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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 **May 22, 2025**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Drury Inn and Suites, Orange Blossom Room/Sweetwater Room, 4000 Southwest 40th Boulevard, Gainesville, 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/996370165>

DIAL IN NUMBER: Toll Free: 1.877.309.2073

ACCESS CODE: 996 370 165

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

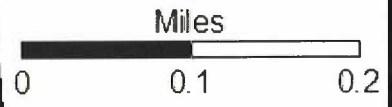
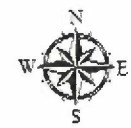
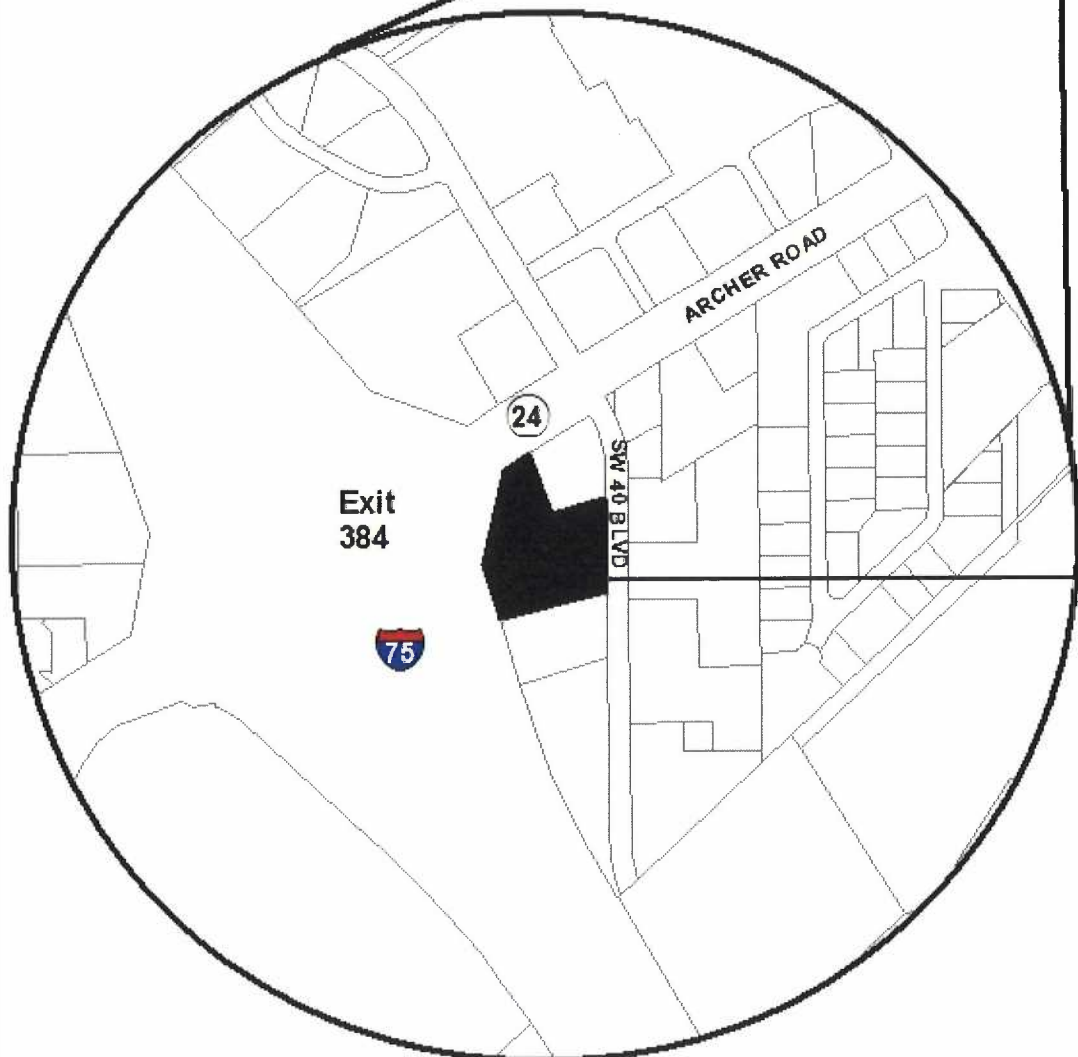
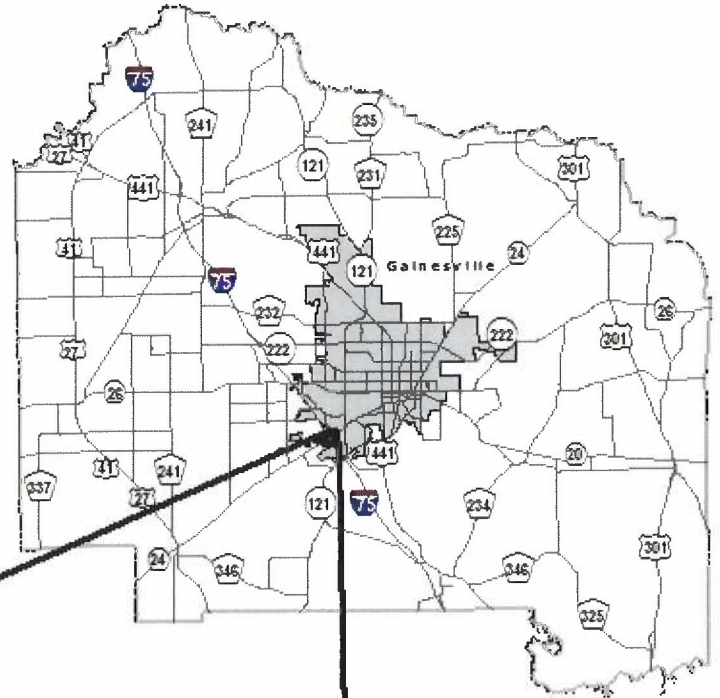
*Please email koons@ncfrpc.org by May 21, 2025 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting in-person or via communications media technology. **THANK YOU.***

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.)

Drury Inn & Suites

4000 SW 40th Boulevard
Gainesville, FL 32608

Directions: From the intersection (exit 384) of Interstate 75 and State Road 24 (also known as Archer Road) turn East onto State Road 24 (also known as Archer Road), travel approximately 0.3 miles, turn right (South) onto SW 40th Blvd. and Drury Inn & Suites will be on the right, on the Western side of SW 40th Blvd.



Drury Inn & Suites





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AGENDA

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Hybrid Public Meeting
Drury Inn and Suites
4000 Southwest 40th Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida and
Via Communications Media Technology

May 22, 2025
7:00 p.m.

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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. 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 for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than three minutes. Your participation is welcomed.

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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 - June 30, 2025

* 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

April 24, 2025
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
IN PERSON

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Mary Alford, Alachua County
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper
Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer
James Howell, Hamilton County
Diane Landry, City of Perry
Melissa McNeal, Union County
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County
Judy Townsend, City of Madison

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(FOR QUORUM)

Ed Book, City of Gainesville
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Tony Mazon, City of Newberry
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County
Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County

MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

None

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
VIA COMMUNICATIONS
NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wayne Bloodsworth Jr., City of High Springs
James Carter Jr., City of Lake City
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville
James Ingle, City of Gainesville
Desiree Mills, Levy County
Joseph Stephenson, City of Lake Butler
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

David Tyler, Florida Department of
Transportation - Virtual

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow - Virtual

OTHERS PRESENT

Jonathan Jenkins, In-Person
Stew Lilker - In-Person
Kirk Marhefka - In-Person
Paul Martin - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Lynn Franson - In-Person
Scott Koons - In-Person

Executive Committee Members names are bold

I. INVOCATION

Chair Fletcher Hope noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
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

Chair Hope welcomed Kirk Marhefka, Vice-Mayor, Town of Cross City; Jonathan Jenkins, County Manager, Dixie County; Paul Martin, Citizen, Dixie County; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hope asked that the consent agenda be approved.

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

- A. Minutes - March 27, 2025
- B. Interagency Agreement with East Central Florida Regional Planning Council to Participate in Regional Joint Mitigation Resiliency Project Amendment 3
- C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator Designation for Levy County
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments
- E. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Counties

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Hope asked that the regular agenda be approved.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Adams, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. PRESENTATION - North Central Florida Economic Development Strategies

Scott Koons, Executive Director, made a presentation concerning the economic development strategies in the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Chair Hope thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. Resolution of Appreciation

1. Edward Potts, City of Alachua

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Councilwoman Hawkins, to approve a Resolution of Appreciation for former Council member Edward Potts, City of Alachua. The motion carried unanimously.

B. New Member

Chair Hope welcomed the following new member to the Council.

1. Diane Landry, City of Perry

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Executive Committee -

1. Proclamation Proclaiming May 4-10, 2025 Travel and Tourism Week

Chair Hope stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council adopt a proclamation proclaiming May 4-10, 2025 Travel and Tourism Week in the north central Florida region.

ACTION: Commissioner Alford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins to adopt the proclamation proclaiming May 4-10, 2025 Travel and Tourism Week, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Proclamation Proclaiming May 11-17, 2025 Economic Development Week

Chair Hope stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council adopt a proclamation proclaiming May 11-17, 2025 Economic Development Week in the north central Florida region.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson to adopt the proclamation proclaiming May 11-17, 2025 Economic Development Week, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson, Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met in person and virtually via communications media technology earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendment which was included on the Council agenda for consideration.

#67 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 24-2ESR)

Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson stated with regards to this item, the Committee found that the local government comprehensive plan, as amended, was not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. She stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local government and FloridaCommerce.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Alford, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #67 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 24-2ESR. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

David Tyler, Rural Transportation Planning Manager, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, stated that the Department will hold the North Florida Transportation Summit on April 29, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Suwannee County Fairgrounds in Live Oak.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer, discussed affordable housing and rural transportation.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. 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 March 2025 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the March 2025 report.

B. 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 April 2025 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated the 2025 Legislature Session convened on March 4, 2025 and is scheduled to adjourn on May 2, 2025. Mr. Koons reported on the status of House Bill 1125 concerning regional planning councils and Senate Bill 1264 concerning regional planning councils.

D. Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force

Mr. Koons reported that he and Commissioner Rick Davis, Chair of the Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force met with the City of Valdosta Mayor, City Manager and Utilities Director on April 21, 2025 in Valdosta, Georgia. The City of Valdosta city officials discussed the completed projects, current projects and planned projects for upgrades to the City of Valdosta wastewater system to prevent sewage spills from occurring in the Withlacoochee River.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Commissioner Townsend reported that the Down Home Days Festival will be held April 26, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the City of Madison.

Commissioner Stephenson reported that the Cowboy Country Festival will be held May 3, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Old Town.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Hope stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on May 22, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

5/22/25
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
RECOMMENDING THE DESIGNATION OF THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATOR FOR LEVY COUNTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Levy County, has the authority to recommend the designation of the Community Transportation Coordinator, as authorized by Section 427.015(2), Florida Statutes and Rule 41-2.010(6), Florida Administrative Code;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL:

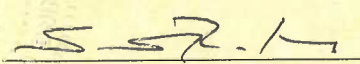
1. That the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to recommend the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida to be designated the Community Transportation Coordinator for Levy County;
2. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida is willing to provide the services necessary to serve the transportation disadvantaged populations;
3. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has the appropriate personnel, financial capacity, vehicle and equipment resources, experience and qualifications to serve the transportation disadvantaged populations;
4. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has demonstrated the ability to coordinate a multitude of funding sources and service provisions;
5. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has identified specific means by which it will comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and applicable local regulations governing handicapped accessibility requirements;
6. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has demonstrated plans to provide the most cost effective and quality transportation services;
7. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has demonstrated plans to coordinate with the public school system, private sector operators and other governmental agencies to maximize the effectiveness of the coordinated transportation system;
8. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has demonstrated its plans to comply with federal, state and local safety requirements as specified in Section 341.0161, Florida Statutes; and
9. That the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County, Florida has demonstrated plans to comply with state, federal and local laws relating to substance abuse testing.

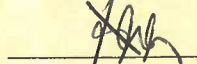
APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, this
24th day of April 2025.

ATTEST

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL


Scott R. Koons, Executive Director


Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

Resolution

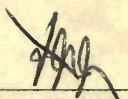
OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Edward Potts has been representing the City of Alachua on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since May 2023;

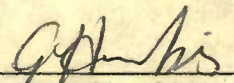
WHEREAS, Edward Potts has ably discharged the duties of a representative on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the membership and staff of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council do hereby express their appreciation to Edward Potts 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 Edward Potts.


Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

ATTEST:


Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF APRIL 24, 2025.





PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING MAY 4-10, 2025 AS TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

WHEREAS, tourism brings over 142 million visitors annually to the State of Florida, generates an estimated 131 billion dollars in economic activity, an estimated 36 billion dollars in annual tax revenue and employs over two million persons;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recognizes the importance of tourism to the north central Florida regional economy and quality of life;

WHEREAS, local governments, tourist development councils and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council support tourism opportunities in north central Florida; and

WHEREAS, local governments, businesses, chambers of commerce, visitors bureaus, tourist development councils and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council are working together to support this vital part of north central Florida's economy and all who play a role in tourism to ensure that north central Florida continues to be a place where traditions will be created and continued for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of May 4-10, 2025 as *Travel and Tourism Week* throughout the north central Florida region.


DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 24th day of April 2025.

ATTEST:

SEAL



Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary



Fletcher J. Hope, Jr., Chair



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING MAY 11-17, 2025 AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is an economic development district designated by the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base; and

WHEREAS, economic developers stimulate and incubate entrepreneurship in order to help establish the next generation of new businesses which is the hallmark of the American economy; and

WHEREAS, economic developers are engaged in a wide variety of settings including rural and urban, local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions; and

WHEREAS, economic developers attract and retain high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions; and

WHEREAS, economic developers working in the north central Florida region support the expansion of career opportunities and quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of May 11-17, 2025 as ***Economic Development Week*** throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 24th day of April 2025.

ATTEST:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agency Regulatory Plan
Fiscal Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Agency Regulatory Plan and authorize the Chair, Executive Director and Council Attorney to sign the letter transmitting the Plan to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee.

BACKGROUND:

Effective July 1, 2015 Chapter 2015-162, Laws of Florida amended Section 120.74, Florida Statutes, as amended, regarding the procedures for submission and the content of agency regulatory plans.

The new requirements specify that the agency regulatory plan must include statements concerning laws enacted or amended during the previous 12 months related to rulemaking responsibilities, laws expected to be implemented by rulemaking prior to July 1st of the succeeding year, whether the agency desires to update the regulatory plan for the previous year, and that the agency officials with rulemaking authority have reviewed the plan and existing agency rules and whether existing rules are consistent with the rulemaking authority agency.

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

Attachment



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May 22, 2025

Mr. Kenneth J. Plante, Coordinator
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee
Room 680, Pepper Building
111 West Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

RE: Agency Regulatory Plan
Fiscal Year 2025-26

Dear Mr. Plante:

The following is the Agency Regulatory Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26 for the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

- a. No laws were enacted or amended during the previous 12 months;
- b. No new laws are expected to be implemented by rulemaking before the following July 1, 2026;
- c. There is no desired update to the regulatory plan for the prior year; and
- d. The Council Chair, Executive Director, and Council Attorney certify that they have reviewed this plan and the agency regularly reviews all its rules. The existing rules were most recently reviewed in association with preparation of this plan. The existing rules were determined to remain consistent with the agency's rulemaking authority and the laws implemented. However, the Council intends to amend Rule 27E-5 by adopting an amended North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan prior to July 1, 2026.

Certification:

Fletcher J. Hope Jr.
Council Chair

Scott R. Koons, AICP
Executive Director

Jonathan F. Wershow, Esq.
Council Attorney

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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for
Local Emergency Planning Committee - Fiscal Year 2025-26

SRK

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for Fiscal Year 2025-26 to provide the services to the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee for an anticipated amount of \$90,000.

BACKGROUND:

This item concerns an annual contract which the Council enters into with the Division of Emergency Management to cover the costs of the Council's emergency planning activities.

These funds are used to provide Council staff support to the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, including providing assistance with meetings, plan updates and training exercises.

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



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Meeting Schedule Program Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached Council Meeting Schedule for 2025-26.

BACKGROUND:

Please find attached the Council meeting schedule for 2025-26. Generally, Council meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please note that there is no meeting in November and the December meeting will be held on the second Thursday, December 11, 2025.

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

2025-26

June 30, 2025

July 24, 2025

August 28, 2025

September 25, 2025

October 23, 2025

December 11, 2025

January 22, 2026

February 26, 2026

March 26, 2026

April 23, 2026

May 28, 2026

All Council meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

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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.



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members
FROM: Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Shirlie Hampton

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Shirlie Hampton.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since December 2023 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, Shirlie Hampton has been representing the City of Perry on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since December 2023;

WHEREAS, Shirlie Hampton 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 Shirlie Hampton 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 Shirlie Hampton.

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

ATTEST:

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF MAY 22, 2025.





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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members
FROM: Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Lorene Thomas

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Lorene Thomas.

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since March 2001 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, Lorene Thomas has been representing Dixie County on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since March 2001;

WHEREAS, Lorene Thomas 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 Lorene Thomas 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 Lorene Thomas.

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

ATTEST:

Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING
OF MAY 22, 2025.





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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

SUBJECT: Certificate of Service - Lorene Thomas

Lorene Thomas recently completed her service on the Council representing Dixie County as a gubernatorial appointee. During her 24-year tenure on the Council, Ms. Thomas provided dedicated service in several leadership positions. She served as Chair of the Council for Program Year, 2006-07, Program Year 2012-13 and Program Year 2017-18 as well as three terms as Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Immediate Past Chair, Executive Committee Member, Nominating Committee Chair, Finance Committee Chair and Program Committee Chair. Ms. Thomas also served as a Florida Regional Councils Association Representative for several years.

Attachment

o:\council.mtg\cnc\mtgmemos\lorene thomas certificate.docx

Certificate of Service

has been awarded to

Lorene Thomas

as an expression of appreciation for 24 years of dedicated service to the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council as a gubernatorial appointee from the Dixie County from March 2001 to April 2025.

24 Years

*Witness the Seal of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
and the signatures of its duly authorized chair and executive director
thereunto affixed.*

Given this 22nd day of May in the year Two Thousand Twenty-five.

Fletcher J. Hope Jr., Chair

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director



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May 15, 2025

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., May 22, 2025. 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 item which requires Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

#70 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER)

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

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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members
FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Overall Program Design

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Overall Program Design as recommended by the Program Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The Program Committee met on March 27, 2025 to develop and recommend for your consideration an Overall Program Design for Fiscal Year 2025-26. A copy of the document is attached for your information.

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

Attachment

Overall Program Design Fiscal Year 2025-26



North Central Florida
Regional Planning Council



May 22, 2025

Overall Program Design Fiscal Year 2025-26

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

May 22, 2025



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Introduction

The Overall Program Design is a planning and management tool which is used to assist the Council approach its work program in an orderly and comprehensive manner. It provides a detailed outline of the Council's work program for the fiscal year. Strategies, standards, objectives and long-range elements are re-evaluated, based upon previously identified problems and priorities. This is the 51st annual update of the work program.

The Program Committee is responsible for reviewing and evaluating the overall work program of the organization and making recommendations for alterations in it to the Council. Several indicators have been used to determine the future direction proposed by the Program Committee. However, primary guidance came from priorities established in past years with consideration being given to recent actions taken by the Council.

During the current program year, Council activities and discussions at meetings have highlighted the need for continued emphasis on economic development programs and for the provision of technical assistance and support to local governments. Regional planning has also continued to be a topic of discussion.

These program areas are reflected in this Overall Program Design to the extent possible, as they have been in previous years.

Program Committee

Mary Alford, Chair
Edward Potts, Vice-Chair
James Carter Jr.
Tony Mazon
Desiree Mills
Byron Poore
Jody Stephenson
Kenrick Thomas
Lorene Thomas



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Mission Statement

To improve 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.



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Chapter I: Executive Management

In order to maintain and improve the effectiveness of the Council's operations, the proper administration of the several planning programs requires activities which are not directly attributable to any one program. Several tools are useful, including updating the Overall Program Design and periodic program evaluations. These and other activities ensure that the Council's goals and objectives are being implemented.

Goal: To implement the goals and objectives of the Council by:

- management of a well-qualified and organized staff;
- efficient and economical use of personnel and funds; and
- coordination of all phases of work to prevent overlap and duplication.

A. General Administration

1. Objective

To ensure the efficient and effective utilization of Council staff and resources.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. Grants Management

Work Element: Bookkeeping, request for payments, billing and allocation of costs are some of the activities necessary for proper grants management. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of management of fiscal affairs.

b. Personnel

Work Element: Interviewing, hiring, ensuring a diversified workforce, orienting new employees and maintaining personnel files are some of the necessary personnel administration responsibilities. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of the management of personnel affairs.



B. Overall Program Design and Evaluation

1. Objective

To update the Overall Program Design and conduct periodic program evaluation.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Overall Program Design

Work Element: Update of the Overall Program Design.

End Product consists of the Overall Program Design. (Continuing Activity)

C. Program Development

1. Objective

To investigate and develop new programs that have been identified by the Council as potentially beneficial.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Program Development

Work Element: Examination of planning needs and services in the region and the preparation of Council responses. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of periodic staff reports to the Council and the preparation of applications for program assistance.

Chapter II: Public Information and Participation

Awareness of issues and participation in programs by the public is essential for effective government. The Council is committed to providing information about Council programs and opportunities for effective citizen participation.

Goal: To provide ample opportunities for citizens to be informed and involved.

A. Communications Program

1. Objective

To share information about planning issues generally and Council programs specifically.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. Annual Report

Work Element: Annual report prepared at the end of each fiscal year summarizing the Council's accomplishments. The annual report is sent to interested persons, as well as posted on the Council's website. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of an Annual Report.

b. Website

Work Element: Website maintained by the Council located at <http://ncfrpc.org>. General information about the Council can be viewed at the site. Links to other related websites such as The Original Florida Tourism Task Force at <http://naturalnorthflorida.com> and the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee at <http://ncflepc.org>, are also available on the Council website.

End Product consists of a website.



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Chapter III: Regional Planning

The Florida Regional Planning Council Act, passed in 1980 and subsequently amended in 1982, 1992 and again in 1993, requires that each regional planning council prepare and adopt a Strategic Regional Policy Plan. The Strategic Regional Policy Plan must be based upon studies of the region's resources and be consistent with the State Comprehensive Plan. The Act requires that once the Strategic Regional Policy Plan is adopted, it must be utilized by regional planning councils as "the basis for regional review of developments of regional impact, regional review of federally assisted projects, and other regional comment functions."

The Act directs that the Strategic Regional Policy Plan contain goals and policies specifically to address growth management issues. The plan must identify key regional issues, document trends, forecast future conditions, and analyze the problems, needs, and opportunities associated with growth in the region. Further, the regional goals and policies shall be used to develop a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving the identified problems and needs.

The Strategic Regional Policy Plan must, at a minimum, address affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources of regional significance, and regional transportation. It may also address other subjects which relate to the particular needs and circumstances of the regional planning district as determined by the regional planning council. Furthermore, consideration must be given to existing state, regional, and local plans in preparing the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

In addition to the preparation of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan and its maintenance, the Council also undertakes specific regional programs as are necessary or deemed appropriate. Other on-going programs include economic development, public safety and transportation disadvantaged program.

Goal: To address regional issues in a comprehensive way by offering realistic solutions to problems and providing leadership to take advantage of identified opportunities.

A. Strategic Regional Policy Plan

1. Objective

To maintain a long-range guide for the physical, economic and social development of the region.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Strategic Regional Policy Plan

Work Element: The Strategic Regional Policy Plan "shall be developed through a collaborative process that emphasizes consensus and coordination between local governments, regional entities, state and federal agencies, other appropriate organizations, and the public. Thus, the plan is a plan for the region, not merely for the regional planning council. Regional goals and policies shall be used to develop a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving identified problems and needs. At a minimum, the plan shall contain regional goals and policies that address affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources of regional significance, and regional



transportation, and shall identify significant regional resources and facilities. The Strategic Regional Policy Plan shall be strategic rather than comprehensive in nature and need not address all goals and policies in the State Comprehensive Plan. However, goals and policies included in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan shall be consistent with and further the State Comprehensive Plan." (Rule 27E-5, Rules of Practice and Procedure Pertaining to Strategic Regional Policy Plans)

During the 1995-96 program year, the Council completed the development of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, and it was amended during the 1996-97 program year, 2002-03 program year, 2011-12 program year and 2017-18 program year. It is important to continually evaluate the plan to determine when further changes are necessary for it to remain as an appropriate document to guide the development of the region. The Council updates its Strategic Regional Policy Plan every five years.

End Product consists of the maintenance of the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.



B. Economic Development

1. Objective

To study the regional economy, to plan for its diversification and to make it more resilient through business attraction, business retention and expansion, and business entrepreneurship economic development strategies; and to analyze the fiscal and environmental impacts of development and redevelopment.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Work Element: The Council is an Economic Development District designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. To maintain this designation, the Council updates its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy every five years. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update, maintenance of current data files, meetings, correspondence, grant and loan applications, conferences and reports.

b. Program for Tourism Development

Work Element: In 1992, the Council, with grants provided by the U.S. Economic Development Administration and in conjunction with facility owners, local governments, other agencies and environmental organizations, developed a comprehensive program to promote increased tourism in the region and established an implementation program. From 1993 through 1998, this program was pursued by The Original Florida Tourism Task Force, which was created as part of the Council.

In 1998, the Council, in cooperation with members of the Task Force, county tourist development councils and facility owners assisted the counties of north central Florida with creating The Original Florida Tourism Task Force, as a separate, stand-alone task force, through an interlocal agreement.

End Product consists of providing staff support to the Task Force to implement its regional tourism marketing program by coordinating Task Force representatives attendance at travel shows, printing brochures, as well as maintaining its website.

c. Regional Economic Impact Modeling

Work Plan: The Council has a license to use an econometric model which provides the Council, its local governments, economic development agencies, and others with a dynamic tool for economic and demographic analysis and forecasting. The model can be used to review system-wide effects over both short- and long-range time horizons, including economic and fiscal impact analyses, policy impact analyses, and economic development/redevelopment analyses. The model can be configured to either address the entire region, any number of county-based subsets of the region or an individual county.

End Product consists of providing economic and fiscal impact analyses for local governments, and analyses of specific projects for economic development partners.

C. Public Safety

1. Objective

To study and plan for the safety and security of the population of the region.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee

Work Element: Council staff provides staff services for the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, which was established by the State Emergency Response Commission. The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee is responsible for data gathering and management, and establishing a structure to coordinate emergency response activities within the region by preparing a plan which compliments county emergency preparedness planning efforts.

End Product consists of a comprehensive emergency response plan for the region and the development of a regional emergency response capacity.

b. North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team

Work Element: In 2000, three cities and five counties in the region, at the request of the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, adopted an interlocal agreement creating the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team. The Team provides equipment for first responders within the jurisdictions of its members.

End Product consists of providing staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team by assisting with the maintenance of fully equipped trailers to be used by participating county and city first responders.



D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program

1. Objective

To assist in securing resources for counties in the region to provide increased services to citizens determined to be transportation disadvantaged because of age, disability or income status by serving as the designated official planning agency, staffing local coordinating transportation disadvantaged boards, preparing annual transportation disadvantaged service plans and recommending the designation of community transportation coordinators.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Designated Official Planning Agency

Work Element: The Council, as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing coordinating board members for Bradford; Columbia Hamilton Suwannee; Dixie; Gilchrist; Lafayette; Levy; Madison; and Union Counties. As the Designated Official Planning Agency, the Council provides staff services for those boards. The Designated Official Planning Agency is to ensure, through this structure, that there is a review and analysis of the transportation disadvantaged problems, and further, that the program is continuously monitored.

End Product consists of providing staff support to local coordinating boards by assisting with preparation of transportation disadvantaged plans and development of recommendations regarding designation of community transportation coordinators.



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Chapter IV: Plan Implementation

The Council performs several activities to implement regional plans.

Goal: To implement regional plans and programs by reviewing and commenting on federal grant and loan applications that may have an impact on the physical environment, local government comprehensive plan amendments, and other agency plans.

A. Review Responsibilities

1. Objective

To review and comment on applications for Federal assistance, local government comprehensive plans and other agency plans concerning their potential impact on regional resources and facilities as identified in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. Federal Assistance

Work Element: The Council, through its Clearinghouse Committee and staff, reviews applications for Federal assistance, direct Federal projects and some State plans as provided for under Federal Office of Management and Budget guidelines in accordance with a program developed by the Governor's Office, to identify conflicts and duplications between programs and inconsistencies with local and regional plans. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of staff reports, committee recommendations and Council action.

b. Local Government Comprehensive Plans

Work Element: The Council reviews and comments on local government comprehensive plans and plan amendments for consistency with regional plans in accordance with the Community Planning Act of 2011. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of comments and recommendations submitted to local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.



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Chapter V: Council Assistance

The Council responds to requests for assistance from local, State and Federal agencies.

Goal: To provide, on a continuing basis, a variety of technical assistance.

A. Local Government Comprehensive Plans

1. Objective

To assist local governments in the preparation and maintenance of local comprehensive plans, ordinances and regulations.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Local Government Comprehensive Plans

Work Element: Local governments contract with the Council for assistance to meet their long-range and day-to-day planning needs. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of local government comprehensive plans, ordinances and regulations.



B. General Technical Services

1. Objective

To provide local governments with information about and assistance in the preparation of State and Federal grant and loan applications.

2. Work Elements and End Products

a. Grant Application Assistance

Work Element: Local governments are provided with information and assistance on State and Federal programs and applications. (Continuing Activity)

End Product consists of application assistance responses and grant and loan applications.

b. County Hazardous Waste Monitoring Program

Work Element: The Council assists counties in carrying out their legal responsibilities for monitoring small quantity generators of hazardous waste.

End Product consists of completion of surveying and reporting of activities associated with small quantity generation of hazardous waste.



C. Community Development Block Grant Administration

1. Objective

To assist local governments in the effective management and administration of their Community Development Block Grant Programs.

2. Work Element and End Product

a. Community Development Project Grant Administration

Work Element: The services of the Council to local governments include grant application preparation and project administration, including bid specifications, legal notices, progress reports, and compliance with Federal regulations and State rules. Projects address housing rehabilitation, neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization and economic development needs.

End Product consists of the preparation of Community Development Block Grant applications and administration of Community Development Block Grant projects.



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North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Overall Program Design

- * Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

*Primary Responsibility

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

BACKGROUND:

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on May 14, 2025. The purpose of the meeting was to consider a recommendation to the Council for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget. For your information, please find attached a proposed budget as prepared by staff.

As you can see, the anticipated expenditures for next year will be \$1,453,100.

As usual, almost all funds to be expended by the Council are received through contracts for services and grants. There is one exception: Member local governments pay dues, which are proposed to remain at \$0.30 per capita for the 44th year, and will produce approximately \$176,100.

The most significant policy decision that must be made with respect to the budget is related to personnel. There is provision for a total of five full-time staff positions, plus funds for part-time positions, which is two full-time staff positions less than budgeted for the current year. The budget includes a recurring increase across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, equal to three percent of the salary for each employee.

Overall, this budget provides for significant services to be rendered to member cities and counties. This is to be done by effectively using resources, and at the same time, ensuring that the Council remains in a sound financial condition.

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

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

PROPOSED BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Expenses by Line Item
May 22, 2025

AUDIT

This item includes fees for audit performed by a certified public accounting firm for the Council.

Indirect: \$19,000

BUILDING OCCUPANCY AND GROUNDS

This item includes costs associated with maintaining the Council office building such as electricity, heat/air, water, sanitary sewer, custodial services, pest control services, lawn services, maintenance and repairs.

Indirect: \$42,000

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

This item includes costs to be incurred through charges related to the hazardous materials preparedness training program.

Indirect: \$43,000

Direct: \$60,000

DUES, PUBLICATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

This item includes membership dues in organizations such as National Association of Development Organizations, National Regional Councils Association, Florida Regional Councils Association, subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, and books. The Florida Regional Councils Association costs pay for a cooperative program with other regional planning councils to work with state agencies, the Governor's Office, and the Legislature.

Indirect: \$34,000

Direct: \$8,000

FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

This item includes computer upgrades and replacement of office equipment costing more than \$5,000.

Direct: \$25,000

INSURANCE AND BONDING

This item includes general liability, fire and casualty, workers' compensation and fidelity, and officers and directors liability insurance.

Indirect: \$38,000

LEGAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC NOTICES

This item includes expenses for required publication of legal notices. Also included are funds for legal services from the Council Attorney.

Indirect: \$10,000

Direct: \$5,000

MACHINE RENTAL/MAINTENANCE

This item includes lease of a postage meter and maintenance contract for a check writing machine.

Indirect: \$5,000

MEETING EXPENSES

This item includes expenses for Council and committee meetings.

Indirect: \$9,000

Direct: \$16,000

OFFICE SUPPLIES

This item includes supplies for office use. Also included in this item is furniture, equipment and computer programs costing \$5,000 or less, computer program licenses, not purchased, such as Regional Economic Models, Inc., as well as maintenance and support costs for such programs.

Indirect: \$15,000

Direct: \$2,000

PERSONNEL

Total Payroll	\$684,600
Fringe Benefits	<u>\$287,500</u>
Total Personnel Costs	\$972,100

This item includes payroll costs. Total payroll includes a proposal for a recurring increase across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, equal to 3.0 percent of the salary for each employee. Fringe Benefits include employer social security, health insurance and retirement plan contributions.

(Note: The total proposed full-time staff level is five positions, plus part-time labor.)

Indirect: \$164,500

Direct: \$807,600

POSTAGE

This item includes costs for administrative mail and program mail.

Indirect: \$3,000

Direct: \$2,000

PRINTING

This item includes cost of printing of the Annual Report, Regional Directory, letterhead and business cards.

Indirect: \$5,000

REPRODUCTION

This item includes cost of photocopier maintenance.

Indirect: \$4,000

TELEPHONE

This item includes charges for local and long distance telephone calls.

Indirect: \$3,000

TRAVEL

This item includes automobile travel at the U. S. Internal Revenue Service rate, currently \$0.70 per mile, and per diem of \$80 per day (or \$36 a day for meals, plus lodging and air travel). These expenses are staff travel for program related meetings and attending training conferences and workshops, and Council members travel for attending Council meetings and conferences such as the Florida Regional Councils Association.

Indirect: \$20,000

Direct: \$10,000

ORIGINAL FLORIDA TOURISM TASK FORCE

This item includes all expenditures approved by and paid for by The Original Florida Tourism Task Force, including travel trade show attendance and printing promotional material.

Direct: \$52,500

CONTINGENCY

This item includes funds for unanticipated expenditures.

Direct: \$50,500

INDIRECT COSTS

Indirect costs are defined by the Code of Federal Regulations 200.414: Cost Principles for as which are: (1) incurred for a common or joint purpose benefitting more than one cost objective, and (2) not readily assignable to the cost objective specifically benefitted, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. All indirect costs are accumulated in a pool and distributed as charges to each program by use of an indirect cost rate. The indirect cost rate is the total indirect cost divided by total direct personnel dollars. Thus, indirect costs are distributed based upon the number of salary dollars for each program. This method provides an equitable distribution of costs. The Indirect Rate for Fiscal Year 2025-26 is estimated to be approximately 51 percent.

TABLE I
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BUDGET - Adopted May 23, 2024
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

EXPENSES	INDIRECT EXPENSES	DIRECT EXPENSES	REVENUE	
Audit	\$18,000		Program Development	\$54,500
Building Occupancy & Grounds	\$22,000			
Contractual Services	\$33,000	\$1,000	Regional Planning	
Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$24,000	\$8,000	Regional Planning & Review	\$70,000
Furniture & Equipment		\$25,000	Regional Resiliency Mitigation Study	\$112,900
Insurance & Bonding	\$33,000			
Legal Services & Public Notices	\$4,000	\$5,000	Public Safety & Regulatory Compliance	
Machine Rental & Maintenance	\$3,000		Hazardous Waste Monitoring	\$58,900
Meeting Expenses	\$9,000	\$16,000	Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$70,000
Office Supplies	\$15,000	\$2,000		
Personnel	\$212,400	\$1,007,700	Transportation	
Postage	\$3,000	\$2,000	Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning	\$572,600
Printing	\$5,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua County	\$28,400
Reproduction	\$5,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	\$204,200
Telephone	\$4,000			
Travel	\$20,000	\$10,000	Economic Development	
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$64,500	Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$115,000
Contingency		\$128,600	Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	\$36,500
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force	\$64,500
			Local Government Assistance	
			General Technical Services	\$35,000
			City & County Planning Services	\$207,700
			Community Development Block Grant Administration	\$50,000
Total Indirect Expenses	\$410,400			
Total Direct Expenses		\$1,269,800		
TOTAL EXPENSES (Direct & Indirect)		\$1,680,200	TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,680,200

TABLE II
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
REVENUE BY PROGRAM - Adopted May 23, 2024
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

REVENUE	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	MEMBER DUES	MTPO* FUNDS	SERVICE CONTRACTS	TOURISM TASK FORCE FUNDS	OTHER INCOME	TOTAL	TOTAL BY PROGRAM	% TOTAL BY PROGRAM
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT			\$24,500				\$30,000	\$54,500	\$54,500	3%
REGIONAL PLANNING										
Regional Planning & Review			\$70,000					\$70,000		
Regional Resiliency Mitigation Study					\$112,900			\$112,900		
									\$182,900	11%
PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COM										
Hazardous Waste Monitoring					\$58,900			\$58,900		
Local Emergency Planning Committee		\$70,000						\$70,000		
									\$128,900	8%
TRANSPORTATION										
Gainesville Urbanized Area Trans Planning				\$572,600				\$572,600		
Trans Disadvantaged - Alachua Co				\$28,400				\$28,400		
Trans Disadvantaged - Region		\$204,200						\$204,200		
									\$805,200	48%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$70,000		\$45,000					\$115,000		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing		\$11,500				\$25,000		\$36,500		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$38,500				\$26,000		\$64,500		
									\$216,000	13%
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE										
General Technical Services			\$35,000					\$35,000		
City & County Planning Services					\$207,700			\$207,700		
Community Development Block Grant Admin					\$50,000			\$50,000		
									\$292,700	17%
TOTAL	\$70,000	\$324,200	\$174,500	\$601,000	\$429,500	\$51,000	\$30,000	\$1,680,200	\$1,680,200	100%

* Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area

TABLE III
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM - Adopted May 23, 2024
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

TOTAL	EXPENSES	REGIONALPUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COM					ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			TRANSPORTATION		LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE			TOTAL
		PROGRAM DEVELOP	STATE PLANNING & REVIEW	REGIONAL RESILIENCY MITIGATION STUDY	HAZARDOUS WASTE MONITORING	LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE	COMP ED STRATEGY & TECHNICAL ASSIST	TOURISM TASK FORCE STAFFING	TOURISM TASK FORCE	TRANS DISADVANT	GAINESVILLE URBANIZED AREA TRANS PLANNING	GENERAL TECHNICAL SERVICES	LOCAL PLANNING SERVICES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADMIN	
\$1,000	Contractual Services		\$1,000												\$1,000
\$8,000	Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$8,000													\$8,000
\$25,000	Furniture & Equipment	\$25,000													\$25,000
\$5,000	Legal Services & Public Notices									\$5,000					\$5,000
\$16,000	Meeting Expenses	\$16,000													\$16,000
\$2,000	Office Supplies	\$2,000													\$2,000
\$1,007,700	Personnel		\$37,800	\$72,000	\$39,200	\$39,200	\$73,500	\$23,100		\$143,200	\$386,600	\$23,100	\$145,700	\$24,300	\$1,007,700
\$2,000	Postage		\$100				\$100			\$1,500		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$2,000
\$10,000	Travel						\$500			\$4,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500	\$1,500	\$10,000
\$64,500	Original FL Tourism Task Force								\$64,500						\$64,500
\$128,600	Contingency	\$3,500	\$15,706	\$11,577	\$3,735	\$14,835	\$10,966	\$3,992	\$0	\$20,080	\$26,052	\$1,892	\$2,062	\$14,204	\$128,600
\$410,400	Indirect Costs*		\$15,395	\$29,323	\$15,965	\$15,965	\$29,934	\$9,408		\$58,320	\$157,448	\$9,408	\$59,338	\$9,897	\$410,400
\$1,680,200	TOTAL	\$54,500	\$70,000	\$112,900	\$58,900	\$70,000	\$115,000	\$36,500	\$64,500	\$232,600	\$572,600	\$35,000	\$207,700	\$50,000	\$1,680,200

* See Table I for line item expenses of Indirect Costs. Total indirect expenses are distributed among programs at the rate of 40.73% of Direct Personnel costs.

TABLE IV
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENT DUES - Adopted May 23, 2024
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

	POPULATION*		DUES @ .30** PER CAPITA
	JURISDICTION	TOTAL COUNTY	
Alachua County		292,146	
County Government	114,947		\$34,484
Alachua	11,015		\$3,305
Archer	1,160		\$750
Gainesville	147,202		\$44,161
Hawthorne	1,462		\$750
High Springs	6,975		\$2,093
Newberry	8,503		\$2,551
Waldo	882		\$750
Bradford County		25,290	
County Government	19,195		\$5,759
Starke	6,095		\$1,829
Columbia County		68,141	
County Government	55,995		\$16,799
Lake City	12,146		\$3,644
Dixie County		15,813	
County Government	15,813		\$4,744
Gilchrist County		18,305	
County Government	18,305		\$5,492
Hamilton County		12,085	
County Government	9,493		\$2,848
Jasper	2,592		\$778
Lafayette County		7,192	
County Government	7,192		\$2,158
Levy County		45,283	
County Government	45,283		\$13,585
Madison County		17,409	
County Government	14,431		\$4,329
Madison	2,978		\$893
Suwannee County		43,506	
County Government	36,617		\$10,985
Live Oak	6,889		\$2,067
Taylor County		20,208	
County Government	13,202		\$3,961
Perry	7,006		\$2,102
Union County		11,783	
County Government	9,782		\$2,935
Lake Butler	2,001		\$750
TOTAL	577,161	577,161	\$174,502

*Official State estimates used for Revenue Sharing purposes: April 1, 2023.

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

TABLE I
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BUDGET - Proposed May 22, 2025
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

EXPENSES	INDIRECT EXPENSES	DIRECT EXPENSES	REVENUE	
Audit	\$19,000		Program Development	\$51,100
Building Occupancy & Grounds	\$42,000			
Contractual Services	\$43,000	\$60,000	Regional Planning	
Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$34,000	\$8,000	Regional Planning & Review	\$70,000
Furniture & Equipment		\$25,000	Regional Resiliency Mitigation Study	\$70,900
Insurance & Bonding	\$38,000			
Legal Services & Public Notices	\$10,000	\$5,000	Public Safety	
Machine Rental & Maintenance	\$5,000		Hazardous Waste Monitoring	\$58,900
Meeting Expenses	\$9,000	\$16,000	Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$149,000
Office Supplies	\$15,000	\$2,000	Hazards Analysis	\$18,800
Personnel	\$164,500	\$807,600		
Postage	\$3,000	\$2,000	Transportation	
Printing	\$5,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Alachua Co	\$29,300
Reproduction	\$4,000		Transportation Disadvantaged - Region	\$234,100
Telephone	\$3,000			
Travel	\$20,000	\$10,000	Economic Development	
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$52,500	Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$115,000
Contingency		\$50,500	Economic Disaster Recovery	\$100,000
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing	\$36,500
			Original Florida Tourism Task Force	\$52,500
			Local Government Assistance	
			General Technical Services	\$35,000
			City & County Planning Services	\$225,200
			Community Development Block Grant Administration	\$206,800
Total Indirect Expenses	\$414,500			
Total Direct Expenses		\$1,038,600		
TOTAL EXPENSES (Direct & Indirect)		\$1,453,100	TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,453,100

TABLE II
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
REVENUE BY PROGRAM - Proposed May 22, 2025
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

REVENUE	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	MEMBER DUES	MTPO* FUNDS	SERVICE CONTRACTS	TOURISM TASK FORCE FUNDS	OTHER INCOME	TOTAL	TOTAL BY PROGRAM	% TOTAL BY PROGRAM
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT			\$26,100				\$25,000	\$51,100	\$51,100	3%
REGIONAL PLANNING										
Regional Planning & Review			\$70,000					\$70,000		
Regional Resiliency Mitigation Study					\$70,900			\$70,900		
									\$140,900	10%
PUBLIC SAFETY										
Hazardous Waste Monitoring					\$58,900			\$58,900		
Local Emergency Planning Committee	\$59,000	\$90,000						\$149,000		
Hazards Analysis		\$18,800						\$18,800		
									\$226,700	16%
TRANSPORTATION										
Trans Disadvantaged - Alachua Co				\$29,300				\$29,300		
Trans Disadvantaged - Region		\$234,100						\$234,100		
									\$263,400	18%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
Economic Strategy & Technical Assistance	\$70,000		\$45,000					\$115,000		
Economic Disaster Recovery	\$100,000							\$100,000		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force Staffing		\$11,500				\$25,000		\$36,500		
Original Florida Tourism Task Force		\$38,500				\$14,000		\$52,500		
									\$304,000	21%
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE										
General Technical Services			\$35,000					\$35,000		
City & County Planning Services					\$225,200			\$225,200		
Community Development Block Grant Admin					\$206,800			\$206,800		
									\$467,000	32%
TOTAL	\$229,000	\$392,900	\$176,100	\$29,300	\$561,800	\$39,000	\$25,000	\$1,453,100	\$1,453,100	100%

* Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area

TABLE III
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM - Proposed May 22, 2025
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

			REGIONAL	PUBLIC SAFETY & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE						ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			TRANSPORTATION		LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE		
		PROGRAM DEVELOP	STATE PLANNING & REVIEW	REGIONAL RESILIENCY MITIGATION STUDY	HAZARDOUS WASTE MONITORING	LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE	HAZARDS ANALYSIS	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	COMP ED STRATEGY & TECHNICAL ASSIST	DISASTER RECOVERY	TOURISM TASK FORCE STAFFING	TOURISM TASK FORCE	TRANS DISADVANT	GENERAL TECHNICAL SERVICES	LOCAL PLANNING SERVICES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADMIN	TOTAL
\$60,000	Contractual Services		\$1,000					\$59,000									\$60,000
\$8,000	Dues, Pubs., Subs. & Training	\$8,000															\$8,000
\$25,000	Furniture & Equipment	\$25,000															\$25,000
\$5,000	Legal Services & Public Notices												\$5,000				\$5,000
\$16,000	Meeting Expenses	\$16,000															\$16,000
\$2,000	Office Supplies	\$2,000															\$2,000
\$807,600	Personnel		\$42,500	\$36,700	\$35,300	\$51,900	\$11,800		\$75,300	\$64,400	\$23,600		\$163,200	\$19,900	\$147,400	\$135,600	\$807,600
\$2,000	Postage		\$100						\$100				\$1,500	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$2,000
\$10,000	Travel								\$500	\$500			\$5,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$10,000
\$52,500	Original FL Tourism Task Force											\$52,500					\$52,500
\$50,500	Contingency	\$100	\$4,587	\$15,364	\$5,482	\$11,462	\$944	\$0	\$452	\$2,047	\$787	\$0	\$4,438	\$3,786	\$1,047	\$3	\$50,500
\$414,500	Indirect Costs*		\$21,813	\$18,836	\$18,118	\$26,638	\$6,056		\$38,648	\$33,053	\$12,113		\$83,762	\$10,214	\$75,653	\$69,597	\$414,500
\$1,453,100	TOTAL	\$51,100	\$70,000	\$70,900	\$58,900	\$90,000	\$18,800	\$59,000	\$115,000	\$100,000	\$36,500	\$52,500	\$263,400	\$35,000	\$225,200	\$206,800	\$1,453,100

* See Table I for line item expenses of Indirect Costs. Total indirect expenses are distributed among programs at the rate of 51.32% of Direct Personnel costs.

TABLE IV
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENT DUES - Proposed May 22, 2025
FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

	POPULATION*		DUES @ .30** PER CAPITA
	JURISDICTION	TOTAL COUNTY	
Alachua County		295,403	
County Government	114,918		\$34,475
Alachua	11,296		\$3,389
Archer	1,165		\$750
Gainesville	149,456		\$44,837
Hawthorne	1,485		\$750
High Springs	7,118		\$2,135
Newberry	9,096		\$2,729
Waldo	869		\$750
Bradford County		25,248	
County Government	19,365		\$5,810
Starke	5,883		\$1,765
Columbia County		68,683	
County Government	56,513		\$16,954
Lake City	12,170		\$3,651
Dixie County		15,927	
County Government	15,927		\$4,778
Gilchrist County		18,691	
County Government	18,691		\$5,607
Hamilton County		12,077	
County Government	9,536		\$2,861
Jasper	2,541		\$762
Lafayette County		7,211	
County Government	7,211		\$2,163
Levy County		45,845	
County Government	45,845		\$13,754
Madison County		17,335	
County Government	14,455		\$4,337
Madison	2,880		\$864
Suwannee County		44,042	
County Government	37,080		\$11,124
Live Oak	6,962		\$2,089
Taylor County		20,332	
County Government	13,270		\$3,981
Perry	7,062		\$2,119
Union County		11,882	
County Government	9,903		\$2,971
Lake Butler	1,979		\$750
TOTAL	582,676	582,676	\$176,155

*Official State estimates used for Revenue Sharing purposes: April 1, 2024.

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



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Election of Officers

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Nominating Committee officer slate of nominees for the Program Year 2025-26.

BACKGROUND:

The Nominating Committee met on May 14, 2025, to develop, for the Council's consideration, recommendations concerning the Executive Committee positions. A list of those recommendations is attached.

Also attached, for your information, are excerpts from the Bylaws which govern the election of officers. Specifically, the Council is to elect individuals to the following positions.

Chair
Vice-Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
Immediate Past Chair

NOTE: No more than one officer may be from representatives appointed by the same governmental unit.

In addition, if you want to make a nomination from the floor, please find attached a list of current Council members. Only local government representatives and gubernatorial appointees are eligible for election as officers.

If you have any questions concerning the election process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachments

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Section 6: Officers---Duties---Term of Office.

- (1) The members of the Council shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary to serve as officers of the Council. The officers shall be elected from among the members of the Council and may be elected or gubernatorial appointees no more than one (1) of who may be from representatives appointed by the same general purpose local governmental unit and no more than one (1) may be a gubernatorial appointee from the same county as another gubernatorial appointee. When a vacancy occurs among the officers, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the preceding officers were originally elected.
- (2) The officers shall perform the duties enumerated below and other duties prescribed by the Council:
 - (a) The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Council and of the Board; sign, with the counter-signature of the Secretary, or Executive Director, as authorized by the Council, any contracts or other instruments which is deemed in the Council's best interest; and perform such other duties incident to the office as may be prescribed by the Council.
 - (b) The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in the performance of the Chair's duties, and either in the absence of the Chair or in the event of the Chair's inability or refusal to act, shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of the Chair.
 - (c) The Treasurer shall, see that proper financial records of the Council are maintained in accordance with generally accepted governmental accounting principles. Further, the Treasurer shall, in general, perform all duties that may be assigned to him/her by the Chair or the Council.
 - (d) The Secretary shall see that minutes of the meetings and the records of the Council are kept; attest the signatures of the Council officers; and see that notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law. Further, the Secretary shall, in general, perform all duties that may be assigned to him/her by the Chair or the Council.
- (3) Each member elected to an office shall serve for one (1) year or until a successor is elected, and shall not be eligible for reelection to the same officer position in a succeeding year once their service for the one (1) year term of office has been completed and provided that the immediate past-Chair shall not be eligible to be elected to another officer position until two (2) years have elapsed following the end of their term as immediate past-Chair nor shall an elected official immediate past-Chair be succeeded in the office of Chair by a representative appointed by the same general purpose governmental unit or a gubernatorial appointee from the same county as another gubernatorial appointee.
- (4) Newly elected officers shall be declared installed following the election, and shall assume the duties of office upon adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MEMBERS

April 23, 2025

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Anthony Adams | Lafayette County |
| 2. | Mary Alford | Alachua County |
| 3. | Charles Chestnut IV | Alachua County |
| 4. | Ken Cornell | Alachua County |
| 5. | Rick Davis | Madison County |
| 6. | Thomas Demps | Taylor County |
| 7. | James Howell | Hamilton County |
| 8. | Melissa McNeal | Union County |
| 9. | Desiree Mills | Levy County |
| 10. | Kevin Parnell | Columbia County |
| 11. | Maurice Perkins | Suwannee County |
| 12. | Jody Stephenson | Dixie County |
| 13. | Daniel Riddick | Bradford County |
| 14. | Kenrick Thomas | Gilchrist County |

CITY REPRESENTATIVES

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|---------------|
| 15. | Wayne Bloodsworth Jr. | High Springs |
| 16. | Ed Book | Gainesville |
| 17. | Patricia Bouie-Hutchinson | Hawthorne |
| 18. | James Carter Jr. | Lake City |
| 19. | Frank Davis | Live Oak |
| 20. | Louie Davis | Waldo |
| 21. | Desmon Duncan-Walker | Gainesville |
| 22. | Jhelecia Hawkins | Jasper |
| 23. | Fletcher Hope Jr. | Archer |
| 24. | James Ingle | Gainesville |
| 25. | Diane Landry | Perry |
| 26. | Tony Mason | Newberry |
| 27. | Janice Mortimer | Starke |
| 28. | Joseph Stephenson | Lake Butler |
| 29. | Judy Townsend | Madison |
| 30. | Vacant | Alachua |

NON-VOTING DELEGATE

Kristyn Adkins High Springs

EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES

1. Florida Department of Commerce
2. Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3. Florida Department of Transportation
4. St. Johns River Water Management District
5. Southwest Florida Water Management District
6. Suwannee River Water Management District

Executive Committee Members are Bolded

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

2025-26
May 22, 2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mary Alford, Chair
Maurice Perkins, Vice-Chair
Jhelecia Hawkins, Treasurer
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, Secretary
Fletcher Hope, Immediate Past Chair



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May 15, 2025

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 April 2025 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: April 2025

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared agenda and hosted the April EDAC Meeting
- Monthly meeting with FRCA's Bookkeeper and EDAC Treasurer
- Meeting with FRCA Auditor to discuss FY23/24 Financial Review and preparations for FY 24/25 Financial Audit; Received Draft FY23/24 Financial Review and scheduled presentations to the EDAC and FRCA Policy Board
- Coordinating FRCA Summer Policy Board meeting
- Received Legislative Updates from FRCAs Legislative Consultants and provide weekly updates to the EDAC as needed

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Coordinated response to Senate Bill 1264 and House Bill 1125 with EDAC and FRCA's lobbyist Ron Book and Rana Brown, coordinating RPC speakers and advocates for Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development on April 10th, attended Senate Rules Committee on April 21st, and other activities necessary to advocate on behalf of Florida's RPCs.
- Attended NADO Policy Update Webinar
- Attended Tampa Bay RPC Executive Budget Committee and Board meetings, provided FRCA overview and Legislative update
- Attended Southwest Florida RPC Board meeting and provided Legislative update

Florida 2025 Legislative Session Update: SB 1264 and HB 1125

On Friday May 2nd, the Senate and House voted on **House Concurrent Resolution 1631** and agreed to extend the 2025 Legislative Session until June 6th. HCR 1631 provides more time to finalize the budget and lists 16 bills that will be considered by both chambers. Any bill not approved by both chambers on or before May 2nd will not move forward this year.

As of Saturday May 3rd, both SB 1264 and HB 1125 have been "indefinitely postponed and withdrawn from consideration." Florida's RPCs will remain in statute and will continue to provide important services to the communities they serve and to the state.



We want to thank FRCA's Legislative Team, Ron Book and Rana Brown, for successfully defending Florida's RPCs. This was a team effort, and it would not have been possible without the efforts of our **RPC Executive Directors, Board members and advocates throughout the state.** Thank you!

Mr. Darryl Register, Baker County Chamber of Commerce, NEFRC Gubernatorial Appointee and FRCA 1st Vice President, Testifies before the Senate Commerce Committee on March 31st.



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May 15, 2025

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 of 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 May 2025 Scorecard.

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

Attachment

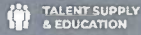
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Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Region's citizens,
by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources,
promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.

THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...



TALENT SUPPLY
& EDUCATION



INNOVATION &
ECON. DEVELOP.



INFRASTRUCTURE &
GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVICS &
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY
OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics

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

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 05/14/2025

23,057,649



JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

135,000
(Gain)

Growth Rate

1.4%
(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by
2030

1.28M



CHILDREN IN POVERTY

16.9%
(Decreasing)

<10%
2030 Goal

714,768
(Decreasing)



3RD GRADE READING SCORES

55%
(Improving)

97,413
Not Reading at Grade Level
(Decreasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

100%
2030 Goal

Florida Gap Map



OPEN JOBS

410,955
(Declining)

403,000
Unemployed Persons
(Increasing)

99

Unemployed People per 100
Jobs



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

3.6%
(Unchanged)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

135,000

View Statewide Heat Map



STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS

\$131.0
Billion Visitor Spending

142.9
Million Visitors



STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

9,605
Starts (Declining)

23,128
Sales (Declining)



POVERTY RATE

12.6%
(Better)

View Statewide Heat Map



CONSUMER SENTIMENT

77.0
(Declining)



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

89.7%
(Improving)

View Statewide Heat Map



SALES TAX REVENUE

\$3.490
Billion per Month (Declining)



VOTER PARTICIPATION

79%
(Improving)



RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

53%/39%



LAND IN CONSERVATION

27.9%



STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

\$412,500
Median Price (Decreasing)

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POWERED BY THE FLORIDA CHAMBER FOUNDATION



Community Development
Partnership Council



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 this?)

Innovation & Economic Development

State of Florida FutureCites

Click any metric to get more information!



METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE



TALENT SUPPLY
& EDUCATION



INNOVATION &
ECON. DEVELOP.



INFRASTRUCTURE &
GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVICS &
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY
OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?) Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!



LAND IN
CONSERVATION

27.9%



VEHICLE MILES
TRAVELED

227.75

Billion (Improving)



STATE HOUSING
STARTS & SALES

9,605

Starts (Declining)

23,128

Sales (Declining)

\$412,500

Median Price (Decreasing)



ENERGY
RANKING

#50

Expenditures (Unchanged)

#45

Consumption (Decreasing)



POPULATION
ESTIMATE 2030

25.68M

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)



SEAPORTS CARGO

\$72.6

Billion (Declining)



CONTAINERS
(TEUS)

4.31

Million (Unchanged)



TRUCK
CROSSINGS

15.3

Million (Improving)



HIGH SPEED
COMMUNICATIONS

96.3%

(Unchanged)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

100%

2030 Goal



MEDIAN RENT
(APARTMENTS)

\$1,541

(Decreasing)





State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!



INFLATION RATE

2.3%

National (Decreasing)

2%

Southern Region (Increasing)



CONSUMER SENTIMENT

77.0

(Declining)



CEO RANK

2nd

(Unchanged)



STATE LEGAL CLIMATE RANKING

46th

(Unchanged)

Top 12

2030 Goal



SALES TAX REVENUE

\$3.490

Billion per Month (Declining)



BUSINESS TAX CLIMATE

4th

#1

2030 Goal



OPEN JOBS

410,955

(Declining)

403,000

Unemployed Persons
(Increasing)

99

Unemployed People per 100
Jobs



STATE RANKING FOR AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY

#49



HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY

Homeowners' Insurance
Affordability data is available
at the county level.

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)



ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS SUITS

34,289





State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Civic & Governance Systems

Click any metric to get more information!



VOTER REGISTRATION

39.5%

(Republican)

31.4%

(Democrat)

29.0%

(NPA/Other)



VOTER PARTICIPATION

79%

(Improving)



RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

53%/39%



INMATE POPULATION

100,001



DEPENDENCY RATIO

2015

56.5%

2030 Estimate

70%



GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

252.1

Thousand (State)

740.2

Thousand (Local)



VOLUNTEERISM

20.4%

of Floridians Volunteer

47th

Florida's Rank

Top 3

2030 Goal



STATE DEBT OUTSTANDING

\$15.4

Billion



CITIZENS INSURANCE EXPOSURE POLICIES

\$336.5

Billion Exposure

841,470

Policies



UNDERFUNDED STATE PENSION

\$1120.0

Million (Increasing)

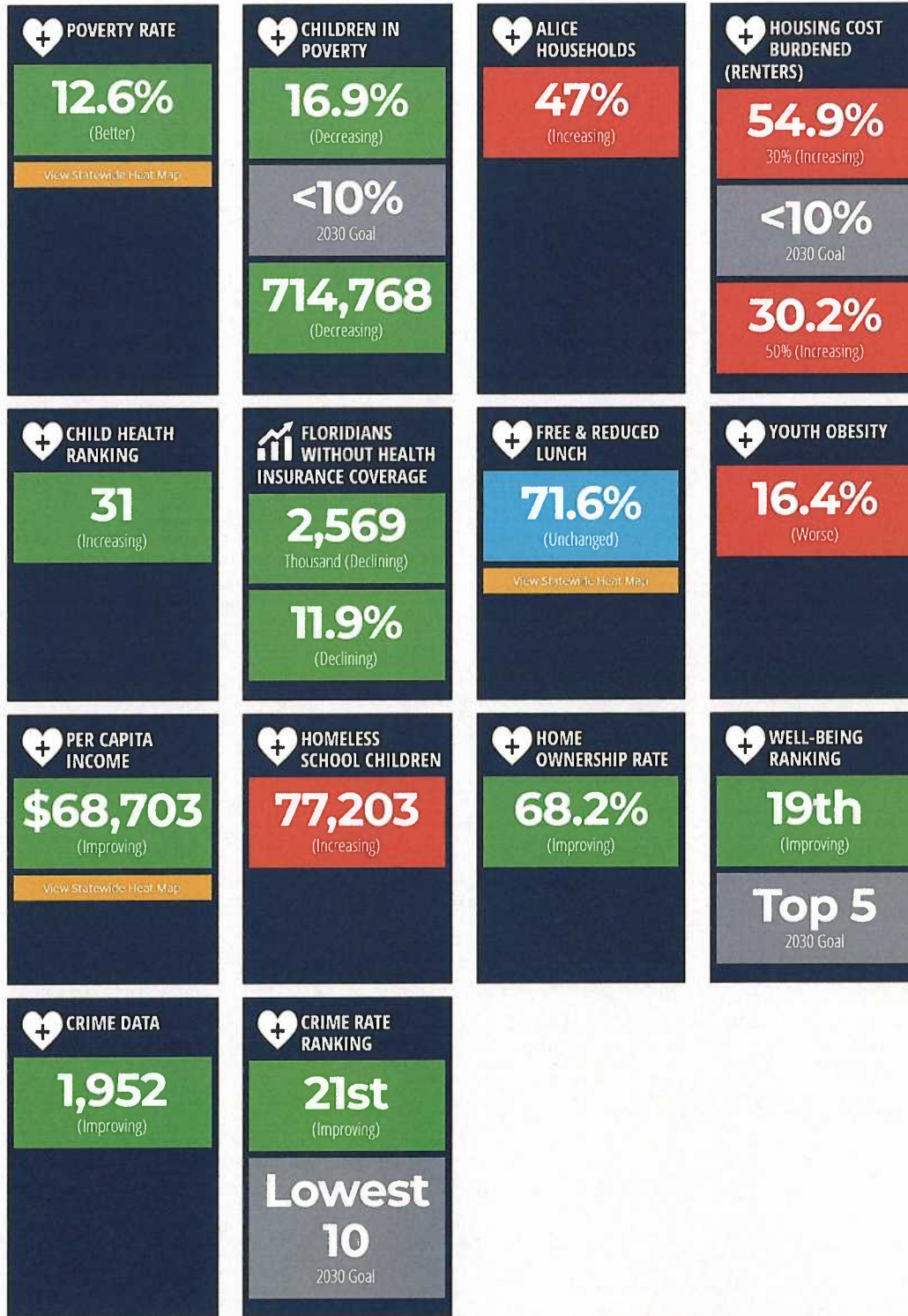


State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Quality of Life and Quality Places

Click any metric to get more information!





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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

The 2025 regular Legislature Session convened on March 4, 2025 and was scheduled to adjourn on May 2, 2025. However, the 2025 regular Legislative Session was continued to June 6, 2025. The legislative interim Committee schedule was, as follows:

- Week of December 2-6, 2024 (House)
- Week of December 9-13, 2024 (Senate)
- Week of January 13-17, 2025 (House/Senate)
- Week of January 21-24, 2025 (House/Senate)
- Week of February 3-7, 2025 (House/Senate)
- Week of February 10-14, 2025 (House/Senate)
- Week of February 17-21, 2025 (House/Senate)

The Governor called a Special Legislative Session that began on January 27, 2025. The Special Session was scheduled to address illegal immigration, condominium reform, hurricane recovery and constitutional ballot petition initiative reform. The Senate President and the House of Representatives Speaker called a Special Legislative Session that also began on January 27, 2025 and addressed illegal immigration. The Senate President and the House of Representatives Speaker called another Special Legislative Session that began on February 11, 2025 that also addressed illegal immigration.

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS

Senate Bill 1264 by Senator Collins concerning rural and urban business enterprises; revises the purpose of the Florida Department of Commerce; requires that the statewide emergency shelter plan identify the general location and square footage of special needs shelters by regional planning council regions, as such regions existed on a specified date, during the next five years; revises the purpose of the Targeted Marketing Assistance Program to include businesses in rural or urban areas; and establishes the Research, Innovation, Science, and Engineering Investment Tax Credit Program within the Florida Department of Commerce. Referred to Commerce and Tourism Committee; Finance and Tax Committee; Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; and Rules Committee. Withdrawn from Finance and Tax Committee. Passed Commerce and Tourism Committee; and Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development. **This bill was indefinitely withdrawn and died in Rules Committee.**

House Bill 1125 by Representative Owen concerning regional planning and economic development; revises provisions relating to creation of the Florida Department of Commerce and its powers and duties; establishes the Office of Secure Florida within the Florida Department of Commerce; revises economic policies of state comprehensive plan to promote entrepreneurship from certain business startups; revises composition of statewide advisory board of Florida Small Business Development Center Network; creates Rural Accelerator Program within the Florida Department of Commerce; requires funds to be appropriated from Rural Infrastructure Fund; revises composition requirements of Florida Sports Foundation; revises provisions relating to convention grants program established by Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation; revises provisions relating to use of statewide contracts register and who Florida Small Business Development Center is required to coordinate with regarding such use; authorizes counties and municipalities to enter into agreements to create regional planning entities pursuant to specified law; replaces regional planning councils with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for purposes of hazardous waste management assessments and facilities; revises provisions relating to local health councils; and revises composition of Affordable Housing Study Commission. Referred to Commerce Committee; State Affairs Committee; Ways and Means Committee; and Budget Committee. **This bill died in Commerce Committee.**

SOUTHERN RAIL COMMISSION

Senate Bill 966 by Senator Davis concerning rapid rail transit compact; authorizes the Governor to execute a rapid rail transit compact with specified states, to join the Southern Rail Commission; and provides the form of the compact. Referred to Transportation Committee; Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; and Fiscal Policy Committee. **This bill died in Transportation Committee.**

House Bill 833 by Representatives Hinson and Campbell concerning Rapid Rail Transit Compact; authorizes Governor to execute rapid rail transit compact with specified states, to join Southern Rail Commission; and provides form of compact. Referred to Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee; and Commerce Committee. Passed Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee. **This bill died in Commerce Committee.**

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



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: North Florida Transportation Planning Summit

On April 29, 2025, the Florida Department of Transportation District 2 held the North Florida Transportation Planning Summit at the Suwannee County Fairgrounds in Live Oak.

Representatives from the Department District 2, Florida Department of Commerce, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Suwannee River Water Management District, North Florida Transportation Planning Organization and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council provided information concerning their agencies and programs.

The summit was attended by 176 individuals, including representatives of 36 local government agencies, 18 state and regional agencies/organizations and 19 consulting firms.

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

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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Local Emergency Planning Committee
Full Scale Training Exercise

On May 8, 2025, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee held a full scale training exercise in Live Oak.

The exercise consisted of a simulated accident involving an automobile crashing into a railroad tanker car. The event provided an opportunity for the participating agencies to enhance interagency communication and coordination, and provided participants an opportunity to practice their response skills. The exercise was attended by 52 individuals.

Representatives from the following 26 agencies and companies participated in the training exercise.

- Air Liquide Advanced Materials;
- Alachua County Environmental Protection Department Hazardous Materials Section;
- Bradford County Emergency Management Department;
- Columbia County Emergency Management Department;
- Columbia County/Hamilton County Health Department;
- Columbia County Sheriff's Office;
- City of Gainesville Fire Rescue Hazardous Materials Response Team;
- City of Live Oak Fire Department;
- City of Live Oak Police Department;
- Dixie County/Gilchrist County/Levy County Health Department;
- Florida Department of Health - Region 3;
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Northeast District;
- Florida Department of Transportation - District 2;
- Florida Division of Emergency Management - Region 3;
- Florida Gulf and Atlantic Railroad;
- Gilchrist County Emergency Management Department;
- Lafayette County Emergency Management Department;
- Lafayette County/Suwannee County Health Department;
- Madison County Emergency Management Department;
- North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee;
- Nutrien;
- Suwannee County Fire Rescue Hazardous Materials Response Team;
- Suwannee County Sheriff's Office;
- Taylor County Health Department;
- United States Veterans Affairs - North Florida/South Georgia; and
- UFHealth Environmental Health Department.

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Local Emergency Planning Committee
Full Scale Training Exercise

The Local Emergency Planning Committee is comprised of first responders, emergency managers, state agencies and facility operators in the 12-county north central Florida region. The Council provides staff services to the Committee, including supporting quarterly meetings, annually updating the regional hazardous materials response plan, and annually planning, supporting and evaluating training exercises.

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



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May 15, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Financial Disclosure Report Filing

All members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year.

The financial disclosure forms filed electronically by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfill this requirement. Gubernatorial members must file a financial disclosure form electronically with the Florida Commission on Ethics via the Commission's online portal to fulfill this requirement. Council members should have received an email notice earlier this month concerning instructions for electronically filing the financial disclosure form.

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

