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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 **December 11, 2025**. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Suwannee Room, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida**, and via Communications Media Technology at **7:00 p.m.**

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

<https://meet.goto.com/356302093>

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

ACCESS CODE:         **356 302 093**

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

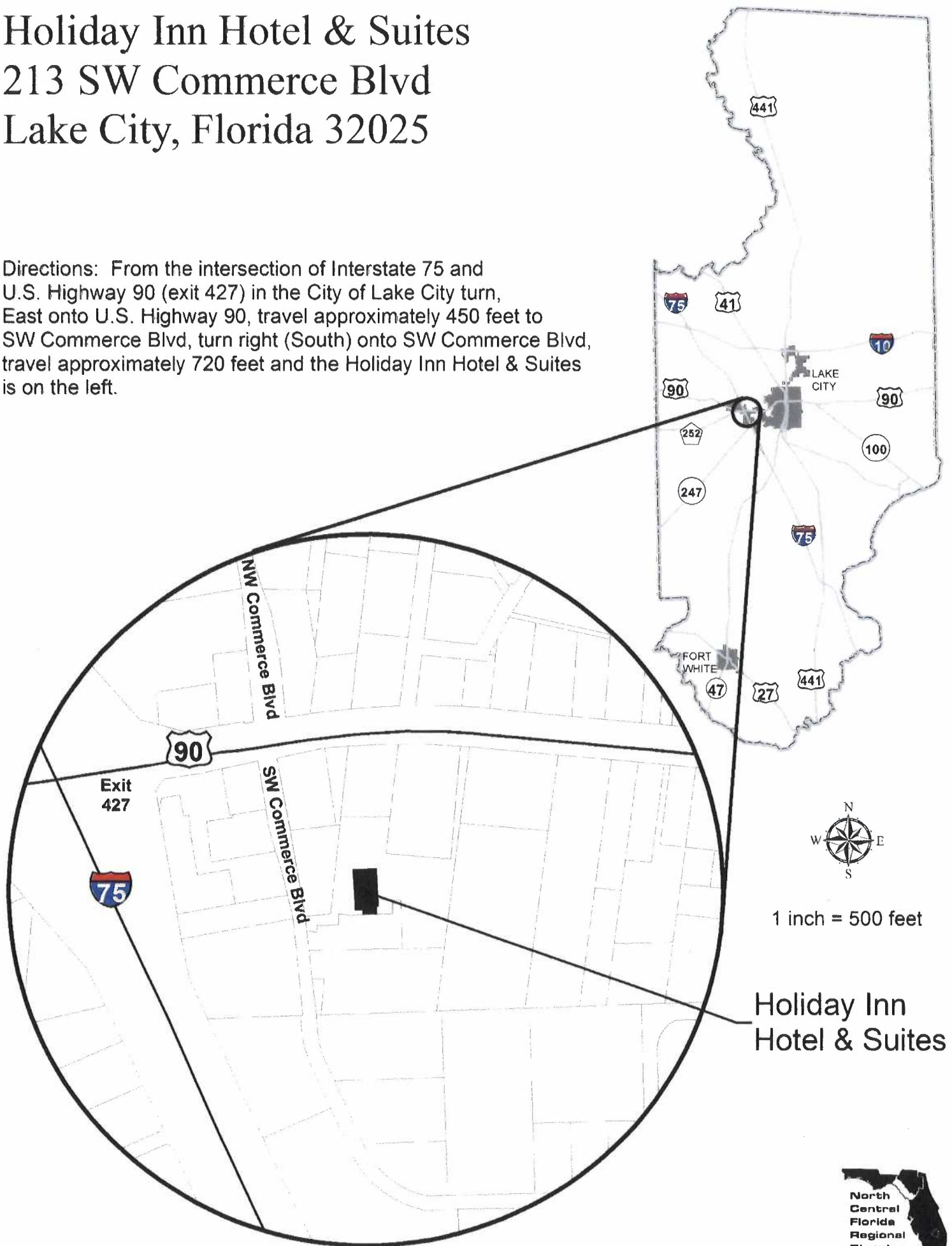
*Please email [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org) by December 10, 2025 to let us know if you will be attending the meeting **in-person** or via **communications media technology**. **THANK YOU.***

*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.)*

# Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites

213 SW Commerce Blvd  
Lake City, Florida 32025

Directions: From the intersection of Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 90 (exit 427) in the City of Lake City turn, East onto U.S. Highway 90, travel approximately 450 feet to SW Commerce Blvd, turn right (South) onto SW Commerce Blvd, travel approximately 720 feet and the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites is on the left.





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## AGENDA

### NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

December 11, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

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**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Executive Committee - None

- \* B. Clearinghouse Committee - **23**  
Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items  
 1. #4 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)  
 2. #5 - Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ER)  
 3. #7 - City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)  
 4. #8 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)  
 5. #9 - Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Draft Amendment  
 6. #10 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)  
 7. #11 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)

**IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS**

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Council welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the Council. 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**

- \* A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Reports **25**  
 \* B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard **31**  
 \* C. Legislative Report **41**  
 \* D. Water Quantity and Quality Grant Awards **43**

**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 - January 22, 2026**

- \* 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

October 23, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT  
IN PERSON

**Mary Alford, Alachua County**  
**Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne**  
Louie Davis, City of Waldo  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Thomas Demps, Taylor County  
**Jhelecia Hawkins, City of Jasper**  
Melissa Hendrix, City of Lake Butler  
**Fletcher Hope Jr., City of Archer**  
James Howell, Hamilton County  
Donald Long, City of Newberry  
Kirk Marhefka, Town of Cross City  
**Maurice Perkins, Suwannee County**  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County  
Judy Townsend, City of Madison

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(FOR QUORUM)

Ed Book, City of Gainesville  
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County  
Ken Cornell, Alachua County  
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak  
James Ingle, City of Gainesville  
Diane Landry, City of Perry  
Melissa McNeal, Union County  
Kevin Parnell, Columbia County

MEMBERS PRESENT  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
(NOT FOR QUORUM)

Janice Mortimer, City of Starke  
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY  
VIA COMMUNICATIONS  
NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristyn Adkins, City of High Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County  
Wayne Bloodsworth Jr., City of High Springs  
James Carter Jr., City of Lake City  
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville  
Desiree Mills, Levy County  
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County  
Dayna Williams, City of Alachua

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

COUNCIL ATTORNEY ABSENT

Jonathan Wershow

OTHERS PRESENT

Stanford Amos - In-Person  
Diana Davis - In-Person  
Landon Harrar – Virtual  
Thomas Harrington - Virtual  
Stew Lilker - In-Person  
Scott Mixon - In-Person

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons - In-Person  
Lynn Franson - In-Person  
Lauren Yeatter - In-Person

**Executive Committee Members names are bold**

I. INVOCATION

Chair Mary Alford noting a quorum being present called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilman Kirk Marhefka 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 Alford welcomed Stanford Amos, City Manager, City of Madison; Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council Member Louie Davis; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer. Also, in attendance at the meeting virtually was Landon Harrar, Economic Development Manager, Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee; and Thomas Harrington, Legislative Affairs Coordinator, City of Gainesville.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Alford asked that the consent agenda be approved.

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

- A. Minutes - September 25, 2025
- B. Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2025-26
- C. Community Development Block Grant Administrative Services Agreement Federal Fiscal Year 2023/Fiscal Year 2024 - City of Madison
- D. Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program  
Community Transportation Coordinator Selection for Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Counties
- E. Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program  
Community Transportation Coordinator Selection for Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties
- F. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointment

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Alford asked that the regular agenda be approved.

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

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Scott Mixon, Government and Community Relations - North Florida  
Duke Energy Corporation

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Scott Mixon, Government and Community Relations - North Florida, Duke Energy Corporation. Mr. Mixon made a presentation concerning Duke Energy Corporation disaster recovery and economic development initiatives. Chair Alford thanked Mr. Mixon for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. New Member

Chair Alford welcomed new Council member Kirk Marhefka, Town of Cross City. She stated that the Town of Cross City recently became a member local government of the Council.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Resolution of Appreciation

1. Larry Trowbridge

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to authorize the Chair to sign a Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation for former Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Regional Workforce Board Voting Representative Larry Trowbridge. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Certificate of Service for Council Employee - Lynn Franson - 35 Years

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Lynn Franson, who joined the Council staff on August 20, 1990. Ms. Franson currently serves as the Senior Planner in the Transportation Division and is responsible for staffing the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Mr. Koons presented a 35-year service Certificate of Service and a 35-year service pin to Ms. Franson. Mr. Koons thanked her for her dedicated service to the Council.

D. Committee Appointment

**ACTION: Commissioner Perkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Townsend to ratify the appointment by the Chair of Commissioner Donald Long to the Program Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Resolution Recognizing 100th Anniversary of the Town of Yankeetown

Chair Alford reported that the Town of Yankeetown is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2025. She stated that the Executive Committee recommends the adoption of Resolution No. 2025-16 recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Town.

**ACTION: Commissioner Townsend made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-16 recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Town of Yankeetown, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Resolution Recognizing 125th Anniversary of the Town of Jennings

Chair Alford reported that the Town of Jennings is celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2025. She stated that the Executive Committee recommends the adoption of Resolution No. 2025-17 recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Town.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Mayor Louie Davis, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-17 recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Town of Jennings, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution Recognizing 175h Anniversary of the City of Archer

Chair Alford reported that the City of Archer is celebrating its 175th Anniversary in 2025. She stated that the Executive Committee recommends the adoption of Resolution No. 2025-18 recognizing the 175th Anniversary of the City.

**ACTION:** Mayor Hope made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-18 recognizing the 175th Anniversary of the City Archer, 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

Commissioner Daniel Riddick, Vice-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.

#1 - City of Jasper Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)

Commissioner Riddick 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. He stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local government and the Florida Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Riddick made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Perkins, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #1 - City of Jasper Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR.). The motion carried unanimously.

C. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2024-25 Amended Budget

Councilwoman Jhelecia Hawkins, Finance Committee Chair, reported that the budget amendment that the Council adopts each year takes into account action taken by the Council during the past year to accept work under contracts and additional grants which were not anticipated when the original budget was prepared as well as changes in anticipated revenues and expenditures. She stated that Florida Statutes provides for governmental agencies to adopt an amended budget within 60 days following the end of a fiscal year. Councilwoman Hawkins reported that the Committee recommends that the Council authorize the Committee to review and adopt on behalf of the Council an amended budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 within 60 days following the end of the fiscal year.

**ACTION: Councilwoman Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Vice-Mayor Bouie Hutchinson, to authorize the Finance Committee to review and adopt on behalf of the Council an amended budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 within 60 days following the end of the fiscal year. The motion carried unanimously.**

D. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy - Annual Strategy Review

Landon Harrar, Economic Development Manager, Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee stated the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee appointed by the Council includes representatives of the private sector, public officials and workforce development boards. He stated that the Committee is responsible for the development of the strategy and recommendation of the strategy to the Council for adoption.

Mr. Harrar also stated that the Committee met virtually on October 16, 2025 to review activities conducted during the past year to support the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. He reported that the Committee does not recommend any amendments to the Strategy at this time and recommends that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2025-19 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027.

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Howell, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-19 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027 as recommended by the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS - None

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

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

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated the 2026 Legislature Session will convene on January 13, 2026 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2026. Mr. Koons reported that the legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of October 6-10, 2025
- Week of October 13-17, 2025
- Week of November 3-7, 2025
- Week of November 17-21, 2025
- Week of December 1-5, 2025
- Week of December 8-12, 2025

E. Regional Joint Mitigation Resiliency Project

Mr. Koons reported that the Council entered into an interagency agreement with the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council in 2022, along with other five regional planning councils that have counties that were declared federal disaster areas as a result of Hurricane Irma, to assist in completing a Regional Joint Mitigation Resiliency Project.

Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner, made a presentation concerning an update on the status of the project. She stated that regional planning councils are engaging in cross collaboration to provide a seamless network of community partners setting forth a single consistent methodology for vulnerability, risk analysis and assessments with reduced focus on county boundaries in order to identify potential multi-jurisdictional or multi-county solutions. Ms. Yeatter also noted that the project will fill an identified gap in resilience efforts by focusing on the impacts of flooding hazards to the inland counties in Florida.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Demps invited Council members to attend the Florida Forest Festival on October 25, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in Perry.

Commissioner Perkins announced that the Great Pumpkin Escape will be held on October 25, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Spirit of the Suwannee Park in Live Oak.

Chair Hope announced that Trunk or Treat will be held on October 31, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Wilson Robinson Park in Archer.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Alford stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on December 11, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Mary C. Alford, Chair

12/11/25  
Date

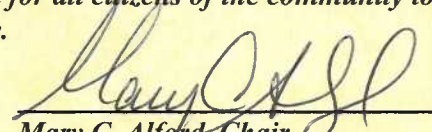
## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Larry Trowbridge has served as the Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 2021; and*

*WHEREAS, Larry Trowbridge ably discharged the duties of the Regional Workforce Board Representative on the Levy County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board;*

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

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

  
Mary C. Alford, Chair

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

October 23, 2025

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TOWN OF YANKEETOWN

WHEREAS, the Town of Yankeetown, was incorporated in 1925; and

WHEREAS, in 1923, Indiana lawyer and politician Armanis F. Knotts settled the community of Knotts Village later renamed Yankeetown; and

WHEREAS, in 1925, the historic Izzak Walton Lodge was built as a lodge for visiting fisherman; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, the movie Follow That Dream featuring Elvis Presley was filmed in the Town of Yankeetown; and

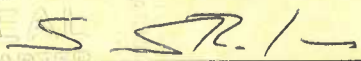
WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee River follows along the northern boundary of the Town of Yankeetown; and

WHEREAS, the present day economy of the Town of Yankeetown is based upon commercial and sport fishing.

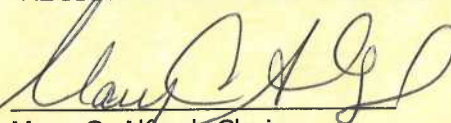
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Town of Yankeetown on its 100th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

Attest:

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

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TOWN OF JENNINGS

WHEREAS, the Town of Jennings, was incorporated in 1900; and

WHEREAS, in 1835, George Jennings arrived from Georgia and settled in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jennings was named after early settler George Jennings; and

WHEREAS, the economy of the Town of Jennings was based upon agriculture and the turpentine industry; and

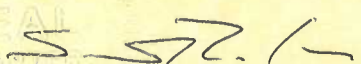
WHEREAS, Dead River at Jennings Bluff showcases the karst topography of the area; and

WHEREAS, today, the economy of the Town of Jennings is based upon agriculture and natural resources.

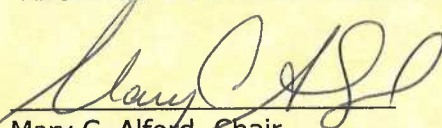
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Town of Jennings on its 125th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

Attest:

  
Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

  
Mary C. Alford, Chair

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL  
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE CITY OF ARCHER

WHEREAS, the City of Archer, was incorporated in 1850; and

WHEREAS, the settlement was originally named Deer Hammock and later  
Darden's Hammock; and

WHEREAS, the City of Archer was named after James T. Archer, Florida's  
first Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Railroad, connecting the east and west coasts of  
Florida from Fernandina on the east to Cedar Key on the west arrived in the City of  
Archer in the 1850s; and

WHEREAS, the railroad played an important role in the economy of the City  
of Archer; and


WHEREAS, Grammy Award winner and Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame member  
Bo Diddley called the City of Archer home for many years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Archer annually hosts Art at the Archer Depot Festival  
in honor of United States Senator David Levy Yulee.

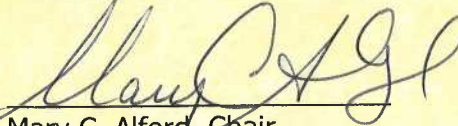
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida  
Regional Planning Council congratulates the City of Archer on its 175th Anniversary.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this  
23rd day of October 2025.

Attest:

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

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL CONCERNING THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2023-2027; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration an economic development district; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to prepare, adopt and maintain a comprehensive economic development strategy to guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of their region; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive economic development strategy qualifies the region and local governments located within the region for federal assistance under Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Act programs; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to annually review their comprehensive economic development strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby affirms that its annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027, dated September 2022, did not result in any amendments to the Strategy being adopted by the Council; and

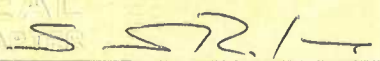
RESOLVED, FURTHER, that all resolutions or portions of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that this resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of October 2025.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:

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

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





## IV.B.

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December 4, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointment

RECOMMENDATION:

**Appoint Delacia Griffin, Child Protective Investigator Supervisor, the voting Florida Department of Children and Families 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 Delacia Griffin, Child Protective Investigator Supervisor, be appointed the voting Florida Department of Children and Families 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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## VII.A.1.

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

December 4, 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 Steve Russell.**

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Steve Russell served as the Florida Department of Children and Families Representative on the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 2016.

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

Attachment

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Steve Russell has served as the Florida Department of Children and Families Representative on the Madison Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since April 2016; and*

*WHEREAS, Steve Russell ably discharged the duties as the Florida Department of Children and Families 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 Steve Russell 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 Steve Russell.*

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*Mary C. Alford, Chair*

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

*December 11, 2025*

*Date*





## VIII.B.

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

December 4, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melissa McNeal, 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., December 11, 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

1. #4 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (FC No. 25-2ESR)
2. #5 - Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-2ER)
3. #7 - City of Fanning Springs Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
4. #8 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)
5. #9 - Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Draft Amendment
6. #10 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-3ESR)
7. #11 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (FC No. 25-1ESR)

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

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December 4, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Reports

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 October 2025 Monthly Activity Report and November 2025 Monthly Activity Report highlighting the activities of the Association.

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

#### Attachments

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## **MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: October 2025**

### **ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT**

- Prepared agenda and coordinated FRCAs October EDAC Meeting
- Monthly meeting with FRCA Treasurer and Bookkeeper; Prepared to close out FY24/25
- Worked with FRCA's CPA to set schedule for the FY24-25 Audit and filing FY25 taxes and IRS reports.
- Set up speakers for FRCA November Partners Meeting and planning for FRCAs 2026 Partners Meetings
- Coordinating plans for FRCA Winter Policy Board Meeting, January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee; confirmed speakers and drafting the agenda for EDAC approval in December.
- Reviewed materials developed for the 2025 Legislative Session and preparing for the upcoming 2026 Legislative Session.
- Worked on FRCAs website, communications plan and fall newsletters.

### **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH**

- Scheduled November FRCA Partners Meeting with the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation to discuss Blueprint 2030
- Worked with the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation to prepare for FRCA's presentation at the virtual [2026 Florida Economic Outlook & Jobs Solution Summit](#), January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1pm-4pm.
- Coordinating with key stakeholders to prepare for upcoming events that will highlight FRCA and Florida's RPCs.
- Scheduling meetings and outreach with FRCA partners and stakeholders.





## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: November 2025

### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Monthly meeting with FRCA's Bookkeeper to review Year-End Financial Report and FY25-26 budget
- Prepared agenda and coordinated FRCAs November Executive Committee Meeting with FRCA's Bookkeeper to review Year-End Financial Report
- Worked with FRCA's CPA and Bookkeeper to begin FY24-25 Audit
- Finalized contracts FRCA Winter Policy Board Meeting, January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee and draft agenda for EDAC approval in December
- Prepared invitation and documentation for new Southwest Florida RPC Policy Board members
- Reviewed materials developed for the 2025 Legislative Session and preparing for the upcoming 2026 Legislative Session.
- Met with FRCA-RPC Communications Workgroup and created new Google Drive for shared information and resources
- Coordinated information for FRCA's upcoming presentations and reports
- Updated RPC Directory and information for the EDAC
- Worked on FRCA's website

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Coordinated and hosted November FRCA Partners Meeting with the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation to discuss Blueprint 2030 and FRCA's goals
- Prepared report for **the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Blueprint 2030 Halftime Report**
- Worked on the presentation for the **Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation virtual 2026 Florida Economic Outlook & Jobs Solution Summit**, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1pm-4pm.
- Worked on FRCA's presentation for the **Economic Development Administration's 2025 Disaster Supplemental Roundtable**, in Tallahassee at the Florida State Capitol, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 1:00pm





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December 4, 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 December 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



CIVIC &  
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY  
OF LIFE

## State of Florida Metrics

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

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 12/01/2025

**23,353,868**



JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**98,200**  
(Gain)

Growth Rate

**1.0%**  
(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by  
2030

**1.31M**



CHILDREN IN  
POVERTY

**16.9%**  
(Decreasing)

**<10%**  
2030 Goal

**714,768**  
(Decreasing)



3RD GRADE  
READING SCORES

**57%**  
(Improving)

**94,508**  
# Not Reading at Grade Level  
(Decreasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

**100%**  
2030 Goal

Florida Gap Map



OPEN JOBS

**429,221**  
(Declining)

**424,000**  
Unemployed Persons  
(Increasing)

**99**

Unemployed People per 100  
Jobs



UNEMPLOYMENT  
RATE

**3.8%**  
(Increasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

**98,200**

View Statewide Heat Map



STATE OF FLORIDA  
VISITORS

**\$134.9**  
Billion Visitor Spending

**142.9**  
Million Visitors



SINGLE FAMILY  
HOUSING STARTS  
& SALES

**8,996**  
Starts (Declining)

**21,191**  
Sales (Improving)

**\$411,105**  
Median Sale Price (Increasing)



POVERTY RATE

**12.6%**  
(Better)

View Statewide Heat Map



CONSUMER  
SENTIMENT

**78.3**  
(Declining)



HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATION RATE

**89.7%**  
(Improving)

View Statewide Heat Map



VOTER  
PARTICIPATION

**79%**  
(Improving)



RIGHT / WRONG  
DIRECTION

**53%/39%**



LAND IN  
CONSERVATION

**32.3%**



STATE HOUSING  
STARTS & SALES

**\$411,105**  
Median Price (Increasing)

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Community Development  
Partnership Council





## State of Florida Metrics (what is new?)

State of Florida FutureCast

### Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information.



## State of Florida Metrics

### Innovation & Economic Development

Click any metric to get more information

State of Florida FutureCast



# 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

**32.3%**



SINGLE FAMILY  
HOUSING STARTS  
& SALES

**8,996**

Starts (Declining)

**21,191**

Sales (Improving)

**\$411,105**

Median Sale Price (Increasing)



ENERGY STATE  
RANKING

**#50**

Expenditures (Unchanged)

**#45**

Consumption Per Capita  
(Decreasing)



POPULATION  
ESTIMATE 2030

**25.83M**

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)



SEAPORTS CARGO

**\$72.6**

Billion (Declining)



CONTAINERS  
(TEUS)

**4.31**

Million (Unchanged)



HIGH SPEED  
COMMUNICATIONS

**96.3%**

(Unchanged)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

**100%**

2030 Goal



MEDIAN RENT  
(APARTMENTS)

**\$1,509**

(Increasing)

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# THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

## METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...



TALENT SUPPLY  
& EDUCATION



INNOVATION &  
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INFRASTRUCTURE &  
GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &  
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVICS &  
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY  
OF LIFE

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

### Business Climate & Competitiveness

State of Florida FutureCast

Click any metric to get more information!



INFLATION RATE

**3.0%**

National (Increasing)

**2.7%**

Southern Region (Increasing)



CONSUMER  
SENTIMENT

**78.3**

(Declining)



CEO RANK

**2nd**

(Unchanged)



STATE LEGAL  
CLIMATE RANKING

**46th**

(Unchanged)

**Top 12**

2030 Goal



BUSINESS TAX  
CLIMATE

**5th**

**#1**

2030 Goal



OPEN JOBS

**429,221**

(Declining)

**424,000**

Unemployed Persons  
(Increasing)

**99**

Unemployed People per 100  
Jobs



STATE RANKING  
FOR AUTOMOBILE  
INSURANCE  
AFFORDABILITY

**#50**



HOMEOWNERS'  
INSURANCE  
AFFORDABILITY

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

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

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## 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

**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 12**

2030 Goal



STATE DEBT  
OUTSTANDING

**\$15.4**

Billion



CITIZENS  
INSURANCE  
EXPOSURE POLICIES

**\$285.5**

Billion Exposure

**769,316**

Policies



# 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

### Quality of Life and Quality Places

Click any metric to get more information!



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December 4, 2025

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

The 2026 regular Legislature Session will convene on January 13, 2026 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2026. The legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of October 6-10, 2025
- Week of October 13-17, 2025
- Week of November 3-7, 2025
- Week of November 17-21, 2025
- Week of December 1-5, 2025
- Week of December 8-12, 2025

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

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December 4, 2025

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Water Quantity and Quality Grant Awards

On December 3, 2025, \$112 million in state grants to improve water quality and quantity were awarded to communities across Florida. The funding included \$50 million in funding to support 14 alternative water supply projects, \$50 million in funding to support 23 projects aimed at restoring Florida's natural freshwater springs, and \$12 million for 16 innovative technology projects that will help detect, prevent and mitigate harmful algal blooms.

The Springs Restoration Grant Program, in partnership with water management districts, supports communities statewide by funding land acquisitions and projects that support both improvements in water quality and spring flow. Freshwater springs projects are aimed at restoring Florida's world-renowned freshwater springs. These projects will enhance spring flow and improve water quality through wastewater upgrades and other enhancements.

A total of \$13,015,200 in funding was awarded to the following local governments and water management district in the north central Florida region through the Springs Restoration Grant Program.

- **City of Archer (\$5,664,000)** for septic to sewer conversion and wastewater collection system expansion project.
- **Suwannee River Water Management District (\$3,000,000)** for Agricultural Springs Protection Cost Share Program projects.
- **City of Newberry (\$2,900,000)** for septic to sewer conversion project.
- **Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc. (\$1,000,000)** for Suwannee High Recharge Pinelands Land Acquisition project.
- **City of Williston (\$451,200)** for septic to sewer conversion project.

The Alternative Water Supply Grant Program supports projects to reclaim water, enhance aquifer recharge, and promote water conservation.

A total of \$2,057,195 in funding was awarded to the following local government and water management district in the north central Florida region through the Alternative Water Supply Grant Program.

- **Suwannee River Water Management District (\$800,000)** for agricultural water conservation remote irrigation management and reporting projects.
- **Suwannee River Water Management District (\$750,000)** for alternative water supply feasibility studies.
- **City of Live Oak (\$507,195)** for the Park Street Drainage Well Replacement project.

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

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