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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 **June 30, 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/805521469>**

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

**ACCESS CODE: 805 521 469**

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

*Please email [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org) by June 27, 2025 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting in-person or via communications media technology. **THANK YOU.***

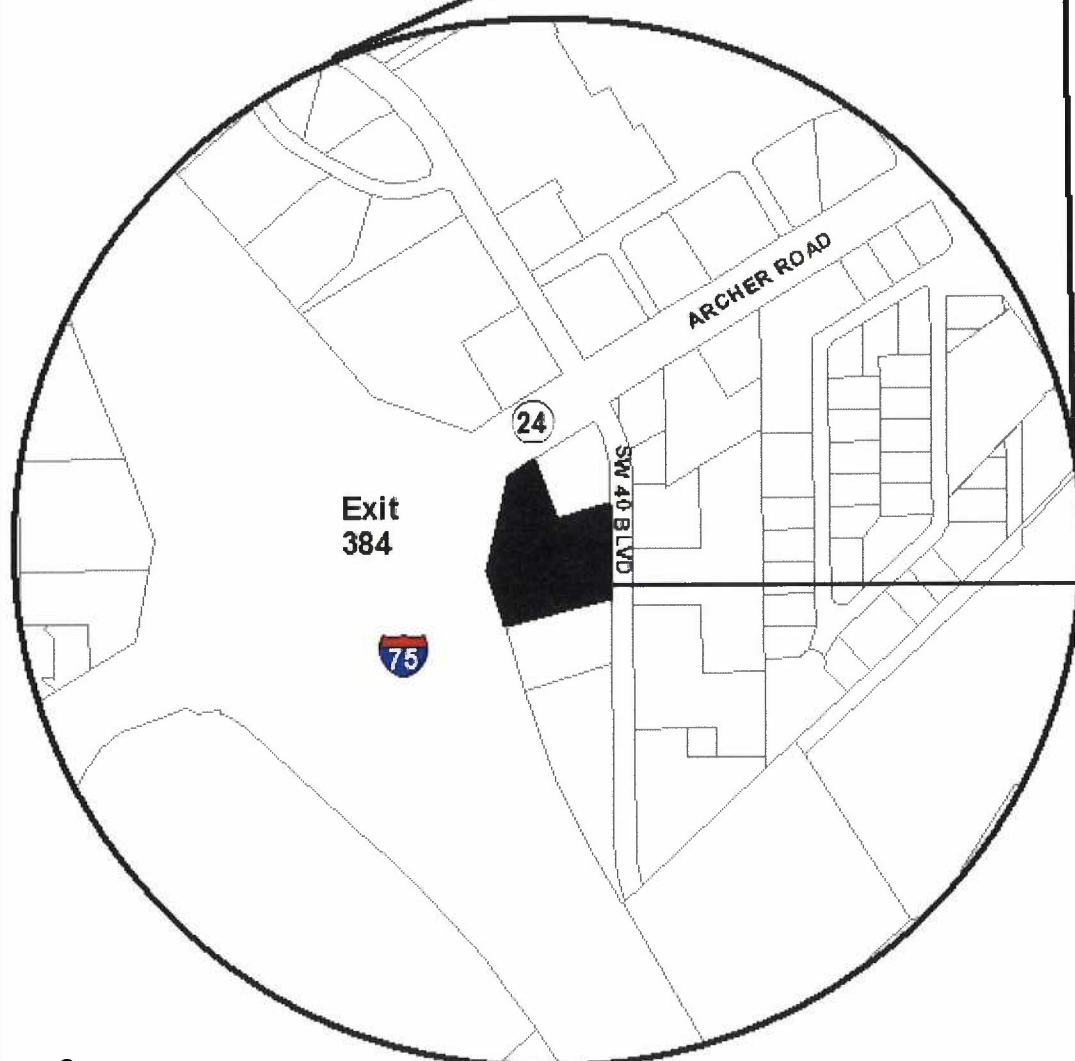
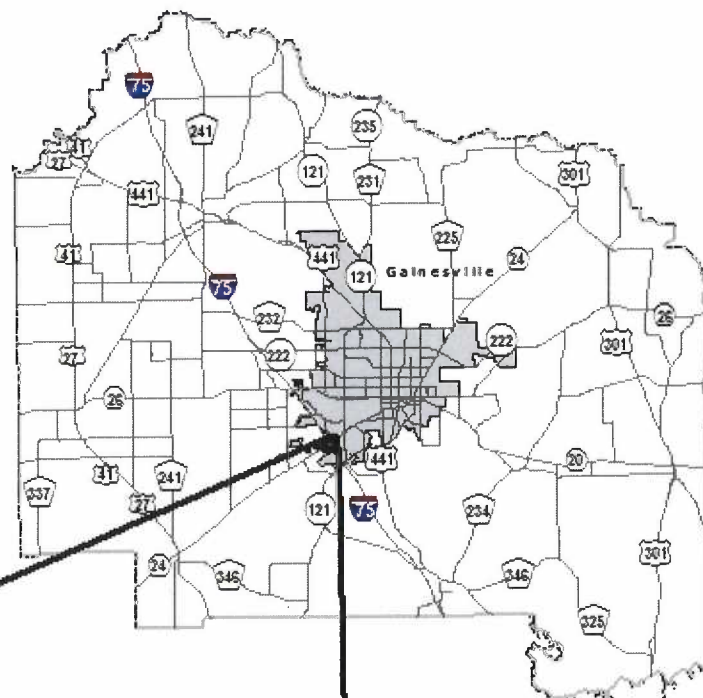
*Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)*

# 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.



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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

June 30, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

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  - \* G. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Counties 25 27
- V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA
- VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Tyler Winburn, Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator  
Suwannee River Water Management District
- VII. CHAIR REPORT
  - A. New Members
    - 1. Wayne Bloodsworth, City of High Springs
    - 2. Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler
    - 3. Dayna Williams, City of Alachua
  - \* B. Resolution of Appreciation 29
    - 1. Joe Stephenson, City of Lake Butler
  - \* C. Transportation Disadvantaged Resolution of Appreciation 33
    - 1. Donna Hagan
  - \* D. Committee Appointments 37

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.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

*	B. Clearinghouse Committee -	41
	<u>Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items</u>	
	1. #76 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)	
	2. #79 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)	
	3. #83 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)	
	4. #84 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)	

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.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

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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 - July 24, 2025

\* See Attachment

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

**IV.A.**

Hybrid Public Meeting  
Drury Inn & Suites  
Gainesville, Florida and  
Via Communications Media Technology

May 22, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT  
IN PERSON

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County  
**Mary Alford, Alachua County**  
Ed Book, City of Gainesville  
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne  
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County  
Thomas Demps, Taylor County  
**Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper**  
**Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer**  
James Howell, Hamilton County  
James Ingle, City of Gainesville  
Diane Landry, City of Perry  
**Janice Mortimer, City of Starke**  
**Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County**  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County  
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County  
Judy Townsend, City of Madison

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(FOR QUORUM)

James Carter Jr., City of Lake City  
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

Melissa McNeal, Union County  
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wayne Bloodsworth Jr., City of High Springs  
Ken Cornell, Alachua County  
Louie Davis, City of Waldo  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville  
Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler  
Tony Mazon, City of Newberry  
Desiree Mills, Levy County  
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County  
Dayna Williams, City of Alachua

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Austin Burgess, Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission - In-Person  
David Tyler, Florida Department of  
Transportation - In-Person  
Tyler Winburn, Suwannee River  
Water Management District - In-Person

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow - Virtual

OTHERS PRESENT

Stew Lilker - In-Person  
Doyle Thomas - In-Person  
Lorene Thomas - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In-Person  
Lauren Yeatter - 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 Lorene Thomas, former Council Member; Doyle Thomas, former Dixie County Attorney and husband of former Council Member Lorene Thomas; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hope asked that the consent agenda be approved.

**ACTION: Commissioner Perkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

- A. Minutes - April 24, 2025
- B. Agency Regulatory Plan Fiscal Year 2025-26
- C. Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Local Emergency Planning Committee -Fiscal Year 2025-26
- D. Meeting Schedule Program Year 2025-26

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Hope asked that the regular agenda be approved.

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

VI. NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL PRESENTATION YEAR 2024

Scott Koons, Executive Director, gave a presentation which reviewed Council activities during the past year in the Regional Planning, Public Safety, Economic Development, Local Government Assistance and Transportation Programs of the Council. In particular, he highlighted the services that the Council provides, which benefit its local governments, including community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities. Chair Hope thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

## VII. CHAIR REPORT

### A. Resolutions of Appreciation

1. Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry

**ACTION:** Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to approve a Resolution of Appreciation for former Council Member Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Lorene Thomas, Dixie County

**ACTION:** Commissioner Perkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve a Resolution of Appreciation for former Council Member Lorene Thomas, Dixie County Gubernatorial Appointee. The motion carried unanimously.

### B. Certificate of Service -

1. Lorene Thomas, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Chair

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

Chair Hope presented Ms. Thomas a Certificate of Service for her 24 years of service to the Council.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT

### A. Executive Committee - None

### 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.

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

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 the Florida Department of Commerce.



**ACTION: Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #70 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ER. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Program Committee - Fiscal Year 2025-26 Overall Program Design

Commissioner Mary Alford, Council Vice-Chair and Program Committee Chair, gave the Program Committee report. She stated that the Program Committee met on March 27, 2025 to review a draft of the Overall Program Design for the coming year. Commissioner Alford stated that this document is used as a basis for the development of a budget and is also to give instruction to staff as to the work which is to be done during the next year. She stated that there are no changes proposed in the Overall Program Design which include new programs not previously discussed and/or approved by the Council.

**ACTION: Commissioner Alford made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Overall Program Design as recommended by the Program Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

D. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget

Commissioner Maurice Perkins, Council Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair, gave the Finance Committee report. He stated that the Finance Committee met virtually via communications media technology on May 14, 2025 to review the proposed Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget. He stated the anticipated expenditures for next year will be \$1,453,100. Commissioner Perkins also stated, almost all funds to be expended by the Council are received through contracts for services and grants. He stated there is one exception: Member local governments pay dues, which are proposed to remain at \$0.30 per capita for the 44th year, will produce approximately \$176,100.

Commissioner Perkins noted that the most significant policy decision that must be made with respect to the budget is related to personnel. He noted that there is provision for a total of five full-time staff positions, plus funds for part-time positions, which are two less staff positions than budgeted for the current year. Commissioner Perkins stated that 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.

**ACTION: Commissioner Perkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Mortimer, to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

E. Nominating Committee - Program Year 2025-26 Election of Officers

Vice-Mayor Mortimer, Council Immediate Past Chair and Nominating Committee Chair, gave the Nominating Committee report. She stated that the Nominating Committee met virtually via communications media technology on May 14, 2025 to prepare, for the Council's consideration, recommendations concerning officers for Program Year 2025-26.



She stated that the Nominating Committee recommendations for officers are, as follows:

Chair - Mary Alford, Alachua County  
Vice-Chair - Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County  
Treasurer - Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper  
Secretary - Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne  
Immediate Past Chair - Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer

Chair Hope asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing no nominations from the floor, he closed the nominations.

**ACTION: Vice-Mayor Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to elect the slate of nominees for officers to a one-year term for Program Year 2025-26 as recommended by the Nominating Committee. 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 held the North Florida Transportation Summit on April 29, 2025 at the Suwannee County Fairgrounds in Live Oak. He also noted that the Department, in conjunction with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, will be conducting a Teenager Driver Safety Campaign between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Finally, Mr. Tyler reported that the Department is currently updating its Partnering with the Florida Department of Transportation: A Resource Guide for Local Governments guidebook.

Austin Burgess, Senior Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, stated that the Commission is currently reviewing a proposed solar farm project in Levy County for potential impacts on wildlife habitat.

Tyler Winburn, Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator, noted that there are opportunities during the coming months for outdoor recreation activities on District-owned lands in the north central Florida region. He also reported that the District online portal is available for local governments to submit project proposals.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer, discussed distracted driving and Memorial Day.

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 April 2025 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the April 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 May 2025 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated that the 2025 Legislature Session convened on March 4, 2025 and has been extended to June 6, 2025. He reported that House Bill 1125 concerning regional planning councils was not passed by the Legislature and Senate Bill 1264 concerning regional planning councils was also not passed by the Legislature.

D. North Florida Transportation Planning Summit

Mr. Koons reported that Florida Department of Transportation District 2 held the North Florida Transportation Summit on April 29, 2025 at the Suwannee County Fairgrounds in Live Oak. He noted he made a presentation concerning Council programs and activities at the Summit.

E. North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Full Scale Hazardous Materials Exercise

Mr. Koons reported that the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee held a Full Scale Hazardous Materials Exercise on May 8, 2025 in Suwannee County. He noted that the exercise consisted of a simulated automobile crashing into a railroad tanker car. Mr. Koons stated that the exercise provided an opportunity for the participating agencies to enhance interagency communication and coordination, and provided participants an opportunity to practice their response skills. Finally, he stated that the exercise was attended by 26 agencies and companies involving 52 individuals.

F. Financial Disclosure Report Filing

Mr. Koons reported that all members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year. He stated that the financial disclosure form filed by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfills this requirement. Mr. Koons noted that local elected officials and all other filers are required to file the form online this year.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Commissioner Perkins reported that the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners recently adopted a resolution recognizing May 20, 2025 as Florida Emancipation Day in Suwannee County.

Chair Hope announced that the Rosewood Foundation will be holding a fundraising event for the proposed Rosewood Museum on May 26, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Train Depot in Archer.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Hope stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on June 30, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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Mary C. Alford, Chair

6/30/25  
Date

# Resolution


## OF APPRECIATION

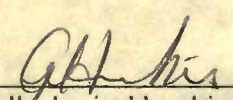
WHEREAS, Shirlie Hampton has been representing the City of Perry on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since December 2023;

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

  
Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

ATTEST:

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





# Resolution


## OF APPRECIATION

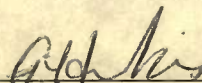
WHEREAS, Lorene Thomas has been representing Dixie County on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since March 2001;

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jhelecia Hawkins, Secretary

ATTEST:

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





# 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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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management  
to Update Hazards Analyses - Fiscal Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for Fiscal Year 2025-26 to update hazards analyses for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties for an amount of \$13,283.64.**

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the Florida Division of Emergency Management provides funding to the Council to update hazards analyses for locations that contain extremely hazardous substances that if released could cause off-site injuries.

Sites located in the following counties will be included in the hazards analyses update: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties. The amount of the agreement will be \$13,283.64.

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








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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Regional Resiliency Entity Planning Grant Application - Fiscal Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Executive Director to submit a Regional Resiliency Entity Planning Grant Application with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Fiscal Year 2025-26 to conduct Phase 1 Critical Assets Mapping for an amount of \$150,000 and, if the grant is awarded by the Department, authorize the Executive Director to sign the grant agreement.**

BACKGROUND:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is making available regional resiliency entity planning grants for Fiscal Year 2025-26. Regional planning councils are eligible entities to apply for these funds.

The Council proposes to conduct Phase 1 Critical Assets Mapping for the eight north central Florida federally designated Most Impacted and Distressed Counties (Columbia County, Dixie County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Madison County and Taylor County) by the 2023 and 2024 storms (Hurricane Idalia, Hurricane Debby, Hurricane Helene, Hurricane Milton and the 2024 North Florida Tornadoes). The amount of the grant application is \$150,000.

Phase 2 Critical Asset Mapping in Fiscal Year 2026-27 will include the four north central Florida state designated Most Impacted and Distressed Counties (Alachua County, Bradford County, Gilchrist County and Union County) by the 2023 and 2024 storms (Hurricane Idalia, Hurricane Debby, Hurricane Helene, Hurricane Milton and the 2024 North Florida Tornadoes).

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

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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program  
Alachua County Planning Grant Resolution  
Fiscal Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution authorizing the Executive Director to sign the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Planning Grant Application for Alachua County and authorizing the Chair to execute the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Transportation Disadvantaged Program Planning Grant Agreement for Alachua County.**

BACKGROUND:

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is the designated official planning agency for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for Alachua County. As the designated official planning agency, the Council is responsible for Transportation Disadvantaged Program planning and providing the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities.

The attached resolution authorizes the Executive Director to sign the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Planning Grant Application and authorizes the Chair to sign the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Planning Grant Agreement with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. The Planning Grant Agreement provides the funding needed to provide staff services to the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

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

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 ALACHUA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PLANNING GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

WHEREAS, regional planning councils are eligible for selection as designated official planning agencies in accordance with Rule 41-2.009, Florida Administrative Code;

WHEREAS, the designated official planning agency is responsible for Transportation Disadvantaged Program planning and providing the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant agreement and to undertake a transportation disadvantaged service project as authorized by Section 427.0159, Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code.

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

1. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the above referenced grant agreement;
2. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant agreement on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged;
3. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Executive Director to act in connection with the agreement and to provide such additional information as may be required by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged;
4. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to sign any and all assurances, agreements or contracts which are required in connection with the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant Program;
5. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes its Executive Director to sign the planning grant application form, any and all reimbursement invoices, warranties, certifications and other documents which may be required in connection with the agreement or subsequent agreements; and
6. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

APPROVED AND DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, this 30th day of June 2025.

ATTEST:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford., Chair








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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Appoint Caroline Alrestimawi, Career Source North Florida, Operations Consultant, the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Lafayette County and Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards;**
- **Appoint Deborah Cohn, Career Source North Florida, Acting Executive Director/Deputy Director the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and the alternate Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Appoint Irene Gaffori, Career Source North Florida, Operations Director, the alternate Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board; and**
- **Appoint Brandi Turner, Healthy Start Coalition of Jefferson, Madison and Taylor Counties, Inc., Program Manager, the voting Children at Risk Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards. It is recommended Caroline Alrestimawi be appointed the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Lafayette County and Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards. It is recommended Deborah Cohn be appointed the voting Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Columbia Hamilton and Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and the alternate Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. It is recommended Irene Gaffori be appointed the alternate Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. It is recommended Brandi Turner be appointed the voting Children at Risk Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

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

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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Reappointments

RECOMMENDATION:

**Reappoint the following individuals to three-year terms ending June 30, 2028:**

- **Reappoint Erica Barnard as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Alachua County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint Sandra Buck Camp as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Columbia Hamilton and Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint Matthew Ferguson as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Dixie County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint Brittney Keeling as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint John Mann as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Union County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint Shanetha Mitchell as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;**
- **Reappoint Iana Patterson as the voting Medical Community Representative on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board; and**
- **Reappoint Krishna Stemple as the alternate Medical Community Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing members to the local transportation disadvantaged coordinating boards. Several Board members' terms of appointment expire on June 30, 2025. The above Board members are willing to serve an additional three-year term of reappointment to the Boards.

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

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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment  
Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties

RECOMMENDATION:

**Appoint Commissioner Leo Mobley, Suwannee County Local Elected Official, Chair of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board for a one-year term ending June 30, 2026.**

BACKGROUND:

According to Rule 41-2.012 of the Florida Administrative Code, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency, is responsible for appointing the Chair of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Chapter I. F. (1) of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Bylaws provides for the Board to annually recommend to the Council a local elected official to serve as Chair of the Board. At its May 21, 2025 meeting, the Board recommended the Council appoint Commissioner Leo Mobley, Suwannee County Local Elected Official, as Chair of the Board for a one-year term ending June 30, 2026.

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

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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Mary C. Alford, Chair  
SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation - Joe Stephenson

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Joe Stephenson.**

BACKGROUND:

As a token of appreciation for service on the Council since July 2024 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, Joe Stephenson has been representing the City of Lake Butler on the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council since July 2024;

WHEREAS, Joe Stephenson 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 Joe Stephenson 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 Joe Stephenson.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary C. Alford, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia B. Hutchinson, Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AT THEIR MEETING  
OF JUNE 30, 2025.







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Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Donna Hagan.**

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Donna Hagan served as the Children at Risk Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since June 2022.

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

Attachment

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Donna Hagan has served as the Children at Risk Representative on the Madison Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since June 2022; and*

*WHEREAS, Donna Hagan ably discharged the duties as the Children at Risk Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;*

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

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

---

*Mary C. Alford, Chair*

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

**June 30, 2025**

**Date**







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June 23, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Mary C. Alford, Chair

SUBJECT: 2025-26 Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

**Ratify 2025-26 Committee appointments as recommended by the Chair.**

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Council, each year the Chair makes appointments to the various committees of the Council. These appointments provide for a broad geographic representation throughout the region serving on the committees. Emphasis was also placed on the attendance record of each appointee. Therefore, I am recommending appointments to committees as per the attached list.

Attachment

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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2025-26  
June 23, 2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

Maurice Perkins, Chair  
James Carter Jr., Vice-Chair  
Melissa Hendrix  
Diane Landry  
Tony Mazon  
Melissa McNeal  
Desiree Mills  
Kenrick Thomas  
Judy Townsend

CLEARINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

Melissa McNeal, Chair  
Daniel Riddick, Vice-Chair  
James Carter Jr.  
Ken Cornell  
Melissa Hendrix  
James Howell  
Diane Landry  
Jody Stephenson  
Judy Townsend

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Daniel Riddick, Chair  
Judy Townsend, Vice-Chair  
James Carter Jr.  
Ken Cornell  
Thomas Demps  
Melissa Hendrix  
Diane Landry  
Melissa McNeal  
Jody Stephenson

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jhelecia Hawkins, Chair  
Charles Chestnut IV, Vice-Chair  
Janice Mortimer

REPRESENTATIVES TO  
FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS  
ASSOCIATION

Charles Chestnut IV  
Thomas Demps  
Janice Mortimer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Fletcher Hope Jr., Chair  
Janice Mortimer, Vice-Chair  
Anthony Adams

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Landon Harrar, Chair, Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce  
Jimmy Norris, Vice-Chair, Suwannee County Economic Development  
Doug Brown, Madison County Development Council  
Robert Cates, Taylor County Development Authority  
Jennifer Daniels, Columbia County Economic Development  
Jeff Hendry, North Florida Economic Development Partnership  
Phyllis Marty, CareerSource North Central Florida  
Amber Sherperd, Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation  
Tisha Whitehurst, Levy County Economic Development





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June 23, 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., June 30, 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 items which require Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

#### Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- #76 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
- #79 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)
- #83 – Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
- #84 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)

***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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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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June 23, 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 May 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: May 2025

### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared agenda and hosted the May EDAC Meeting
- Monthly meeting with FRCA's Bookkeeper and EDAC Treasurer
- Worked on FRCAs Budget, financial policies, IRS 501c4, and other financial issues for the Association
- Reviewed FRCAs FY24-25 Financial Review and scheduled presentations to the Executive Directors Advisory Committee and the FRCA Policy Board
- Coordinating FRCA Summer Policy Board meeting
- Received Legislative Updates from FRCAs Legislative Consultants and provide updates to the Executive Directors Advisory Committee as needed
- Worked on FRCAs website and communications plan
- Updated RPC staff lists and FRCAs contact list
- Coordinated FRCAs Exhibit at the Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference
- Coordinated FRCAs Exhibit at the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Coordinated and hosted RPC meeting with Florida EDA Representative to discuss the **FY25 Disaster Supplemental**
- Attended meetings with six RPCs and Florida EDA Representative to discuss the **FY25 Disaster Supplemental** and potential projects and assisted in providing additional information to eight RPCs.
- Submitted letter of support for the **Re-designation of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Opportunity** to Florida Commerce Secretary Alex Kelly
- Meeting with **FRCA Communications Workgroup** to discuss RPC communications and coordination.
- Coordinated and hosted **LEPC Coordinators Meeting** to review FDEM FY25-26 Contract
- Attended **Southwest Florida RPC Board meeting** and worked with CFRPC to support the SWFRPC during their leadership transition.
- Coordinated meeting with **Southwest Florida RPC Board Chair** to discuss the agenda for their June meeting.
- Coordinated meeting to discuss the **FDEP FY25-26 Resilient Florida RRE Grant Program**





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June 23 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 June 2025 Scorecard.

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

Attachment

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# 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 06/20/2025

**23,112,234**



### JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**148,700**

(Gain)

Growth Rate

**1.5%**

(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by 2030

**1.29M**



### 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

**408,645**

(Declining)

**414,000**

Unemployed Persons (Increasing)

**102**

Unemployed People per 100 Jobs



### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

**3.7%**

(Unchanged)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**148,700**

View Statewide Heat Map



### STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS

**\$131.0**

Billion Visitor Spending

**142.9**

Million Visitors



### STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

**10,531**

Starts (Declining)

**23,572**

Sales (Declining)



### POVERTY RATE

**12.6%**

(Better)

View Statewide Heat Map



### CONSUMER SENTIMENT

**81.0**

(Improving)



### 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

**\$412,734**

Median Price (Increasing)

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Community Development  
Partnership Council







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

### Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



#### KINDERGARTEN READINESS

**51%**  
(Improving)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

**100%**  
2030 Goal



#### VPK COMPLETERS

**59.0%**  
(Declining)



#### 3RD GRADE READING SCORES

**55%**  
(Improving)

**97,413**  
# Not Reading at Grade Level  
(Decreasing)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

**100%**  
2030 Goal

[Florida Gap Map](#)



#### 3RD GRADE MATH SCORES

**60%**  
(Improving)



#### 8TH GRADE READING SCORES

**51%**  
Reading (Improving)

**100%**  
2030 Goal



#### 8TH GRADE MATH SCORES

**65%**  
Math (Improving)

**100%**  
2030 Goal



#### 8TH GRADE SCIENCE SCORES

**45%**  
Science (Improving)



#### NATIONAL 4TH GRADE RANKINGS

**2nd**  
Math (Improving)

**10th**  
Reading (Declining)



#### NATIONAL 8TH GRADE RANKINGS

**37th**  
Math (Declining)

**41st**  
Reading (Declining)



#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

**89.7%**  
(Getting Higher)

**95%**  
2030 Goal



#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE WITH DISABILITY

**86.8%**  
(Getting Higher)



#### COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

**1st**  
4 Year (Unchanged)

**5th**  
2 Year (Improving)



#### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**55.2%**  
Current

**60%**  
2030 Goal



#### WITHOUT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

**227.2K**  
Ages 18-24 (Decreasing)

**1.6M**  
Ages 25+ (Decreasing)



#### DEGREE ATTAINMENT

**45.0%**  
AA+ (Improving)

**34.0%**  
Bachelor+ (Improving)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)



#### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

**3.7%**  
(Unchanged)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

Jobs Year Over Year Change  
**148,700**



#### PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**6.6%**  
Unemployment Rate (Getting  
Lower)

**356,245**  
Number Working (Improving)



#### APPRENTICESHIPS

**18,265**  
Apprentices (Increasing)

**262**  
Programs (Increasing)



State of Florida Metrics (WFLA's UNCF)

State of Florida FutureCast

Innovation & Economic Development

Click any metric to get more information!





# 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 (What is this?)

### Infrastructure & Growth Leadership

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



LAND IN  
CONSERVATION

27.9%



VEHICLE MILES  
TRAVELED

227.75

Billion (Improving)



STATE HOUSING  
STARTS & SALES

10,531

Starts (Declining)

23,572

Sales (Declining)

\$412,734

Median Price (Increasing)



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

(Unchanged)

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# 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 (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Business Climate & Competitiveness

Click any metric to get more information!



INFLATION RATE

**2.4%**

National (Increasing)

**2.0%**

Southern Region (Unchanged)



CONSUMER  
SENTIMENT

**81.0**

(Improving)



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

**408,645**

(Declining)

**414,000**

Unemployed Persons  
(Increasing)

**102**

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**

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Partnership Council





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

### Civic & Governance Systems

Click any metric to get more information!

State of Florida FutureCast



#### VOTER REGISTRATION

**39.5%**

(Republican)

**31.4%**

(Democrat)

**29.0%**

(NPA/Other)



#### VOTER PARTICIPATION

**79%**

(Improving)



#### RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

**53%/39%**



#### INMATE POPULATION

**104,129**



#### 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

**\$319.5**

Billion Exposure

**809,984**

Policies



#### UNDERFUNDED STATE PENSION

**\$1120.0**

Million (Increasing)

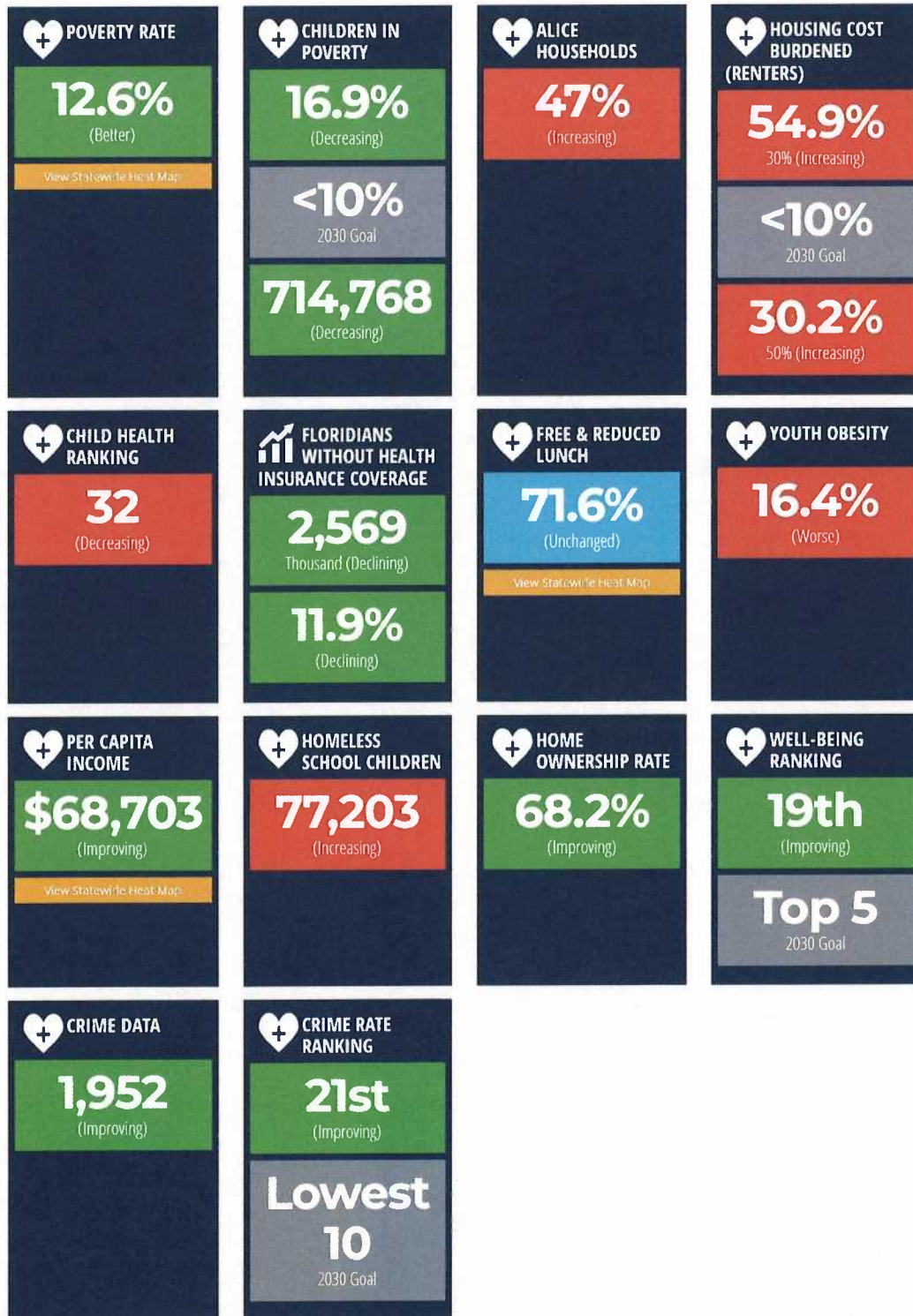


## State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Quality of Life and Quality Places

Click any metric to get more information!





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June 23, 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 16, 2025 and adjourned on June 16, 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.

On June 16, 2025, the Legislature adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget in the amount of \$115.1 billion. This amount is \$3.5 billion less than the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget.

### **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.**

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.



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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June 23, 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.

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

