During 2017, the Council continued to be a very successful public agency that provided valuable services in fulfilling our mission to improve the quality of life of the region’s citizens by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments. The following pages summarize these accomplishments.

The Council, in partnership with economic development organizations and local governments, promoted regional strategies, partnerships and solutions to strengthen the economic competitiveness and quality of life of the 12 counties and 40 incorporated municipalities in the north central Florida region. The Council, whose members are local elected officials and gubernatorial appointees, continued to administer a variety of state and federal programs for the north central Florida region, including Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties.

Programs included development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, technical assistance to local governments in development of comprehensive plans, land development regulations and grant management, and administration of hazardous materials, homeland security and economic development programs. In addition, the Council provided staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team and The Original Florida Tourism Task Force.

Our successes in these activities have been realized through the dedicated work of the Council staff under the guidance provided by our members and by the leaders of our affiliated organizations, including the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Team and The Original Florida Tourism Task Force. All of these groups continued to remain committed to achieving excellence as they continued to pursue ways to improve the north central Florida region.

Of particular note are the extremely important and beneficial services the Council continued to provide to rural local governments in the areas of comprehensive planning, community development, grant procurement and grant administration. By combining their limited financial resources, small rural jurisdictions were able to have access to these services of the Council that they would have been unable to afford on an individual basis. Working together as partners, the Council, rural counties and small cities have been able to improve the quality of life in rural north central Florida.

We hope that you find the discussion of our programs in this report to be informative. Also provided is a summary of our financial status and a brief look at the year ahead.

The Council members and staff are most appreciative of the support received from our member local governments and the citizens of the north central Florida region. We look forward to working together with you in the future for the betterment of the north central Florida region.

Sincerely,

Lorene J. Thomas
Chair

Lorene J. Thomas, Chair
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
The north central Florida region includes 12 counties and 40 incorporated municipalities in the north central portion of Florida. With over 8,000 square miles of area, the region is characterized by its abundant natural resources, which include the world-famous Suwannee River, the marshes of the Gulf Coast, cypress swamps, upland forests and a large number of clear turquoise springs.

According to the University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, the population of the north central Florida region in the year 2017 was 557,004, an increase of 21,346 persons over the 2007 population of 535,658, representing a 4.0 percent increase over the past ten years.

“The Council is dedicated to improving the quality of life of the region’s citizens, by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments.”

The economic base of the north central Florida region relies heavily on the government and services sectors with the University of Florida in Gainesville accounting for a major portion of the government employment. The City of Gainesville is the regional retail center and together with Alachua County accounts for 46.7 percent of the total population of the north central Florida region.
The Council

The Council is an association of 25 general purpose local governments. Membership includes 12 counties and 13 of the municipalities in the north central Florida region. One-third of the representatives are appointed by the Governor with the remaining two-thirds of the representatives being local elected officials.

Each year, the Council adopts an annual work program and budget. Also each year, the Council elects officers for the organization: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary-Treasurer from among its ranks.

Council members serve on several committees appointed by the Chair. The purpose of these committees is to advise the Council on administrative and programmatic matters. The Council serves as a forum for the coordination and review of federal/state/local government community planning and community development programs and activities affecting the north central Florida region.

In addition to the regional planning and review activities, the Council provides a variety of services to benefit its local governments. These services include: community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance and economic development activities.

ALACHUA COUNTY
Ken Cornell
Charles Chestnut IV
Robert Hutchinson
* Vacant
* Vacant
* Vacant
* Vacant

Alachua
Robert Wilford

Archer
Fletcher Hope

Gainesville
David Arreola
Gigi Simmons
Helen Warren

Hawthorne
Patricia Bouie

High Springs
Linda Jones

Newberry
Rick Coleman

Waldo
Louie Davis

BRADFORD COUNTY
Daniel Riddick
* Vacant

Starke
Janice Mortimer

COLUMBIA COUNTY
Tim Murphy
* James Montgomery

Lake City
Stephen Witt

DIXIE COUNTY
Gene Higginbotham
* Lorene Thomas

GILCHRIST COUNTY
Kenrick Thomas
* Vacant

HAMILTON COUNTY
Robert Brown
* Vacant

Jasper
LaBarfield Bryant

LAFAYETTE COUNTY
Anthony Adams
* Vacant

LEVY COUNTY
John Meeks
* Vacant

LEVY COUNTY
Rick Davis
* Mike Williams

MADISON COUNTY
City of Madison
Jim Catron

SUWANNEE COUNTY
Larry Sessions
* Vacant

Live Oak
Garth Nobles, Jr.

TAYLOR COUNTY
Thomas Demps
* Vacant

Perry
Mike Deming

UNION COUNTY
James Tallman
* Vacant

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
Vacant, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Vacant, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Vacant, Florida Department of Transportation
Vacant, Southwest Florida Water Management District
Vacant, Suwannee River Water Management District
Vacant, St. Johns River Water Management District

* Gubernatorial Appointee

Lorene Thomas, Chair
Louie Davis, Vice-Chair
Robert Wilford, Secretary-Treasurer
During 2017, the Council continued to work on updating the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan and to provide comments concerning its review responsibilities.

Regional Planning

The North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan is a long-range guide for the physical, economic and social development of the north central Florida region. The regional plan contains regional goals and policies designed to promote a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving problems identified in the trends and conditions statements contained within each of the strategic regional subject areas: Affordable Housing; Economic Development; Emergency Preparedness; Natural Resources of Regional Significance; and Regional Transportation. The regional plan is the primary policy document of the Council and is the basis for Council comments concerning its review responsibilities.

The Council considered review comments from state and regional agencies and local governments concerning proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based amendments to the regional plan. The proposed amendments add natural resources of regional significance and regional facilities located in Levy County to the regional plan.

The Council also reviewed several local government comprehensive plan amendments which incorporated transportation planning best practices as policies in the Transportation Element of local government comprehensive plans.

Review Activities

One of the ways that the Council implemented the regional plan was through its review responsibilities. The Governor has designated the Council as the area-wide clearinghouse for all federally-funded projects that affect the physical environment of the north central Florida region, and other review activities undertaken as a result of state legislation.

Reviews included the following types.

- Applications for federal assistance totaling $13,167,324;
- Local comprehensive plan amendments; and
- Environmental impact statements and assessments.

Coastal resources, including the Big Bend Salt Marsh and Big Bend Sea Grass Beds, are recognized as Natural Resources of Regional Significance in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

- The Council reviewed these projects in order to:
  - Avoid or mitigate potential adverse impacts to regionally significant natural resources, regionally significant facilities or neighboring communities or counties;
  - Ensure coordination with local government plans; and
  - Avoid duplication or conflict with other local or area plans and programs.
The Council provided comments on 100 review items, including 58 amendments to local government comprehensive plans. The Council forwarded its comments on local government comprehensive plans to local governments under the expedited review process and to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for their consideration in determining the consistency of local government comprehensive plans with the State Comprehensive Plan and the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan under the coordinated review process.

The Council also reviewed 19 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant applications, 18 U.S. Federal Transit Administration grant applications for either capital assistance or operating assistance, four U.S. Department of Agriculture grant or loan applications and one other review item. The Council provided comments on applications for federal assistance to the Florida State Clearinghouse, which is housed in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The Florida State Clearinghouse administers the intergovernmental coordination and review process of certain state and federal activities within the State of Florida which involve federal financial assistance and/or direct federal activity that affect the physical environment.

“The Council provided comments on applications for federal assistance ensuring that federal grants were consistent with regional and local plans and programs throughout the region.”

The Steinhatchee River is recognized as a Natural Resource of Regional Significance in the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.
During 2017, the Council continued to work on ongoing public safety and regulatory compliance activities and also started several new projects.

Local Emergency Planning Committee

The North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee continued its mission of increasing chemical safety in our communities. The Council has provided staff support to the Committee since 1989.

The tools used by the Committee included planning, training, reviewing, exercising, offering How-to-Comply assistance to business and industry and educating the public. An updated emergency response plan for the north central Florida region was completed by the Committee.

“...The Council provided staff support to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Sheltering In-Place seminars to increase public preparedness in case of a chemical release.”

Sheltering In-Place workshops were held to assist public and emergency response agencies with increasing public preparedness in the case of a chemical release. Many releases are short in duration and it may be safer to stay inside and not be exposed to the full strength of a chemical plume by trying to evacuate through it. A webpage continued to be available to support local and emergency responder public outreach efforts.

First Responder Training

The Council coordinated hazardous materials emergency response training classes. A total of 29 classes were held, training 395 first responders for a total of 6,186 hours. Many classes were offered in a shift-friendly format where the same one-day class was repeated three consecutive days. This approach provided an opportunity for all three shifts at a fire rescue department to attend the class.

The use of on-line training as part of the 160-hour hazardous materials technician class was expanded. With the first 80 hours available online, it was more convenient for firefighters to attend advanced hazardous materials training. The additional 80 hours of hands-on training were conducted locally.

Hurricane Preparedness

The Council continued its support of emergency managers by providing decision-making tools to assist in determining who and when to evacuate in response to an approaching hurricane. Hurricane Irma presented unique challenges to the north central Florida region in terms of shelter, evacuation and vulnerabilities. Local officials were able to use the decision-making tools to address these challenges.

Council staff served as lead evaluator for the Florida Division of Emergency Management Statewide Hurricane Exercise. The exercise was conducted at the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee with a scenario involving two hurricanes making landfall in a short period of time.

Natural Gas Pipeline Safety

The North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The grant project consisted of purchasing equipment, public outreach and exercise components. The Team conducted a tabletop exercise in Suwannee County involving emergency response activities involving two natural gas pipelines.

A tabletop natural gas pipeline safety exercise provided an opportunity for responders and facility operators to meet and determine how to work together to respond to incidents using available resources.

This exercise was co-sponsored by the Local Emergency Planning Committee which contributed to the participation of additional counties. The exercise provided an opportunity for responders and facility operators to meet and determine how to work together to respond to incidents using available resources.
Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team

The Council continued to provide staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. Member jurisdictions of the Team include Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Suwannee and Union Counties as well as the following cities: Gainesville, Lake City, Madison and Starke.

Advance training continued to be a priority for Team members. The Council provided scholarships for 22 firefighters to attend the Florida Hazardous Materials Symposium held in Daytona Beach. The Symposium offered a combination of both classroom and hands-on training for hazardous materials technicians.

Hazards Analyses

Hazardous materials emergency response planning continued to require an understanding of the chemical hazards and potential threats to nearby communities. Facilities reported the amounts of extremely hazardous substances which are stored in the north central Florida region. In addition, the Council continued to provide hazards analyses site visit assistance to counties throughout the north central Florida region.

Council staff continued to serve as Chair of the State Emergency Response Commission Hazards Analysis Working Group. The working group made progress in improving the overall process to ensure that emergency managers and first responders have access to critical emergency information.

Hazardous Waste

All counties in Florida are required by law to conduct annual site visits to verify the small quantity hazardous waste management practices of 20 percent of the businesses and government agencies in a county.

The Council continued to provide compliance assistance to mainly small businesses during the required verification site visits. The assistance helped facilities properly manage waste disposal in a cost efficient manner. The overall goal was to keep hazardous waste out of landfills and groundwater.

Public Health

Council staff assisted the Healthcare Coalition and Levy County Health Department with conducting a tabletop exercise. The scenario involved a disease outbreak where the Williston Regional Hospital needed to prescribe and dispense medications to every employee at the hospital as a Closed Point of Distribution.

Critical facilities such as hospitals and health departments need to treat their employees prior to establishing an Open Point of Distribution for all residents of a county. By conducting this exercise, emergency plans were tested, existing partnerships with community partners were strengthened and potential new partnerships were identified.
During 2017, the Council continued to promote long-term economic prosperity in the north central Florida region by conducting comprehensive economic development planning, assisting local governments and economic development organizations with implementation activities and by promoting tourism opportunities of the north central Florida region as an economic development strategy.

“"The Council's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy uses the Florida Chamber Foundation’s Six Pillars for Securing Florida’s Future as the organizing framework.”"
Visit Natural North Florida
(The Original Florida Tourism Task Force)

In many rural communities, tourism is often the primary source of economic development activity. Visit Natural North Florida (The Original Florida Tourism Task Force) marketed the 14-county Natural North Florida region by promoting the development of nature-based, culture-based and heritage-based tourism.

Visit Natural North Florida is comprised of representatives from each of the participating counties, appointed by their respective board of county commissioners, to support and direct the regional tourism development effort. Since 1993, the Council has provided staffing services to the Task Force. The Council continued to provide staff services to the Task Force in maintaining the VisitNaturalNorthFlorida.com website, coordinating consumer travel show participation, creating proactive publicity campaigns and producing collateral materials to meet the goals of the regional marketing plan.

Visit Natural North Florida participated in both domestic and international consumer travel shows. Members actively engaged and provided collateral marketing material to thousands of show attendees.

Each county in the Natural North Florida region received exposure on the Visit Natural North Florida tourism website, www.VisitNaturalNorthFlorida.com. Potential visitors could find events and festivals, attractions, accommodations and trails. In addition, each member county received exposure in digital as well as print media advertising campaigns. These advertisements were viewed by millions of potential visitors.

“The Council provided staff services to The Original Florida Tourism Task Force to promote the region for nature-based, culture-based and heritage-based tourism.”

Visit Natural North Florida members received scholarships to attend the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College. Attendees were taught marketing techniques in all facets of the tourism industry and learned about the latest trends in tourism promotion.

Visit Natural North Florida maintained several different forms of print media, including fold-out map brochures that are distributed at the VISIT FLORIDA Welcome Centers, statewide at American Automobile Association offices and at hundreds of private business locations along major highways in Florida and I-75 in Georgia.

Council officials received, on behalf of the Council, an Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for the Experience North Florida By Bike Project. Left to right, Lorene Thomas, Chair of the Council, Scott Koons, Executive Director of the Council, Lynne Keller Forbes, President of the National Association of Development Organizations and Louie Davis, Vice-Chair of the Council.

The Original Florida Tourism Task Force promoted the Natural North Florida region for nature-based, culture-based and heritage-based tourism activities such as freshwater canoeing opportunities.
During 2017, the Council continued to offer technical assistance to local governments which did not have available staff or expertise for these activities ranging from community planning to community development.

**Community Planning**

In response to the requirements of Florida community planning legislation, the Council continued to place an emphasis on community planning assistance to local governments. The Council continued to assist counties and cities throughout the north central Florida region in complying with the requirements of the Community Planning Act.

"The Council assisted counties and cities throughout the region in complying with the requirements of the Community Planning Act."

The Act requires counties and cities to prepare, adopt, update and implement a comprehensive plan to guide future growth and development in their communities. The comprehensive plan must address future land use, transportation, housing, public facilities, including potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm water drainage, conservation of natural resources, recreation and open space, intergovernmental coordination, public school facilities and capital improvements. In addition, the comprehensive plan may include optional elements such as economic development and public buildings and facilities.

The comprehensive plan must be implemented through the adoption of land development regulations governing the subdivision of land, use of land, protection of potable water well fields, regulation of areas subject to flooding, protection of environmentally sensitive lands, signage, public facility concurrency and onsite traffic flow and parking. The Act also requires local governments to evaluate their comprehensive plan every seven years to determine whether it complies with all statutory and administrative rule requirements. Such evaluations may result in recommended amendments to the comprehensive plan.

The Council provided ongoing community planning assistance to local governments to assist with interpretations of comprehensive plans and land development regulations, preparation of comprehensive plan and land development regulation amendments, codification of comprehensive plans and land development regulations, and concurrency assessments of plats and site and development plans.

In particular, the Council assisted six counties and 14 municipalities process 130 development-related applications. This assistance included the review and adoption of 50 comprehensive plan map and text amendments. The Council also assisted these local governments with 61 land development regulation map and text amendments, 13 land development regulation special exceptions and conditional use permits, four variances, one site and development plan and one subdivision plat.

The Council assisted one county and two municipalities prepare evaluations of their local government comprehensive plans pursuant to the Community Planning Act. These evaluations examined the success of the plans and included recommendations for amendments to update the comprehensive plans.

The Council also assisted counties and municipalities in preparing concurrency assessments to evaluate the impacts of development on the level of service for roads, water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, storm water drainage and recreation facilities.

The Council provided assistance to the City of Starke and other local governments throughout the north central Florida region with comprehensive planning and land development regulation.
Community Development

Since 1976, the Council has assisted local governments in the north central Florida region with filing applications and administrating projects under the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The Program is a federal program, which is part of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and is administered by the State of Florida. Eligible small cities and rural counties apply to the State for funding through a competitive process.

The purpose of the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program is to help reduce and reverse community decline and restore community vitality. This is done by addressing housing stock, improving infrastructure and assisting private businesses with infrastructure needs so they can increase employment opportunities.

Though the program ultimately benefits local governments by providing grants to meet community development needs, the beneficiaries of this program are primarily residents whose incomes are within the low- to moderate-income range for their community. The Program has several categories which assist local governments with improving infrastructure in neighborhoods and downtowns, renovating housing, and creating jobs for low- to moderate-income residents.

The categories are Housing, Neighborhood Revitalization, Commercial Revitalization and Economic Development. Housing is a direct benefit program, in which funds are used to rehabilitate or replace homes of low- to moderate-income families. This activity helps the individual family, but also helps the community by improving the local housing stock. Neighborhood Revitalization is both a direct benefit program and community-wide benefit program, in which funds are used to rehabilitate or provide new infrastructure to primarily low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, such as paving streets, replacing or providing new potable water lines or sanitary sewer lines and providing connections to the lines.

Commercial Revitalization is also both a direct benefit program and a community-wide benefit program, in which funds are used to improve the public right-of-way through improving sidewalks and lighting as well as building facades of downtown areas or other commercial revitalization areas. This activity makes areas more attractive and safer, thereby making it more likely that private businesses will locate in the revitalized areas and hire local residents. Economic Development funds are used to provide necessary infrastructure for a private business to locate or remain open. Private businesses that directly benefit from economic development funds agree that a majority of new employees hired will be low- to moderate-income residents.

Council staff continued to provide administrative assistance for a project in the Town of Mayo.

Community Development Block Grant funds were used by the Town of Mayo to rehabilitate or replace low- to moderate-income owner-occupied dwelling units.

“The Council assisted counties and cities identify community development needs, prepare grant applications and administer projects.”

Community Development Block Grant funds were used by the Town of Mayo to rehabilitate or replace low- to moderate-income owner-occupied dwelling units.

Improvements such as renovated kitchen plumbing and new kitchen appliances to meet code requirements were made to low- to moderate-income owner-occupied dwelling units using Community Development Block Grant funds in the Town of Mayo.
During 2017, the Council continued to provide staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area to assist in developing transportation plans and programs. In addition, the Council, serving as the designated official planning agency, continued to provide staff services to transportation disadvantaged local coordinating boards in counties throughout the north central Florida region.

“The Council provided staff services to the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area to assist in developing transportation plans and programs.”

**Metropolitan Transportation Planning**

Through an interlocal agreement entered into by the Florida Department of Transportation, Alachua County and the City of Gainesville, the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area was formed in 1979 to conduct continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning activities in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. This planning program is required in order for the area to receive federal and state funds for transportation projects.

**Long-Range Transportation Plan**

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area administratively modified its adopted multimodal Year 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan to advance preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition phases of the Southwest 62nd Boulevard Connector Project. Several other projects in the Long-Range Transportation Plan were at various stages of development. These projects included:

- State Infrastructure Bank loan-funded Archer Braid Trail extension;
- State Road 24 (Archer Road) Four-Lane Project, Development and Environment Study from the City of Bronson to SW 75th Street (Tower Road);
- State Roads 26/26A at State Road 121 (SW 34th Street) Safety Project Study; and
- State Road 121 (NW 34th Street) Left Turn Lanes project from NW 16th Avenue to U.S. 441.

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects**

State Infrastructure Bank loan funding for the Archer Braid Trail extension provided for construction of the last segment of the trail. Once constructed, a cyclist will be able to ride from the City of Archer to the City of Hawthorne on off-road bicycle/pedestrian facilities. Other projects within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area included:

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area addressed bicycle and pedestrian safety by planning and programming projects in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.
Transportation

- Federal Transportation Alternatives Program-funded Northwest 19th Lane Bike/Pedestrian Facility Project;
- State Safe Routes to School-funded NE 18th Avenue (Metcalf Elementary School) Sidewalk Project; and
- State Shared-Use Network Trail-funded State Road 24 (Archer Road) SW 75th Street (Tower Road) Bicycle/Pedestrian Project.

Transportation Disadvantaged

The Transportation Disadvantaged Program provided state funds for transportation services for low-income individuals, elderly individuals, persons with disabilities and children-at-risk. Transportation disadvantaged services continued to be provided to older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with low-income transportation services to employment, health care, education and other life sustaining activities. Community transportation coordinators provided over 239,000 trips in the north central Florida region. Approximately 50 percent of these trips were for medical purposes.

Community transportation coordinators in the north central Florida region coordinated the provision of public transportation services for persons who were unable to transport themselves because of age, disability or income status.

Mobility Enhancement Projects

For the second consecutive year, the Florida Legislature authorized non-recurring funds to be competitively awarded by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged through the Mobility Enhancement Grant Program. The following community transportation coordinators in the north central Florida region were awarded funding through this grant program for the transportation disadvantaged.

- Alachua County - MV Transportation, Inc. received funding to provide monthly reduced fare bus passes to clients residing at GRACE Marketplace homeless shelter. This project provided approximately 250 reduced fare bus passes each month.
- Bradford County - Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. received funding to provide on-demand same day transportation services to designated stops in the City of Starke and surrounding area for medical, pharmaceutical and grocery shopping purposes.
- Columbia County - Suwannee Valley Transit Authority received funding to provide on-demand same day transportation service to designated stops within the City of Lake City for medical, pharmaceutical and grocery shopping purposes.
- Dixie/Gilchrist Counties - Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. received funding to provide on-demand same day transportation service to a designated stop within the City of Chiefland for pharmaceutical and grocery shopping purposes.
During 2017, in addition to the planning and other technical studies prepared under contract with local governments throughout the north central Florida region, the Council prepared or maintained the following materials.

“The Council prepared planning and technical studies concerning regional, public safety and regulatory compliance, economic development, transportation, and general program activities.”

**Regional**

- Strategic Regional Policy Plan
- Reports on local comprehensive plan amendments and other Council review items

**Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance**

- Local Emergency Planning Committee Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan Update
- Hazards Analysis Updates for Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison and Taylor Counties
- Hazardous Waste Management Summary Reports for Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee and Union Counties

**Economic Development**


**Transportation**

- Fiscal Years 2018-2022 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program
- Fiscal Years 2019-2023 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area List of Priority Projects
- Annual Multimodal Level of Service Report for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area
- Annual Regional Transit System Ridership Report for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area
- Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans

**General**

- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Annual Report
- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Overall Program Design
- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Regional Directory

The Council also maintained and updated the following maps and information resources.

- Existing and Future Land Use Maps
- Zoning Maps
- Census Information
In 2018, the Council will continue existing programs and initiate new regional, public safety and regulatory compliance, economic development, local government assistance and transportation projects and activities, as follows.

Regional

The Council will review federal grant and loan applications for consistency with area-wide and local plans.

Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance

Emergency Management

The Council will assist with a tabletop or full-scale exercise to be conducted in the north central Florida region and assist other regional planning councils with exercises as requested. The Council will schedule and teach classes on improving emergency preparedness.

Hazardous Materials

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will continue to promote increasing public safety from chemical releases through planning, training, reviewing, exercising, offering How-to-Comply assistance and educating the public. Hazards analyses will be updated for facilities that handle extremely hazardous substances. The Regional Emergency Response Plan will be updated. The Council will continue to provide staff support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Hazardous Waste

The Council will continue to provide compliance assistance to facilities that generate hazardous waste while inspecting small quantity generators. The Council will notify businesses when hazardous waste collection events and compliance assistance workshops are scheduled.

Economic Development

The Council will continue to provide assistance to local governments and economic development organizations in securing grant funds to accommodate industrial and business growth. Council staff will also prepare economic impact analyses identifying the multiplier effect on employment, income and ad valorem revenue of economic development projects.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

The Council will assess progress toward implementing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Visit Natural North Florida (The Original Florida Tourism Task Force)

The Council will continue to provide staff services to Visit Natural North Florida (The Original Florida Tourism Task Force) with the implementation of its tourism marketing plan.

Local Government Assistance

Community Planning Planning

The Council will continue assisting counties and cities in complying with the Community Planning Act requirements.

Community Development

Community Development Block Grant applications will be prepared for local governments. Other community development assistance, including administrative services, will be provided as requested.

Transportation

Transportation Improvement Program

Working in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation, Council staff will assist the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area with updating the five-year funding program of transportation projects for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Level of Service

Council staff will update level of service information concerning the amount of traffic congestion on arterial and collector roads in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Transit Ridership

Council staff will update level of transit ridership on the Regional Transit System in the Gainesville Metropolitan Area.

Transportation Disadvantaged

Council staff will prepare and update transportation disadvantaged service plans and continue coordinating transportation services to disadvantaged individuals in conjunction with transportation disadvantaged local coordinating boards.
Financial Report

2016-17 Revenues $1,961,776

- Council Member Contributions ($0.30 per capita) $158,253 / 8%
- Other Contracts $88,284 / 5%
- Federal $107,802 / 5%
- Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area $668,265 / 34%
- Local Government Contracts $360,394 / 18%
- The Original Florida Tourism Task Force $284,937 / 15%
- Other Revenues $13,398 / 1%

2016-17 Expenditures $1,951,927

- Transportation $865,421 / 44%
- Economic Development $441,047 / 22%
- Local Government Assistance $293,756 / 15%
- Program Development $53,691 / 3%
- Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance $207,245 / 11%
- Regional $90,767 / 5%
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
352.955.2200; Fax 352.955.2209
www.ncfrpc.org

Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Responsibilities</th>
<th>Telephone Extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott R. Koons</td>
<td>AICP, Executive Director</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre M. Davis</td>
<td>Finance Director</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dwayne L. Mundy</td>
<td>Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director</td>
<td>108</td>
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<td>Kevin D. Parrish</td>
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<td>Executive Assistant to the Executive Director</td>
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<td>Tara Tucker</td>
<td>Secretary II</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Yeatter</td>
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<td>113</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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