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Regional  
Planning  
Council**

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

## **MEETING NOTICE**

### **NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

There will be a meeting of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council on April 26, 2012. The meeting will be held at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard, Lake City, Florida. Dinner will start at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

*Please call the Council at (352) 955-2200, or (800) 226-0690, or email [laine@ncfrpc.org](mailto:laine@ncfrpc.org) by April 23rd to let us know if you will be attending the meeting. (You can call after hours and leave a message on voice mail too.) **THANK YOU.***

(Location Map on Back)

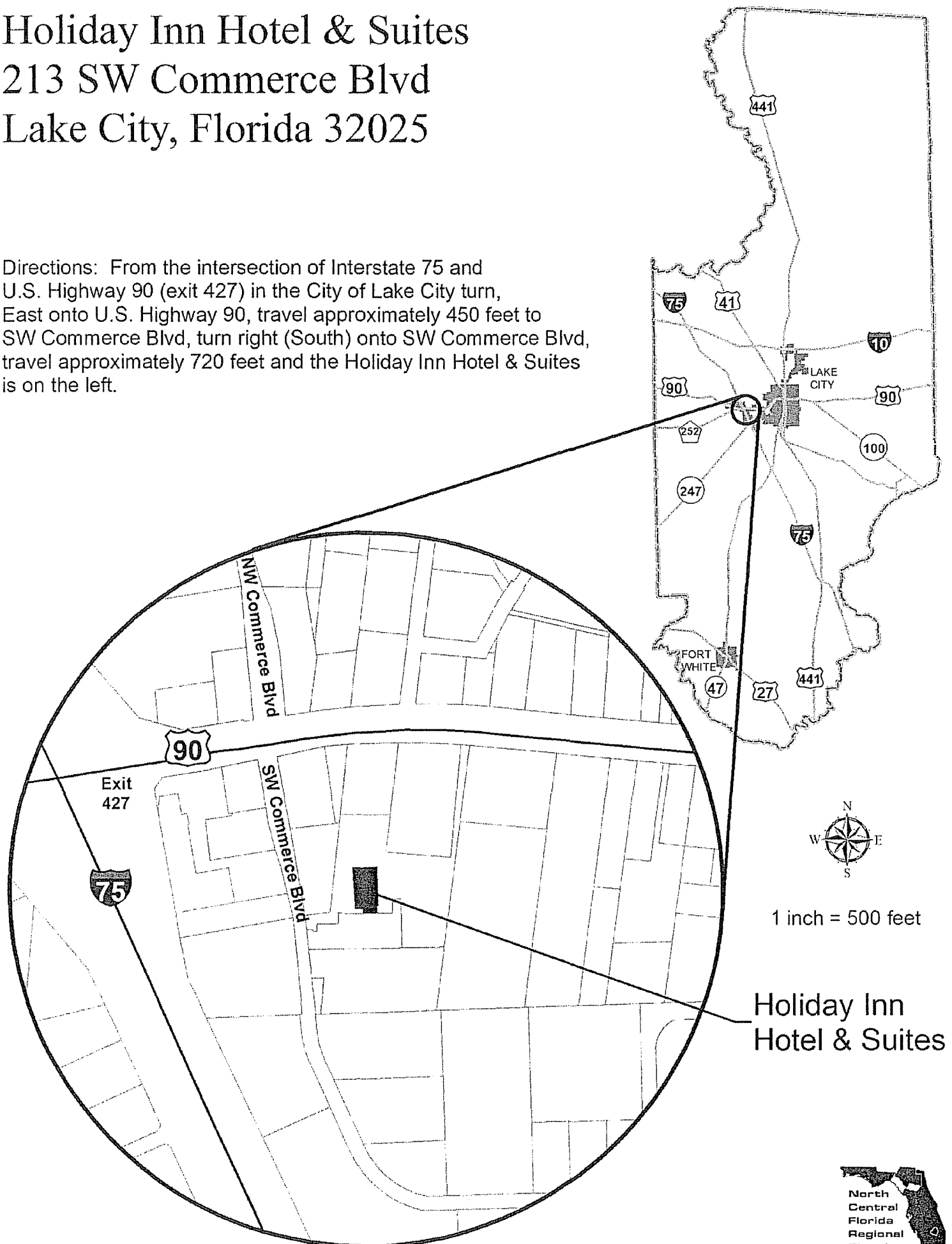
*Please be advised that the Council meeting packet is posted on the Council website at <http://ncfrpc.org> (click on Upcoming Meetings and Meeting Packets, then click on North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Full Packet.)*

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

# 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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Suwannee • Taylor • Union Counties

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## AGENDA

### NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
213 Southwest Commerce Boulevard  
Lake City, Florida

April 26, 2012  
7:30 p.m.

Page

- I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS
- \* II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 22, 2012 5
- III. GUEST SPEAKER - Greg Evans, District 2 Secretary,  
Florida Department of Transportation
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA
  - \* A. Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with  
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council  
Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. 19
  - \* B. Amendment to Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation  
Administrative Services Agreement, Fiscal Year 2011 - City of Madison 21
  - \* C. Enhanced Biennial Administrative Rule Review and  
Economic Impact Administrative Rule Review 23
  - \* D. Banking Services Proposals 35
- \* V. CHAIR'S REPORT - Transportation Disadvantaged Program  
Resolution of Appreciation - Jeannie Carr 37
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - \* A. Executive Committee - Proclamation Declaring May 5-13, 2012 as  
Travel and Tourism Week 41

**Page**

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

- \* B. Clearinghouse Committee 45

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendment

1. #62 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- \* A. Legislative Report 47
- \* B. Florida's Future Corridors Initiative 49
- \* C. Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars Caucus 53
- \* D. Florida Leaders Organized for Water 55
- \* E. Original Florida Tourism Task Force Press Familiarization Tour 57
- \* F. North Central Florida Rural Planning Network Meeting 59

\* See Attachments

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Lake City, Florida

March 22, 2012  
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**Stephen Bailey, Columbia County**  
**LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper**  
**Jim Catron, City of Madison**  
**Rusty DePratter, Columbia County**  
**Alphonso Dowdell, City of Perry**  
**Roy Ellis, Madison County**  
**Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County**  
**Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville**  
*Charles Maulsby, Taylor County*  
**Ronny Morgan, Hamilton County**  
**Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak**  
**Frank Ogborn, City of Archer**  
**Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne**  
**Daniel Riddick, Bradford County**  
**Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke**  
**Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County**  
*Lorene Thomas, Dixie County*  
**Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County**  
**Randy Wells, City of Gainesville**  
*Charles Williams, Hamilton County*  
*Mike Williams, Madison County*

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp  
Scott Koons  
Carol Laine  
Jean Strong

**Board Members names are bolded**  
*Gubernatorial Members names are italicized*

MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Baird, Alachua County  
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs  
Susan Bottcher, City of Gainesville  
Ben Boukari, Jr., City of Alachua  
Mike Byerly, Alachua County  
Todd Chase, City of Gainesville  
*Thomas Collett, Alachua County*  
**Louie Davis, City of Waldo**  
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County  
*Sandra Haas, Suwannee County*  
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville  
Jason Holifield, Dixie County  
Jordan Marlowe, City of Newberry  
*James Montgomery, Columbia County*  
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County  
James Tallman, Union County  
Mark Wiggins, Taylor County  
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Leonard Bembry, Florida House of  
Representatives  
Tim Bennett, City of Madison  
Allen Cherry, Madison County Dev. Council  
David Cobb, Florida Power & Light  
Chris Doolin, Florida Small County Coalition  
Jody DuPree, Columbia County Commission  
Greg Evans, Florida Dept. of Transportation  
Scarlet Frisina, Columbia County Commission  
Jordan Green, representing Florida Dept. of  
Transportation  
David Kraus, Columbia County  
Joseph Riddick  
Charles Van Zant, Florida House of  
Representatives

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Morgan and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Ellis stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

Chair Ellis introduced and welcomed Tim Bennett, City Manager for the City of Madison, Allen Cherry, Director of the Madison County Development Council, former Council member Joseph Riddick, who served as Chair of the Council during 1995-96 and David Cobb, Florida Power and Light, Lake City.

Chair Ellis asked Commissioner Bailey to introduce Columbia County Commissioners Scarlet Frisina and Jody DuPree and Columbia County Senior Staff Assistant David Kraus.

Chair Ellis asked that Items VI.B.6. #57 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based Draft Amendments, VI.B.7, #58 - City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments and VI.B.8 #59 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments, which were received by staff after the meeting packets were mailed, be added to the agenda.

**ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ogborn to add Items VI.B.6. #57 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based Draft Amendments, VI.B.7 #58 - City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments and VI.B.8 #59 -City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 23, 2012

Chair Ellis asked that the minutes of the February 23, 2012 meeting be approved as written.

**ACTION: Mr. Maultsby made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Bryant, to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2012 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chair Ellis, introduced and welcomed Representative Leonard Bembry from the Florida House of Representatives. Representative Bembry represents House District 10, which includes Dixie, Hamilton, Madison and Taylor Counties and a portion of Alachua and Columbia Counties. Representative Bembry shared his thoughts concerning the issues facing state and local governments. He also reviewed the past legislative session and discussed the challenges for the upcoming year.

Chair Ellis then introduced and welcomed Representative Charles Van Zant, also from the Florida House of Representatives. Representative Van Zant represents District 21, which includes a portion of Bradford County. Representative Van Zant stated that with State House of Representatives reapportionment, the district he currently represents will include all of Bradford and Union Counties. Representative Van Zant shared his thoughts concerning the closure of state prisons and the corresponding loss of employment and privatization of prisons. He thanked the Council for giving him the opportunity address issues concerning the north central Florida region.

Chair Ellis also introduced and welcomed Greg Evans, who was recently appointed District 2 Secretary for the Florida Department of Transportation. Mr. Evans stated that he looked forward to working with the members of the Council to ensure that the transportation needs of the region are met. He also stated that he looked forward to speaking at the April 26, 2012 Council meeting. Chair Ellis thanked Mr. Evans for his comments.

### III. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin, Florida Small County Coalition

Chair Ellis introduced and welcomed Chris Doolin, the primary legislative affairs consultant to the Florida Small County Coalition and also the Small School District Council Consortium. Mr. Doolin stated that the Coalition's agenda was to give small counties a collective voice when dealing with the Legislature. He then spoke about the past legislative session and the continuing budget reductions that will impact local governments in the north central Florida region. He also spoke about water transfer issues in rural counties, prison closures, schools and Medicaid. Chair Ellis thanked Mr. Doolin for his comments.

### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Purchase Order with Apalachee Regional Planning Council to Assist with a Mass Evacuation Exercise at the State Emergency Operations Center
- B. Purchase Order with Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with Tactical Interoperable Communications Exercise Support in Camp Blanding
- C. Purchase Order with Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with Emergency Preparedness Exercise Support in Putnam County
- D. Purchase Order with Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with Site Visits to Hazardous Materials Sites
- E. Selection of Madison County Community Transportation Coordinator

Chair Ellis asked if there were any questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

**ACTION: Commissioner Spooner made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ogborn, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

### IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Ellis introduced and welcomed new Council member Commissioner Jim Catron, representing the City of Madison.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Resolution of Appreciation - Lynn Hodges

Chair Ellis asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services be approved for Lynn Hodges, who served as the Community Action Representative on the Columbia County Transportation Disadvantaged Board since October 9, 1995.

**ACTION: Commissioner Wells made the motion, with a second by Mayor Ogborn, to approve a Resolution of Appreciation for Lynn Hodges. The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas, Vice-Chair Thomas Hawkins gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum present and reviewed five local government comprehensive plan amendments.

Commissioner Hawkins further stated that subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packets, Council staff received three late-arriving local government comprehensive plan amendments which required action prior to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting. He stated that these three items were added to the Council meeting agenda earlier tonight and copies of the staff reports were handed out prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the following items would be grouped for purposes of presentation.

- #52 - City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #53 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments
- #56 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #59 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (added to agenda)

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the comprehensive plans, as amended, do not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Mr. Maultsby, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #52, City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #53, Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments, Item #56, City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item #59, City of Gainesville**



**Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #54 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments**

Commissioner Hawkins stated that, with regard to Item #54, Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, the Clearinghouse Committee found that Columbia County Item CPA 11-03 does not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments. He stated that with regard to CPA 0205, the Committee found that the item does not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. However, he stated that the Committee found that adverse impacts may occur to a segment of the Regional Road Network. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the County and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #54, Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #55 - City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments**

Commissioner Hawkins stated that, with regard to Item #55, City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, the Clearinghouse Committee found that City of Live Oak Item CPA 11-1 does not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. He also stated that with regard to City Item CPA 11-2, the Committee found that the item does not create significant adverse impact to Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. However, he stated that impacts to the Regional Road Network could not be determined. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the City and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #55, City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Item #57 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda)**

Commissioner Hawkins stated that, with regard to Item #57, Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda), the Clearinghouse Committee found that the text portion of the amendment does not result in significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities, or adjacent local governments.

He further reported that with regards to the map portion of the amendment, the Committee found that the map amendment does not result in significant adverse impact to Natural Resources of Regional Significance. However, impacts to the Regional Road Network and adjacent local governments could not be determined. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the Town and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #57, Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.**

Item #58 - City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda)

Commissioner Hawkins reported that with regard to Item #58, City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda), the Clearinghouse Committee found that the amendment does not create significant adverse impact to Natural Resources of Regional Significance. However, he stated that impacts to the Regional Road Network as well as impacts to adjacent local governments could not be determined. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the City and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #58, City of Live Oak Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Program Committee - 2012-13 Overall Program Design

Chair Ellis introduced Ms. Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair and Chair of the Program Committee. She reported that the Program Committee met earlier in the evening to review a draft of the Overall Program Design for coming year. This document is to be used as the basis for the development of a budget and is also to provide give instruction to staff as to the work which is to be done during the next year. She stated that there are no changes in the Overall Program Design which include new programs not previously discussed and /or approved by the Council and except for editorial changes, the document is essentially the same as the current year edition. Ms. Thomas stated that the Program Committee anticipated recommending the Overall Program Design to the Council for adoption at the May 24, 2012 Council meeting.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Scott Koons, Executive Director, reported that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity budget request for Fiscal Year 2012-13 submitted to Governor Scott did not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. In addition, the budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13 submitted by the Governor to the Legislature did not

include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. He further reported that the House had adopted a \$69.2 billion Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget that includes a \$2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils and the Senate had adopted a \$70.7 billion Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget that also includes a \$2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils. He also reported that the final \$70.0 billion Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget adopted by the Legislature includes a \$2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils. He noted that the Council's share of this appropriation would be approximately \$179,000.

#### Growth Management

##### House Bill 7081

Mr. Koons reported that House Bill 7081, formerly PCB CMAS 12-02, by the House Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee is a growth management glitch bill (companion to Senate Bill 842 by Senator Bennett) was passed by the Legislature. The bill makes minor technical changes to the provisions of law affected by the Community Planning Act, which the Legislature passed during 2011. He stated that the bill is a glitch bill, with no substantive policy changes included. However, he noted the bill also includes several clarifications and exceptions. In particular, the bill provides for grandfathering of local government charter provisions in effect on June 1, 2011, relating to a local initiative or referendum process for the approval of development orders and comprehensive plan or map amendments.

Mr. Koons stated that the bill was amended to include language that affects regional planning councils as it provides that regional planning councils may provide consulting services to a private developer or landowner for a project, if not serving in a review capacity in the future, except that statutorily mandated services may be provided by the regional planning council regardless of its review role.

##### House Bill 979

Mr. Koons stated that House Bill 979 by Representative Diaz (companion to Senate Bill 1180 by Senator Bennett) concerning developments of regional impact was passed by the Legislature. He reported that it requires that comprehensive plan amendments proposing certain developments follow state coordinated review process; limits scope of certain recommendations and comments by reviewing agencies regarding proposed developments; revises review criteria for regional planning agency reports; provides that specified changes to development orders are not substantial deviations; provides exemption from development of regional impact review for certain proposed developments; revises conditions under which local governments are required to rescind development of regional impact development orders; provides presumption that certain agricultural enclaves do not constitute urban sprawl; establishes qualifications for designation as agricultural enclave for such purpose and establishes exceptions from definition for designated protected areas.

Senate Bill 912/House Bill 603

Mr. Koons stated that Senate Bill 912 by Senator Bennett and House Bill 603 by Representative Weinstein that would have prohibited a local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate share contribution or construction for new development for a specified period were not passed by the Legislature.

House Bill 4003

Mr. Koons stated that House Bill 4003 by Representative Diaz (companion to Senate Bill 188 by Senator Flores) was passed by the Legislature. He stated that the bill repeals provisions relating to the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program, by terminating the program. The Legislature has not appropriated any funds for this grant program since 2000/2001.

Water Management Districts

Senate Bill 560/House Bill 157

Mr. Koons stated that Senate Bill 560 filed by Senator Dean and House Bill 157 filed by Representative Porter would have authorized water management districts to enter into interagency agreements for resource management activities under specified conditions; provides applicability; requires districts to apply specified reservations, minimum flows and levels, and recovery and prevention strategies in determining certain effects of proposed consumptive uses of water; prohibits districts from authorizing certain consumptive uses of water; provides an exception; provides requirements for the challenge of specified rules. He reported that House Bill 157 unanimously passed the House, but Senate Bill 560 died in the Budget Committee.

B. Foley Master Development of Regional Impact Status Report

Mr. Koons stated that on November 5 and November 12, 2009, a pre-application conference was held with the applicant and review agencies for the master development of regional impact to begin the review process. The Foley Timber and Land Company intend to submit an application for Master Development Approval for the Foley Master Development of Regional Impact. The project is located in Taylor County and is designed to implement the Taylor County Vision 2060.

Mr. Koons reported the revised development is anticipated to consist of 32,710 residential dwelling units, 2,686,400 square feet of retail commercial, 1,318,900 square feet of office, 650,000 square feet of industrial/warehousing, 1,250 hotel rooms, a 600-bed hospital and educational/institutional uses.

Mr. Koons stated transportation methodology meetings were held with the applicant and review agencies on December 1, 2009 and December 17, 2009. Following the December 17, 2009 transportation methodology meeting, the County had received from the Florida Department of Community Affairs the Objections, Recommendations and Comment

Report concerning the County Evaluation and Appraisal Report amendments which include portions of the Taylor County Vision 2060. The final transportation methodology meeting was held on September 8, 2010. The Master Development Agreement among the applicant, County and Council concerning the review process was approved by the Council on October 28, 2010.

Mr. Koons further reported on December 8, 2010, in accordance with the transportation methodology, a meeting attended by the applicant, County representatives, state agencies and Council staff was held to review pass-by trips, background traffic and modeling for trip distribution and assignment of project trips.

Mr. Koons stated that on June 14, 2011, a meeting was held between the applicant and Council staff to discuss a proposed development of regional impact related Comprehensive Plan amendment for the project. He stated that both the development of regional impact Comprehensive Plan amendment and the Application for Master Development Approval were submitted to the Council by the applicant for sufficiency review on July 25, 2011.

Mr. Koons stated that Council staff, along with other state and regional review agencies, reviewed the Application for Master Development Approval for sufficiency to determine whether adequate information had been submitted by the applicant to determine the impacts on regional resources and facilities. On August 22, 2011 Council staff requested additional information from the applicant and on October 25, 2011, the applicant responded to the first sufficiency request.

Mr. Koons stated that on November 17, 2011, based upon the applicant's response to the first sufficiency request, Council staff issued a second request for additional information from the applicant. On November 23, 2011, the applicant responded to the second sufficiency request. He stated that Council staff, along with other state and regional review agencies had 30 days to review the Application for Master Development Approval for sufficiency to determine whether adequate information has been submitted by the applicant in response to the second sufficiency request to determine the impacts on regional resources and facilities.

Mr. Koons reported that on January 5, 2012, the Clearinghouse Committee met in Perry, Florida to review the Application for Master Development Approval and make a recommendation to the Council. On January 26, 2012, the Council reviewed the Application for Master Development Approval and recommended to the Board of County Commissioners of Taylor County, Florida approval of the Application for Master Development Approval, subject to 14 Council Conditions and 64 applicant commitments. He further reported that on February 21, 2012, the Board of County Commissioners of Taylor County, Florida held a public hearing concerning the Application for Master Development Approval and adopted a development order approving the Application for Master Development Approval consistent with the 14 Council Conditions and 64 applicant commitments. He also reported that on March 21, 2012, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity issued a letter stating that it will not appeal the development order issued by the Board of County Commissioners of Taylor County, Florida for the Application for Master Development Approval.

C. Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Regional Forum

Mr. Koons stated that, as previously reported, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Strategic Business Development, in partnership with the 11 regional planning councils, has been conducting regional forums to gather insights related to the creation of Florida's 2012-2017 Economic Development Plan. The objectives of these forums are to:

- Obtain insights from each region to determine what actions or direction the state should consider adopting to assist with economic growth; and
- Identify the most important strategies to support the promotion of regional business formation, expansion, recruitment and retention.

He stated that Section 20.60, Florida Statutes, requires the Department to develop a five-year strategic plan, Florida's 2012-2017 Economic Development Plan. He further stated that the Plan will provide the foundation for the second level of effort that will create a long-range state-wide vision and plan for Florida's future. The regional forums provided invited stakeholders an opportunity to assist the Department with the development of the Plan.

Mr. Koons stated that on March 2, 2012, the Council and the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council co-hosted, along with the Department, a regional forum on economic development at the Santa Fe College Kirkpatrick Criminal Justice Training Center, Institute of Public Safety, located at 3737 Northeast 39th Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. There were 78 stakeholders in attendance at the Forum.

D. Florida Leaders Organized for Water

Mr. Koons stated that, as previously reported, the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners hosted a tri-county public meeting and forum in Lake City with the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners and the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners to discuss north Florida water issues on November 29, 2011. He stated that the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners took action to establish a multi-county work group to engage a hydrologist and discuss what steps need to be taken and what studies need to be conducted to potentially challenge the consumptive water use permit issued to Jacksonville Electric Authority by St. Johns River Water Management District in May 2011. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also took action to appropriate \$250,000 to fund the work group and pay for environmental monitoring services and other needed services. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also asked other counties and local governments in the region to join in the effort.

Mr. Koons reported that on January 23, 2012, the North Florida Water Supply Group held its first meeting in Lake City. The meeting focused on organizational matters. It was agreed to have the Columbia County Attorney draft an interlocal agreement to form a Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, interlocal agreement agency to address north Florida water issues.

Mr. Koons further reported that on February 13, 2012, the second meeting of the North Florida Water Supply Group was held in Lake City. The group established the name of the organization as Florida Leaders Organized for Water. They adopted a mission statement, adopted a resolution urging the Legislature to fund an unbiased, scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer due to its critical implications on statewide water supply; to redesign of the decision-making process used to issue consumptive water use permits for withdrawals from the Floridan Aquifer that includes all stakeholders affected by proposed withdrawals; and to modify the excessive water management district permits granted in 2011 from "approved" to "probationary" status until an unbiased scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer has been completed. Columbia County Commissioner Ronald Williams was elected Chair and White Springs Mayor Helen Miller was elected Vice-Chair of the organization.

Mr. Koons stated that on March 12, 2012, the third meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The group heard presentations from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District and Suwannee River Water Management District concerning the foundation of a joint stakeholder group between the two water management districts called the North Central Florida Water Supply Partnership. He added that the group also heard presentations from the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute, Lake Area Water Alliance, Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District, Santa Fe Lake Dwellers, Save Our Suwannee, Inc., Santa Fe River Spring Basin Working Group, Our Santa Fe River, Inc., North Central Florida Tea Party and Audubon Florida. Mr. Koons added that he made a presentation to the group concerning the Council and the water resource policies of the recently updated North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Mr. Koons stated that the current local government members of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water are: Alachua County, Bradford County, Clay County, Columbia County, Dixie County, Gilchrist County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Suwannee County, Taylor County, Town of Branford, City of Keystone Heights, City of MacClenny and City of White Springs. Council members Commissioner Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County and Commissioner Wesley Wainwright from Suwannee County are serving as representatives for their respective counties to the organization.

E. Florida Rural Economic Development and Tourism Summit

Mr. Koons stated that the 2012 Florida Rural Economic Development and Tourism Summit was held March 14-16, 2012 in Havana, Florida. The Summit was hosted by Opportunity Florida, Inc., the administrator for one of the three designated rural areas of critical economic concern. The theme of the Summit this year was "Rethink Rural." Mr. Koons reported that Bryan Thomas, Economic Development Program Director for the Council, Patricia Steed, Executive Director of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Patrick O'Neil, Senior Economic Development Planner, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and he made presentations at the Rural Economic Development and Tourism Summit on a panel concerning regional planning councils serving as economic development districts. He added that the session focused on regional economic development activities, including the statewide coordinated update of comprehensive

economic development strategies based upon the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars framework, as well as economic analyses on policy and investment decisions that support local economic development efforts.

F. Keep It Local Florida

Mr. Koons reported that *Keep It Local Florida* is a cooperative program among the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities and Florida School Boards Association. He stated that the program is committed to preserving local control - the idea that a one-size-fits-all approach to government does not work. The Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities and Florida School Boards Association believe that Tallahassee should not be dictating how local communities operate because what works for Pensacola may not work for Palm Beach.

Mr. Koons stated that according to the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities and Florida School Boards Association, an amendment placed on the 2012 Ballot by the Legislature imposes a new non-homesteaded property tax cap, effectively putting every city and county in the same one-size-fits-all box while providing tax breaks to out-of-state residents at the expense of year-round Florida homeowners. *Keep It Local Florida* recently commissioned a scientific survey and found that passage of the Legislature's Non-Homesteaded Property Tax Cap is uncertain. He stated that the measure, slated to appear on the General Election ballot in 2012, gained just enough support to achieve the 60 percent threshold required for the passage of constitutional amendments. Nearly 40 percent of Florida voters are already opposed to the amendment, and the poll indicates that support for the measure could drop below the 60 percent threshold by Election Day. He added that for more information about the latest "home rule" news and updates or to learn more about *Keep It Local Florida*, visit [www.keepitlocalflorida.org](http://www.keepitlocalflorida.org).

Chair Ellis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on April 26, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Roy Ellis, Chair

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4/26/12  
Date



RESOLUTION NO. 2012-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL  
PLANNING COUNCIL RECOMMENDING BIG BEND TRANSIT, INC. AS  
THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR FOR MADISON  
COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to recommend the Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County, Florida;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council issued a request for proposals for Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County, Florida on January 6, 2012;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council received one proposal from Big Bend Transit, Inc. in response to the request for proposals;

WHEREAS, Big Bend Transit, Inc. is willing to provide the services necessary to serve the transportation disadvantaged population in Madison County, Florida;

WHEREAS, Big Bend Transit, Inc. has the appropriate personnel, financial capacity, vehicle and equipment resources, experience and qualifications to serve the transportation disadvantaged population; and

WHEREAS, Big Bend Transit, Inc. has demonstrated plans to coordinate transportation services to maximize the effectiveness of the coordinated transportation system.

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

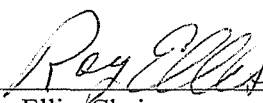
In accordance with Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recommends to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged that Big Bend Transit, Inc. be designated the Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County, Florida for a five-year period effective July 1, 2012.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 22nd day of March 2012.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Ellis, Chair

(SEAL REQUIRED)





## IV.A.

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement  
with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council  
Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Executive Director to sign an amendment to the memorandum of agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council for an additional year as a user of the Regional Economic Modeling, Inc., for a fixed fee amount of \$6,285.50.**

### BACKGROUND:

In 2005, the Council entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to be a user of the Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. economic impact model. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is a licensed user of the model by Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is authorized to issue user rights to other parties subject to collection of a fee to be paid to Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. At this time, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is proposing to extend the Council's existing memorandum of agreement for a one-year period for a fixed fee of \$6,285.50.

The Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. model is based upon an input-output engine and provides the Council, our local governments, economic development agencies and others with a dynamic tool for economic and demographic analysis and forecasting. It uses national data calibrated for the region, but also can accept local data sets to enhance its accuracy. This model can review system-wide effects over both short- and long-range time horizons, include economic and fiscal impact analyses, policy impact analyses and economic development/redevelopment analyses. The model can be configured to either address the entire region of any number of county-based subsets of the region, as well as including counties in adjacent regions.

Council staff has used this model to evaluate the impact of several projects throughout the region. Examples of projects include a minor league baseball stadium in Alachua County, a food processing plant in the City of Newberry, a computer technical support call center and manufacturing facility in Columbia County, a hypothetical manufacturing plant in Gilchrist County, an ethanol plant in Hamilton County, a refrigerated container manufacturing plant in Madison County, a manufacturing facility in Suwannee County, a marina resort development in Taylor County and an electric power generating plant in Taylor County.

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

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## IV. B.


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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Amendment to Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation  
Administrative Services Agreement, Fiscal Year 2011 - City of Madison

### RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize the Chair to sign an amendment to a Fiscal Year 2011 Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation administrative services agreement with the City of Madison to revise existing language concerning Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 provisions to clarify conformance with federal regulations.**

### BACKGROUND:

The Council entered into a technical assistance administrative services agreement with the City of Madison to provide assistance with the administration of their Fiscal Year 2011 Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Project. This agreement is being funded with grant funds.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has requested that the City and the Council amend Attachment B, Statement of Assurances of the administrative services agreement to revise existing language concerning Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 provisions to clarify conformance with federal regulations. Section 3 regulations require that, to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training and employment be given to lower-income persons residing within the unit of local government in which the project is located and that contracts for work in connection with the project be awarded to eligible business concerns which are located in, or owned in substantial part, by persons residing within the unit of local government.

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

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**IV.C.**

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Enhanced Biennial Administrative Rule Review and  
Economic Impact Administrative Rule Review

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the administrative rule review reports and authorize the Chair to sign the letters to the Legislature transmitting the reports.**

BACKGROUND:

Section 120.745, Florida Statutes, as amended by the Legislature in 2011, requires all agencies subject to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, administrative rule requirements to perform an enhanced biennial administrative rule review and economic impact administrative rule review of existing agency rules. As you know, the Council only has two administrative rules. Rule 29C-8 is a regional dispute resolution process rule required by Section 186.509, Florida Statutes. Rule 29C-9 is the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan required by Section 186.508, Florida Statutes. The attached reports comply with the rule review requirements of Subsection 120.745(2), Florida Statutes and Subsection 120.745(5), Florida Statutes, as well as Subsection 120.74(1), Florida Statutes, for the two existing rules of the Council.

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

Attachments

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April 26, 2012

Honorable Michael Haridopolos, President  
Florida Senate  
Honorable Dean Cannon, Speaker  
Florida House of Representatives  
Honorable Ellyn Bogdanoff, Chair  
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
Honorable Mike Bennett, Chair  
Senate Community Affairs Committee  
Honorable Dorothy Hukill, Chair  
House Economic Affairs Committee

RE: Enhanced Biennial Administrative Rule Review

Dear Honorable Legislators:

Please find attached two reports required to satisfy the provisions of Subsections 120.74(1) and 120.745(2), Florida Statutes.

I hereby certify, on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, the completion of the reports for all rules of the Council, including each separate part or subsection.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Koons, Executive Director of the Council at 352.955.2200, ext. 101 or [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org).

Sincerely,

Roy Ellis  
Chair

xc: Kenneth J. Plante, Coordinator, Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
Donald Rothbottom, Staff Director/Deputy General Counsel,  
House Rulemaking and Regulation Subcommittee

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REPORT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 120.74(1), FLORIDA STATUTES  
FOR  
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL RULES  
April 26, 2012

**1) Each agency shall review and revise its rules as often as necessary to ensure that its rules are correct and comply with statutory requirements. Additionally, each agency shall perform a formal review of its rules every two years. In the review, each agency must:**

**(a) Identify and correct deficiencies in its rules;**

Review of the two existing rules, Rule 29C-8 Regional Dispute Process Resolution Rule and Rule 29C-9 North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan, of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council did not identify any deficiencies.

**(b) Clarify and simplify its rules;**

Review did not identify any rules that required any necessary clarification or simplifications.

**(c) Delete obsolete or unnecessary rules;**

Review did not identify any obsolete and unnecessary rules.

**(d) Delete rules that are redundant of statutes;**

Review did not identify any rules redundant of statutes.

**(e) Seek to improve efficiency, reduce paperwork, or decrease costs to government and the private sector;**

Review did not identify any opportunities to improve efficiency, reduce paperwork or decrease costs to government and the private sector.

**(f) Contact agencies that have concurrent or overlapping jurisdiction to determine whether their rules can be coordinated to promote efficiency, reduce paperwork, or decrease costs to government and the private sector; and**

No agencies have concurrent or overlapping jurisdiction.

**(g) Determine whether the rules should be continued without change or should be amended or repealed to reduce the impact on small business while meeting the stated objectives of the proposed rule.**

No rules were deemed in need of amendment due to impacts on small business.



REPORT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 120.745(2), FLORIDA STATUTES  
FOR  
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL RULES  
April 26, 2012

**(2) ENHANCED BIENNIAL REVIEW.** Each agency shall complete an enhanced biennial review of the agency's existing rules, which shall include, but is not limited to:

**(a) Conduct of the review and submission of the report required by s. 120.74 and an explanation of how the agency has accomplished the requirements of s. 120.74(1).**

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council undertook an extensive evaluation of the Council's two existing rules, Rule 29C-8 Regional Dispute Process Resolution Rule and Rule 29C-9 North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan pursuant to Subsection 120.74(1).

**(b) Review of each rule to determine whether the rule has been reviewed by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 2011-01.**

Executive Order 2011-01, as superseded by Executive Order 11-72, is applicable to agencies under the control of the Governor. The Council is not an agency under the control of the Governor. Therefore, this requirement is not applicable.

**(c) Review of each rule to determine whether the rule is a revenue rule, to identify the statute or statutes authorizing the collection of any revenue, to identify the fund or account into which revenue collections are deposited, and, for each revenue rule, to determine whether the rule authorizes, imposes, or implements:**

1. Registration, license, or inspection fees;
2. Transportation service tolls for road, bridge, rail, air, waterway, or port access;
3. Fees for a specific service or purpose not included in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2;
4. Fines, penalties, costs, or attorney fees;
5. Any tax; and
6. Any other amounts collected that are not covered under subparagraphs 1.-5.

Review of the Council's rules indicated that none of the rules are "revenue rules".

**(d) Review of each rule to determine whether the rule is a data collection rule, providing the following information for each rule determined to be a data collection rule:**

1. The statute or statutes authorizing the collection of such data;
2. The purposes for which the agency uses the data and any purpose for which the data is used by others;
3. The policies supporting the reporting and retention of the data; and
4. Whether and to what extent the data is exempt from public inspection under Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

Review of the Council's rules revealed that none of the rules are "data collection" rules.

**(e) Identification of each entire rule the agency plans to repeal and, if so, the estimated timetable for repeal.**

The Council does not plan to repeal any rules.

**(f) Identification of each entire rule or subpart of a rule the agency plans to amend to substantially reduce the economic impact and the estimated timetable for amendment.**

Since the review of the Council's rules revealed that there are no economic impacts of its rules, the Council does not plan to amend or substantially reduce the economic impact of any rules.

**(g) Identification of each rule for which the agency will be required to prepare a compliance economic review, to include each entire rule that:**

1. The agency does not plan to repeal on or before December 31, 2012;
2. Was effective on or before November 16, 2010; and
3. Probably will have any of the economic impacts described in s. 120.541(2)(a), for five years beginning on July 1, 2011, excluding in such estimation any part or subpart identified for amendment under paragraph (e).

The Council has determined that it is not required to prepare a compliance economic review for any of its existing rules.

**(h) Listing of all rules identified for compliance economic review in paragraph (g), divided into two approximately equal groups, identified as "Group 1" and "Group 2." Such division shall be made at the agency's discretion.**

Not applicable.

**(i) Written certification of the agency head to the committee verifying the completion of the report for all rules of the agency, including each separate part or subsection. The duty to certify completion of the report is the responsibility solely of the agency head as defined in s. 120.52(3) and may not be delegated to any other person. If the defined agency head is a collegial body, the written certification must be prepared by the chair or equivalent presiding officer of that body.**

See cover/certification letter from the Council Chair dated April 26, 2012.



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April 26, 2012

Honorable Ellyn Bogdanoff, Chair  
Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

RE: Compliance Economic Administrative Rule Review

Dear Senator Bogdanoff:

Please find attached a report required to satisfy the provisions of Subsection 120.745(5), Florida Statutes.

I hereby certify, on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, the completion of the report for all Group 1 rules of the Council, including each separate part or subsection.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Koons, Executive Director of the Council at 352.955.2200, ext. 101 or [koons@ncfrpc.org](mailto:koons@ncfrpc.org).

Sincerely,

Roy Ellis  
Chair

xc: Kenneth J. Plante, Coordinator, Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
Donald Rothbottom, Staff Director/Deputy General Counsel,  
House Rulemaking and Regulation Subcommittee

Attachment

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REPORT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 120.745(5), FLORIDA STATUTES  
GROUP 1 RULES  
FOR  
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL RULES  
April 26, 2012

**(5) COMPLIANCE ECONOMIC REVIEW OF RULES AND REQUIRED REPORT.** Each agency shall perform a compliance economic review and report for all rules, including separate reviews of subparts, listed under Group 1 “Group 1 rules” or Group 2 “Group 2 rules” pursuant to subparagraph (2)(g)3. Group 1 rules shall be reviewed and reported on in 2012, and Group 2 rules shall be reviewed and reported on in 2013.

**(a) No later than May 1, each agency shall:**

- 1. Complete a compliance economic review for each entire rule or subpart in the appropriate group.**

Review of the two existing rules, Rule 29C-8 Regional Dispute Process Resolution Rule and Rule 29C-9 North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council finds that neither rule will have any economic impact as described in Section 120.541(2)(a), Florida Statutes.





**IV.D.**

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Banking Services Proposals

RECOMMENDATION:

**Authorize staff to solicit proposals for banking services and authorize the Executive Committee to review the proposals and make a recommendation to the Council for final action.**

BACKGROUND:

For the past year, the Council has maintained its bank account and the Employee Pension Plan Trust Fund account with Wells Fargo. The Council also manages bank accounts for the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area and The Original Florida Tourism Task Force with Wells Fargo. In addition, Wells Fargo has been assigned the Council's 15-year promissory note by Wachovia for the purchase of the Council office building. The loan will be fully satisfied and paid in full in December 2013.

In 2010, Wells Fargo acquired Wachovia and in 2011 fully integrated and transferred all Wachovia bank accounts to Wells Fargo. The Council previously maintained bank accounts with Wachovia for six years. In 1999, the Council secured a loan from SouthTrust Bank to purchase the Council office building and transferred its bank accounts to SouthTrust Bank and maintained bank accounts with them also for six years. Prior to that time, the Council maintained its bank accounts with American National Bank for 26 years.

Thus, it has been over ten years since the Council has changed banks for its banking services. Therefore, it is recommended that the Council authorize staff to solicit proposals for banking services to determine if greater value in lower fees and/or higher interest rates earned on deposits is available from other banks, and authorize the Executive Committee to review the proposals and make a recommendation to the Council for final action.

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

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve the attached resolution of appreciation.**

BACKGROUND:

The attached resolution of appreciation is regarding Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program established by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. Ms. Jeannie Carr has served as the Regional Workforce Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Board since January 22, 2010.

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

Attachment

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

April 27, 2012

Ms. Jeannie Carr  
Florida Crown Workforce  
1389 U.S. Hwy 90 W, #170B  
Lake City, FL 32055

**RE: Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program**

Dear Ms. Carr:

On behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, I want to express our regret that you will no longer serve as the Regional Workforce Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Board. Your knowledge and your concern for transportation disadvantaged individuals have made you a valuable asset to the Board.

As a token of our appreciation for your service, the Planning Council, at its regular meeting on April 26, 2012 unanimously approved the enclosed resolution. Thank you for taking the time to serve on this Board.

Sincerely,

Roy Ellis  
Chairman

Enclosure

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## RESOLUTION

*WHEREAS, Jeannie Carr has served as the Regional Workforce Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since January 22, 2010; and*

*WHEREAS, Jeannie Carr has ably discharged her duties as the Regional Workforce Representative on the Gilchrist 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 Jeannie Carr for the dedicated service she rendered to the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, and for her concern for the transportation disadvantaged needs of Gilchrist 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 Jeannie Carr.*

---

*Roy Ellis, Chair*

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

*April 26, 2012*

*Date*





**VI.A.**

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Proclamation Declaring May 5-13, 2012 as Travel and Tourism Week

RECOMMENDATION:

**Adopt the attached proclamation declaring the week of May 5-13, 2012 as Travel and Tourism Week.**

BACKGROUND:

The Original Florida Tourism Task Force was created as a part of the Council 20 years ago. It is now a 10-county independent tourism marketing interlocal agreement organization. The mission of the Original Florida Tourism Task Force is to "Promote the natural, historic, and cultural attractions of the north central Florida region to increase the number of visitors and extend their stay. The goal is to enhance the area's economy, image, and quality of life through expanded revenues and employment opportunities. At the same time, the region will encourage the preservation of the resources which bring focus to the area."

The week of May 5-13, 2012 is *National Travel and Tourism Week* as declared by the Travel Industry Association. Activities are planned throughout the United States and Florida to support and celebrate the tourism industry.

It is recommended that the Council adopt the attached proclamation declaring the week of May 5-13, 2012 as Travel and Tourism Week in north central Florida.

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

Attachment

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# *PROCLAMATION*

## *DECLARING MAY 5-13, 2012 AS TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK*

WHEREAS, tourism brings 85 million visitors annually to the State of Florida and generates \$4.0 billion in annual sales tax revenues;

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

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby declares the week of May 5-13, 2012 as Travel and Tourism Week throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 26th day of April 2012.

ATTEST:

SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Ellis, Chair





## VI.B.

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Sandra Haas, Chair  
Clearinghouse Committee

RE: Chair's Report

The next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Clearinghouse Committee is 6:00 p.m., April 26, 2012 at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 213 SW Commerce Boulevard, Lake City. At its meeting, the Committee will review the following Committee-level item which requires Council action. I will present an oral report on the Committee's actions and recommendations at the Council meeting held later that evening.

### COMMITTEE-LEVEL REVIEW ITEMS

#### Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

#62 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DEO No. 12-1ESR)

*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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## VII.A.

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April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

### Budget

On April 17, 2012, Governor Scott signed **House Bill 5001**, the \$70.0 billion State budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13. In signing the budget bill, the Governor exercised his line item veto authority and vetoed \$142.8 million of appropriations, including the \$2.5 million appropriated for all 11 regional planning councils. The Council's share of the appropriation would have been approximately \$179,000.

Last year, the Governor vetoed \$615.3 million of appropriations, including the \$2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils, from the \$66.5 billion State budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

### Growth Management

On April 6, 2012, the Governor signed **House Bill 781**, the growth management glitch bill. The bill became effective upon signature of the Governor.

On April 6, 2012, the Governor also signed **House Bill 979**, the development of regional impact bill. The bill becomes law on July 1, 2012.

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

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida's Future Corridors Initiative

#### Introduction

Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Prasad "Florida's 21st Century Transportation Vision" calls for planning a transportation system that maintains our competitive edge by meeting the needs of today as well as our needs for decades to come. In 2006, the Florida Department of Transportation, in cooperation with partners and stakeholders throughout the state, developed the Future Corridors Action Plan, which provided policy direction for a statewide network of high-speed, high-capacity corridors critical to the continued growth and development of the state over the next 50 years. In addition, the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan calls for Florida to make its most significant transportation decisions in the context of long-range visions about the future growth and development of Florida's regions, and the state as a whole. The plan further reaffirmed the need to consider future corridors to:

- Transform Strategic Intermodal System facilities to provide multimodal options for moving people and freight;
- Improve connectivity to existing and emerging regional employment centers and economically productive rural lands; and
- Make responsible decisions about where transportation facilities are located.

#### Future Statewide Corridors

**Growing demand:** By 2035, Florida's population is expected to increase by 33 percent, visitors by 35 percent and freight tonnage by 39 percent.

**Connectivity:** To better support economic development opportunities, better connections between existing and emerging regions as well as designated Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern are needed.

### Types of Planned Facilities

The 2006 Future Corridor Action Plan calls for two approaches to planning for our future corridors:

- Transform existing facilities in a corridor to serve a new function (e.g., tolled express lanes, truck-only lanes or bus rapid transit systems); and
- Identify study areas for new parallel facilities to provide alternatives to existing congested highways or new corridors for multimodal facilities (and co-location of utilities) in regions not well served by statewide corridors today.

### Corridor Study Areas

Study areas have been identified where the Florida Department of Transportation could explore potential new or transformed corridors. Five of these corridors exist today (I-4, I-10, I-75, I-95 and U.S. 27) and would be transformed to serve new functions as stated above. The remaining corridor study areas represent regional pairs not well connected by a high-speed, high-capacity corridor today, or where existing corridors do not have the capacity to support anticipated growth in demand over the next 50 years. Examples of the highest priority study areas recommended by the Department for advancement include:

- Tampa Bay to Northeast Florida: An initial step in this area will be to evaluate the Suncoast 2 Corridor and the Northern Extension of Florida's Turnpike to provide congestion relief for I-75 and ensure connectivity in the southern portion of the study area. The full study area will include possible new connection between the Suncoast 2 and I-75 in the Gainesville/Ocala area, as well as connectivity between Gainesville/Ocala and the Jacksonville area. The need for these studies is based upon interregional connectivity, safety, congestion relief for I-75, freight mobility and emergency evacuation.
- Central Florida-Tampa Bay: This study area will build upon regional visioning processes in these regions. Alternatives to be considered to improving I-4 may include express lanes, parallel corridors for some segments and alternative modes, including SunRail extensions.
- U.S. 27 Multimodal Corridor, Southeast Florida to Central Florida: This corridor is a potential reliever to I-95, Florida's Turnpike and I-75 for automobile and truck traffic. The use of this corridor for freight is extensive and will continue to grow as import/export markets expand and Intermodal Logistic Centers develop.
- Southwest Florida to Central Florida: This study will focus on access to/from economically distressed or developing areas, emergency evacuation/response, freight mobility and support of the regional visioning process underway.

Next Steps

- Support on-going visioning efforts such as the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Strategic Plan for Economic Development and regional visioning processes throughout the state.
- Coordinate with agency stakeholders such as Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- Outreach to major landowners, develop options for building upon the sector planning process and develop sample agreements with landowners to preserve right-of-way.
- Intergovernmental and stakeholder coordination, including sample agreements to reflect corridor concepts in regional and local plans.
- Prepare enabling legislation for 2013 Legislative Session by August 2012.
- Update previous studies for the Northern Extension of the Turnpike and Suncoast 2 Corridors.
- Advance existing studies or initiate new studies for the following study areas: Tampa Bay to Northeast Florida, Central Florida-Tampa Bay, U.S. 27 Multimodal Corridor and Southwest Florida to Central Florida.
- Initiate project development and environmental studies on selected segments, where appropriate.

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





**VII.C.**

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars Caucus

The Florida Chamber Foundation, founded in 1968, is a business-led, problem-solver and research organization, working in partnership with state business leaders to promote a vibrant Florida economy. A major initiative of the Foundation is to develop a statewide, 20-year strategic plan to promote prosperity and high paying jobs, vibrant communities and global competitiveness. The framework to accomplish such a task is known as the Six Pillars for Florida's Future Economy. The Six Pillars is a product of years of collaboration and research by the Florida Chamber Foundation, along with business, civic and government partners, which identifies the critical factors determining Florida's future: Talent, Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places.

The Foundation is a critical voice for improving the state's pro-business climate to enable Florida to grow and prosper. The Six Pillars Caucus System is a qualitative research program aimed to engage the best and brightest minds in the state to develop a plan for Florida's future economy that includes high-wage jobs, global competitiveness and vibrant communities by the year 2030.

The Six Pillars incorporates the work of a diverse range of stakeholders and their strategic thinking, including the Century Commission for a Sustainable Future, Florida Council of 100, Enterprise Florida, Inc., Florida University System, Workforce Florida, Inc., and 1000 Friends of Florida among others. The framework serves as an organizing force for strategic planning at the local, regional and state level. Its real power is in the efficiency of harnessing fragmented viewpoints into a common and consistent conversation. More information about the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars for Florida's Future Economy can be found at [flchamber.com/six-pillars](http://flchamber.com/six-pillars).

As you know, I was appointed to the Foundation's Six Pillar Caucus System in 2011 and currently participate as a member of the Innovation and Economic Development Pillar. The annual two-day Six Pillar Caucus Retreat was held April 10-11, 2012 at St. Petersburg College Collaborative Labs in Largo. The retreat focused on prioritizing strategies and developing draft policy briefs for consideration by the Florida Chamber of Commerce Policy Council.

The Innovation and Economic Development Pillar recommended several draft policy briefs addressing the development of a Declaration of Innovation and Economic Development to serve as One Voice : One Message to coordinate a unified system approach to economic development by the private sector, state government, regional organizations, local economic development organizations and local governments. Other recommended policy briefs addressed research transfer resulting in business development and expanding international trade, including inland multi-modal logistics centers.

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

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





## VII.D.

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Florida Leaders Organized for Water

As previously reported, the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners hosted a tri-county public meeting and forum in Lake City with the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners and the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners to discuss north Florida water issues on November 29, 2011. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners took action to establish a multi-county work group to engage a hydrologist and discuss what steps need to be taken and what studies need to be conducted to potentially challenge the consumptive water use permit issued to Jacksonville Electric Authority by St. Johns River Water Management District in May 2011. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also took action to appropriate \$250,000 to fund the work group and pay for environmental monitoring services and other needed services. The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners also asked other counties and local governments in the region to join in the effort.

On January 23, 2012, the North Florida Water Supply Group held its first meeting in Lake City. The meeting focused on organizational matters. It was agreed to have the Columbia County Attorney would draft an interlocal agreement to form a Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, interlocal agreement agency to address north Florida water issues.

On February 13, 2012, the second meeting of the North Florida Water Supply Group was held in Lake City. The group established the name of the organization as Florida Leaders Organized for Water. They adopted a mission statement as follows: **"Identify and implement measures necessary to permanently secure abundant fresh water supply so adequate levels and flow are assured for the People, Agriculture, Business, Industry, Tourism and Environment of North Florida."** The group also adopted a resolution urging the Legislature to fund an unbiased, scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer due to its critical implications on statewide water supply; to redesign of the decision-making process used to issue consumptive water use permits for withdrawals from the Floridan Aquifer that includes all stakeholders affected by proposed withdrawals; and to modify the excessive water management district permits granted in 2011 from "approved" to "probationary" status until an unbiased scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer has been completed. Columbia County Commissioner Ronald Williams was elected Chair and White Springs Mayor Helen Miller was elected Vice-Chair of the organization.

On March 12, 2012, the third meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The group heard presentations from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District and Suwannee River Water Management District concerning the foundation of a joint stakeholder group between the two water management districts called the North Central Florida Water Supply Partnership. Six individuals representing water users, local governments and environmental groups from each district will be appointed to the Partnership to provide oversight to the coordinated efforts of the two districts concerning the development of a common water model and water supply plan. The group also heard presentations from the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute, Lake Area Water Alliance, Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District, Santa Fe Lake Dwellers, Save Our Suwannee, Inc., Santa Fe River Spring Basin Working Group, Our Santa Fe River, Inc., North Central Florida Tea Party and Audubon Florida. In addition, I made a presentation to the group concerning the Council and the water resource policies of the recently updated North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

On April 9, 2012, the fourth meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The Board of Directors for Florida Leaders Organized for Water reviewed and approved several technical amendments to the interlocal agreement creating the Florida Leaders Organized for Water. In addition, the Board of Directors established four working groups comprised of Florida Leaders Organized for Water representatives to develop action strategies. The four working groups created are Science, Legislative, Legal and Public Information. Finally, the Board of Directors agreed to add the City of Lake City and the Town of Lee as member local governments of Florida Leaders Organized for Water.

The current local government members of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water are: Alachua County, Bradford County, Clay County, Columbia County, Dixie County, Gilchrist County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Suwannee County, Taylor County, Town of Branford, City of Keystone Heights, City of MacClenny and City of White Springs. Council members Commissioner Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County and Commissioner Wesley Wainwright from Suwannee County are serving as representatives for their respective counties to the organization.

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





## VII.E.

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Original Florida Tourism Task Force Press Familiarization Tour

As you know, the Council provides staff services to the Original Florida Tourism Task Force to assist them in implementing their work program. In order to increase tourism generated revenues in the north Florida region, the Original Florida Tourism Task Force implements campaigns to increase tourist visits to the Natural North Florida region.

The Original Florida Tourism Task Force conducted a saltwater fishing themed press familiarization tour March 19-23, 2012. The tour highlighted the local saltwater fishing of counties in the region. Journalists sampled different local specialties at each location along the route, from Wakulla Springs, Steinhatchee, Horseshoe Beach and Yankeetown. Along the way, the writers bow-fished at night in the Gulf and visited the Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory and the Big Bend Maritime Center in Wakulla County, Gulf fished in Taylor County with the evening meal featuring the travel writers' catch of the day, Gulf fished in Dixie County, visited the Dakota Winery in Chiefland and Gulf fished in Levy County.

The mission of the Original Florida Tourism Task Force is to promote the natural, historic and cultural attractions of the area to increase the number of visitors and to extend their stay in the region. The goal is to enhance the economy of the area, image and quality of life through expanded revenues and employment opportunities.

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

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**VII.F.**

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

April 19, 2012

TO: Council Members

FROM: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: North Central Florida Rural Planning Network

The next meeting of the North Central Florida Rural Planning Network will be held on April 27, 2012. The North Central Florida Rural Planning Network includes the 10 rural counties of the north central Florida region and Baker, Jefferson, Levy and Putnam Counties.

These meetings are in response to suggestions and requests from planners in the region to develop a network of rural planners. The meeting will be hosted by Taylor County and co-sponsored by the Council.

The guest speakers who will be participating in the meeting are Bo Taff, Vice-President for Real Estate and Development, Foley Land and Timber Company, Jack Brown, County Administrator, Taylor County, Steven Dopp, Senior Planner, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and Dean Fowler, Owner, Steinhatchee Landing and Resort. (See attached agenda.)

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

Attachment

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**North Central Florida Rural Planning Network:  
Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy,  
Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties**

Hosted By:

Taylor County  
and  
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

**Steinhatchee Community Center  
State Road 51 (1013 South Riverside Drive)  
Steinhatchee, Florida**

**MEETING AGENDA**

April 27, 2012

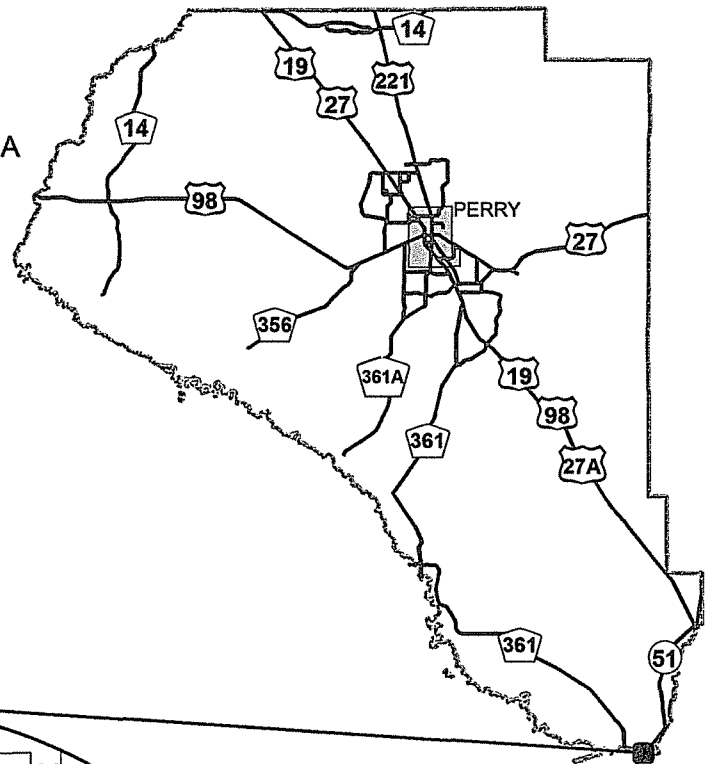
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Registration	NCFRPC Staff
10:00 a.m. - 10:05 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Danny Griner, Building Official Taylor County, Meeting Host
10:05 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	NCFRPC Update	Scott Koons, Executive Director, NCFRPC
10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Taylor Vision 2060	Jack Brown, County Administrator Taylor County
10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Master Land Planning	Bo Taff, Vice-President for Real Estate and Dev. Foley Timber and Land Company
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Master Development of Regional Impact	Steven Dopp, Senior Planner NCFRPC
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Lunch courtesy of NCFRPC
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Steinhatchee Landing and Resort	Dean Fowler, Owner Steinhatchee Landing and Resort
1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Rural Planning Topics Exchange	Meeting Attendees
1:45 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.	Future Meeting Locations and Topics	Scott Koons, Executive Director NCFRPC
1:55 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Danny Griner, Building Official Taylor County Scott Koons, Executive Director, NCFRPC
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Field Trip	Steinhatchee Landing and Resort

# Steinhatchee Community Center

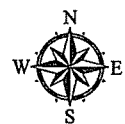
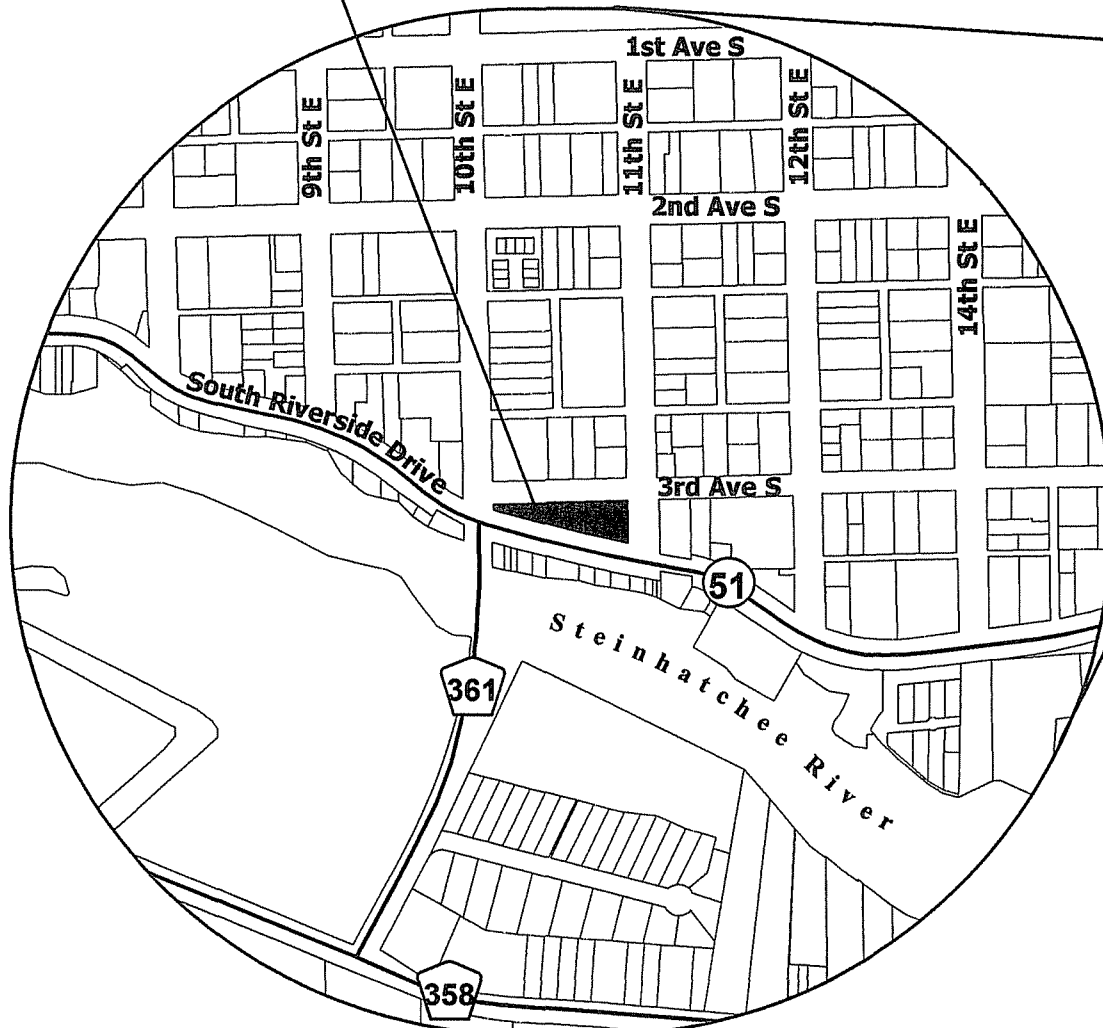
## State Road 51 (1013 South Riverside Drive)

### Steinhatchee, FL 32359

Directions: From the intersection of U.S. Highway 19/98/27A and State Road 51, turn South onto State Road 51, travel approximately 9 miles and the Steinhatchee Community Center will be to the right, on the Northern side of State Road 51 (also known as South Riverside Drive).



**Steinhatchee  
Community Center**



1 inch = 600 feet

