, Madison County

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(FOR QUORUM)

Ed Book, City of Gainesville  
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak  
Louie Davis, City of Waldo  
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville  
**Janice Mortimer, City of Starke**  
Casey Willits, City of Gainesville

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

David Stegall, City of Lake Butler

NON-VOTING DELEGATE ABSENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mary Alford, Alachua County  
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne  
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County  
Rick Coleman, City of Newberry  
Rocky Ford, Columbia County  
Ward Ketring, City of Perry  
William Mitchell V, City of Jasper  
Anna Prizzia, Alachua County  
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County  
James Tallman, Union County  
Byran Williams, City of High Springs  
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Alexander, Suwannee River  
Water Management District - Virtual  
Patrick Doty, Southwest Florida  
Water Management District - Virtual  
Amy Roberson, Florida Department of  
Transportation - In-Person  
William White, St. Johns River  
Water Management District - In-Person

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow - Virtual

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Davis - Virtual  
Christian Doolin - In-Person  
Stew Lilker - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In Person  
Lauren Yeatter - In Person

**Executive Committee Members names are bold**  
*Gubernatorial Members names are italicized*

I. INVOCATION

Chair Janice Mortimer requested that Vice-Chair Fletcher Hope serve as the presiding officer for the meeting. Vice-Chair Hope noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Vice-Chair reported that former Council Chair Charles Chestnut III recently died and discussed his impact on Alachua County and the north central Florida region (see attached statement). The Council observed a moment of silence in remembrance and honor of the life of Charles Chestnut III. Vice-Chair Hope gave the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council and guests pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Hope welcomed Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council Member Louie Davis; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chair Hope asked that the consent agenda be approved.

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Waldrep, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

A. Minutes - October 26, 2023

B. Monthly Financial Report - October 2023

C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Vice-Chair Hope asked that the regular agenda be approved.

**ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin, Legislative Consultant  
Small County Coalition of Florida

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Christian Doolin, Legislative Consultant, Small County Coalition of Florida. Mr. Doolin discussed the upcoming legislative session and issues of interest to small counties and communities. Vice-Chair Hope thanked Mr. Doolin for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT - None

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

1. Gary Masters

**ACTION:** Commissioner Meeks made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Brown to authorize the Chair to sign a Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation for former Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board voting member Gary Masters. The motion carried unanimously.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Executive Committee

#### 1. Removal of Surplus Property from List of Capital Assets

Vice-Chair Hope reported that the items listed on the schedule, which is attached herein and made a part of these minutes, are computer hardware of outdated technology, with related equipment. He stated that the Executive Committee recommends that this hardware be declared as surplus property and that approval be given to dispose of this equipment in accordance with Council policy, which will result in transporting it to the Leveda Brown Hazardous Waste Collection Center in Alachua County or donating the equipment to a nonprofit organization or local government, or recycling the equipment.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Meeks made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to declare the items listed on the schedule, which is attached herein and made a part of these minutes, as surplus property and to approve the disposal of this equipment in accordance with Council policy. The motion carried unanimously.

### B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

The Clearinghouse Committee did not achieve a quorum earlier in the evening. Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner, presented the staff recommendations concerning the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #4 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-3ESR)
- #5 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER)
- #6 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER)
- #7 - Town of Bronson Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER)
- #8 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-3ESR)

Ms. Yeatter stated with regards to these items, staff found that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, were not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. She stated that staff recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and FloridaCommerce.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Adams made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Waldrep, to approve the staff recommendations concerning Item #4 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-3ESR); Item #5 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER); Item #6 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER); Item #7 - Town of Bronson Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-1ER); and Item #8 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 23-3ESR). The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Amy Roberson, Planning Supervisor, Planning and Environmental Management Office, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, reported that the department will be completing the clean-up of storm debris from hurricane Idalia by December 22, 2023. She also noted that Sun Trails grant applications for bicycle and pedestrian facilities are due to the Department by December 20, 2023.

Tim Alexander, Deputy Executive Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that local government cost share river grant applications, local government cost share springs grant applications and local government cost share alternative water supply grant applications are due to the District by December 17, 2023.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer, public comments concerning items not on the Council agenda, the Council website and regional rural transportation.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Reports

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. He stated that 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. Mr. Koons also stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the October 2023 and November 2023 activity reports included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the October 2023 and November 2023 report.

B. Florida Regional Councils Association Forward Newsletter

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Council Association distributes an electronic newsletter each month to approximately 2,700 elected officials, state agencies, partner organizations and interested individuals statewide. He discussed an article from the December 2023 monthly Forward Newsletter that was included in the Council meeting packet featuring the staff support services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area. He noted that part of the staff support services provided by the Council includes preparation of the Gainesville Metropolitan Area Multimodal Level of Service Report. Mr. Koons stated that the Council staff compiled and analyzed Department, City and County traffic count data in preparing the Multimodal Level of Service Report.

Mr. Koons noted that the Gainesville Metropolitan Area Multimodal Level of Service Report provides level of service analysis for automotive/highway, bicycle, pedestrian and transit modes of travel in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. He reported that the Council, in partnership with the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, annually prepares the report.



C. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. He stated that 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. Mr. Koons noted that 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. He reviewed the December 2023 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

D. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated the 2024 Legislative Session will convene on January 9, 2024 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 8, 2024.

E. National Association of Development Organizations Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award

Mr. Koons reported that the Council received an Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for the Visit Natural North Florida Tourism Marketing Campaign. He stated the awards this year once again are presented in honor of Aliceann Wohlbruck, who passed away in March 2018. Mr. Koons stated Wohlbruck was the Association's first executive director, serving 24 years as a tireless champion for regional approaches to economic development in rural and small metropolitan communities.

Mr. Koons noted that the Council provides staff support services to The Original Florida Tourism Task Force. The regional tourism marketing campaign of the Task Force includes a digital and print advertising, electronic newsletter, and social media. Part of the staff support services provided by the Council includes coordinating digital and print advertising, preparing and distributing the electronic newsletter and managing social media.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Vice-Chair Hope stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on January 25, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

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Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

1/25/24

Date



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## North Central Florida Regional Planning Council December 14, 2023

Civil Rights leader and Chestnut Funeral Home owner Charles S. Chestnut III, the first African American member of the Alachua County School Board and former Alachua County Commissioner, died on December 4, 2023 at age 83.

He played a pivotal role in the history of Gainesville and the larger story of North Central Florida.

As a local leader in the Civil Rights movement, Chestnut coordinated sit-ins with friends at the whites-only counters of Woolworth's, McCrory's and other local drugstores.

He became President of the Alachua County NAACP Youth Council and worked to secure equal access to public accommodations for the Black residents of Alachua County.

Chestnut's activism also focused on voters' rights by organizing a campaign to register Blacks to vote.

He was married to Gainesville City Commissioner and former Council member Cynthia Moore Chestnut for more than 40 years and is father to five children, including Alachua County Commissioner, former Council Chair and current Council member Charles "Chuck" Chestnut IV.

Chestnut served on the Alachua County School Board from 1976 to 1992 and on the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners from 1992 to 2000.

He served as Chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area in 1994 and as Chair of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council in 1996-97.

Chestnut was a lifetime member of the NAACP, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, a loyal lifetime member of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church of Gainesville, and a U.S. Army veteran.

Funeral Services will be on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Please join me in a moment of silence in honor and memory of Charles S. Chestnut III.

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Gary Masters has served as the voting Public Education Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since October 2018; and*

*WHEREAS, Gary Masters ably discharged the duties of the voting Public Education Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the members and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Gary Masters for dedicated service rendered to the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Levy County and the State of Florida; and*

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

  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

**ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

December 14, 2023

Date



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December 7, 2023

TO: Fixed Asset File  
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Surplus Inventory

Number	Original Cost	Description	Serial Number	Purchased
3184	\$12,497.50	Canon Advanced C9065 Pro V2 Base Model Color Copier	HJX50682	06/18/12
	\$3,300.00	Accessories for Canon Advanced C9065 Pro V2 Copier	2988B001AA	11/08/12
	\$15,797.50	Sum * All fully depreciated		

The above items are either broken or of such outdated technology that they are no longer being used.

We need to have them taken off the inventory list so they can be disposed of in accordance with Council policy.

z:\word2000\inventoryremoval2023dec.docx



## IV.B.

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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report - November 2023

Please find attached a copy of the Monthly Financial Report for the Council's activities for November 2023. 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 two months is 14 percent of budget.

### Expenditures

The total expenditures for the Council for year to date are within budgeted figures. Total expenditures at the end of two months are 12 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)**  
**November 30, 2023**

**BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking / Savings	2,435,145
Accounts Receivable	590,368
Other Current Assets	44,684

Total Current Assets 3,070,197

TOTAL ASSETS

3,070,197

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	14,571
Other Current Liabilities	90,192

Total Liabilities 104,763

Equity 2,965,434

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

3,070,197

**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)**  
**November 30, 2023**

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

	<b>Adopted Budget FY 2023-24</b>	<b>November 2023</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Percent of Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	1,629,100	5,609	230,866	14%
<b>Expenses</b>	1,629,100	84,592	187,462	12%



**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)**  
**November 30, 2023**

**REVENUE**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Adopted Budget FY 2023-24</b>	<b>November 2023</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Percent of Budget</b>
Program Development	61,700	2,409	41,687	68%
Regional Planning				
Regional Planning & Review	70,000	0	70,065	100%
Regional Mitigation Resiliency	102,800	3,200	3,200	3%
Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance				
Hazardous Waste Monitoring	58,900	0	0	0%
Local Emergency Planning Committee	70,000	0	0	0%
Hazards Analyses	0	0	0	
Transportation				
Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	234,000	0	0	0%
Gainesville Urbanized Area Mass Transit	248,600	0	0	0%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	26,000	0	0	0%
Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	216,500	0	0	0%
Economic Development				
Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	115,000	0	44,993	39%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	36,500	0	0	0%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	68,900	0	51,000	74%
Vision North Central Florida	0	0	0	
Local Government Assistance				
General Technical Services	20,000	0	19,921	100%
City & County Planning Services	244,200	0	0	0%
Community Development Block Grant Administration	56,000	0	0	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,629,100</b>	<b>5,609</b>	<b>230,866</b>	<b>14%</b>

**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Summary Financial Statement (Unaudited)**  
**November 30, 2023**

**EXPENDITURES**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Adopted Budget FY 2023-24</b>	<b>November 2023</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Percent of Budget</b>
Audit	18,000	0	0	0%
Building Occupancy & Grounds	29,000	3,422	7,989	28%
Contractual Services	20,000	3,140	10,712	54%
Dues, Publications, Subscriptions & Training	31,000	5,740	5,740	19%
Furniture & Equipment	25,000	0	0	0%
Insurance & Bonding	25,000	0	1,187	5%
Legal Services & Public Notices	11,000	594	764	7%
Machine Rental & Maintenance	3,000	1,158	1,158	39%
Meeting Expenses	20,000	102	1,515	8%
Office Supplies	13,000	3,325	4,124	32%
Personnel	1,164,900	64,441	146,493	13%
Postage	5,000	48	486	10%
Printing	2,000	0	0	0%
Reproduction	10,000	0	344	3%
Telephone	4,000	477	576	14%
Travel	30,000	2,066	3,631	12%
Original Florida Tourism Task Force	68,900	79	2,743	4%
Contingency	149,300	0	0	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,629,100</b>	<b>84,592</b>	<b>187,462</b>	<b>12%</b>



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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Appoint Commissioner Desiree Mills Chair of the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board; and**
- **Appoint Lisa Payne the voting Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration Representative on the Dixie and Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards. It is recommended Commissioner Desiree Mills be appointed Chair of the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. It is recommended Lisa Payne be appointed the voting Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration Representative on the Dixie and Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards.

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





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - James Catron

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for James Catron.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since April 2012 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\catron res.docx



# Resolution

## OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, James Catron has been representing the City of Madison on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since April 2012;

WHEREAS, James Catron has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to James Catron for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meeks, Secretary

ATTEST:

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF January 25, 2024.









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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
 FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
 SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Ward Ketring

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Ward Ketring.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since September 2021 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\ketring res.docx



# Resolution

## OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Ward Ketring has been representing the City of Perry on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since September 2021;

WHEREAS, Ward Ketring has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Ward Ketring for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meeks, Secretary

ATTEST:

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF January 25, 2024.







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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
 FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
 SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - William Mitchell V

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for William Mitchell V.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since July 2022 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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# Resolution

## OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, William Mitchell V has been representing the City of Jasper on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since July 2022;

WHEREAS, William Mitchell V has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to William Mitchell V for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meeks, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF January 25, 2024.









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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - James Tallman

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for James Tallman.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since December 2014 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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# Resolution

## OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, James Tallman has been representing Union County on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since December 2014;

WHEREAS, James Tallman has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to James Tallman for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meeks, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF January 25, 2024.







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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
 FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
 SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Marihelen Wheeler

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Marihelen Wheeler.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since January 2019 and in recognition of commitment and concern for the growth and development of the north central Florida area, the attached resolution of appreciation is recommended for approval by the Council.

Attachment

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# Resolution

## OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Marihelen Wheeler has been representing Alachua County on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since January 2019;

WHEREAS, Marihelen Wheeler has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Marihelen Wheeler for dedicated service rendered to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and concern for the future growth and development of the region and the State of Florida; and

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice D. Mortimer, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Meeks, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF January 25, 2024.










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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director   
SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Commissioner Matt Brooks.**

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida’s Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Commissioner Matt Brooks served as Chair of the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

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

Attachment

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Matt Brooks has served as Chair of the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since January 2023; and*

*WHEREAS, Matt Brooks. ably discharged the duties as Chair of the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the members and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Matt Brooks for dedicated service rendered to the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Levy County and the State of Florida; and*

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

---

*Janice D. Mortimer, Chair*

*ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL*

*January 25, 2024*

*Date*





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
 FROM: Janice D. Mortimer, Chair  
 SUBJECT: Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

**Ratify the appointment of Commissioner Mary Alford, Commissioner Maurice Perkins and Commissioner David Stegall to the Clearinghouse Committee; Commissioner Edward Potts to the Program Committee; and Commissioner Thomas Demps and Councilwoman Shirlie Hampton to the Regional Planning Committee as recommended by the Chair.**

BACKGROUND:

Due to vacancies on the Clearinghouse Committee, Program Committee and Regional Planning Committee appointments to these committees need to be made at this time.

I am recommending the appointment of Commissioner Mary Alford, Commissioner Maurice Perkins and Commissioner David Stegall to the Clearinghouse Committee; Commissioner Edward Potts to the Program Committee; and Commissioner Thomas Demps and Councilwoman Shirlie Hampton to the Regional Planning Committee.

Jurisdictional balance and geographic balance were considered in making these appointments.





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proclamation Proclaiming February 19, 2024 - February 25, 2024  
Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached proclamation proclaiming the week of February 19, 2024 - February 25, 2024 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in the north central Florida region.**

BACKGROUND:

The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee has the job of increasing the safety of our communities from chemical releases. Public outreach and education are important to increasing chemical safety in our communities. The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee has designated the week of February 19, 2024 - February 25, 2024 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. It is recommended that the Council join in this public outreach effort by proclaiming the week of February 19, 2024 - February 25, 2024 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (see attached Proclamation).

One goal of Hazardous Materials Awareness Week is to let the public know that facilities, first responders and emergency management are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials. A second goal is to encourage local governments to take advantage of free hazardous materials training classes offered by the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

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

Attachment

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# PROCLAMATION

## PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 19, 2024 - FEBRUARY 25, 2024 AS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, the safe use of hazardous materials is essential to citizens, business, industry and local governments to maintain economic stability and the public health; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recognizes the importance of protecting our communities from both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials and joins the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, and numerous municipalities, counties and school boards, in publicly promoting community hazardous materials safety; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for local governments, regional planning councils and local emergency planning committees to work together to increase community safety by encouraging emergency responders to attend free training on how to safely respond to releases of hazardous materials; and

WHEREAS, citizens need to know that local governments, businesses, emergency responders and emergency planners are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of February 19, 2024 - February 25, 2024 as *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week* throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 25th day of January 2024.

ATTEST:

SEAL

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John M. Meeks, Secretary

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Janice D. Mortimer, Chair





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members

FROM: Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, 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., January 25, 2024. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting conducted both in-person and via communications media technology. 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

- #10 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 23-2ESR)
- #11 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 23-4ESR)
- #12 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 23-5ESR)
- #13 – City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 24-1ESR)

***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).***

v:\chouse\meeting\chair reports\2024\chairreport.250124.docx





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

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 December 2023 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

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

Attachment

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## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: December 2023

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Organized and distributed the Holiday 2023 Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Newsletter, *FRCA Forward*.
- Updated the email lists for and maintain the email listserv for approximately 2,750 individuals who receive *FRCA Forward*.
- Maintained and updated the FRCA website: [www.flregionalcouncils.org](http://www.flregionalcouncils.org).
- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, organized, participated with, or attended the following meetings and webinars:
  - Economic Development Administration Quarterly Meeting
  - Apalachee Regional Planning Council Economic Development Workshop
  - Coordination calls regarding implementation of climate pollution reduction grants
  - Coordination call with Florida Commerce
  - Statewide Emergency Shelter Working Group Meeting

### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Hosted FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee (EDAC) Meeting held December 8, 2023 and organized and prepared for January EDAC Meeting scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>. Continued meeting preparations for the Winter 2024 Policy Board Meeting scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Assisted with compilation of the FRCA 2023 Annual Report.
- Distributed grant opportunities and information of interest from local, state and national organizations.







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January 18, 2024

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 January 2024 Scorecard.

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

Attachment

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## State of Florida Metrics

Click any metric to get more information! (what is this?)

FLORIDA POPULATION 01/16/2024

**23,015,085**

Florida FutureCast

<p><b>JOB CHANGE</b></p> <p>Jobs Year Over Year Change</p> <p><b>266,300</b></p> <p>Net New Jobs Needed by 2030</p> <p><b>1.21M</b></p>	<p><b>CHILDREN IN POVERTY</b></p> <p><b>17.7%</b> (Decreasing)</p> <p><b>&lt;10%</b> 2030 Goal</p> <p><b>737,567</b> (Decreasing)</p>	<p><b>3RD GRADE READING SCORES</b></p> <p><b>50%</b> (Declining)</p> <p><b>110,752</b> # Not Reading at Grade Level (Increasing)</p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p> <p><b>100%</b> 2030 Goal</p> <p>Florida Gap Map</p>	<p><b>OPEN JOBS</b></p> <p><b>391,566</b> (Increasing)</p> <p><b>324,000</b> Unemployed Persons (Increasing)</p> <p><b>83</b> Unemployed People per 100 Jobs</p>
---	---	---	--

<p><b>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE</b></p> <p><b>2.9%</b> (Increasing)</p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p> <p>Jobs Year Over Year Change</p> <p><b>266,300</b></p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p>	<p><b>3RD GRADE READING SCORES</b></p> <p><b>50%</b> (Declining)</p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p> <p><b>100%</b> 2030 Goal</p>	<p><b>STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS</b></p> <p><b>\$105.1</b> Billion Visitor Spending</p> <p><b>137.6</b> Million Visitors</p>	<p><b>STATE HOUSING STARTS &amp; SALES</b></p> <p><b>9,379</b> Starts (Declining)</p> <p><b>17,722</b> Sales (Declining)</p>
<p><b>POVERTY RATE</b></p> <p><b>12.9%</b> (Better)</p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p>	<p><b>CONSUMER SENTIMENT</b></p> <p><b>69.5</b> (Improving)</p>	<p><b>HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE</b></p> <p><b>87.3%</b> (Declining)</p> <p>View Statewide Heat Map</p>	<p><b>SALES TAX REVENUE</b></p> <p><b>\$3.528</b> Billion per Month (Declining)</p>
<p><b>VOTER PARTICIPATION</b></p> <p><b>54%</b> (Declining)</p>	<p><b>RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION</b></p> <p><b>51%/42%</b></p>	<p><b>LAND IN CONSERVATION</b></p> <p><b>31%</b></p>	



## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information!



State of Florida Metrics (What is new?)  
 Innovation & Economic Development

Score of 100 (See History Chart)

Click any metric to get more information



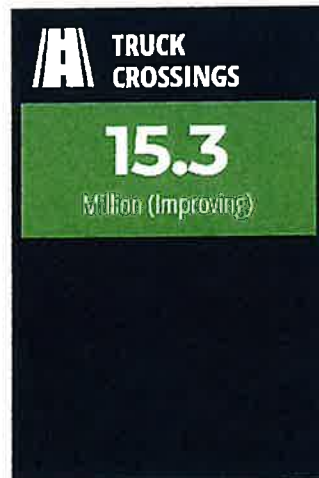
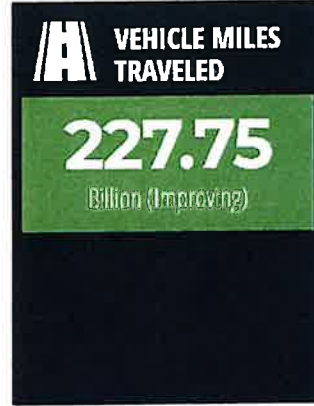
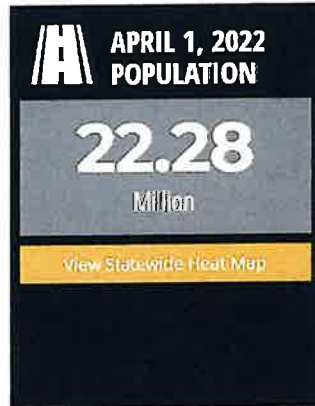
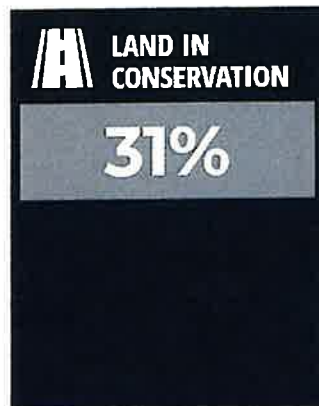


## State of Florida Metrics [What is this?]

### Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!





## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

### Civic & Governance Systems

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!

**VOTER PARTICIPATION**

**54%**  
(Declining)

**RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION**

**51%/42%**

**INMATE POPULATION**

**112,659**

**DEPENDENCY RATIO**

2015  
**56.5%**

2030 Estimate  
**70%**

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT**

**237.3**  
Thousand (State)

**704.8**  
Thousand (Local)

**VOLUNTEERISM**

**22.8%**  
of Floridians Volunteer

**50th**  
Florida's Rank

**Top 3**  
2030 Goal

**STATE DEBT OUTSTANDING**

**\$17.1**  
Billion

**CITIZENS INSURANCE EXPOSURE POLICIES**

**\$562.0**  
Billion Exposure

**1,260,430**  
Policies

**UNDERFUNDED STATE PENSION**

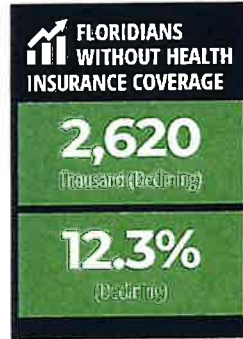
**\$1120.0**  
Million (Increasing)

## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

### Quality of Life and Quality Places

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!





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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

The 2024 regular Legislative Session convened on January 9, 2024 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 8, 2024. The Legislative Interim Committee schedule was, as follows:

- Week of September 18-22, 2023 (House)
- Week of October 9-13, 2023 (Senate)
- Week of October 16-20, 2023 (House/Senate)
- Week of November 6-9, 2023 (House/Senate)
- Week of November 13-17, 2023 (House/Senate)
- Week of December 4-7, 2023 (House/Senate)
- Week of December 11-15, 2023 (House/Senate)

### **RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS**

**Senate Bill 684** by Senator DiCegle requires certain governing bodies, by a date certain, to create a program to expedite the process for issuing residential building permits before a final plat is recorded; requires a governing body to issue a certain number or percentage of building permits requested in an application when certain conditions are met; requires local jurisdictions to reduce permit fees by a certain percentage under certain circumstances; and revises the timeframes for approving or denying certain building permits. Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Regulated Industries Committee; and Rules Committee.

**House Bill 267** by Representatives Esposito and Giallombardo requires governing bodies to create program to expedite process for issuing residential building permits; authorizes use of private providers; authorizes temporary parcel identification numbers; provides vested rights to applicants; prohibits substantive changes to preliminary plat; requires applicant to hold harmless and indemnify certain entities and persons; revises provisions and timeframes relating to acquiring building permits for residential dwellings; and reduces permit fees; authorizes local governments to use certain fees for certain technology upgrades. Referred to Regulatory Reform and Economic Development Subcommittee; Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; and Commerce Committee. Passed by Regulatory Reform and Economic Development Subcommittee. **This bill is now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee.**

### **EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS**

**Senate Bill 812** by Senator Ingoglia requires certain governing bodies, by a date certain, to create a program to expedite the process for issuing residential building permits before a final plat is recorded; requires certain governing bodies, by a date certain, to update their programs to conform to the Florida Building Code; and requires a local building official and a local governing body to mail a signed, certified letter with specified information to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the Florida Department of Commerce, respectively, after the governing body creates the program. Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Regulated Industries Committee; and Rules Committee.

**House Bill 665** by Representative McClain requires governing bodies to create or update program to expedite process for issuing residential building permits; authorizes applicants to use private provider; authorizes governing body to issue addresses and temporary parcel identification numbers; requires governing body to issue specified number or percentage of building permits; provides applicant has vested rights when conditions are met; prohibits governing body from making changes to preliminary plat without written consent; and requires applicant to indemnify and hold harmless certain entities and persons. Referred to Regulatory Reform and Economic Development Subcommittee; Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; and Commerce Committee. Passed by Regulatory Reform and Economic Development Subcommittee. **This bill has been laid on the table.**

### **ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS IN PROPERTY RIGHTS DISPUTES**

**Senate Bill 702** by Senator Martin defines the term property rights; and requires courts to award reasonable attorney fees and costs to a prevailing defendant in certain civil actions under specified circumstances. Referred to Judiciary Committee; and Rules Committee. Passed by Judiciary Committee. **This bill is now in Rules Committee.**

**House Bill 1167** by Representative Yarkosky requires courts to award reasonable attorney fees and costs to prevailing defendant in certain civil actions relating to property rights. Referred to Civil Justice Subcommittee, Local Administration; Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; and Judiciary Committee. **This bill is now in Civil Justice Subcommittee.**

### **AGRITOURISM**

**Senate Bill 696** by Senator Rodriguez prohibits local governments from adopting ordinances, regulations, rules, or policies that require certificates of use for certain agricultural lands, facilities, and venues or that limit certain activities associated with agritourism; provides for the termination, expiration, extension, and renewal of specified local government ordinances, rules, and measures. Referred to Agriculture Committee; Community Affairs Committee; and Rules Committee.

**House Bill 339** by Representative Roth prohibits local governments from adopting ordinances, regulations, rules, or policies that require certificates of use for certain agricultural lands, facilities, and venues or limit certain activities associated with agritourism; and provides for termination, expiration, extension, and renewal of specified local government ordinances, rules, and measures. Referred to Agriculture, Conservation and Resiliency Subcommittee; Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; and Infrastructure Strategies Committee. **This bill is now in Agriculture, Conservation and Resiliency Subcommittee.**

### **LAND DEVELOPMENT**

**Senate Bill 1110** by Senator DiCeglie revises the scope of power and responsibility of municipalities and counties under the Community Planning Act; revises exceptions from provisions governing credits against local impact fees; revises procedures regarding local government review of changes to previously approved developments of regional impact; authorizes changes to multimodal pathways, or the substitution of such pathways, in previously approved developments of regional impact if certain conditions are met. Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Transportation Committee; and Rules Committee.

**House Bill 1177** by Representative Duggan revises scope of power and responsibility of municipalities and counties under Community Planning Act; modifies requirements for local governments implementing transportation concurrency system; clarifies circumstances under which local government or special district must credit contributions toward collection of impact fee; removes provision that exempts water and sewer connection fees from Florida Impact Fee Act; authorizes changes to multimodal pathways, or substitution of such pathways, in previously approved developments of regional impact; and specifies certain changes to comprehensive plan policies and land development regulations do not apply to development of regional impact that has vested rights. Referred to Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; Ways and Means Committee; and State Affairs Committee. **This bill is now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee.**

### **LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS**

**Senate Bill 1184** by Senator Ingoglia revises the types of data upon which comprehensive plans and plan amendments must be based; requires that future land use plans be based on data that includes elements related to the amount of land required to accommodate anticipated growth for specified types of development and the amount of certain land located outside of urban service areas; and requires local land development regulations to establish minimum lot sizes in certain districts and infill development standards for specified housing units. Referred to Community Affairs Committee; Judiciary Committee; and Rules Committee.

**House Bill 1221** by Representative McClain revises mechanisms by which owners of agricultural lands apply for and are granted rezonings; revises requirements for use by local governments in reviewing applications for agricultural enclaves; revises types of data that comprehensive plans and plan amendments must be based on; revises means by which application of methodology used in data collection or whether particular methodology is professionally accepted and evaluated; revises criteria for adopting small scale development amendment; revises content requirements for local land development regulations; and revises mechanisms by which applications for infill development must be administratively approved. Referred to Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; Agriculture, Conservation and Resiliency Subcommittee; and Commerce Committee. **This bill is now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee.**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS**

**Senate Bill 1628** by Senator Collins revises applicability provisions for the enactment or adoption of and legal challenges to county and municipal ordinances, respectively; requiring local governments to seek to minimize or eliminate the potential negative impacts of a local government action; and authorizes affected entities to submit written requests to the appropriate departments for impact reviews under certain circumstances. Referred to Community Affairs Committee; and Fiscal Policy Committee.

**House Bill 1547** by Representative McClure revises applicability provisions for enactment or adoption of and legal challenges to county and municipal ordinances, respectively; requires local governments to seek to minimize or eliminate potential negative impacts of local government action; authorizes affected entities to submit written requests to appropriate departments for impact reviews; requires department to issue impact review within specified timeframe and to consider specified potential impacts; requires local governments to hold specified meetings upon receipt of impact review; prohibits additional impact reviews for same local government action; requires appropriate departments to consult with each other regarding certain guidelines and procedures; authorizes Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services, Florida Department of Transportation, and Florida Public Service Commission to adopt emergency rules; requires Florida Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to submit report to Governor and Legislature by specified date; and provides requirements for report. Referred to Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee; Appropriations Committee; and Infrastructure Strategies Committee. **This bill is now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs and Special Districts Subcommittee.**

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



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January 18, 2024

TO: Council Members  
 FROM: Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director *SK*  
 SUBJECT: Rural Infrastructure Fund Grants

On December 15, 2023, more than \$24 million was awarded to 16 rural communities through the Rural Infrastructure Fund program to support community economic development projects that will strengthen public infrastructure and expand job opportunities for residents in rural communities.

Administered by the FloridaCommerce, the Rural Infrastructure Fund program facilitates the planning, preparing and financing of infrastructure projects in rural communities. Funded projects encourage job creation, capital investment and the strengthening and diversification of rural economies.

Strategic investments in small and rural communities through programs like the Rural Infrastructure Fund and the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund provide regional benefits that are critical to strengthening communities for generations to come.

A total of \$11,217,809 in funding was awarded to the following local government in the north central Florida region through the Rural Infrastructure Fund program.

- **Columbia County (\$5,000,000)** to create traffic flow and safety improvements in the unincorporated area of Ellisville at the interchange of Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 41/441 to create 200 jobs and provide more than \$30 million in capital investments.
- **Hamilton County (\$400,000)** to help facilitate redeveloping a blighted area at the first exit visitors and tourists experience at Interstate 75 and State Road 143/County Road 143 entering Florida.
- **Taylor County (\$300,000)** to develop a 61-acre parcel of land that will be known as Steinhatchee Coastal Park which is located on the Gulf of Mexico and the mouth of the Steinhatchee River.
- **City of Jasper (\$200,000)** to address water infrastructure needs and provide adequate storage and pumping capacity to support economic development and growth.
- **City of Live Oak (\$295,000)** to reevaluate the City’s potable water demands and develop estimates for potable water demand to serve future development around Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 129 interchange, existing water distribution mains along U.S. Highway 129 from south of 72nd Trace to north of Interstate 10 resulting in a water and sanitary sewer master plan to ensure that water and sanitary sewer infrastructure is adequate to support anticipated private development over a 20-year period.
- **City of Live Oak (\$285,000)** to perform engineering evaluations of the existing public infrastructure (water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater) to support the proposed redevelopment of Heritage Square.
- **City of Perry (\$4,737,809)** to upgrade the City’s Water Treatment Plant furthering the new line providing water availability to a 200-acre commercial/industrial site that is being marketed for growth and development.

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

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